



The SEMINOLE TRIBUNE

"Voice of the Unconquered"

50¢

www.seminoletribe.com

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October 14, 2005

Special Council Meeting Focuses on 401k

By Iretta Tiger
HOLLYWOOD — On Sept. 30 the Tribal Council held a special meeting at the Tribal headquarters. A majority of the resolutions on the agenda were devoted to 401(k) plans.
One resolution will allow the Tribe to roll-over 401(k) balances for former employees. A new law, passed in Dec. 2004, allows the employer to hold on to a 401(k) balance of less than \$5,000 while the former employee decides on how they want their account distributed.
In another resolution this policy will also be offered to casino employees. Both resolutions were passed.
Resolution #7 on the agenda will allow the Tribe to offer a 401(k) plan safe harbor for those employees who participate in a Rabbi Trust. For a better understanding of what this means contact the Payroll department.

Florida Power and Light (FPL) submitted a resolution to create another 50 year agreement with the Tribe. The agreement would focus on the relocation of poles and power lines on the Hollywood reservation.
The plan is to put the lines underground which would free several acres of Tribal land; enough land for 29 homes to be built.
The last resolution on the agenda will incorporate the monthly per capita distribution into the 2006 budget. It will include an increase for those Tribal citizens 55 and older. This resolution was passed. The budget review will be held at the next Council meeting, scheduled for October 14.

Tribe Receives Torch Award from FSU President



Wanda Bowers

(L-R) Seminole Princess Christine McCall, Chairman Mitchell Cypress and Ft. Pierce Liaison Sally Tommie at the FSU game.

By Wanda Bowers
TALLAHASSEE, FL — On Sept. 9, the Seminole Tribe of Florida was invited by President of Florida State University (FSU) T.K. Wetherell to attend the fall meeting of the general faculty and Torch Awards presentation. The meeting took place in FSU's University Alumni

presents to persons who symbolize respect for customs, character and tradition went to the Seminole Tribe. This was the first time the MORES Torch Award has been presented to a group, the Seminole Tribe of Florida.
Chairman Mitchell Cypress was very honored to accept this award on behalf of the Tribe. Chairman Cypress said that he and the Seminole Tribe of Florida as a whole have always supported Florida State University and the use of the Tribal name, The Seminoles. In closing he taught the FSU faculty a word in the Miccosukee language, "she-hun-ta-mo" meaning "greetings; how are you feeling?"
Wetherell also invited Brighton Councilman Andrew Bowers Jr. to come up and say a few words. He expressed his appreciation for the awards presented to the Tribe. Bowers also taught the audience a word in his



Wanda Bowers

Chairman Mitchell Cypress receives the MORES Torch award.

Center Grand Ballroom.
In attendance from the Seminole Tribe at this prestigious gathering were: Chairman Mitchell Cypress, Executive Assistant and Ft. Pierce Liaison S.R. Tommie, Florida Miss Seminole Christine McCall, her mother Wanda Bowers and the Brighton reservation Councilman Andrew Bowers Jr.
The MORES Torch, which FSU

Creek language, "Estonko," meaning "greetings" or "hello."
Chairman Cypress has always been known to say if a Seminole Tribal citizen graduates from high school and wants to continue their education and enroll in FSU or any university, college or trade school, the Tribal Council supports them all the way.
❖ See FSU, page 3



Nery Mejicano

Louise Billie (center) celebrates Indian Day with her family.

Celebrating Indian Day in Big Cypress

By Janice Billie
BIG CYPRESS — Native pride and community spirit dominated the heat and humidity on Indian Day 2005.
All the familiar faces were up and out as Nancy Billie started the cooking fire and Mike Cypress cranked up his barbecue grill. Among many others from the community there was Louise Billie with a whole lot of family with her. The always colorful George Billie wore his western style Indian headdress

complimenting his Seminole jacket. It was a bright display of cultural blending.
The beautiful faces of all the children were the ones to see. As they lined up for the traditional clothing exhibition one could see the proud and vibrant future generation of Seminoles.
The Big Cypress community had a wide variety of activities to take part in this year. There was an Indian Day golf
❖ See INDIAN DAY, page 11

Tourism Conference Draws Country-Wide Attendance

By Shelley Marmor
HOLLYWOOD — The American Indian Alaskan Native Tourism Association (AIANTA) held their seventh annual conference at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino on Sept. 25–28. The Seminole Tribe hosted the conference.
On Sept. 27, Chairman Mitchell Cypress, joined by Miccosukee Chairman Billy Cypress, gave opening statements to AIANTA attendees. They also welcomed the 230 conference attendees to South Florida. However, several other activities and events took place the previous two days.

The AIANTA golf tournament took place on Sept. 25 at the Emerald Hills Golf Course in Hollywood. The Seminole Tribe sponsored this event. On Sept. 26, interested persons were able to take a tour of the Big Cypress or Miccosukee reservations.
In Big Cypress, AIANTA participants toured the reservation, including the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum and Billie Swamp Safari. While on the Miccosukee reservation, they toured the resort as well as got a chance to go on an airboat ride and see an alligator wrestling

show.
That evening the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki at Okalee Village hosted the official wel-



Nery Mejicano

Keynote speaker and former Miccosukee chairman Buffalo Tiger addressed the AIANTA crowd.

come reception at 6 p.m. The reception featured many spectacles including stomp dancers that entertained the AIANTA attendees. This reception was also sponsored by the Seminole Tribe.

Official conference business got underway on Sept. 27. AIANTA attendees broke into different sessions that focused on various aspects of tourism. Some of these breakout session topics included: "International Tourism Development: The Basics of International Tourism," "Creating a Successful Tourism Experience," "Creating Tourism Professionals" and "Indian Tourism at its Best."
Eastern Regional AIANTA Board Representative Lee Tiger acted as moderator during the "Indian Tourism at its Best" seminar. He opened the session with a moment of silence for the late Billy Cypress. He then introduced the Huna Totem Corporation's Chief Operating Officer Robert Wysocki from Alaska. Wysocki spoke about a new private island/cruise destination in Southeastern Alaska called Icy Straight Point.
Icy Straight Point is owned by the Huna Totem Corporation, which, according to their website "is owned by approximately 1,200 Alaska Native shareholders whose aboriginal ties are to the Village of Hoonah in Southeast
❖ See AIANTA, page 4

Master Plan Meeting for Immokalee

Story by Judy Weeks
IMMOKALEE — On Sept. 9, interested members of the Immokalee community gathered at the Casino on Sept. 9 to review the Master Plan. Utilities Director Susie Kippenberger opened the discussion with a little background information on the Master Plan.

"Recognizing the need for future development, it was decided in 1992 that a Master Plan should be implemented," she said. "By 1994 a conceptual plan had been devised, and finally after much study, input by various agencies of the government and careful consideration of the community's needs a plan was formulated. On May 18, 2005, the Tribal Council approved the Implementation of the Master Plan."
Using a color coded aerial survey, the proposed plan was submitted for examination. Russell Danser, Senior Consultant with the Phoenix Environmental Group, informed the assembly that South Florida Water Management, Army Corp of Engineers, Environmental Protection Agency and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission have approved the main road and the existing plans for land usage.
He remarked, "The Master Plan has been designed to have low impact on the environment to allow for an easy permitting process. Threatened and endangered species play a big roll in use of wetlands and the surrounding areas, particularly the panther mitigation issue. The plan you see has been approved in its existing form by the Army Corp of Engineers for the next twenty years."

Ongoing projects were discussed, beginning with the Administration Building.
Michael Noell, an architect with the Gulf Design Group, stated, "Construction of Phase I of the Administration Building is right on schedule. The exterior stucco is complete, interior walls are being built, site work is nearing an end and the entire project is on budget. Phase II of the Administration Project will house Health and Family Services. The planned two story building will be an iteration of the one at Big Cypress."
❖ See IMMOKALEE, page 5



Judy Weeks

The new building goes up in Immokalee.



Can you guess who this Seminole lady is? See the Nov. 4 issue to find out.

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

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❖
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The Great Dave Risling

By Dr. Dean Chavers

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[Editor's Note: Dr. Dean Chavers is Director of Catching the Dream (CTD), formerly called the Native American Scholarship Fund. CTD is a national scholarship and school improvement program for American Indians. This is his 25th year writing this column. His e-mail address is ctd4deanchavers@aol.com. The opinions he expresses here are his own.]

I first met David Risling shortly after I got to California in September 1968. He was teaching at the college in Modesto at the time, but he had just done something admirable and remarkable. He had founded the first-ever grassroots Indian education organization called the California Indian Education Association (CIEA).

For the next 10 years Dave was my mentor on a host of topics. I served on several committees of CIEA, including the constitution committee, the publications committee, and the resolutions committee. I wrote my first column for the *Early American*, the newsletter of CIEA that was edited, printed, published, labeled, and mailed for years by Kay Black. Kay's husband Charles agreed that she could take time off from the house to put many hours into editing the *Early American*. She did a superb job the whole time I was in California, 1968–78.

Dave founded CIEA a couple of years before the NIEA was founded. He was also a founder of NIEA, and brought his considerable experience to the formation of NIEA. He was one of the original board members. He also served over the years on a dozen or more other boards, including the Native American Rights Fund (NARF), the National Advisory Council on Indian Education (NACIE), and other state and federal boards.

Dave believed in education with a passion. Over the years, I met many people in his family who also believed in the same thing. Dave told me one time how he had gotten in his car in 1966 and driven all over the state of California to organize the first meeting. Since it was held in the little Indian community of North Fork, north-east of Fresno, the written report of the first organizing meeting was familiarly called the "North Fork Report."

The actual title was "California Indian Education: Report of the First All-Indian Statewide Conference on California Indian Education." Dr. Jack Forbes wrote most of the report; he was working at Far West Lab at the time. Jack had already written half a dozen books on Indian history, Indian culture, and similar topics. He has written many more since, and is in fact one of the most prolific writers on Indian affairs of the past half-century.

Indian educators who have never read the North Fork report are missing a

huge important part of their history. I still have my copy and refer to it from time to time. This was the first time in history that Indian people had spelled out what they wanted in education. The report set the tone for the NIEA and all the other state Indian education organizations, of which there are more than a dozen now.

Dave was a person of vision and all of Indian Country lost a lot when he passed on in March of this year. He came from a family at Hoopa that I regard as part of the royalty of the tribe. His father, David Risling Sr., was a leader of the Hoopa tribe for several decades. He was one of the last traditional chiefs.

When I first met him he was close to 90 years old. He lived several more years after that. He was a powerful and eloquent speaker, and had led the good fight in California for three-quarters of a century by then. He knew leaders of other tribes all over the state, and set a pattern for intertribal leadership that Dave Jr. carried on for 60 years.

Dave served longer on NACIE than probably anyone else in history. He was an original member of the Council when it was formed in early 1973, and stayed on it for over a decade. He fought for increased funding for the programs NACIE oversees, namely the Indian Education Act.

Dave also helped to found California Indian Legal Services (OILS), which was the progenitor of NARF. I wrote a grant in 1970 for CILS to hire a criminal attorney because they could only handle civil cases under their federal funds.

Before that I helped two of the attorneys, Lee Sclar and Bruce Green, write the basic documents that founded NARF. They brought John Echohawk to run it and he is still there, doing yeoman work representing Indian issues and Tribal rights.

When we got a Native American Studies program approved at the University of California (UC), Berkeley in 1969 when I was a student there, it opened the doors for similar programs at other colleges. All of a sudden San Francisco State, Sacramento State, the UC, Davis, and two dozen other colleges were looking for Indian faculty.

Dave was one of the few people around with an advanced degree, and UC, Davis recruited him to go there in 1970. He taught at Davis for the next 21 years. Jack Forbes joined him and stayed as well. Davis is one of the few places offering a doctorate in Indian Studies.

However, the road was rocky. Despite his leadership, his vision, his advocacy, and his teaching ability, a few years later certain people at UC, Davis tried to get rid of him. These certain people try to do this all the time. They don't

like ethnics.

I wrote what I regard as the best letter I have ever written supporting Dave's fight for tenure. I know it helped, because he won the battle. It also helped that I was president of another college at the time. The Chancellor at UC, Davis ultimately ruled in Dave's favor.

In the meantime, after some of us also took over Alcatraz Island in 1969, Dave and some other folk took over an abandoned federal communication facility in the middle of a field west of Davis and declared it as Deganawidah-Quetzalcoatl University (DQU). Dave was the founding board chairman and remained on the board for years.

My only letdown about DQU was that a few years later I was at a White Roots of Peace meeting with Leon Shenandoah. Most folk don't know who he was, but he was one of the most powerful Indian leaders of this century. Leon was the tadadaho, the chief representative of the Six Nations of Iroquois Indians. He was so important that the Albuquerque, N.M. paper had a half-page obituary about him when he died a decade ago.

Anyway, Leon asked me to tell the DQU people that the Iroquois did not use the name of their religious leader lightly. A lot of people know his name, but they are not supposed to, and are not supposed to use his name lightly. To their credit, when I told Dave and the board what Leon said, they instantly changed to name to DQ University.

Not many people know it either, but Dave was a decorated U.S. Navy man in World War II. He served on a ship in the Pacific with distinction. When he came home he married Barbara and they proceeded to have a beautiful family of children.

I also worked with Dave's sister, Vivien Hailstone, in Redding, Pa. for a few years. She was the founder of the local Redding chapter of CIEA. Eventually they formed their own nonprofit corporation called Local Indians for Education and worked to help young Indian people who had been kicked out of the local schools to earn their diplomas and get jobs. I loved working with Genny Seeley, Beverly LeBeau, and Viv's sister-in-law, Billie Risling.

Billie and Les's daughter Lois has been my friend for the past 35-plus years. Lois runs the Center for Community Development at Humboldt State University and is one of the rocks on that campus. She also ran the Indian Teacher Education Program there for several years.

Dave Risling was a man of vision, high ability, and great leadership qualities. He helped several generations of young Indian people to get an education and succeed in life. We will sorely miss him.

Letters & E-mail

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

Dear Editor,

Thank you for the wonderful lecture about the Archaeology of the Big Cypress Seminole Reservations and the Tribal Historic Preservation Office

My daughter, Jenny, asked me to relay to Bill Steele or Tina Maria Osceola that in Lake County, there are 75 acres along CR 48 which has just been sold—probably to the Pringle development—the guy that plowed over gopher tortoises and is on the Eco-Environmental buy back for the county parks.

This 75 acres is right next door to the area where ancient Indian Village (Ticumean) was along the lake which was destroyed by the Hawthorne development (mobile home park). It also borders a small acreage of Audubon Habitat here these ancient Indian artifacts can still be found if we get there now before they let others come in and pull them out before the survey by the archaeologists.

Gratefully yours,
Opal Spencer

Dear friends at the Seminole Tribe,

Well, our trip to Katrina Rescue Pets was such a heartwarming experience. On our way to Mississippi we were told our help was needed in Englewood, Fla., just outside of Sarasota, so we were routed to a Humane Society which is a drop-off point for relief supplies and animal rescue. They had 30 dogs and cats that were on their way to Englewood and needed immediate help.

All our supplies were unloaded along with tons of other supplies that are being delivered on a daily basis to Mississippi by semi-tractor trailers. When the precious cargo arrived we were all jumping for joy, crying and ready to work. The rescue animals were full of ticks, fleas and you name it, but they were so happy to be in loving arms and kissed us and wagged their tails and opened their paws for our love and care.

As you can imagine our hands were full! We bathed them, cleaned cages, walked and feed dogs and cats anything these lovable animals needed we were there for them. We were there for two long days but it was very worth while.

Now, to the wonderful part of our story! Marilyn, who works at Hooray's, adopted a dog that had been at the animal shelter since last November 2004; yes that's correct, almost a year living in a cage. Her name is Niki and she is a curly hound mix. She is approx 45 pounds, but was 89 pounds when she arrived at the shelter. She is a very precious lovable dog.

We also are fostering four dogs from Mississippi. They arrived by way of van. We have a Golden Retriever, Golden Lab—he is so happy to be home—a mix breed and also the cutest Bassett Hound with a crooked foot. We named her Miss Sippie.

We can not thank all of you

enough for your wonderful donations and love that you have for these charming and loving rescue dogs and cats. We will be going on more trips and will also be picking up items from our donation boxes at least once a week at the Tribal building in Hollywood. We will be sure to fill you in on all of our heartwarming journeys!

With much love,
Your friends at Hooray's for Hollywood

Dear Editor,

I am interested in the quilt designs and technique involved in the intricate design of the Seminole jacket and construction. For instance, is it better to hand piece or machine? My goal is not to make a jacket, but to use the designs to make a quilt for my granddaughter.

I lived in Okeechobee for 30

years and now reside in Arizona and miss all things Floridian! Yes, even the humidity and the bugs! My granddaughter and daughter still live there and since leaving Florida I have taken up quilting and decided if I was to make something for her, then I would endeavor to make it of the gorgeous design and colors of the Seminole Tribe.

I have researched the design patterns and know they each have a significant meaning. But what I don't know is the size of the individual "block" or its construction.

Any help you may give me will be greatly appreciated and for what it's worth, I miss my real home!

Thank you,
Tonya Sweeting
toyann@mikymous.com

Photo Quiz



Seen here: Sally Buster.



Stephen Galla

The Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum's new postcard exhibit.

Postcard Exhibit Previewed at Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki

By Susan Etxebarría

BIG CYPRESS — It is hard to imagine the impact a few postcards can evoke—until you slowly gaze on the faces of Seminole men and women who posed for postcards many years ago in a time when life was still a struggle for survival and a sacrifice.

The new Seminole Postcard Exhibit at the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum, ranging from 1898 through 1960, is a remarkable collection of the very best, or most intriguing, of the 588 postcards in the museum's archives.

The exhibit is artfully arranged along the curved walls at the back of the museum where the large hallway is used to exhibit other interesting artifacts, such as a large dugout canoe and a formal frock coat worn by a Tribal member, Jimmie Billie.

The postcards add a human touch to the museum's fabulous collection of artifacts.

"It reads almost like a family photo album and we can get a glimpse of what that life was like for our parents, our aunts and uncles, our grandparents and great-grandparents. It teaches us to remember where we came from and that we had humble roots. In a way my response to this exhibit is almost a bittersweet response because we see how hard it was back then but at the same time we see some of the things we missed," said the Museum's Executive Director Tina Osceola.

On Sept. 26, a special preview of the exhibit was extended to participants attending the American Indian Alaska Native Tourism (AIANTA) Conference hosted by the Seminole Tribe for three days at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino. Osceola greeted the busload of conference attendees who came to see the museum and the exhibit. One of these was "Pacer" Eduard Reina of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community. He is the Community Relations Specialist for his Scottsdale, Arizona-based tribe.

"Our Tribe has a very small museum but we want to build a larger one so I wanted to see the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum. And this museum is really nice," he said.

The plaques are grouped along the walls as well as written information explaining the meaning of the postcards, names of those who posed (when known), the location and dates. Many of the postcards are so beautiful they can only be called works of art.



Felix DoBoz

A postcard of Seminoles in Miami.

Almost all the postcards on display were made from photographs taken by seven photographers whose work was extensive. Some were taken by professional photographers, such as Charles C. Ebbetts of Miami; and others like Brighton schoolteacher William D. Boehmer, who were hobbyists intrigued by the beauty and culture of the Seminoles. Boehmer, who was dedicated to photographing the Seminole life and the Tribe's adaptation to reservation life, he took about 5,000 images while he lived at Brighton for nearly 30 years starting in 1938.

As you study the exhibit it is stunning how much history it holds. Not ancient history but something that still lurks in the memories of many Tribal

citizens of today.

"I think they are amazing," said Pedro Zepeda of the Naples community who was there to assist the tourists with questions. "Just seeing some-



Felix DoBoz

The postcard's caption reads "Seminole Indian Girls Stringing Beads."

thing new here like this at the museum is great but here we are seeing photos of long lost family members or you are seeing someone who has passed and it brings back fond memories."

There is an introduction on the wall that states in the first two sentences the value of this exhibit. "For those of us in the Seminole Tribe and our close relatives, the Miccosukees, postcards can provide a nostalgic look back at our history and our families. They allow us to stare into the face of our beloved forbears, some of whom we remember and some we were too young to ever know."

Some interesting elements of the exhibit include colored and black and white photos of alligator wrestlers; the Seminole families who worked at their crafts at the Musa Isle Indian Village; a photo of the respected leader of the Green Corn Dance for the Brighton reservation, Frank Shore, clothed in the ceremonial dress of a medicine man; a 1960's photo of Ross Allen's Reptile Institute where a young David Cypress is seen as a baby in the photo; a compilation of photos featuring the life and times of Cory Osceola and a fascinating collection called "The Truth About Shittail Charlie."

The oldest photographer of the group, J.N. Chamberlain, made postcards of a Seminole Indian Camp as early as 1898, and in 1900 of the "Old Seminole Chief" also named Old Charlie Osceola. There is an artistic postcard of John Doctor in a hunting scene photographed by Harry E. Hill in 1900.

Gleason Waite Romer took hundreds of photos from 1920 to 1950, mostly at Musa Isle. And R.R. Doubleday, the famed rodeo photographer, has some intriguing postcards from his 1932 visit to Indian Camps along the Tamiami Trail.

One other interesting and important aspect of the postcards is their historical evidence of how the fashion in traditional dress changed over the years in style, pattern and color.

"When the decision was made to produce an exhibit concerning Florida Seminoles on postcards, it was hopeful that we could provide a fairly complete overview of the subject. As we sorted through the museum collection it was discovered that we would just scratch the surface of this interesting topic," wrote Museum Director, David Blackard. In a commentary, Blackard wrote that the museum now hopes to create mini-postcard shows in the future where people will be able to look through more of the collection.

At the preview there were many staff and volunteers assisting with the tour and answering questions. Tina Osceola wants everyone to know that she is proud of the hard work that went into this opening.

"The postcard collection was a wonderful representation of the professional staff we have at the museum," she said.

FSU

Continued from page 1

The most important thing we teach our kids is that education is the most important tool you can have as you go out into the world. We will not

and a television interview with Chairman Cypress, S.R. Tommie and Andrew Bowers Jr. That evening, members of the Seminole Tribe of Florida attended the Athletic Hall of Fame Induction ceremony and banquet to accept the Moore-Stone Award. Other award winners were Edgar Bennett and Kez McCorvey for football, Lisa Davidson Duran for softball, Terry Long for track and field, and Ken Suarez, for baseball.



Wanda Bowers

The 2005 Torch Award recipients.

Chairman Cypress accepted the award reaffirming the pride, courage and respect that we have for each other that make us who we are today. Every day is a day to be proud of where we come from, what we stand for and that even in today's world we are proud to be known the Unconquered Seminoles. That is why Florida State University is proud to call themselves "Seminoles" because of our history and what we endured to have the respect that is so graciously given to us.

After the induction ceremony, Chairman Cypress called up Herbert Jim

who proudly presented a new authentic Seminole warrior outfit made by the Seminole Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum to be worn by "Osceola". It took a few trips up to Tallahassee and back to make sure it would fit him right. Especially the moccasins, Herbert made those to fit Osceola perfectly.

The first test was to see if the outfit would pass the Renegade test. Earlier before the homecoming game on Saturday, Osceola took Renegade out for a test run with the new Seminole warrior outfit on. It passed with flying colors, the new outfit didn't bother Renegade at all. Osceola proudly wore the new outfit during the game against Citadel.

I proudly say after both the induction into the Hall of Fame and the presentation of the new Seminole outfit the audience gave the Seminole



Wanda Bowers

The FSU mascot Osceola in his new regalia.

The FSU Torch Awards

The Torch Awards are given annually to individuals or groups to honor their support for, and contributions to, excellence in FSU's academic programs. Nominations are accepted from the entire FSU community and reviewed by the University Torch Awards Committee, which recommends candidates to the Faculty Senate Steering Committee for final selection.

The VIRES Torch Award symbolizes moral, physical and intellectual strength.

The ARTES Torch Award symbolizes appreciation of aesthetics and the beauty of intellectual pursuits.

The MORES Torch Award symbolizes respect for customs, character and tradition.

Trick or Treat at Okalee

Sunday, Oct. 30
11 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Admission:
\$2 for all!

Activities:
Sand box treasure hunt
Pin the hat on the witch
Creepy crawly house
Photo with a gator
Halloween costume contest
Mystery touch box

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Adelsa Williams

Many visited the city of Sitka, Alaska's booth, in hopes of one day making the journey.

❖ AIANTA

Continued from page 1

Alaska."

According to Wysocki, Icy Straight Point is very unique because it offers a traditional Alaska experience and allows tourists to interact with wildlife in a real setting.

He said their location offers "one of the best whale watching sites in Alaska" as well as salmon fishing. Wysocki said Icy Straight Point is also unique because they only accommodate one cruise ship at a time, whereas other popular Alaskan tourist destinations will take as many as four ships, which each hold thousands of people, simultaneously.

Wysocki was pleased to report that since Icy Straight Point's opening in 2004, "it's been a raging success." He said 32 ships stopped there in 2004, 37 in 2005 and said 73 are scheduled for 2006.

Also at AIANTA was the Trade Show. This facet of the AIANTA conference brought together several organizations, including the Oneida Nation, Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, the Colorado River Indian Tribe, Sky City Casino and the Inn of the Mountain Gods Resort & Casino.

The Seminole Tribe also had several booths at the Trade Show highlighting *The Seminole Tribune*, Seminole Broadcasting, the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum and the Seminole Tribe of Florida, Inc.



Melissa Sherman

An item from Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki's silent auction.



Nery Mejicano

Representatives from Sky City, New Mexico attended the AIANTA conference.



Melissa Sherman

Tree Lady Yusdday Martinez and Wanda Bowers.

Each booth featured information on the various Seminole Tribal enterprises, however, the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki booth went above and beyond. They held a silent auction of beaded necklaces and purses with all the proceeds going to a Hurricane Katrina disaster relief fund.

On Sept. 28 conference breakout session continued, highlighting topics such as "Creating a Successful Tourism Enterprise," "The Business of Tourism" and "Marketing to Maximize Tourism Dollars."

In another seminar, "Developing Federal Partnerships," Steve Golubic from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security spoke. He pointed out places where Tribes are vulnerable, such as Tribal government offices, casinos, schools and hotels/dining complexes, to name a few. He said a terrorist attack on any of these locations will mean a loss of customers as well as tourist dollars.

"I don't want to be the doom and gloom guy," Golubic said. "But we have to think about this."

Golubic pointed out that the Department of Homeland Security works directly with the National Congress of American Indians to assist with any potential threats to native businesses.

The seventh annual AIANTA Conference ended with a closing reception. The Quinault Indian Nation, which will host AIANTA 2007, sponsored the reception. AIANTA 2007 will take place Sept. 17-20 at the Quinault Beach Resort/Casino in Ocean Shores, Wash.

For more information on AIANTA, please see www.ainta.org.

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

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BC Hosts September Council Meeting

By Iretta Tiger
BIG CYPRESS — On Sept. 15 the Seminole Tribal Council held its monthly meeting at the Herman L. Osceola gymnasium.

The first agenda to be addressed was the consent agenda. Items on the consent agenda were previously discussed by the Council and are routine in nature. The items on the consent agenda were home site leases on the Hollywood, Big Cypress and Brighton reservation. All items were passed in one vote.

The following resolutions are of the regular agenda. The first two resolutions to be discussed were for a grant of easement to Sprint Telecommunications for the Big Cypress reservation. Before the items were discussed, Chairman Mitchell Cypress asked the Tribal Legal department to give an explanation of "waiver of sovereign immunity."

An explanation was given at a Council meeting several months ago that it is now a standard business practice when non-native businesses do business with Native American tribes.

A waiver of immunity offers some protection to the non-native businesses. While it permits an opportunity for litigation, a waiver of immunity big opportunities such as the Hard Rock would not be possible.

The two resolutions concerning Sprint Telecommunications were passed.

The next resolution was to grant a 180-day extension to the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) in regards to a portion of the L-3 canal on the Big Cypress reservation. The Tribe and SFWMD are still working together to develop an agreement. This resolution passed.

Two resolutions were in regards to a revocable permit and a Tribal liquor license for a business in Seminole Paradise. Both resolutions were passed. One resolution that sparked a side discussion was a lease agreement with the Ford Motor Company. In the agreement, numerous vehicles would be obtained for the various tribal departments such as Health, Recreation and senior transportation.

A couple of Tribal citizens brought to attention of the Council the difficulties they were having when trying to arrange transportation for immobilized individuals.

After some discussion, Chairman Cypress asked Health Department Director Connie Whidden to address these issues. Whidden noted that the Health department is currently developing programs for transportation of those in need.

Another resolution that also initiated some discussion was to amend an agreement with NMA America. NMA America is developing a credit card that will allow Seminole seniors to dine in local restaurants. This credit card will not include shopping at grocery stores.

Two New Employees Join HR Department

By Shelley Marmor
HOLLYWOOD — Classifier and Compensation Manager Sandra Rosenberg-Stoller joined the Seminole Tribe of Florida's Human Resources department on Aug. 22. She is the first person to hold this position.

However, Rosenberg-Stoller is no stranger to the human resources field, with two decades of experience under her belt.

Before beginning work with the Tribe, Rosenberg-Stoller worked as human resources director at ABC Distribution Co., an online shopping and catalog mail order company, for five years. She held the same position at the University of Miami (UM) for 10 years. While working at UM, Rosenberg-Stoller oversaw the university's 8,400 employees.

Now with the Tribe, she will work to establish appropriate pay schedules for various positions. Rosenberg-Stoller will also write job descriptions that will act as guides on what the expectations for each position are.

Rosenberg-Stoller lives in North Miami Beach, but was born in Bogota, Colombia. She moved to the U.S. in 1980. She is the mother of 19-year-old fraternal twins, one boy and one girl.

Ralph H. Sookraj, education training and development manager, joined the Tribal HR team on Oct. 3. He is originally from Kashmir in Northern India and currently lives in Miami Lakes. Sookraj has an extensive educational background, with three bachelor's degrees, two master's degrees and he said he is working on getting his Ph.D. at UM in organizational management.

He also has extensive experience in the human resources field. Prior to joining the Tribe, Sookraj worked for the 11th Judicial Circuit Court as an education and training administrator for 16 years.

While there he implemented a program that allowed court employees to attend classes on-site one night a week for four hours and after approximately two years they would obtain a college degree. He said to date 135 court employees have received degrees through this program.

He will now handle recruitment and development of positions for Tribal citizens within the Tribe, among other things. Sookraj said he hopes to offer "unique approaches" to this job.



(L-R) Ralph H. Sookraj and Sandra Rosenberg-Stoller

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Indian Day in Immokalee

By Judy Weeks
IMMOKALEE — Plans for Indian Day in Immokalee began a month in advance with Community Event Coordinator Nancy Motlow in charge. The fire was lit at 7 a.m. on Sept. 24, at the newly renovated cooking chickee at the softball field.
By 9 a.m. Cris Marrero was taking sign-ups for the contests and cheerful laughter filled the air.
While contestants in the barbecue and chili cook-offs prepared their entries, Recreation Director Allen McInturff and his assistant Gary McInturff supervised the archery tournament. Competition was keen, with the men racking up bulls eyes and high scores. Young Alan Michael Venzor hit two bulls eyes in a row in the teenage division.



Seniors Nancy Motlow, Agnes Cypress and Mary Sanchez made quite a fashion statement.

Scores according to age groups were: 5-8 years: 1. John Jimmie, 2. Damien Escobar; 9-11 years: 1. Chris Briscoll; 12-17 years: 1. Alan Michael Venzor, 2. Dominic Venzor, 3. Trent McInturff; 18-54 years: 1. Raymond Mora, 2. Gary McInturff, 3. Mario Posada; Seniors: 1. Mike Cypress, 2. Juan Sanchez, 3. Pete Jimmie.
The ever popular turtle race saw entries in all sizes. The turtles were as small as a silver dollar and as large as 15 pounds. The race drew a large crowd who cheered and offered encouragement to all the contestants.
Results are as follows: 2-5 years: 1. Lindsey Posada, 2. James Mora, 3. Aliyah Mora, 4. Cheyanna Escobar; 6-8 years: 1. Eliza Mora, 2. Lauren Posada, 3. Destiny Jimmie; 9-11 years: 1. Leandra Mora, 2. Chris Briscoll, 3. Juliza Martinez; 12-17 years: 1. Frankie Marrero, 2. Deidra Hall, 3. Casandra Jimmie; 18-54 years: 1. Susan Davis, 2. Elsa Zamora,



Eager contestants entered a variety of turtles in the race.

3. Mario Posada; 55 and older: Nancy Motlow.
By now the air was filled with the succulent smell of barbecue and mouth watering chili. The judges, Adam Sanchez, Immokalee Liaison Raymond Garza and Seminole Police Department Officer Tom Faherty had the difficult task of determining the winners. It was a hard job but somebody had to do it.
Barbecue: 1. Pete DeLuna, 2. Ralph Sanchez, 3. Raymond

Mora; Chili: 1. Sylvia Marrero, 2. Mary Sanchez, 3. Susan Davis.
Another crowd pleaser was the fry bread contest. Individual bowls and sacks of flour lined the long wooden counters. While the young ladies obviously had some experience, the women were expert and the winners were hard to determine. With the men and boys, it was another story.

Laughter and cheerful jeering filled the chickee as the participants tried their hand at dough making. It was quickly apparent that many of the contestants had never before put their hands into a bowl or even attempted to cook. The expert judges, Lois Alvarez, Amy Clay and Jennifer Chadwick sacrificed themselves for the cause.

After much deliberation, the winners were:
Women: 12-17 years: 1. Deidra Hall, 2. Casandra Jimmie, 3. Cheyenne McInturff; 18-54 years: 1. Sylvia Marrero, 2. Susan Davis, 3. Becky Martinez; Seniors: 1. Nancy Motlow; Men: 12-17 years: 1. Alan Michael Venzor, 2. Dominic Venzor, 3. Mark Arriaga; 18-54 years: 1. Allen McInturff, 2. Mark Jock, 3. Raymond Mora.
The sack races drew a noisy, rough and tumble crowd from all age groups. Technique was everything with some attempting to walk in their burlap bag while others hopped like enormous jack rabbits.

Winners were as follows:
Females: 3-5 years: 1. Lindsey Posada, 2. Eliza Mora, 3. Aliyah Mora; 6-8 years: 1. Ashley Pequeno, 2. Laurissa Yzaguirre, 3. Lauren Posada; 9-11 years: 1. Leandra Mora, 2. Juliza Martinez; 12-17 years: 1. Nikki Davis, 2. Deidra Hall, 3. Casandra Jimmie; 18-54 years: 1. Susan Davis, 2. Marlin Miller, 3. Cecilia Pequeno; Seniors: 1. Nancy Motlow; Males: 3-5 years: 1. Jerrod McInturff, 2. John Ryan; 6-8 years: 1. Dennis Gonzales, 2. Damien Escobar; 9-11 years: 1. Chris Briscoll, 2. Pete Jimmie, 3. Jaime Jimmie; 12-17 years: 1. Mark Arriaga, 2. Trent McInturff, 3. Alan Michael Venzor; 18-54 years: 1. Justin Villareal, 2. Raymond Mora, 3. Justin Davis; Seniors: 1. Mike Cypress.
The art and craft entries were all of exceptional quality. Ranging from a gorgeous double tiered basket with beaded rim and beaded designs to necklaces and intricately carved woodwork, carefully constructed dolls and patchwork, it was a beautiful collection.

Immokalee Culture Director Amy Clay carefully examined each item before making her decision. Beadwork: 1. Lorraine Posada, 2. Mark Arriaga, 3. Sylvia Marrero; Dolls: 1. Frankie Marrero, 2. Nancy Motlow, 3. Trent McInturff, 4. Alexis Jimmie; Clothing: 1. Nancy Motlow, 2. Johnnie Jimmie, 3. Sylvia Marrero; Baskets: 1. Lorraine Posada, 2. Linda Beletso, 3. Allen McInturff; Wood carving: 1. Frankie Marrero, 2. Nancy Motlow.
The weary contestants welcomed the opportunity to head for the big chickee where the fantastic dinner was being laid out on the tables. Hard at work all morning, cooking over the fire, the women had prepared a feast of traditional Seminole cuisine.
The skilled cooks were: Nancy Billie, Agnes Cypress, Amy Clay, Sylvia Marrero, Molina Mora, Jennifer Chadwick, Susan Davis and Deidra Hall, not to mention several fine gentlemen who watched the fire and assisted where necessary. Mary Sanchez offered the invocation, before the lines formed to fill their plates with chicken, fry bread, corn, beans, rice with tomato gravy, pumpkin, Indian dogs and so much more. A special treat was guava sofkee.
With everyone gathered in one place, it was the perfect opportunity to draw the winning numbers in the 4-H 50/50 Raffle. Immokalee 4-H Director Cecilia Pequeno and Amy Yzaguirre had organized the raffle and the participating youth had covered the community selling chances for




Male participation in the modern clothing contest was stiff.



Tribal women spent hours preparing a traditional Seminole feast.

Juan Sanchez, 3. Pete Martinez; Seniors: 1. Mike Cypress.
President Moses Osceola had provided door prizes for the event and approximately twelve lucky winners received Gift Certificates to Wal-Mart, Best Buy, Sam's Club and Foot Locker.

The young ladies wore every color in the rainbow as they exhibited in the fashion contest.



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Indian Day on all Reservations with Miss Seminole

By Wanda Bowers

Miss Seminole Christine McCall flew back home from FSU to attend a weekend full of Tribal festivities to celebrate Indian Day back home on her own rez. The first stop would be to visit the First Seminole Expo held in Hollywood at the new Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum at Okalee Village.

It's so hard to get into the Hard Rock parking lot in the back these days, we decided to go a little earlier that day. We got into the museum in plenty of time to see the Tribal vendors setting up their booths, the Seminole stomp dancers getting together, the fluties warming up and Dora the Explorer walking around waving at everybody.

First thing on the agenda for Christine was to meet up with Junior Miss Seminole Jennifer Chalfant who lives in Okeechobee, Fla. Chalfant had to get up bright and early and was driven in for the day. She met up with Christine to enjoy the day at Seminole Expo.

Tribal citizen and stomp dancer Brian Zepeda and an Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki employee started off the morning welcoming everyone to the festival and hoped that everyone would enjoy themselves. After a short introduction he called up Jennifer to say a few words, followed by Christine.

They both started off welcoming everyone to the Seminole Expo and expressed how important it was to both of them that they understand their history and that it be preserved. Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum featured stomp dancing and flute playing through out the day. They also had a presentation on Seminole history inside the museum that was attended by Christine and Jennifer.

Next door at the Okalee Indian Village both Christine and Jennifer visited the living Indian Village, first stop would be at the cooking chickee of course. Bonnie offered them a taste of fry bread with honey and a cup of sofkee. Under the other chickees were wood carvers, beaders, basket weaving with sweet grass.

Behind the cooking chickee was another chickee where Diane Buster was peeling potatoes for the next course and her mother Sally Buster, who had business in town, had stopped by to help out.

I saw a few others ladies in from the Brighton reservation. They said they just stopped by to see what was going on with the expo. I thought that was kind of neat, come in all the way from the Brighton reservation to check out the expo.

It was a full morning for Christine and



(L-R) Miss Seminole Christine McCall and Jr. Miss Seminole Jennifer Chalfant with Dora the Explorer.

Jennifer at the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum, but Jennifer had to return home that noon to Okeechobee to get ready for the Brighton Indian Day festivities.

Christine's weekend wasn't finished yet, the next morning, Sept. 24 she made it to the registration table at the Hollywood Gym to see the community members checking their items in for display that were made during Donna and Vivian's culture classes.

The classes were held at the DSO Building in Hollywood and a few workshops that were also held at the Hollywood Gym. It was great seeing all the elders, the children even the teenagers were bringing in their creations. Wood carving, beadwork, patchwork, turbans, complete outfits and even drawings were turned in.

After saying hello and goodbye to a few of the community members, Christine jumped on the Tribal helicopter to run out to the Big Cypress reservation. She visited and toured the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum and made a quick stop at the new and improved B.C. Landing store, owned by Sadie Billie, a long time resident of Big Cypress and a cousin to Christine. We ate the best lapalee bread sandwich with egg and bacon for breakfast.

Next stop was the Immokalee Indian Day, which was a few minutes away by air. Once we got to Immokalee, Christine was asked to help judge the clothing contest in all the categories babies up to the men and women. Except for her own category, she volunteered to be involved with the community.

We got to see everyone from newborn babies to grandmas. They were really pleased to have Christine out there for the afternoon and it was a big treat for Christine. The little ones kept calling her Miss Princess.

Outside of the gym under the cooking chickee there were ladies young and old mixing up flour dough to prepare and cook frybread a specialty of any Seminole cook out. Christine just came to enjoy the day with the community but she had to try her hand at fry bread; thanks Betty O.

Next to the cooking chickee there were men and ladies entered into the log peeling contest; way-to-go Priscilla and Judybill, with your red faces and big smiles. Many of the kids rode around in the covered wagon with the other kids at the petting zoo and still more kids at the inflated play slide.

There wasn't anything that was missing that we could have wanted, especially when the sun was starting to set.

Miccosukee Tribe Celebrates Indian Day

By Barbara Secody

MIAMI, FL — As the hot, sweltering summer is finally in its last hurrah, the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida celebrated Indian Day. This is a day when Native Americans come together to enjoy their culture. It is a day to reflect on times gone by, discuss present day life and share hope for the futures of the young people. Food, fun and games are enjoyed by young and old as a myriad of contests are held.

On Sept. 23, the festivities began early at the village. A delicious breakfast was catered by Ruby Willie and Irene Tiger. Outdoors, kids enjoyed playing at the bounce house or being slung up in the air by a huge rubber band device. Many other fun toys were at their disposal.

On Wednesday, prior to the Indian Day events, a contest was held to hail the best of the best "Rez Rockets." Men and women from all over the reservation cruised in with their entry—which ranged from the elite to the oldies-but-goodies. Winning results were not available at the time of publication, due to a great amount of winners and categories offered.

On Friday came the remaining contests which began in the morning and continued on through lunch. Some of the contests that were held were Arts and Crafts, Indian Dog, Fry bread and pumpkin making and the big event of the day, the clothing (patchwork) contest.

Contests and winners are:

Pumpkin bread making contest:

Group A: 1. Brina Cypress, 2. Pamela Billie; Group B: 1. Nora Billie, 2. Marla Poole, 3. Lois Billie; Group C: 1. Margaret Billie, 2. Jennie O. Billie; Teens: 1. Khadijah Cypress.

Fry bread contest:

Group 1: Teens: 1. Marshall Sanders, 2. Sandra Osceola; Group 2: 1. Margaret Billie, 2. Jennie O. Billie, 3. Lois Billie; Group 3: 1. Brina Cypress, 2. Barbara Osceola, 3. Pamela Billie; Group 4: 1. Marla Poole, 2. Nora Billie.

Also during the bread contests, the contestants who wore Miccosukee or Seminole-made aprons were being judged. Winners in the category are:



The children had fun on the air rubber band.

Traditional-style aprons: 1. Margaret Billie, 2. Sandra Osceola;

Contemporary-style aprons: Group A: 1. Marla Poole, 2. Brina Cypress, 3. Nora Billie; Group B: 1. Lois Billie, 2. Jennie O. Billie.

The contest winners for the clothing (patchwork) and the arts and crafts are too numerous to list according to Betty Billie, coordinator of the contests. Featured in the arts and crafts contest were beautiful patchwork strips, beadwork, sweet grass items, palmetto fiber dolls, wood carvings, photographs, artwork, and poetry.

The patchwork clothing contest featured fabulous clothing creations in such categories as baggy shirts, short and long skirts, capes, contemporary outfits, traditional outfits, vests, jackets, long shirt, big shirt and ultra-modern clothing.

As lunch rolled around, trays of hot dogs and buns, baked beans, fruit and veggie platters were brought in. Sodas were available throughout the afternoon. As people lined up for food, the kids continued to prefer the outdoor games.

Although the rain came after lunch, festival goers stayed dry and enjoyed the rest of the afternoon in a huge air-conditioned tent set up for the day's events. As the day faded into evening, the celebration ended with a delicious dinner of ribs, chicken, ground beef and rice, potato salad, macaroni and cheese, home fries, corn, pumpkin bread, oatmeal, and cake. Those who were able to move after ingesting this feast, made their way home or to the resort to enjoy a free concert featuring "The Animals."

A good time was had by one and all, and another year of celebration of Miccosukee and Seminole culture sharing continues daily by these people. Life is good.



Minnie Lou Billie and her grandson Darius Billie.



Participants line up for the Indian Day sack race competition.

Brighton Indian Day

By Susan Etxebarría

BRIGHTON — The celebration of Indian Day was different this year at Brighton with many of the night games and competitions taking place inside the well-lit Fred Smith Rodeo Arena due to the gym remaining unusable since the 2004 hurricanes.

Last year the approaching storm had rained out the games by 3 p.m. and everyone was told to go home and prepare for Jeanne. This year it was dry and hot and no breeze to cool everyone off. But the games prevailed.

A new feature was the night volleyball tournament in the Rodeo Arena that attracted lots of the teens playing in the 13 to 17 year age bracket. Adults also played volleyball in the raked dirt of the arena that made for a soft landing much like a sandy beach. The arena was used for playing horseshoes and bingo on the last day, Saturday.

All week prior to the official Indian Day there were many great opportunities to participate in a variety of sports or special events. On Sept. 16 the youth participated in a fishing tournament at the ponds next to the Trading Post Gas Station and Convenience Store and some good size fish were reeled in. The kids had a lot of help baiting the hooks from their parents and volunteers.

There were two bowling tournaments held at the Stardust Lanes, one for the seniors and another for the adults, ages 18–54, and the golf tournament was held Sept. 21 at the Okeechobee Country Club.

Some of earliest risers signed up Sept. 23 for the 5K walk/run at 5:30 a.m. to race at 6 a.m. and beat the heat of the sun. The next morning some of those same people and others rose early for the Fishing Tournament that began at 5:30 a.m. with the weigh-in at 11 a.m.

The archery tournament in the mid-afternoon on Sept. 24 drew a lot of men including Board Representative Johnnie Jones. At the same time a very large gathering of children played games on the softball field including the three-legged race, the balloon toss and the sack race.

The pumpkin bread contest and the youth fry



This youngster hopped his way along in the sack race.

Miccosukee Vendors Kick off Flea Market Venture During Indian Day Weekend

By Barbara Secody

MIAMI, FL — Although no fleas were available to shoppers, the Miccosukee and Seminole Tribal citizens kicked off their first flea market on Sept. 24–25 during the Indian Day weekend. The beautiful Miccosukee Resort dome was utilized for the event.

Vendors were limited to only Miccosukee and Seminole members for this trial run to see how it would be received by Indian and non-Indian shoppers alike. All were welcome to come browse, shop and order items from vendors.

Most of the items offered were patchwork clothing, patchwork strips—the most beautiful exhibition of color imaginable. Although the designs have become so advanced that artists can even make them with birds, panthers and even Christmas trees, there are still those who enjoy the older traditional design patchwork such as the sharks teeth and lightning patterns.

Some vendors brought beautiful jewelry, beadwork, basketry and wood carvings as well as more traditional and affordable items such as purses, shoes, and other knick-knacks. The sudden rain storm kept many people home and out of the bad weather as well as the Immokalee Indian Day festivities going on at the same time.

Judy Osceola, coordinator of the project, along with Louise Bert, reported that this weekend was pretty much of a trial run, but that more such flea market/swap show events are in the planning for possibly a quarterly event. She also mentioned that non-Indians would most likely be welcome to participate as vendors for upcoming dates.

Also, the consensus by all was that earlier notice, as well as some marketing, would bolster attendance from more buyers in the Miami area as well as in other areas such as Ft. Lauderdale and Hollywood.

Although the rain chased away most of the prospective customers by early afternoon, it didn't dampen the spirits of these vendors. Sunday morning arrived along with these early birds who were already setting up their booth and looking forward to another profitable day of sales.

Iona Billie and her crew of hard-working cooks and waiters set up outside the dome and offered up their world-famous pumpkin bread as well as a full menu of snacks, sandwiches, Indian burgers, Indian dogs and complete dinners. There was something for every taste. By the end of the day, vendors started packing up what items were left from the day's sales.

Many of the vendors reported having done quite well in their sales, and would definitely participate in future flea market events. As for the happy customers who emerged from the dome—loaded down with their purchases—they too would like to see more events like this held more often. Many commented



Virginia Osceola sells her crafts at the Miccosukee flea market.

This is Our Day

Since we all are Seminole Tribal members, Indian Day was a special day for all of us. On each reservation Indian Day was celebrated with the community activities and such...

It was good to see the kids, adults and the elders come together and enjoy Indian Day. I think y'all can all agree with me on that our tribe, the Seminole Tribe of Florida has come a long way to where we are at today.

Being that we are Seminole Indians, this day represents our status today in a white man's world that our future is looking bright, but on the same token we must not forget our past, given our history, the struggles, and turmoil our ancestors preserved.

Through our existence today is the greatest gift we have inherited and for that we should be grateful, and it is up to us to keep the heritage going. The blood that ran through our ancestors (warriors) veins is the same blood that runs through our veins today.

So yes I have to say Indian Day is not only a special day but it is an important day for all of us. Be proud of who you are
Seminole Tribal Member,
Norman Andy Bowers

P.S.
United we stand
Divided we fall

Indian Day

❖ Yaat-Keteshshe Ennehtake

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Big Cypress and Immokalee Indian Day Skins Tournament

Skins tournament: 1. Charlie Cypress, 2. Charley Frye, 3. Cicero Osceola, 4. Ricky Doctor, 5. Salaw Hummingbird, 6. Keno King, 7. Miguel Mata, 8. George Grasshopper, 9. Raymond Garza Jr, 10. Mondo Tiger, 11. Raymond Garza Sr., 12. Pauletta Bowers. Longest men's drive: Charlie Cypress
Longest women's drive: Virginia Billie
Closest to the pin: George Grasshopper, Raymond Garza Jr., Charlie Cypress

Fry Bread Competition

Youth, 9-12 years, Males: Bradley Osceola, 2. Chris Joe, 3. Anthony Joe; Females: 1. Cooper Rivers, 2. Amanda Micco, 3. Jeanie Capricien
Adults, 18-30, Males: 1. Jose Herrera, 2. Lenny Jim; Females: 1. Marline Miller, 2. Toi Andrews
Adults, 31-53, Females: 1. Beverly Alumbaugh, 2. Almira Billie, 3. Janice Osceola

Seniors: 1. Paul Bowers

Super Seniors: 1. Louise Billie
Log Peeling Competition
Adults, 31-53, Males: 1. Mike Cypress, 2. Adrian Wall, 3. Ronnie Billie; Females: 1. Mary Jene Koenes, 2. Sylvia Harris, 3. Janice Billie

Adults, 18-30, Females: 1. Ayze Henry, 2. Toi Andrews, 3. Lonawa Lacy
Arts and Crafts Competition
Children, Ages 2-4: 1. Shana Balentine; Ages 5-8, Males: 1. John McInturff, Females: 1. Sierra Bowers; Ages 9-12, Males: 1. Ricky Joe Alumbaugh, Females: 1. Cooper Rivers

Adults, Males: 1. Ricky Doctor, Females: 1. Alice Billie, 2. Mary Jene Koenes; Females: 1. Nancy Billie, 2. Unknown, 3. Janice Osceola
Seniors, Males: 1. Joe B. Osceola; Females: 1. Patsy Billie, 2. Lucille Jumper, 3. Virginia Tommie
Super Seniors, Males: 1. George Billie; Females: 1. Louise Billie, 2. Mary Frances Cypress
Participation: Carol Cypress, Louise Osceola

Sack Races Competition

Ages 3-5: 1. Myron Cypress, 2. Jared McInturff; Ages 6-9: 1. Michaela Cypress, 2. John Dell, 3. Dalton Koenes; Ages 10-12: 1. Rashawn Jim, 2. Robert Cypress, 3. Trent McInturff; Women: 1. Oanwa, 2. Almira Billie, 3. Carol Cypress; Males: 1. Lionel, 2. Allen McInturff, 3. Ronnie Billie

Foot Races Competition

Ages 6-9: 1. Michaela Cypress, Katlin Tommie, John Dell; Ages 10-12: 1. Rashawn Jim, 2. Eagle Billie; Adults, Males: 1. Lionel, 2. Jose Herrera, 3. Allen McInturff; Women: 1. Almira Billie, 2. Onawa Lacy, 3. Carol Osceola

Archery Competition

Ages 5-10: 1. Kaitlen Cypress, 2. Myron Cypress, 3. Jared McInturff; Ages 10-18: 1. Rashawn Jim, 2. Bradley Osceola; Ages 18 and older: 1. Joe, 2. Michelle Evenston, 3. Clea Billie and Toi Andrews

Clothing Participation

Children: Bradley Osceola, Daverick McInturff, Eagle Billie, Michaela Cypress, Jalycia Billie, Shana Balentine, Alena Stockton, Marley Herrera, Brandi Osceola, Mya Cypress, Elizabeth Wolf, Silver Wolf; Adults: Nellie Bain, Allen McInturff, Janice Osceola, Mary Jene Koenes, Clarissa Bowers

Cooks: Diana Harjo, Becky

Bowlegs, Judy Jim, Mike Cypress, Beverly Alumbaugh, Corinna Frank, Jennifer Chadwick, Juan Sanchez, Agnes Cypress, Nancy Billie, Nery Mejicano

Helpers: Crystal Gasup, Kristi

Polk, Tina Mennella, Marisol Garcia, Beina Regina, Mark Lichtenburg, Paul Buonincontri, Linda Fleishman, Carmen Arrango, Rafel Sanchez, Adena Goodman, Rick Melendez, Jose Salono, Chris Halbutta, Jadrian A., Steve Frost, Stan Frischman



(L-R) Nyah Davidson, Liza Billie and Brianna Billie in the clothing contest.

Janice Billie

❖ Indian Day

Continued from page 1

golf tournament kicking off the day at 7 a.m., a little early for some but not for hardcore players that showed up.

The pool tournament started at noon and went on into the late evening. Billed as the First Annual Indian Day pool tournament, the turnout exceeded all expectations.

The mid-afternoon horseshoe tournament took place at the ball field and went into early evening. Facilitated by Mary Jumper, the horseshoe competition had a take-no-prisoners atmosphere resulting in some hard won victories.

The cultural village, located behind the Family Investment Center, was the main site for all the other Indian Day events. It started out with the clothing contests, with categories ranging from super seniors, ages 65 and older, to infants less than a year old.

In the cooking chickee, the fry bread makers withstood the heat of the open fire without skipping a beat. A crew of Seminole women, along with Mike Cypress and Juan Sanchez, cooked a huge, traditional meal at lunch time. The Iron Chef has nothing on these cooks. The community had a special treat of fresh roasted corn provided by Nery Mejicano and his traveling corn roaster.

Children and adults all participated in the sack races, foot races and archery contests. Other competitions included axe throwing and log peeling.

As the afternoon settled into evening, the pool tournament was still going on and the horseshoe games were winding down

Next on the schedule of events was a comedy show at the Youth Center. The show was produced by a Native American group known as Emergence Productions from Albuquerque, N.M. Although billed as a "comedy show" the production was much more. The artistic blending of Native American storytelling, music and cultural expression produced entertaining as well as empowering experience.

Several of the skits featured Coyote, a character well known in Native legends. The talented troupe of entertainers spent most of the day with the Big Cypress community before performing that evening. The show was a fitting conclusion to a day that was filled with revelry and unity while honoring Native Americans everywhere.



Janice Billie

Chickee builder Ronnie Billie shows off his skills in the log peeling competition.



Janice Billie

Caleb Billie in his traditional long shirt.



Janice Billie

Cathy Jumper takes serious aim at the Indian Day horseshoe tourney.



Nery Mejicano

George Billie (second from left) posing with Indian Day visitors.

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Kindergarten winners (L-R): Reed Gopher, Jalyn Jones, J-Wayco Billie, Mariah Smith, Ivess Baker and Chloe Chalfant.



First grade winners (L-R): Autumn Osceola-James, Drayton Billie, Lanie Sedatol, Sean Osceola, Bethany Billie and Elijah Billie.



Fourth and Fifth grade winners (L-R): Randy Shore, Kirsten Doney, Emery Fish, Erena Billie, Everett Youngblood and Cassandra Baker.

Pull-Out Program Honors Indian Day

By Emma Brown
BRIGHTON — The Brighton Pull-Out Program celebrated Indian Day by holding a traditional clothing contest for the students on Friday Sept. 23. Almost every student that attends the program came to school dressed in Seminole clothing to honor this very special day.

The children in the program see this as “their day” and they were very excited to show off the Seminole patchwork and design. The Brighton EMT staff assisted by walking around to each of the classrooms judging the boys and girls separately, struggling to come up with winners. The EMT’s admitted that the task was one of great difficulty, because all of the students were breathtaking. The pride of wearing their traditional clothing was definitely present as the children stood in front of their peers with smiles on their faces and their heads held high as the judges made their decisions.

There were many parents that came out to see the children dressed up and to take pictures of the event. Their were six winners from each class that received gift cards, however every child was a winner for taking the time to honor their Tribe and pay tribute to the patchwork of the Seminoles on American Indian Day. Thank you to Sweat Trucking and the Culture Department for sponsoring the event.

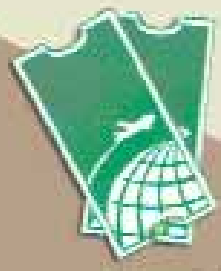
- Winners:
- Kindergarten Boys: 1. Ivess baker, 2. J-Wayco Billie, 3. Reed Gopher; Girls: 1. Mariah Smith, 2. Chloe Chalfant, 3. Jalynn Jones.
- First Grade Boys: 1. Drayton Billie, 2. Sean Osceola, 3. Elijah Billie; Girls: 1. Lanie Sedatol, 2. Autumn James, 3. Bethany Billie.
- Second Grade Boys: 1. Ruben Burgess, 2. Michael Garcia, 3. Joshua Madrigal; Girls: 1. Ashlee Gopher, 2. Trista Osceols, 3. Brydgett Koontz.
- Third Grade Boys: 1. Lewis Gopher Jr., 2. Layton Thomas, 3. Joshua Boromei; Girls: 1. Breanna Billie, 2. Jennifer Tommie, 3. Justice Baker.
- Fourth and Fifth Grade Boys: 1. Everett Youngblood, 2. Randy Shore, 3. Emery Fish; Girls: 1. Cassandra Baker, 2. Erena Billie, 3. Kirsten Doney.



Second grade winners (L-R): Michael Garcia, Ashlee Gopher, Ruben Burgess, Brydgett Koontz, Josh Madrigal and Trista Osceola.



Third grade winners (L-R): Jennifer Tommie, Lewis Gopher, Justice Baker, Layton Thomas, Breanna Billie and Joshua Boromei.



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Judy Weeks

Immokalee Preschool staff and students dressed in traditional attire for their Indian Day party.

Preschool Observes Indian Day

Story by Judy Weeks

IMMOKALEE — In observance of Indian Day, everyone at the Immokalee Preschool dressed in Seminole attire for the occasion. Manager Michelle Ford joined her staff in organizing a full day of activities for the youngsters based on their culture.

Following a hearty breakfast prepared by Elva Montez, the children gathered with their teachers for a group photograph. They were all very proud of their outfits and kept asking to see their pictures.

Amy Clay from the Culture department has been working with the children on their native language skills, numbers and introducing them to their past through story telling. They have been learning Indian songs and happily performed them in recognition of Indian Day.

Special cards had been made for a game of Indian Bingo. The youngsters had a wonderful time recognizing the objects and enjoyed several rounds before moving on to other activities.

A special feature of the day was the making of Indian fry bread followed by a lunch of Indian Tacos, which are always a big hit whether young or old.

Michelle Ford and her staff, Ruby Garcia, Maria Castro, Myra Garcia, Elva Montez, Rosa Garcia and Culture's Amy Clay give the children a lot of individual attention and cultural enhancement as well as preparing them for their eventual transition to Kindergarten.

This well-structured form of "hands on" teaching is very beneficial as they develop pride in who they are and what they want to become.

Indian Day Around The Hollywood Rez

By Adelsa Williams

HOLLYWOOD — Indian Day celebrations took place on Sept. 23-24 in various locations on and off the Hollywood reservation, with various cultural and recreational activities going on simultaneously.

For starters, on the first day there was a bowling tournament held at Don Carter Lanes in Davie, Fla. around mid afternoon that was coordinated by Eugene Bowers, Snake clan, from the Hollywood reservation.

The event drew a total of 26 bowlers who formed two-man teams. Bowlers played a total of three games, the minimum to qualify for prizes.



Adelsa Williams

Joe Osceola Jr. gets ready to throw.

There were no high score or low score requisite to win.

The format of the game was no pin, no tap, meaning that if a bowler knocks down nine of the 10 pins, it counts as a strike.

"Everybody is a winner," said Bowers. "We're just playing for fun."

Tribal citizen Dawn Sanchez relocated about a year ago back to Hollywood from Oklahoma and said that she enjoys participating in the community events.

"It's my first time participating in Indian Day," she said.

Participants of the Indian Day bowling tournament were: Mary

T. Bowers, Judy Jones, Yvette Jumper, Maydell Osceola, Eric Osceola, Sharon Osceola, Samantha Frank, Cachaloni Frank, Mary G. Osceola, Leon Wilcox II, Patricia Wilcox, David Jumper, Norman A. Bowers, Vivian Osceola, Leslie Osceola, Mathew Osceola, Natasha Osceola, Jimmie H. Osceola, Pernell Bert, Phil Bowers, Nadine Tommy, David Nelson, Eugene Bowers, Ricardo Hernandez, and Dawn Sanchez.

Later that evening at the baseball field on the reservation, several other jolly folks participated in a horseshoe game that was coordinated by the Hollywood recreation department. There were adult men and women categories during the play formed by two-man teams.

While Recreation Coordinator Steve Young kept up with the scores, onlookers, including Hollywood Recreation Director Moses "Big Shot" Jumper, grouped around the players joyously watching the competition, "It's a good wholesome family game," commented Jumper.

The first five place participants are as follows: Men: 1. Matt Osceola and Norman Bowers, 2. Marcy Osceola Jr. and Joe Osceola Jr., 3. Doug Smith and Mingo Jones, 4. Chucky Osceola and Marcus

Billie, 5. Anthony and Richard Osceola; Women: 1. Natasha Osceola and Harmony Stewart, 2. Mercedes and Tasha Osceola, 3. Evelyn Bowers and Leslie Osceola, 4. Virginia and Francine Osceola, 5. Allison and Amy Osceola.

The following day festivities continued on inside the gym with celebrations of culture featuring beadwork, wood carving and Seminole clothing and patchwork designs.

Meanwhile out-



Adelsa Williams

Dawn Sanchez hopes for a strike.

doors there was an all age competition of fry bread cooking, log peeling competition for the 15-year-olds and up and archery competitions for men and boys only. The youngsters enjoyed many carnival rides as well as a watermelon race, sack race, egg toss and wheel barrel race while the young-at-heart watched and cheered them on.

After much fun under the last bit of the end of the summer sun, there was a fireworks display finale, a favorite of all of the age groups.



Adelsa Williams

(L-R) Francine Osceola and her grandmother Frances Willie.

Attention all Seminole Artists: Art Contest for Tribal Fair Booklet

The 2006 Tribal Fair Committee is holding an art contest for the Tribal Fair Program Booklet, the winning art work will be featured on the cover of the front page of the Tribal Fair Booklet.

Rules:

Must be a Tribal Citizen

Any color medium such as paint, charcoal, line drawing, pencil drawing, water color, air brush, mixed medium, etc. are accepted.

Image must be of a **Seminole subject matter**; Chickee, traditional dressed family, self portrait, Florida Seminole Nature scene such as wild life, plants, landscapes, etc.

Image size 11x11 (image may be larger but will be scaled down to fit cover).

Deadline December 1, 2005. Destination for artwork is Seminole Tribune at the Hollywood Headquarters. Drop off locations at all reservations will be established.

Computers 101: Fundamental Program Skills

This course is designed for new computer users. The objective of this course is to provide fundamentals of all basic computer programs including word processing and spreadsheet, etc. Many fundamental skills will be covered in this class including the foundation to accessing emails, and keyboard skills. This is the second class offered in this series and will build upon the knowledge gained in the first class. This class is required for future classes that will be offered in advanced Word Processing, Excel Spreadsheet, Charting, PowerPoint, and Outlook.

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Martha Tiger Memorial Pool Tournament

By Susan Etxebarria

BIG CYPRESS — Pool playing seniors enjoyed another day of teasing, laughing and good-natured competition at the Fourth Annual Martha Tiger Memorial Pool Tournament held Sept. 29 at the BC Senior Center.

Among the Seminole Tribe citi-

zens, it is normal to find many elders who have excellent pool playing skills and the tournaments are very popular. While some pool players are fairly new at the sport, others have played for many years.

An interesting explanation of the appreciation for pool came from one senior who explained that it was once a way for her (and maybe others) to make some spending money in the days when Tribal citizens were struggling to make ends meet. A skilled pool player could go to a

local pool hall and make a little extra cash—if they were good enough to beat their opponents.

As in any sport, skill takes time to develop. The tournaments bring out the best players, and it brings out those who are still learning, but most of all it is just a lot of fun.

Both women played against Juanita Osceola, a tough opponent with many more years experience. And Juanita took first place qualifying her to compete for women's grand champion. Louise took second place.

There was a cliffhanger play between Alice and Juanita when they played each other. Alice had the edge when all that was left to win was pocket the 8-ball but it was a difficult shot and she missed. Juanita missed her shot, too, and it went back to Alice. She missed again and Juanita took the game.

Just about this time is when BC Council Representative David Cypress, who just came by to watch awhile, added a little spark to the competition by donating an extra \$100 to each of the second place winners in the grand championship. The grand championship is when the winner of the women's two divisions, 55-59 and the 60 and older, compete for the top woman player; and the same for the men's divisions.

Meanwhile in the women's 60 and older division, Betty Osceola of Hollywood moved up the ladder to win first place. Betty has been playing pool since the 1960s but this spunky 72-year-old has plenty of other hobbies as well. She exercises daily at the Hollywood Senior Center, rides a bike, and creates patchwork shirts, blouses, skirts and doll dresses, according to her daughter, Laura Clay, who came to watch the pool tournament.

"Mom loves to play pool and she gets upset with herself if she doesn't win," Clay said.

Seasoned players Juanita and Betty would next face off for the women's grand champion.

As the men played, Sam Nelson

had a chance to beat Joe Billie, Jr. in the 60 and older men's division but came in second leaving Billie in first place. Then, Chairman Mitchell Cypress beat out Truman Bowers and David Bowers for second place in the Men's 55-59 division and went up against a former grand champion winner, Keeno King of Hollywood, for first place.

King won and that made a tough match for men's grand champion with Billie Jr. up against King. Billie, Jr. has been playing pool for 20 years and he's hard to beat but so is Keeno King who has played since he was 19 years old—that's 40 years!

Everyone in the room was attentive as usual during the men and women's grand championships. In the men's division, Billie Jr. won grand champion and Keeno King took second place; in the women's division, Betty Osceola won the grand champion and second place was Juanita Osceola. Betty was really pleased to win women's grand champion since her 72nd birthday was coming up on the following Saturday, on Oct. 1, and she said it was already starting out to be a good one.

Now, the grand championship is usually the climactic moment of the day. But, David Cypress came up with an impromptu challenge that got everyone excited. It was something new. He said he would pay money just to see the women's grand champion play the men's grand champion.

The tension was high; friends were rooting. The top two longtime pool



Susan Etxebarria

Keno King thinking hard about his next shot.

players made quick work of clearing the table after excellent shots from both. Betty had one stripe left on the table and it was Billie's turn to shoot. He quickly bagged his last solid ball. All that was left now was to sink the 8-ball but then the unexpected happened. Billie scratched. Betty was able to pocket her remaining ball, pocket the 8-ball, and claim the victory of the day to a round of applause and big hug from Billie Jr.

The long day ended on a slightly milder note as the men and women who remained teamed up for the Scotch Doubles. Here, Alice Sweat teamed up with Joe Billie Jr. and they won the doubles.



Susan Etxebarria

Joe Billie and Betty Osceola racking them up for their next game.

ISY&LR Saddle Series

By Judy Weeks

IMMOKALEE — The Immokalee Seminole Youth and Livestock Ranch (ISY&LR) sponsored a saddle series comprised of five ropings which began on May 21 and reached its climax on Sept. 17.

Youth Ranch Director Benny Motlow organized the Numbers Ropings as 4 Head Progressives after One. The USTRC Triad numbers system was used to

form the teams with saddles provided for the high point headers and heelers as follows: #13 and #15 combined points and #9 and #11 combined points.

All five ropings took place at the John Jimmie Memorial Arena in Immokalee. Competition was heavy throughout the series with ropers coming from all over the state to compete.

Ranch Superintendent Gabe Acosta remarked, "This is the day everyone has been waiting for. The points will be totaled and the winners announced." Judge Bud Fisher said, "I have enjoyed working this series. There have been a lot of good ropers here and a lot of good sports."

After combining the points from the five ropings, the saddle winners were: #15 and #13 High Point Header Wayne Hicks with 120 points and Heeler Derick Davis with 129 points. #11 and #9 High Point Header Shannon Wetler with 97 points and Heeler Tony Lazo with 94 points.

Results of the fifth roping were: #15 fastest time: Header Wayne Hicks and Heeler Matt Wiggins. #13 fastest time: Header Chester Rimes and Heeler Kiki Juvert. #11 fastest time: Header Willy Aben and Heeler Tony Lazo. #9 fastest time Header Bear Weeks and Heeler Danny Garcia.



Judy Weeks

Immokalee Seminole Youth Ranch Superintendent Gabe Acosta (left) and Judge Bud Fisher (right) award saddle to Wayne Hicks, champion header in the number 11 and 13 category.



Judy Weeks

Immokalee Seminole Softball team poses before their third game in the series.

Immokalee Co-Ed Softball Team

By Judy Weeks

SEAGATE, FL — The Immokalee Recreation department is sponsoring a Co-Ed Softball Team, which has joined the city of Naples' Softball League. Meeting for games on Monday nights, they will compete 12 times from September through December.

The Seminoles team is made up of Tribal citizens, spouses and employees. The team is comprised of Head Coach Gary McInturff, Assistant Coach Cristie Betancourt, Susan Davis, Raymond Mora, Dennis Gonzales, Roy Garza, Ray Yzaguirre, Virginia Billie, Tracy DelaRosa, Roy Garza, Jr., Johnny and Gale Boone.

Dressed in maroon and gold uniforms, the team lit up the field at Seagate Ballpark on Sept. 26. They played their third game of the season against Southern Sand and Stone, Inc.

In the starting lineup, Roy Garza Jr. was on the pitcher's mound with Tracy De La Rosa catching. Bases were covered by Cristie Betancourt on first, Virginia Billie on second and Ray Yzaguirre on third with Johnny Boone as shortstop. As the game progressed, players swapped positions each inning.

Almost immediately, Ray Yzaguirre hit a home run with the bases loaded and before the night was over, Roy Garza hit two grand slams. Enthusiasm among the players was contagious and everyone was having a blast. The game was a runaway for the Seminoles with a score of 36 to two. That makes their season a 3-0 so far with nine more games to play.



Judy Weeks

Cristie Betancourt is a southpaw slugger on the Seminole team.

The Seminoles weren't the only ones having a good time. Little Ozzy Garza, 4, spent the evening behind the

dugout laughing and practicing for the day when he can join the team.

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NAIHC Expands Methamphetamine and Crime Prevention Training

Submitted by NAIHC
WASHINGTON, DC — Responding to a flood of requests, the National American Indian Housing Council (NAIHC) is expanding its training on dealing with methamphetamine use in Tribal housing, launching a new Crime Prevention and Safety Program.

NAIHC has hired a full-time staff person to manage this program, which entails training and the development of additional new courses designed to help tribes and their Tribally designated housing entities (TDHEs) deal with the growing meth problem in Indian housing.

Methamphetamine use and the illicit manufacture of meth or “meth labs” are becoming a major plague in Indian country. The average cost to decontaminate a home that has been used as a meth lab is nearly \$10,000, according to the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Office. The human cost of meth addiction is even more devastating: Meth users suffer from edginess, paranoia, agitation, and hallucinations. Meth abuse impacts the community as well, with increases in domestic violence, child abuse and homicide.

“The production and use of meth is a danger not only to the individual doing it, but to the entire community surrounding them,” said NAIHC Chairman Chester Carl. “NAIHC wants to provide tribal communities with the tools to combat this

growing problem. This problem, if not addressed properly, robs our Native American youth of their future.”

These new courses will be tailored to each region, to provide the most current information available from the narcotics divisions of law enforcement in that region, with specific statistics. For example, different types of meth labs are popular in different states. While each course will cover all types of labs, the trainer will target the most prevalent types of labs in a given region.

NAIHC’s current training on “Methamphetamine: A Growing Problem in Tribal Housing,” provides information on how to handle encounters with abusers and clean up property used for meth labs. This FREE training is offered to Regional Indian Housing Associations and groups of three or more tribes/TDHEs located within close proximity of each other.

“NAIHC wants to do whatever is possible to assist tribes and TDHEs in creating and maintaining not only safe, quality affordable homes, but also safe, healthy, comfortable communities,” said NAIHC Executive Director Gary L. Gordon.

TDHEs or Tribes desiring more information on our free meth training seminars and/or on the new Crime Prevention and Safety classes should contact: John Seignemartin at (800) 284-9165, Ext. 105 or visit www.naihc.net.

Survey of Indian Housing Authorities Shows High Unemployment

Gaming Provides Tribal Jobs, Unemployment Still Eight Times the National Average

Submitted by NAIHC
WASHINGTON, DC — A new survey on jobs and economic development on Indian reservations shows that while gaming and government are offering both Native and non-Native Americans job opportunities, unemployment is still extraordinarily high on reservations-averaging 8 times the national rate.

The surveys, conducted last week by the National American Indian Housing Council (NAIHC) among its Tribal Housing Authorities (HA), showed an average unemployment rate of 43 percent among survey respondents and even among those with gaming, the unemployment rate is still high at 42 percent.

The survey also showed that Tribes are not seeing a dramatic increase in economic development or housing.

“This survey confirms what we knew to be true: Gaming facilities are helping create jobs for some reservations, but they are not a panacea for all Tribes,” said NAIHC Chairman Chester Carl.

Of Respondents Surveyed:

Thirty-four percent reported jobs were increasing, 45 percent reported jobs are remaining stable and 22 percent were decreasing, mostly Tribes in the east and the plains.

More than half, 54 percent, are gaming Tribes, and only 10 report gaming as a form of economic development contributing to job growth.

Eleven percent reported that gaming revenues went to subsidize housing

Unemployment Still High Among Gaming Tribes

Among gaming Tribes reporting on unemployment, rates ranged from five percent to 80 percent with a median rate of 42 percent. Eight gaming Tribes had an unemployment rate over 50 percent; and two Tribes were above 70 percent despite their gaming jobs going mostly to Tribal members. All of the gaming Tribes reported gaming-related employment for both Native Americans and non-Tribal members.

Sixty-eight percent of gaming Tribes said that gaming facilities employed more than half non-Natives

The Vast Majority of Gaming Jobs in California, Nevada and the Northwestern U.S. Go to Non-Natives

“Gaming on Indian reservations has helped both Natives and non-Natives in their communities, our survey shows, and the vast majority of gaming jobs in California, Nevada, and the northwest go to non-Tribal members,” NAIHC Executive Director Gary L. Gordon said. “By providing a of gaming

jobs to non-Natives, Tribes are contributing to their surrounding communities. Those employees contribute to payroll taxes and state taxes and other community investments.”

For example, the Grand Portage Indian Housing Authority of Minnesota reported that their Grand Portage Lodge and Casino is the largest employer in the Cook County area of the state.

The survey also reported on continuing obstacles to economic development:

Sixty-two percent of respondents reported a lack of capital as the biggest obstacle to economic development. Twenty-five percent report a lack of trained employees.

Fourteen percent report a lack of natural resources. More than half of the gaming Tribes (19 HAs) said that gaming provided no housing subsidies. 68 percent stated that housing, economic development and job growth all needed to improve on their reservations.

Forty-seven percent said that housing construction needed to increase to promote economic development (the number one response).

Respondents stated that having Tribally-run housing manufacturing plants would decrease the burden on Tribes working with outside groups.

One of the respondents-from California, where the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) regional office is reported to be particularly inefficient-listed the BIA’s slow process of TSRs and environmental approvals as an obstacle to economic development.

Respondents suggested increasing funding through gaming or government programs for housing, increasing the building and rehabilitation of homes, encouraging small business involvement and homeownership training as necessary to spur job growth.

In addition, the survey sends a message to banks that more capital is needed to create businesses and jobs. It should be noted that while this analysis may apply broadly to Tribes that receive Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA) funding for affordable housing, which is 469 out of 562 federally recognized Tribes, it does not apply for some of the most successful gaming Tribes, such as the Mohegans and the Pequots of Connecticut, which do not receive such assistance and are absent from this survey.

“This finding helps change the erroneous perception that gaming is a windfall for Tribes,” Gordon added.

Remoteness of Most Tribes Inhibits Economic Development

Respondents to the survey noted that creating jobs and housing on reservations is important to economic and emotional well-being of Tribal members.

In addition, many Tribes noted that their remote locations were a barrier to development. The Goshute Housing Authority of Utah stated that the remoteness of their location and lack of capital to start businesses was a hardship on the community.

Dear Seminole Tribe of Florida,
On behalf of the Office of Indian Education and the Council of Chief State School Officers, I would like to announce the “Strengthening Partnerships for Education of American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian Students Project” meeting, scheduled for Oct. 16-18 in Rapid City, SD.

This important meeting is being called to further the discussion among local, state, tribal, and federal officials regarding common interests about Native American education and to lay the groundwork for future partnerships. It is my hope that administrators interested in Indian education will take the opportunity to participate in this meeting. The meeting will take place at the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center.

Please visit the CCSSO website to register online for the meeting and for more detailed information: http://www.ccsso.org/projects/native_american_student_education/meetings/6371.cfm

This registration site is pass code protected: Username: CCSSO; Password: 2005.

Once you register online, detailed hotel and meeting information will be forwarded to you via email.

For more information about the event, including registration, please contact Jasneen Sahni at (202) 336-7051 or jasneens@ccsso.org.

The Office of Indian Education encourages your participation in the “Strengthening Partnerships for Education of American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian Students Project” meeting. This meeting will enable participants to address challenges facing Indian education and facilitate implementation of the No Child Left Behind Act in local schools and Tribal communities.

I look forward to seeing you at the meeting. Sincerely,
Victoria Vasques, Director
Office of Indian Education
U.S. Department of Education



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Submitted by Emma Brown
Trina Collins

Bowers-Collins Earns Diploma in Therapeutic Massage

By Emma Brown
BRIGHTON — Trina Collins, formerly Trina Bowers, of the Brighton reservation completed all requirements for therapeutic massage from the Heritage Institute in Fort Myers, Fla. and received her diploma on July 1.

Collins is a 2004 graduate of the First Indian Baptist Academy. She immediately entered into Heritage Institute's massage therapy program upon graduation from high school and earned her diploma in the program just one year later.

Collins was an "A" student in secondary school and college, an avid rodeo competitor, and a newlywed who has set a fine example for her peers and community.

Trina said she wishes to thank the Education department, which provided her with a full scholarship throughout her college program. Her successful completion makes the Education department very proud and we wish her all the best.

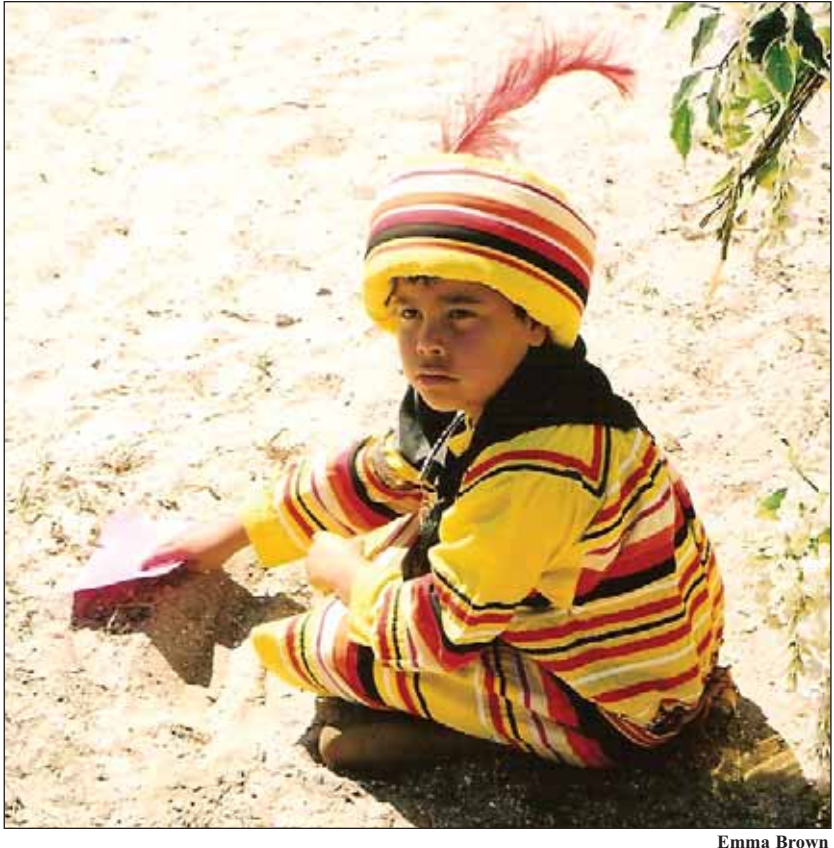
Nuñez Voted as School Treasurer

By Emma Brown
BRIGHTON — Daniel Nuñez Jr. is the third grade son of Daniel "Boogie" Nuñez Sr. and Peggy Nuñez. He attends Central Elementary school in Okeechobee, Fla.

Daniel ran for the position of the 2005-2006 school treasurer in a recent election where the student body casts their votes to decide who will represent their entire school as leaders. Nuñez walked away from the election victorious and will serve as the school treasurer for Central Elementary this year.

Aside from excelling academically with math being his favorite subject, Daniel enjoys playing football, baseball and soccer. He has proven to be a well-rounded student that will definitely be a positive leader for his peers.

Congratulation Daniel on your recent accomplishment, your parents and family are very proud of you! He turned nine on Sept. 28 and his family wishes him a very happy birthday.



Emma Brown
Daniel Nuñez

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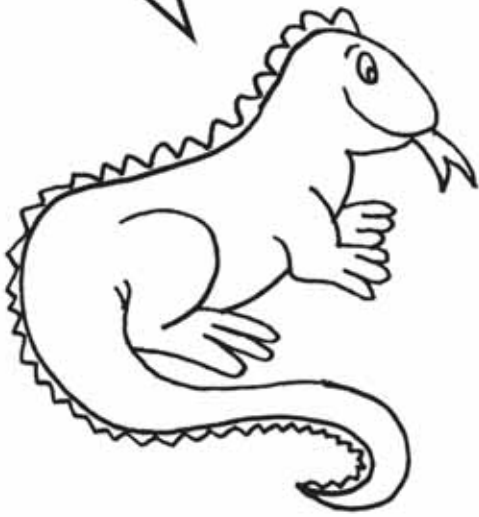
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FOR SAFETY!



...AND FOR YOU
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WHAT ABOUT RELAPSE
PREVENTION PLANS?

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CHARACTERS

Health Corner

Ask The Counselor

Dear Counselor,

My sweetheart and I have been living together for four years; we have a good relationship and plan to marry. However, there always seems to be a "however" when it comes to men. In this case, he appears to be addicted to the computer and it goes far beyond his just working at home. He spends all of his time and waking hours on the computer, which he has given a pet name.

If we're watching a game or a movie, he has the computer in front of him. I've woke up and found him in bed with his computer. I've checked, and he's not in chat rooms or visiting porno sites; in fact, he only e-mails when it's work related.

I care a lot about him, but I'm beginning to wonder if this love affair with his computer is going to delete me from a meaningful place in his life. Counselor, should I be worried?

Signed,
Lost



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@semtibe.com

Dear Lost,

Rather than worry, develop a strategy to outwit that intruding computer so that you can get what you want and need while reeling in your partner's obsession. Make him shut down his computer and talk, face-to-face. Don't scream, don't nag, but discuss your concerns. Tell him you need more of his time and attention, which you can't get when he's constantly glued to the computer.

With your partner, set aside a period each week when the two of you can enjoy uninterrupted time together. One week

you decide what you two will do; he decides the next week. Computer related activities should be off limits. In addition, you should develop your own hobbies so that you won't feel neglected when he's with his other love.

Signed,
Counselor

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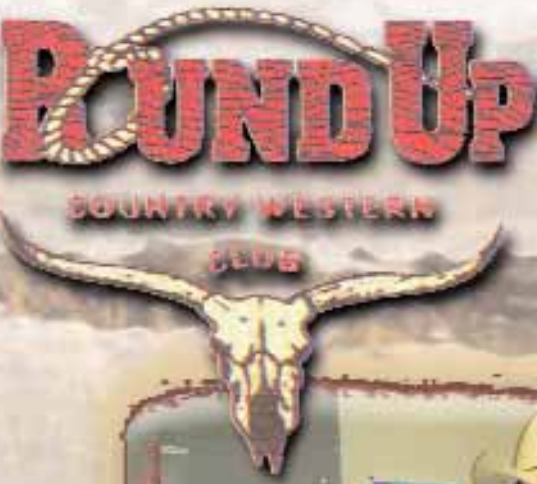
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The Adult Basic Education Program presents: Computers 301: Fundamental Spreadsheet Skills

This course is designed for the new spreadsheet user. It is the third class offered in this series and will build upon the knowledge gained in the second course (201).The course will consist of basic excel spreadsheet: fundamentals. You will learn to build formulas to replace technical math skills. The class will cover spreadsheet creation, editing, formatting, moving data, formulas, and many more labor saving techniques. Knowledge of word processing is a prerequisite. This course will be used to build upon for further courses to be offered.

Will be held at the DSO Library's Computer Lab in Hollywood as a three day course starting Tuesday October 25, Friday 28, and Monday 31, 2005.

Free to all adult Tribal members! Please fill out below for enrollment and return by October 21st, 2005. By reservation only and space is limited. Must be at least 18 years of age.

Last Name: _____
First Name: _____
Address: _____

Contact Phone: _____
Reservation: _____

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

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

For further information, please call 954.989.6840 ext. 1313.

Health Officials Warn of Carbon Monoxide Dangers

Generator safety precautions can help prevent poisoning

By Patrick Peck

As we Floridians begin the task of preparing for the next tropical storm or hurricane, the Seminole Department of Health is urging community members and the public at large to avoid carbon monoxide (CO) exposure by taking precautions with gas-powered appliances and charcoal or gas grills.

Carbon monoxide is an invisible, odorless, tasteless gas, and is highly poisonous. Depending on the level of exposure, CO may cause fatigue, weakness, chest pains for those with heart disease, shortness of breath upon exertion, nausea, vomiting, headaches, confusion, lack of coordination, impaired vision, loss of consciousness, and in severe cases, death.

The U.S. Department of Health recommends the following precautions to help prevent carbon monoxide poisoning: Do not burn charcoal or gas grills inside a house, garage, vehicle, tent or fireplace. Never use a generator indoors, including in homes, garages, basements, crawl spaces, and other enclosed

or partially enclosed areas, even with ventilation. Opening doors and windows or using fans will not prevent CO build-up in the home. Always locate the unit outdoors on a dry surface, away from doors, windows, vents, and air conditioning equipment that could allow CO to come indoors. Locate the unit outdoors and away from doors, windows, vents, and air conditioning equipment that could allow CO to come indoors. Install battery-operated CO alarms or plug-in CO alarms with battery back up in your home, according to the manufacturer's installation instructions. The CO alarms should be certified to the requirements of the latest safety standards for CO alarms (UL 2034, IAS 6-96, or CSA 6.19.01). Test your CO alarms frequently and replace dead batteries. Remember that you cannot see or smell CO and portable generators can produce high levels of CO very quickly. If you start to feel sick, dizzy, or weak while using a generator, get to fresh air right away, do not delay. If you have a poisoning emergency, call your nearest Florida Poison Information Center at (800) 222-1222. If the victim has collapsed or is not breathing, call 911 immediately.



Diabetes and Family Support

Submitted by the Seminole Health Department

Once you learn you have diabetes, many things in your life may change. For example, medical treatment, changes in lifestyle or hospitalization, these changes can be overwhelming at times. Being prepared for these changes and the continued care of your diabetes can help you better meet the challenges of diabetes. Your family can be a big help; people with diabetes benefit greatly from their family's assistance.

You can make diabetes a family affair! Diabetes touches everyone who lives with, loves or cares for you. And the way they relate to your diabetes can have a powerful effect on how well you care for yourself.

Every person with diabetes is different, and so is every family. Some people get just the right amount of support from the important people in their lives; others feel their family and friends are too involved; and still others feel they don't get enough support.

Are you happy with the support you get? Do you feel that people close to you have joined the "Diabetes Police?" Do you feel people don't respect your special needs as a person with diabetes? Sometimes we know we are unhappy but we are unsure of what we are unhappy about or how to make the changes in our lives that will fix the problem. Here are some tips to help you identify your needs for support: Make a list of the ways your family and friends already make your life with diabetes easier. Try to answer these questions...What are the important people in your life doing to help you manage diabetes? Be specific. Do they help with your nutrition needs? Do they offer to exercise with you? Do they partici-

pate in your Diabetes Care Plan? Make another list of the ways your family and friends make your life with diabetes harder. Again be as specific as possible. Do they tempt you with foods you are trying to resist? Do they get impatient when you need to take time to care for your diabetes? These lists will help you decide what you need as far as family support is concerned. Once you have determined what your needs are, you have to communicate these needs to your family and friends. Communication is the key to getting the necessary support you need. No one can read your mind, so you need to communicate your needs in an effective way. Effective communication can be achieved by:



Be specific—this helps them know exactly what you need. Be positive—tell them what they are already doing right and say "I need this" instead of "you are not doing this"...it makes it easier for them to respond. Be realistic—start with things you know they can do; when they succeed, you can build on that success. Be appreciative—your family and friends will go that extra mile when you let them know it's helping. It has been shown that people who have a strong support system tend to be healthier and recover quicker from illnesses. Without help and understanding from family and friends, you may feel alone and isolated when dealing with the daily demands of having diabetes. Keep family members involved in your diabetes management. Remember that many things you need to do to stay healthy are the same things your family should be doing now to prevent diabetes in the future. Lifestyle changes are easier when the entire family joins in.

Volunteers Needed For Abused and Neglected Children

Submitted by Caryn A. Stevens, Guardian ad Litem

The Guardian ad Litem Program's mission is to speak up for the best interests of the children who are alleged to be abused, neglected or abandoned, and who are involved in court proceedings. For more information on how you can make a difference in the life of a child, please call (954) 831-6477.



Broward County Health Dept Offers 'Freedom From Smoking' Classes

Submitted by Candy Sims, Broward County Health Department

FORT LAUDERDALE, FL — The Broward County Health Department will offer a series of stop smoking classes beginning Oct 20 at 5:30 pm. Classes will take place at The Broward County Health Department, in the red brick building at 2421 SW 6th Avenue in Fort Lauderdale on State Road 84. Class size is limited and early registration is encouraged. The program is based on The American Lung Association's "Freedom From Smoking" program and utilizes the "stages of change theory"—a unique process with repeated change cycles tailored to each individual. The success rate for the program far exceeds national averages. Thirty to 40 percent of all

past participants reported continued freedom from smoking after one year. According to The American Lung Association, life expectancy among smokers who quit at age 35 exceeded that of continuing smokers by 6.9 to 8.5 years for men and 6.1 to 7.7 years for women. Smokers who quit at younger ages realize greater life extensions. However, even those who quit much later in life gained some benefits: among smokers who quit at age 55 years, men gained 1.4 to 2.0 year of life, and women gained 2.7 to 3.7 years. For more information and to register for "Freedom From Smoking" classes, call the Broward County Health Department's Health Education Section at (954) 467-4807.

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The Seminole Tribe of Florida's Department of Emergency Services wants to know, have you put ICE in your mobile?

In Case of Emergency, would emergency services know who to contact?



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Follow these hints to get the best out of **ICE**:

- ❖ Make sure the person whose name and number you are giving has agreed to be your **ICE** partner
- ❖ Make sure your **ICE** partner has a list of people they should contact on your behalf - including your place of work
- ❖ Make sure your **ICE** person's number is one that's easy to contact, for example a home number could be useless in an emergency if the person works full time
- ❖ Make sure your **ICE** partner knows about any medical conditions that could affect your emergency treatment - for example allergies or current medication.
- ❖ Make sure if you are under 18, your **ICE** partner is a parent or guardian authorized to make a decision on your behalf- for example if you need a life or death operation
- ❖ Should your preferred contact be deaf, then prefix the number with **ICETEXT**.

When A Child Dies

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

When I was living in Atlanta, Ga., I had a neighbor, "Jennie" who was eight months pregnant. Jennie was a responsible young mother. She ate the proper nutritional meals, she went to all her prenatal appointments, she took her vitamins regularly, and even took an infant CPR classes. She eagerly prepared the baby's room and carefully bought toys and clothing for each anticipated stage of development.

At the time of delivery, Jennie's family stayed close, eagerly awaiting the arrival of her beautiful baby girl. No one would have fathomed that day, that instead of rejoicing at a birth, they would be preparing for a funeral. Jennie's baby was strangled by the umbilical chord during the delivery.

Following the funeral, Jennie succumbed to a deep depression. She felt empty and confused. She repeatedly asked why God allowed her to feel life grow and move inside her body, only to take her joy away through the vehicle of death. She questioned why she was denied the experience of her daughter's first words, first steps, first temper tantrum, first day of school, and so many other "firsts."

She wondered why she was chosen out of the billions of people on this earth to experience such suffering. A family member once told her she was being punished for past "sins".

This irresponsible statement added to the insurmountable guilt she felt over her inability to manage the uncontrollable events in her life. Jennie became unmotivated to participate in the activities of life and was withdrawn.

More recently, I was moved by a grief

stricken father on television whose 15 year old son died as a passenger in an automobile accident. When the reporter asked him to tell the viewers about how special his son was to him, he soft spokenly shared how proud he was of his son's character, sense of humor, and love of life.

He recalled a conversation he had with his son, two hours before the crash, and wished he had not treated the conversation so lightly. He wanted another chance to say more, yet the finality of his death, removed this hope. He said he felt helpless and guilty that he could not fulfill his parental duty to protect his son from this horrible accident. He mourned the future missed opportunities of fatherly mentoring.

A silent rage growing from within perplexed him. He did not know whether to be angry at himself, God, or the drunk driver who swerved out of control and eventually killed his son. He rhetorically asked: Who is to blame? The death of a child is one of the most tragic events that any family can endure. When a child dies it seems unnatural, unacceptable and incomprehensible.

Most parents do not expect to outlive their children. Parents expect to age while watching their children develop and blossom in to mature adults. When this expectation is disrupted, the impact can be devastating. The unpredictability and the ultimately uncontrollability of the event can lead one to question themselves, their faith and their existence in life.

Often times, people who grieve, want an answer for the loss—"Why Me?" "Why my child?" "If only I could or would have done something to prevent this..."

We have to accept that it is not within our power to be able to control the unforeseeable events which befalls us all. 55,000 children and young adults die each year from illness or accidents. These children were equally loved by family members who suffered a loss beyond their control. Death and bereavement strikes indiscriminately; No one person is chosen to suffer more

than the other, for death is a fate no one can escape.

There are some who believe, irrationally, that they are being punished because of past mistakes or misdeeds. Former transgressions and human imperfections do not predispose one to deserving pain and suffering. We can take comfort in knowing that a divine presence would not tally up life long sins and retaliate. Retaliation is a human trait, not a divine one.

There is no way to predict how a family member may react to the loss of a loved one, as grieving is a personal and individualized experience. However, the emotional challenges are great. Disbelief, sadness, anger, depression, abandonment, loneliness, fear, poor motivation, and confusion are a few of the many emotions that can be both long lasting and debilitating. Physical reactions to these feelings can include weight loss or weight gain, nausea, lethargy, and susceptibility to illnesses.

The impact of these feelings largely depends on the coping ability of the person. Some people react to grief by extending out to trusted loved ones and talking about their loss. Others withdraw and refuse to communicate, forming a self perpetuated isolation in their sorrow. However, withdrawal can intensify emotions and lead to self destructive behaviors.

It is not uncommon for a surviving family member to contemplate suicide following a death of a child. Troubling emotions can manifest into feelings of hopelessness, yielding one to feel that life without the deceased is unbearable. Individuals who contemplate suicide should seek the help of a mental health professional, spiritual advisor, or call 911.

Most people who suffer a loss of a child come to realize that pondering suicide is a temporary reaction to loss. As they come to terms with their pain, rather than try to escape it, they realize that their own death would only compound the existing pain of other family members who are also impacted by the death of the child. They recognize their responsibility to not only begin a self healing process, but to

encourage other family members impacted by the loss to heal as well.

Contrary to the belief that grief should last about a year, the reality is that there is no right time frame for grieving. Everyone experiences and adjusts to the grieving process differently. Once the loss is accepted, the healing can begin. However, accepting the death of a loved one does not mean that he or she is forgotten.

Departed loved ones will always be imbedded fondly in the memories of the hearts and minds of those most impacted by the loss. A few suggestions to help with the healing process are listed below:

1. Let yourself grieve. Talk about feelings and share memories with trusted family members and friends. Participate in a support group so that feelings can be expressed safely and so that personal loneliness can be minimized. Writing in a personal journal is another safe and private way to express feelings and gain insight into the grief.
2. Keep memories alive by making a scrapbook of photos and mementos of the life you shared with your child. Recall good times and positive feelings and share these memories with those who care about you.
3. Speak to a trusted spiritual advisor. Engage in prayer, meditation, or religious activities that will give you a feeling of comfort, peace, and security.
4. Take care of your health by eating a variety of nutritional meals, getting proper exercise, rest, and by avoiding the abuse of alcohol and drugs.
5. Develop new interests. Help others through volunteer work or by extending a listening ear. Engage in hobbies and skills that can promote emotional growth.

The death of a child is a life changing event which can probably never be resolved. The dull, hollow feeling of incompleteness can persist for a long period of time. Emotional reactions and outburst are normal. Learning to adjust takes courage, stamina, and time. This journey of healing, though challenging, is accessible and possible. Everyone deserves to feel renewed with hope, strength, and courage in our present and the future.



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Health Corner

Employees Enter Weight Loss Contest

Story by Judy Weeks

IMMOKALEE — On Sept. 28, several Immokalee employees of the Seminole Tribe of Florida, entered the clinic to be weighed for a ten week contest. On Dec. 7, the three participants who have lost the most weight will be rewarded for their efforts. The office of Chairman Mitchell Cypress is sponsoring the event.

Standing beside the new food pyramid display, Nutritionist Charlotte Porcaro said, "I will make myself available to anyone needing advice with their diet and I am here to reinforce their weight loss effort."

It isn't always how much you eat, but what you eat that makes the difference," she said, pointing to the attractive display.

Community Health Representative Anna Puente joined her saying, "I would be happy to monitor the contestants' blood pressure and blood sugar during the competition in an effort to make this a healthy and rewarding experience."



Seminole Health and Nutrition Representatives Anna Puente and Charlotte Porcaro display the healthy food pyramid for the employee weigh-in.

Immokalee Weight Loss Contest Ends

Story by Judy Weeks

IMMOKALEE — Chairman Mitchell Cypress is a strong advocate of health living and

works hard to promote this concept for Seminole Tribal citizens. Having their best interests at heart, he not only initiates but is a frequent sponsor of programs designed to achieve this goal.

When Charlotte Porcaro and Anna Puente of Immokalee's Health department instigated a weight loss contest for Tribal citizens and their spouses, the Chairman's office was very supportive. Director of Immokalee Recreation Allen McInturff quickly agreed to sponsor the contest.

The initial weigh-in took place on July 11 with 19 people participating. During the eight-week contest, Charlotte Porcaro gave motivational classes and offered nutritional advice. Seniors in the competition were encouraged to ride their bicycles regularly and take walks.

Every other week, weigh-ins were held, suggestions made and Anna Puente offered blood sugar and blood pressure testing as a means of monitoring their activities.

Sept. 9 marked the end of the eight-week period and the contestants reported for their final weigh-ins. Statistics were tabulated and the lucky winners were announced. Cash prizes were awarded to the following winners, in order of how they placed: 1. Niomi Escobar, 2. Nancy Motlow and 3. Rachel Billie.



Rear (L-R): Nutritionist Charlotte Porcaro, Community Health Representative Anna Puente, Assistant Recreation Director Gary McInturff. Front (L-R): Rachel Billie, Nancy Motlow, and Niomi Escobar.

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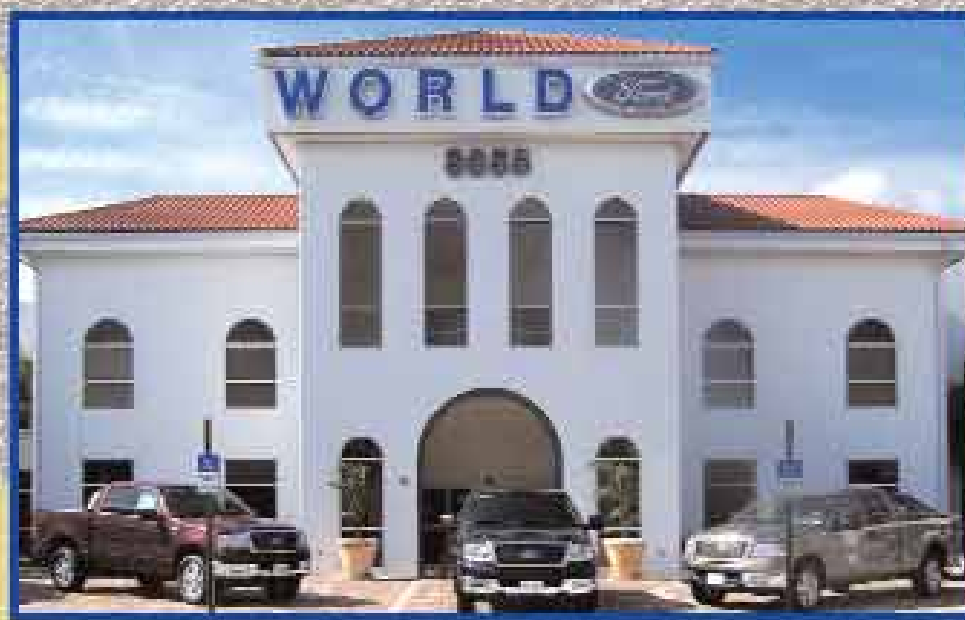
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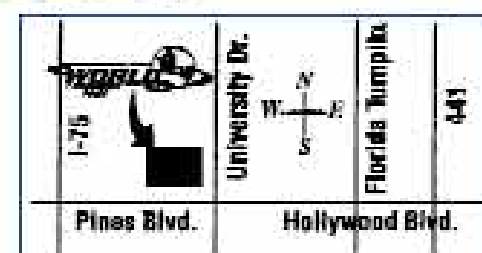
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Halloween Safety Tips: Know the Rules

Submitted by Sergeant Al Signore, SPD

Do not allow a child to go trick or treating alone. Be sure older children take a friend and an adult accompanies young children.

Be certain to accompany young children to the door of every house they approach.

Be certain that parents are familiar with every house and all people from which the children receive a treat.

Children should be cautioned that they should not enter any home without prior permission from their parents.

Children should be cautioned not to approach any vehicle, occupied or not, unless they know the owner and are accompanied by a parent.

Make sure that all children carry glow sticks or wear reflective clothing.

When using facial masks, make sure that children can see and breathe properly and easily.

All costumes and masks should be clearly marked as flame resistant.

Children should be warned to

never approach any house that is not well lit and does not have a porch or outside light on.

Children should be cautioned to remember any suspicious incidents and report them to their parents and/or the proper official.

Children should be instructed to run away from people who try to trick them with special treats.

Children should be instructed to scream and make a scene if anyone tries to grab them or force them, in any way, to go with them.

Parents should inspect all treats and dispose of anything that seems to have been tampered with, has been opened, or is not wrapped.

A good alternative to trick or treating is for the parents to organize parties at home, in schools, or in community centers.

Have a safe and fun Halloween! For more information on child safety call the Seminole Police Department, Sergeant Al Signore with the Crime Prevention Unit at (813) 623-5748.

Don't Let Halloween Turn into a Nightmare

Submitted by Al Signore, SPD

Halloween is one of the most festive and entertaining holidays of the year for the entire family. Trick-or-treating, costume parties and haunted houses add to the fun of the Halloween weekend. However, in recent years, Halloween has also become a time for party-goers to drive while impaired, which can turn the festivities into a real-life nightmare.

Since Halloween falls on a Monday this year, dedicated Halloween parties will be out in full force, beginning their partying the weekend before. This makes the Halloween weekend a very dangerous time on our roads because of impaired drivers who fail to designate a sober driver.

In fact, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), 53 percent of all highway fatalities at Halloween in 2003 were alcohol-related and 45 percent of the total fatalities involved a drunk driver with a blood alcohol concentration level of 0.08 or higher—the legal limit in every state.

Real-life Halloween nightmares are simple to avoid if you remember to take a few important steps in planning for your Halloween weekend:

- Be responsible and never drive impaired.
- If you plan to drink, choose your sober driver before going out.

- Once impaired, use mass transit, call a cab or ask a sober friend to get you home.

- If all else fails, just stay where you are and sleep it off.

- Always buckle up—it's still your best defense against an impaired driver.

- If you are hosting a Halloween party, make sure all of your guests leave with a sober driver and plan ahead.

Do not fall into the age-old trap that "It will never happen to me." It can happen. It has happened. It will happen. Statistics compiled by the NHTSA for 2004 show that nearly 13,000 people died in highway crashes involving a driver or a motorcycle operator with an illegal blood alcohol concentration level of 0.08 or higher.

Drinking and driving while impaired is simply not worth the risk of killing yourself or someone else, or the hassles and expenses sure to come from a crash or arrest. Don't let your Halloween turn into a nightmare. Plan ahead, be responsible and always designate a sober driver before all Halloween festivities. Remember, friends don't let friends drive drunk.

For more information, please contact Sergeant Al Signore with the Seminole Police Department, Crime Prevention Unit, at (813) 623-5748.

Witch City Begins Month Long Celebration

By Iretta Tiger
[Editor's Note: In this Halloween issue, Tribal member and new Salem resident Iretta Tiger writes about the city's long and deep connection with the spooky holiday.]

SALEM, MA — Salem is famous for the Witch Trials of 1692, when innocent men and women were accused of witchcraft and executed.

Today Salem is the city in America to celebrate Halloween. Witches are alive and well, and still living in Salem but it's not just the witches that make Salem's celebration so great.

The whole city participates! From the mayor to the local businesses to the residents, everyone comes out to officially open the celebration with a huge parade through Salem.

All month long local businesses offer Halloween-themed activities for all ages.

The Phoenix School hosts its annual children's costume parade and party. This year's party theme is Harry Potter.

The Witching Hour, which is a Harry Potter convention, will be scheduling events from Oct. 6-10. This convention is more for adult Potter fans. For more information surf to www.witching-hour.org.



Dead cheerleaders

Iretta Tiger

Then there is The Festival of the Dead which should not be confused with the Mexican holiday Dia Del Los

Muertos, or Day of the Dead, which is actually celebrated in November.

The Festival of the Dead offers events, from a Vampires' Masquerade Ball to hands-on workshops such as ghost hunting. These events are scheduled throughout October; for more information surf to www.festivalofthedeath.com.

Salem's more permanent attractions, such as the House of the Seven Gables, offer ghost stories by candlelight throughout October.

The Hawthorne Hotel is hosting a psychic fair on certain dates. Admission is free.

The Hawthorne also hosts a children's costumed brunch which is highly recommended. The ballroom and the buffet tables are decorated for the occasion. The children are provided with small pumpkins and art mediums which they can decorate their pumpkins with.

The Annual Costume Ball is what the Hawthorne Hotel is most famous for and it is usually the climax of Salem's Haunted Happenings. This year's theme is Medieval Madness. For more information on any of these events surf to www.hawthornehotel.com.

There are so many more events to see and do and the best part of all is that there are several events happening every night of the week.

If you come to Salem be sure to include a visit to the Salem Witch Museum, a very informative and enlightening attraction and we highly recommend dinner at Bella Luna located in Pickering Wharf.

For a complete list of events surf to www.hauntedhappeningsalem.com.



Jason Dodd with his pumpkin creation.

Iretta Tiger

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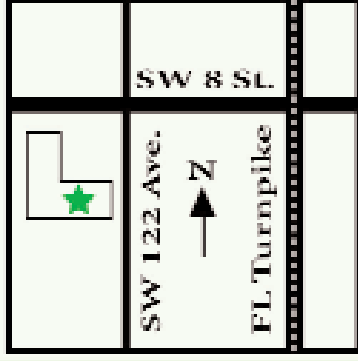
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Shock Rocker Alice Cooper performs “Welcome to my Nightmare.”

Felix DoBosz

Alice Cooper Brings ‘Dirty Diamonds’ to the Live

By Felix DoBosz

HOLLYWOOD — The Hard Rock Live was rocking on Sept. 27. This was more than a concert it was more like an event starring a rock ‘n’ roll legend. Was it Mick Jagger? Eric Clapton? Bruce Springsteen? Nope, none of these, it was Vincent Furnier.

Some young music fans might ask, “Who’s that?” Well, Vincent Furnier is better known as the rock macabre persona Alice Cooper. Since the early 1970s with his classic “Billion Dollar Babies” album this veteran rock ‘n’ roller has been belting out mostly heavy-metal, guitar slashing psycho-dramas to his legion of fans around the world.

Coop’s original and unique shock-rock style was an instant crowd pleaser with mature rock fans that enjoy that type of music combo, Halloween and heavy metal music. This latest concert tour from his new “Dirty Diamonds” album was an event for some fans who like to dress up like their idol Alice, with black-eye mascara running down his face and tight ripped-up black leather outfits, a genuine exercise in this timeless rock extravaganza.

Alice Cooper commanded the stage while he twirled his cane, and then his crutch in the air without a care. He used other props masterfully too, like a golfer swinging a brand new Callaway club, while still singing some of his big hits such as “Welcome to my Nightmare,” “Eighteen,” “No More Mr. Nice Guy” and “School’s Out for Summer.” He also sang a few songs from his new album “Dirty Diamonds” while throwing plastic diamond necklaces to his adoring fans all pushing forward towards the stage to get a chance for a few souvenirs.

The slashing guitars players, Ryan Roxie and Damon Johnson reward-

ed the excited fans with plastic guitar picks thrown into the crowd between heavy riffs. Golden memories of rock classics from another age came flooding back while listening to heavy foot tapping 10-minute percussion solo, while Alice made a quick costume change backstage.

Fans were having a lot of fun just singing along with Alice to classic rock tunes while watching pyrotechnics and big billowing smoke pumped from machines as colored spotlights and strobes danced around the stage to the parallel sounds that generated dramatic illusions and enhanced the many themes of Coop’s songs. This old rocker can still lay it out for everyone to enjoy his shocking antics.

No chopping-up dead plastic baby dolls this time around. Instead, Alice was helped into a straitjacket onstage and struggled to free himself, he finally busted out of it to the rock riffs, minutes later in great display of melodramatic triumph, sort of like a Houdini without missing a heavy beat.

Next, the old huckster brought out on stage a guillotine, and proceeded to be executed; he stuck his head in the hole and was promptly beheaded. While the evil creatures held his bloody mannequin head high for all to see.

The old bit is getting rather dusty, but he still managed to shock a few in the crowd. Everyone was standing in the audience as Alice finished his 90-minute show dressed in formal white tails glitter, cane and high hat playing his big hit “School’s Out” for a grand finale.

In the end, a few fans stood up and showed their respect and admiration for Alice, a living rock legend, by saluting him with the traditional flame from their butane lighters.

Salsa King Gilberto Santa Rosa Sets Off First Latin Concert at Hard Rock Live!

Additional performances by Jose Alberto El Canario and La India

By Adelsa Williams

HOLLYWOOD — On Sept. 23, the Hard Rock Live! arena catered to the South Florida’s Latin community by hosting its first Latin concert featuring not one or two but three legendary salsa performers.

The packed arena enthusiastically welcomed Jose Alberto El Canario, Spanish for “The Canary,” a nickname given to him because of his exquisite voice, as he warmed up the fans with an entertaining opening.

He delighted the crowd with hits from his discography of over one dozen albums that have gained much recognition worldwide. Songs like, “Dance with Me,” “Sueño Contigo,” and one of his most notable pieces, “A la Hora Que Me Llamen Voy,” were a sure goose bump raisers among the salsa lovers crowd.

His lyrics have gained much respect since the 1970s in the hardcore Latin world in New York City. The Big Apple is said to be his stardom beginning point, after much work, performing in local nightclubs as well as many Latin community events.

El Canario is originally from the Dominican Republic, who later migrated into the island of Puerto Rico, where his obvious passion for salsa was born. He has made world debuts in his career with other



Adelsa Williams

Gilberto Santa Rosa

Rosa’s hour-long performance was a back-to-back mix set of a few of his many well-known booming hits that had the crowd screaming, dancing and singing along. The most anticipated moment of all was near the end of the concert when Santa Rosa sang in a slow pace one of his infamous and most loved salsa ballads titled “Perdoname,” in translation it means “Forgive Me.”

Santa Rosa, a native of Puerto Rico, began performing as early as 12 years old in several salsa groups before going solo. Since then he has been known as a splendid vocalist whose authentic, incomparable mature voice makes his songs smash hits and earns him credit by being considered the best interpreter of salsa.

With a high profile list of performances, Santa Rosa attracted an estimated 4,500 salsa fans to the newly developed Hard Rock Live! arena, marking a successful event. Other of his notable profile highlights include performing at Carnegie Hall, going Platinum with his album “Punto de Vista,” in 1990 and receiving a 1990 Billboard Lo Nuestro award for Best Male Singer.

The night’s performances concluded with closing act by New York salsa princess, La India (Indian Lady), whose original name is Linda Caballero.

La India put on a great closing performance, captivating the fans with her

intense emotional overtones.

La India began as a Latin hip-hop, also known as Freestyle, artist in her early music career days going back to the late 80’s before establishing her Diva status in the world of salsa. She has performed a well-known duet in the song, “Vivir Lo Nuestro,” with the notorious salsa sensation Marc Anthony, who also commenced his music career as a Latin hip-hop sensation.



Adelsa Williams

La India



Adelsa Williams

The Tribal group enjoys the concert.

notable Latin performing legends, such as Celia Cruz, Oscar De Leon and Tito Puente, Sr., to name a few.

With a minor teasing delay, after El Canario performed, headliner Gilberto Santa Rosa “El Caballero de la Salsa,” or The Gentleman of Salsa, took the stage, and the crowd went wild.

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Announcements ❖ Ahaaheeke ❖ Nak-ohkērkēcetv

Birthday

Happy 9th birthday Nina! To a sweet, loving and caring little girl that is growing up to be a doll. Hugs and kisses and may you have many more.
Love you lots,
Grandma, Mommy, Jeffrey and Jazmine



Poem

Mother

Mother, I'd like to say, thank you
For your pain is great
For the son you've raised
Your love is huge
But never waves
My future is bleak
Never mind the one I seek
Mother forgive me
The careless life I lead
I once had hope
Once had dreams
Thought I'd find happiness
Only found sadness
A family of my own
Almost had a tidy home
My dreams were realized
But way too late
Dashed away, in a rage-filled hate
One night rally late
You begged me not to run
When the cops, they finally come
I gave my world
I wouldn't run
But planned to stand
Behind a gun
My future is bleak
Never mind the life I seek
Thank you mother
For giving me a choice
If only now I could hear your voice

—Keith Benefield
September 3

Fresh Out

Fresh out, fresh out
Where were you girl when I was down
and out
You said you would ride and help me do
my time
You'd be by my side until the day that I
died
Why did I have to trust you
I knew in my heart that you would never
be true
The times we shared I see you never real-
ly cared
My momma told me life wouldn't be fair
But still yet I wanted to be with you
Know that I'm down
I'm going to do my time without you
I've found someone who's going to be
there for me
Show me the way how things are sup-
posed to me
So from now until the end of time
Respect my mind and don't come around
When I'm fresh out, fresh out

—Kiel Jumper

Congratulations

Michael Tuscano of Citigroup and Ted Fowler of Laidlaw & Co. (UK) Ltd. partnered with Max B. Osceola III's investment company Macrovest and raised the financing for Spirits Nightclub.
We would like to send out our congratulations to Max, Macrovest and all those involved in the project and we look forward to the grand opening of Spirits Nightclub.

New Kid

The Seminole Tribune staff congratulates our favorite chiropractor, Dr. Brian Rush, on his newest edition.

Mya was born to mom Leah and Dr. Rush on Sept. 15; she weighed five pounds, nine ounces and measured 18 and a half inches.



Stomp Dancer's Needed



This is for all Seminole Tribal members. The Knowledge Keeper's at The Ah Tah Thi Ki Museum is looking for stomp dancers to be available to participate in stomp dancing events local, out of state and International. If you are interested please contact Herbert Jim 954-931-5083. You will need to have a passport for all International travel. You can also come by and sign up at the front desk of The Ah Tah Thi Ki Museum in Hollywood.

Today's Date: _____

Name _____ Age _____ D.O.B. _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Contact Numbers

Home _____ Email _____

Work _____ Cell _____

Do you work for the Tribe? _____ If yes what department? _____

Do you have any special needs? _____

What times of the year are you not available? _____

Please check all that apply

Do you have a passport? _____ Can you travel internationally? _____

Can you travel out of state? _____ Do you have Transportation? _____

Remembering Nathan "Damon" Billie

Ah-A-Poo-Ye

(August 31, 1976 – May 20, 1981)

Many years have past without my son in my life, but I could never forget him. He was my first son. I watched him grow from a beautiful bouncing baby boy into a bright minded, handsome athletic child. I remember his talent, sense of humor and charm. I remember how he learned so fast. I have his photographs and remember watching him playing. I remember the songs he liked to sing. I remember that family was most important to him. I remember his affection and the love he had for his family. I remember the happy times we shared, and the hard times he had too. I remember the last time my eyes met yours. The memory is a great reason to carry on. I remember my son as I should. My love for him will last forever.



Always in my heart,
Your mom,
Debbie Smith Yescas



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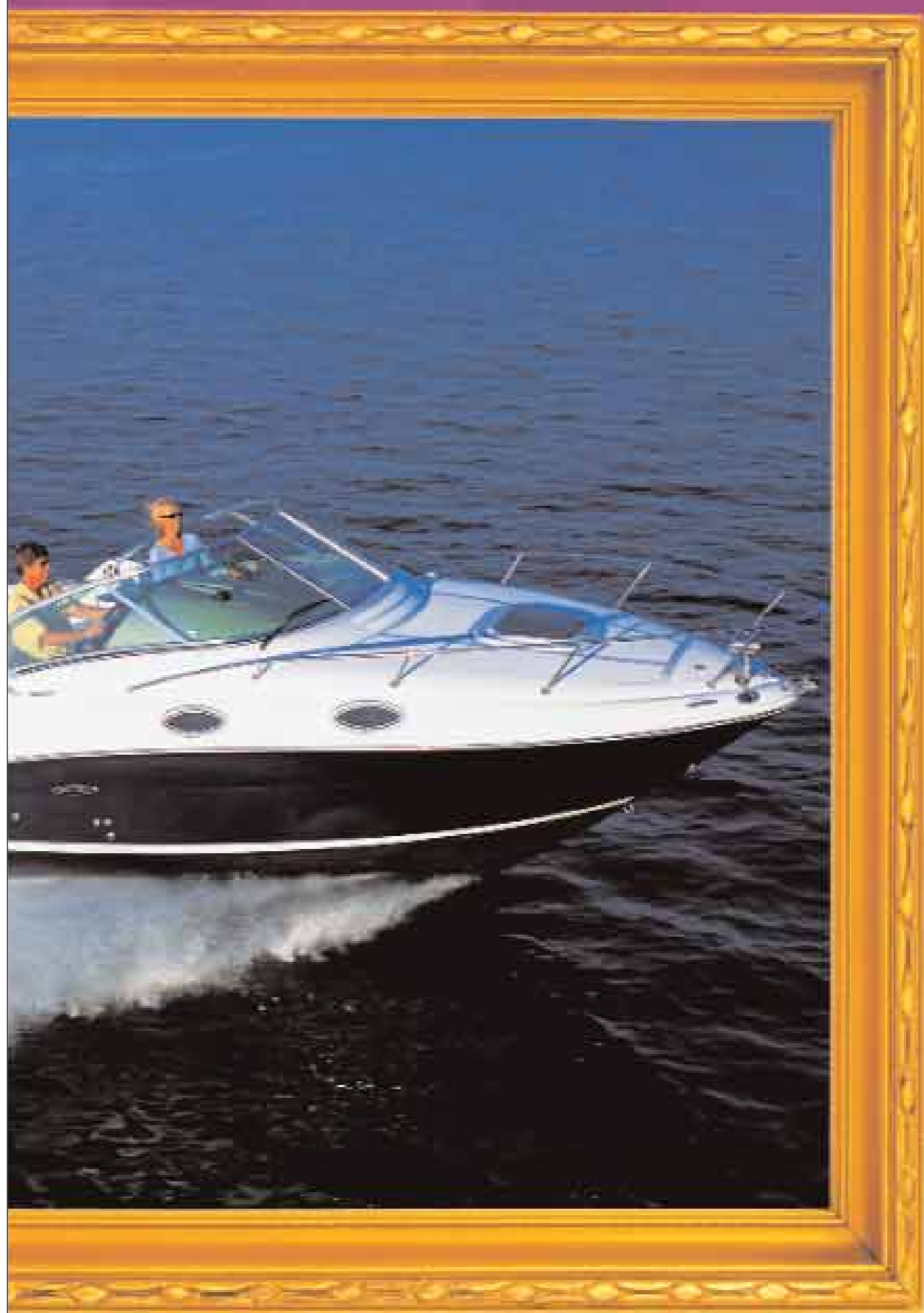
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