

The SEMINOLE TRIBUNE

"Voice of the Unconquered"

50¢

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Bill Osceola Memorial Rodeo

By Judy Weeks

BIG CYPRESS — It's Pow-Wow time again in Hollywood and that means the return of the ever popular Bill Osceola Memorial Rodeo. The first Eastern Indian Rodeo Association (EIRA) Tour Rodeo was held this year at the Junior Cypress Arena in Big Cypress on Feb. 4-5.

Sponsored by the Seminole Tribe of Florida and hosted by the EIRA, this extravaganza attracts contestants from all over the U.S. who are competing for more than money, buckles and all around saddles. They will have an opportunity to accumulate as many points as possible in their effort to qualify for the Indian National Finals Rodeo.

The Bill Osceola Memorial Rodeo got its start 35 years ago in Hollywood and was originally referred to as the Pow-wow Rodeo. As an avid rodeo fan, Bill Osceola was instrumental in organizing the rodeo and from his leadership position in the Seminole Tribe was able to offer the sponsorship necessary to establish this as an annual event.

Bill Osceola realized that rodeo was an expression of a portion of what the Seminole Tribe had become. In the past 100 years, its members had begun to earn their living on the ranches of South Florida and eventually established a cattle operation of their own, which is recognized as one of the finest in the U.S. It is only natural that this annual affair was renamed in his memory.

On the night before the rodeo, a cold front began to sweep across the state of Florida and



Judy Weeks

Jobe Johns is all smiles after his first calf ride.

was originally referred to as the Pow-wow Rodeo. As an avid rodeo fan, Bill Osceola was instrumental in organizing the rodeo and from his leadership position in the Seminole Tribe was able to offer the sponsorship necessary to establish this as an annual event.

❖ See RODEO, page 21



Felix DeBosz

Re-enactor fires musket at federal troops.

Kissimmee Slough Shootout and Rendezvous 2006

By Susan Etxebarria

BIG CYPRESS — Seminole War battle reenactments, Seminole stomp dancing, Cherokee dancers, archery, plus traditional Seminole food and storytelling attracted a large crowd to the awesome 8th Annual Kissimmee Slough Shoot Out and Rendezvous.

Items from the Seminole War era were being handcrafted by Seminole and pioneer artisans at work throughout the day in the Period Camp where they had staked their pioneer era canvas tents. The event offered a chance to learn about the past from people who spend their lives studying the invading settlers of this period. It also featured the Seminoles who fought for their freedom as a result of the Indian Removal Act enacted under President Andrew Jackson.

Museum staff and a whole host of volunteers, mainly members of the Friends of the Museum, worked many hours to achieve a highly effective Feb. 3-5 event presented by the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum and the Seminole Tribe of Florida.

The vendors and re-enactors participating

❖ See SHOOTOUT, page 25

Welcome to the 35th Annual Tribal Fair and Powwow



Stephen Galla

Back (L-R): Paul Bowers, Timmy Johns, Gary McInturff, Chairman Mitchell Cypress, Miss Florida Seminole Christine McCall, Steven Bowers, Charles Hiers. Front (L-R): Jr. Miss Florida Seminole Jennifer Chalfant, Little Miss Seminole Crysten Camie Smith, Little Mr. Seminole Eric Puente.

The 2006 Seminole Tribal Fair took place Feb. 9-12 at the Hollywood Hard Rock Hotel & Casino's Hard Rock Live arena for the first time since it began. This issue of *The Seminole Tribune* features a one page photo spread on page 8. For full coverage of the 35th Annual Tribal Fair, including more photos and contest results, please see the March 17 issue of *The Seminole Tribune*.

Rez Rally Reaches Highest Turnout Yet Hollywood Rez Takes the Trophy

By Janice Billie

HOLLYWOOD — Jan. 21 marked a couple of firsts for the Hollywood Seminole community. It was the first time Hollywood hosted the Rez Rally and the first time they took home the trophy.

Rez Rally 2006 recorded the highest number of participants in its six year history as a community walk/run promoting diabetes awareness. Billed as a "Native American gathering supporting fitness, health, competition and community," the event has become a hugely popular annual event in the Seminole community.

Super sized tents were set up on the recreation athletic field for registration, food and the awards ceremony. Against this backdrop over a thousand participants arrived to represent their rez's. Music boomed as



KippPhoto

On your mark, get set, go!

families, friends and tribal officials greeted one another.

However, the festive atmosphere did nothing to do dilute the competitive spirit of the people. There was a race to be won and a trophy to be taken.

Participants ranged from the youngest in strollers to the Golden Seniors walking a modified path set up especially for them. Seminole Tribe employees and families also made up a sizable faction of the race. Each rez gave out their own T-shirt at registration and everyone received a Rez Rally T-shirt after the race. Nike® was one of the sponsors again this year giving out running shoes to all participants upon completion of the race. Jamba Juice was another outside sponsor.

The event took months of planning with volunteers and staff from each reservation working toward

❖ See RALLY, page 26



KippPhoto

Hollywood Rep. Max Osceola with the trophy.



Lila Osceola

(L-R) President Moses Osceola of Seminole Tribe of Florida stands proudly with Bobby Bowden and T.K. Wetherell with their brand new Seminole vests.

Sports Hall of Fame Banquet 2006 Bowden, Wetherell Attend as Speakers

By Lila Osceola

HOLLYWOOD — Awards, special guests, guest speakers, trophies, sports video, great food, what more could you ask for at a sports banquet?

This year's Hall of Fame banquet brought in a few distinguished guests, Florida State University (FSU) Football Coach Bobby Bowden and FSU President T.K. Wetherell, as well as the Hall of Fame inductees, on Feb. 7.

The evening's festivities started out with a barbeque dinner provided by our own Renegade Restaurant. Everyone in attendance enjoyed dining among football's finest, Bobby Bowden, which presented a great photo opportunity for everyone to take advantage of.

Lots of youth were absent due to practices and other school responsibilities, but the show had to go on. The student-athlete attendees had plenty of chances to get up close and personal with our visitors from FSU. Many people were getting lots of pictures and autographs which is something our guests were accustomed to.

After dinner the crowd congregated into the auditorium for the student athletes, motivational speaker and much anticipated introduction of

inductees into the hall of fame. Running on "Indian time" is what we do best, so as usual we were running late.

The ceremony opened with an invocation by President/Vice Chairman Moses Osceola. Director of Recreation Moses "Big Shot" Jumper Jr. welcomed everyone for coming and proceeded with the introduction to the 2006 Hall of Fame Banquet.

Hollywood Fitness Trainer Kenny Bayon was in charge of producing a sports video for the viewing audience. Our Seminole youth athletes were featured through sports like basketball, football, rodeo, and gymnastics. Cheering and clapping were a sign of a job well done and the athletes loved seeing themselves on the big screen.

The award ceremony was to follow, and all the student athletes were ready to get their awards. Bellies were full, just watched a good sports video, and now to the beef of the night. As the announcer called their names, each one of them proudly walked on the stage picked up their certificate and walked across the stage to exit. Proud family members and friends cheered as their accomplished student athlete received their certificate.

❖ See BANQUET, page 19

Photo Quiz



Guess who this family is.

Welcoming Tribune Reporter Chris Jenkins

Chris C. Jenkins is the newest addition to *The Seminole Tribune* family. Chris, wife Tera and daughter Sloane have lived in Florida for nine months. He will be reporting for the Tribune covering sports and Tribal functions.

He is a graduate of Oklahoma State University. He has a bachelor of art's degree in journalism and broadcasting, and psychology as well as a master's degree in speech communication.

Before coming to the Tribune, his body of work consisted of television and radio work with various stations in Oklahoma and Virginia.



Chris C. Jenkins

The Seminole Tribune

If you need a reporter or you would like to submit an article, birthday wish or poem to *The Seminole Tribune*, please contact the Editor-In-Chief Virginia Mitchell at (800) 683-

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

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Editorials

Leonard Peltier's Message to Our Youth

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This year will mark more than three decades of my unjust imprisonment. Behind bars I have aged from a youth myself, into an elder. As an elder I have become increasingly encouraged by the potential and promise of indigenous youth from all First Nations.

Today indigenous youth have greater opportunities than possibly ever before in our peoples history. However, these opportunities were not attained without sacrifice. They arose from great struggle. They came from ordinary men and women; your relatives who made extraordinary sacrifices. These warriors' struggle to ensure a better future for generations to come can never be taken for granted.

I am especially pleased to hear of the rising numbers of indigenous youth who are graduating from high school and entering institutions of higher learning; universities, colleges, and technical schools. Other youth are taking advantage of social programs that will assist them in each of their respective futures. These are all opportunities that as a youth I could have only dreamed of.

Yet, even though we have made much progress and advances for our people we still have a long path ahead to attain justice for First Nations.

I strongly believe that the first step on that path is to always be conscious of our people's history. Regardless of what nation we belong to we have shared a combined history of struggle against a more than 500-year long genocide. It has been a genocide focused not only on the death of our relatives, but of our spir-

ituality, culture, and language. All will be lost if we do not honor our ancestors by learning about their sacrifice so that the people may live.

We must never forget our ways, our traditions, and our wisdom. Each one of you must acknowledge your capacity and ability to bring about positive changes for our people. This is done not only by bettering yourself, but by helping your brothers and sisters who have wandered off the Red Road. I am deeply pained by the numbers of youth who have prematurely lost their life to gang violence and suicide.

It is just as troubling to hear of those who continue to suffer from drug and alcohol abuse. I ask you to bring your brothers and sisters who need guidance and medicine to our ceremonies. It is our spirituality that has always sustained us as a people. Throughout history there have been countless attempts to rob us as a people; our lands, our history, our language, and our culture.

However, they have never been able to take our future from us. The future belongs to the Creator only and it is the Creator who gives it to the youth. As a youth it is your responsibility to honor all your relations, our Mother Earth, and the Creator by committing yourself to the

struggle for a future of justice and a better tomorrow for all peoples.

In the Spirit of Crazy Horse,
Leonard Peltier



Indians Didn't Pay Taxes 100 Years Ago

By Tim Giago

[Editor's Note: ©2006 Native American Journalists Foundation, Inc. Reprinted with permission. Tim Giago is the president of the Native American Journalists Foundation, Inc., and the publisher of Indian Education Today Magazine. He can be reached at najournalists@rushmore.com]

Periodically there is a repeat column I am forced to write. It usually takes an ignorant and insensitive remark by a non-Indian to prompt me to return to the scene of the crime. One of my advertising sales people for *Indian Education Today Magazine* was seeking a timely ad to take advantage of the "It's time-to-pay-taxes" portion of the year.

She approached one so-called tax preparation office located in Rapid City, S.D. and ran into this crass remark, "Why should we advertise; Indians don't pay taxes."

Ouch! When will this ignorance come to an end?

All right, let's address this horrid misconception. Indians hold jobs. As a matter of fact, many working for the Tribal government, Indian Health Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs or other governmental agencies receive salaries ranging from \$24,000 to \$100,000 annually. Professional teachers and administrators working at the many Indian schools on the reservations are also in the middle class pay income bracket. These salaried employees pay all of the taxes every American citizen pays from withholding on Medicare.

Every time an Indian buys groceries taxes are included. When we purchase an automobile or a costly appliance, taxes are included. When we fill the car up with gasoline we pay taxes. What so many non-Indian citizens do not realize is that all of the sales taxes collected in the towns bordering the Indian reservations never go to the Indian reservations. They go to the state and the community where the purchase was made.

There are no free rides for Indians when it comes to attending college. Most apply for Pell Grants or for other grants available to students of all colors. Others use the GI Bill, as I did, or get jobs and work there way through college. There are some funds available through Tribal funds or through the BIA, but they are far and few.

Those lucky enough to belong to a Tribe with a rich casino can get scholarship grants that are set aside for the higher education of Tribal members. But keep in mind that only five percent of the Indian nations earn 90 percent of the casino profits. That doesn't leave much for some of the larger Tribes such as those of the Great Sioux Nation or the Navajo Nation.

And some non-Indians may find this hard to believe but

Indians do not get a monthly check from the BIA or from any other branch of the government. If we own land on the reservation and that land is leased to a rancher or farmer, we do receive an annual lease check for the use of our land. This method of payment for leasing land or renting a house is common throughout America for non-Indians as well. The BIA usually distributes these not-so-large-checks. Nearly every merchant worth their salt knows when these checks are distributed and plan their sales accordingly.

Now, let's talk about all of that wonderful, free health care. If an Indian works for an organization or federal agency that provides health insurance, that insurance company is billed whenever that employee uses the services of the Indian Health Service Hospital. The same holds true if the Indian man or woman is on Medicare.

Some Tribes use the profits from their casinos to build healthcare facilities on their reservations. They also use their casino profits to purchase health insurance policies for their Tribal members. That insurance helps to cover treatment at the Tribal health care facilities.

The I.H.S. has hospitals on some Indian reservations, not all. Reservation residents do use these facilities. However, it is written into the treaty agreements between the Indian nations and the U.S. government that health care will be provided in exchange for the millions of acres of land ceded in the treaty agreements.

The services provided by the I.H.S. are not considered to be the best. The large and sparsely populated reservations have a hard time hiring doctors with any lengthy experience. Most of the doctors assigned to the Indian hospitals are first or second year doctors paying off a government loan for their education. They are learning while on the job and from the complaints I hear from so many of their patients, their inexperience does have its unfavorable consequences.

If Indians had all of the benefits attributed to us by the non-Indian world we would be the most intelligent, wealthiest and most protected people in America. Indians would be debt free, trouble free, illness free, tax free and positively carefree.

But we, Indians, know that is not the case. It is only the majority of non-Indians who still continue to believe these myths, misconceptions and outright fallacies.

So please believe me when I say that Indians do not get a monthly check from the government, many of us do pay for our health care, we do not get a free college education and, to bury the biggest misconception of all, we do pay taxes. April the 15th looms as large for us as it does for the rest of America.

Letters & E-mail

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

Dear Editor,

My name is Alisia Billie and I am in the fourth grade at Zion Lutheran School. I want to thank all the people in the Big Cypress community who helped me sell all my Girl Scout cookies on Snow Day.

Special thanks to the Fire department, Police department, Recreation department and community members; and especially my aunt Alice Billie! Thank you all.

Sincerely,
Alisia Billie
Girl Scout Troop 256

Dear Mr. Blackard,

It is my pleasure to inform you that due to your help leading me to specific works on the Seminole Tribe of Florida, I have received an outstanding grade for my Seminole project. Thank you for your help. It is nice to know that people like you are always willing to help out students.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Bartolotta
8th Grader
Wilton, Conn.

Dear Editor,

I live in Rockland County New York. About 10 years ago or so a mother and daughter of the Seminole Tribe drove a pickup truck full of swamp cedar lawn chairs into my driveway, unloaded a couple and visited with me and my family.

I happily bought a set, and they promised they, or some other representative, would find us again in about 10 years to replenish our supply.

They spoke of a Seminole industry which sent rail cars full of furniture to a depot in Pennsylvania, and sent sales people around various regions selling off their trucks. I have photos of the ladies and could send them to you, but we would love to buy new chairs since these are showing the years of weather and are start-

ing to fall apart.

Is this industry still active in Florida? This was a charming moment in our neighborhood and we long to see the truck pull into the driveway again.

Thank you
Barbara Pollitt

Dear Editor,

I am very interested in learning more about Tribal law enforcement divisions. At the moment I am a Criminal Justice major, with career goals of K-9 law enforcement. If I may take a minute of your time to make a few inquires.

Does anyone know of any Tribal Police Department, in S.C., N.C., Fla. and/or Ga.? If so, could you please provide me with any contact information? Does anyone know of any source, that I may research Native American Tribal law?

A little personal information about myself: I'm a criminal justice major with career goals of working in law enforcement K-9. I am a member of the SC State Guard Provost Marshal's Unit. I'm in the Security Specialist Course, a state reserve police officer program. I am a volunteer firefighter, Haz-Mat team member, county rescue team member and former K-9 SAR team member, former American Red Cross volunteer.

I look forward to greatly any reply! Thank you for your time!
John J.Clark
clarkjj99@hotmail.com

Dear Editor,

This past summer my husband son and I visited Billy Swamp Safari and had a great time—even though it rain like I have never seen before. Now my 11 year old is going to write a paper on the Seminole's.

I can't seem to find any pictures that we took while visiting the museum. Tyler will be dressing as a Seminole boy his age can you provide me with some pictures or ideas?

Sincerely,
Jim Campbell
sirvac@earthlink.net

Photo Contest



George Billie

Correction

In the Feb. 3 issue, page 23, Shelby DeHass is not a participant in the B.C. Horse Club.



Felix DoBosz

Miss New Mexico 2006 Owana Lacy poses with the children at the Hollywood Rez Boys & Girls Club.

Miss New Mexico Visits Boys & Girls Club

By Felix DoBosz
HOLLYWOOD — On Feb. 10 Miss New Mexico Onawa Lynn Lacy from the 2006 Miss USA Pageant took the time to visit the children at the Boys & Girls Club on the Hollywood Rez. The kids were

Sr., said: "The message we are sending out to Tribal youth is that they can reach for the stars, there's nothing that will stop them. So we bring in as many celebrities, particularly, Native Americans, such as Litefoot, the entertainer and film star, and if we have self respect and self esteem we can do just about anything."

"So it's a very opportune time to have Miss New Mexico to share her story with Seminole Hollywood youth. The Boys & Girls Club is a positive place for kids. Too many youths today are trying to be adults and making serious adult decisions and they don't need to be. So we want to provide an environment where they can feel safe and secure and can be kids and go about the necessary processes to develop socially, and we do this through games, through homework club, and computer time.

"We have several departments, such as health and family services, recreation department and education departments and Seminole Police departments; they all come in and provide classes and wholesome opportunities for our young people today and will make a huge positive difference in our young people today.

"The message she is sending is exactly what we're providing here every single week at the Boys & Girls Club."

Onawa Lacy is a role model for the kids. She talked charismatically to the attentive kids about eating healthy foods, keeping fit, and keeping their minds clear. All these things are very important for the youngsters to hear.

Onawa is a former Miss Indian World (2003-2004), she is also the second American Indian to compete for the Miss USA title. She said she hopes to become the first ever Native American Miss USA and compete in the Miss Universe pageant.

Lacy will appear on the NBC network's live broadcast from the 2006 Miss USA Pageant on April



Felix DoBosz

Miss New Mexico signs autographs for children.

thrilled to have the first Native American to win Miss New Mexico visit them. She was happy to pose for photos and sign color photos for all her fans gathered around her table.

Here are a few facts about the 2006 Miss New Mexico: Onawa is a member of the Navajo Tribe and also has Irish/French ancestry. She is 23 years old and is originally from Gallup, N.M. and now resides in Albuquerque, N.M. She holds dual bachelor's degrees in English/pre-law and Native American studies from the University of New Mexico.

Her platform is cultural diversity, cancer prevention awareness and youth issues. Onawa states she is proud to represent New Mexico and feels she represents all Native Americans with this title.

In a Nov. 14, 2005, article for New Mexico's *Gallup Independent* newspaper, Staff Writer Elizabeth Hardin-Burrola says: According to Lacy, those first two pageant wins, particularly her year as Miss Indian World, dramatically impacted her life in a positive way. She traveled around the world, she said, and learned about numerous native cultures.

"That was an experience that really changed my life," she said. "I learned so much about myself and what I'm capable of." Some of the lessons she learned, she added, are to always be yourself, always believe in yourself, and to always do good for yourself and others.

Boys & Girls Club Director Robert North



Felix DoBosz

Miss New Mexico answers questions about nutrition, health and her beauty secrets.

21. Log onto www.Covergirl.com to vote for Onawa Lacy and enter to win a free trip to the Miss USA Pageant.



Felix DoBosz

Miss New Mexico poses with staff and children in front of Boys & Girls Club.

HUD Grants Improve Life on the Rez

By Felix DoBosz
HOLLYWOOD— There was substantial damage to these town homes when Hurricane Wilma roared through Broward County last fall. It is estimated that about 40 percent of the aluminum sidings blew off, as well as huge losses for parts of the roofs.

Planning for the project started last February 2005, and construction should have started September 2005, but didn't really get underway due to delayed contract negotiations and the destructive 2005 hurricane season.

Construction crews consisting of roofers and carpenters are busy everyday getting a little closer to the completion of the ultimate goal of providing Seminole families



Felix DoBosz

Actual town homes being renovated on Hollywood Rez, completion date is slated for the end of April 2006.



Photo Courtesy of Robert McIntire, project architect

Artist rendition of the homes.

with a decent and secure place to live on the Hollywood reservation.

These six buildings were originally built more than 25 years ago, and house some 40 units. They are being improved through a federal grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

This HUD appropriation will provide re-roofing, exterior re-surfacing and painting, plus innovative folksy front entrances type porches with overhangs. Handicap ramps will be built to code specifications including handrails, and new sidewalks with proper drainage.


Additionally, tropical landscaping will beautify the surrounding area of the Town Homes to add that charming upscale look for these enduring



Felix DoBosz

New Housing dept. director and staff. Seated L-R: Troy Clay, housing director, Pete Russo, Asst. Director; Mid-Row L-R: Stella Agnone, Lisa Pepe, Valerie Glee Frank, Jacqueline Jones; Back-Row L-R: Omar Barrera, Kathy Taggi, Keith Samuels and Carl Mattison.

Support
 Miss Florida Seminole
Christine Elizabeth McCall
 purchase a raffle ticket for \$2
 so she may meet her sales requirement
 to compete in the
 2006 Miss Indian World Pageant



Come join her at the Gathering of Nations
 in Albuquerque, New Mexico
 for the Miss Indian World Pageant
 April 28-29, 2006

please contact Wanda Bowers
 (954) 966-6300 x 1468
 Pageant to be held on Thursday, April 27, 2006

Christine E. McCall, 19 yrs old, Hollywood Florida
 Hollywood Reservation
 Florida State University, Majoring in Social Work



Lila Osceola

Three new Tribal citizens receive their keys and "Bibles" to their new homes.

Wild Horse Ministry Visits Seminoles

By Judy Weeks

SEMINOLE RESERVATIONS — The Big Cypress First Baptist Church joined the Seminole Tribe of Florida in sponsoring a very worthwhile opportunity for the South Florida residents to witness the Wild Horse Ministry.

Paul Daily, from Wild Horse Ministry, grew up in a Christian home in Louisiana and spent his entire life around horses. As a young man he worked in the oil fields by day and broke and trained horses in the evenings and on his days off.

While working a horse in his round pen, he suddenly realized that the horse's responses to his actions were much the same as the way people react to the Lord. Inspired by this revelation, he developed a man/horse concept of life's lessons with Jesus Christ.

On Feb. 22, 1997, he held his first demonstration or service before his wife's Sunday school class and the Wild Horse Ministry was born. Word of his non-denominational ministry quickly spread throughout Louisiana and Texas, with invitations coming from churches, fairs, prisons and private individuals. His ministry was quickly becoming a full time job and interfering with his daily employment in the oil fields.

Realizing that he would have to make some alterations in his busy schedule, he suddenly recognized the fact that the Lord was leading him into service. In May of 2000, Paul became a full time horse trainer for the Lord. His first trip away from his home area in Jena, La., took Paul and his family to Rapid City, S.D., for a demonstration before a multi-state pastor's conference. Almost immediately, he was asked to return for a two week tour of North and South Dakota.

Paul and his wife Joana soon began home schooling their children, Lenora and Dan, as they found themselves on the road for extended periods of time with requests for demonstrations pouring in from around the country.

While spreading the word of the Lord, their reputation has also spread. They have appeared in 31 states, Canada and Uruguay.

Paul "gentles" approximately 10 horses in a month's time, while inspiring his audiences to form a gratifying relationship with God. The Daily family does not charge for their demonstrations, but depend upon the generosity of donations and sponsorships. Throughout their ministry God has blessed and provided for them.

To sponsor a demonstration, a person or group needs only an area of sand or tilled earth sufficient to erect his round pen, and an untamed, rope or halter broken horse of approximately two to three years of age.

Paul Daily visited the Seminole Tribe during the week of Jan. 14. Working several unbroken horses provided to him by the Tribal citizens, he gave demonstrations at the Junior Cypress Arena in Big Cypress on Saturday and Sunday. Moving to Hollywood on Monday and Immokalee on Tuesday; he gathered a crowd

wherever he appeared.

Each of the presentations began with an introduction by Moses Jumper, followed by John Wayne's version of "America the Beautiful" while his son and daughter circle the round pen carrying the American and Christian

round pen for the arrival of a fifteen hand wild horse.

Within two hours time, he not only had the horse coming to him, but laid the animal on the ground, saddled it, rode it and placed his seventeen year old daughter, Lenora, on its back. The



Judy Weeks

Paul Daily shows off his old breaking saddle and other equipment used to handle the horses he tames.

flags.

Welcoming the spectators, he assures the audience, "I am no preacher, just a happy customer of the Lord. For years God saw only the Wrangler sign on my hip pocket running away just like these horses. Many times I have been asked, 'When did you find the Lord?' I am proud to say, 'I never lost him.' I only needed to turn around and find him standing and waiting for me to come to him."

Wherever he goes, Paul Daily puts on an inspirational demonstration and makes an awesome impression on his audiences. Moses Jumper slid a little joke in on him in Immokalee. Paul explained that he had never seen the horse they were about to

audience was awestruck. Although, the horse and audience change wherever he goes, the results are always the same.

Wednesday, Daily invited Tribal citizens and affiliates to bring their unbroken horses to the Junior Cypress Arena and he assisted them in working their own animals. It was a day, none of the participants will ever forget. Shawn Newton's horse had been labeled "crazy," but was leading, carrying a saddle and accepting a rider before the day ended.

Raymond Garza's horse was shying from a rope and he was planning to make a team roping horse out of it. With Daily's help, the horse left there acting as though it didn't have a care in the world as the rope ran around its legs and under the tail. These are only a few of the day's accomplishments.

Reverend Salaw Hummingbird of the Big Cypress First Baptist Church organized a fellowship for Wednesday evening. More than 50 people gathered for a campfire service after a wonderful meal. There was an abundance of testimonies and the Daily family shared experiences from their ministry, its highlights and low points.

The Ministry put on a clinic for a crowd of over 200 people in LaBelle, Fla. on Thursday evening before moving to Brighton for a Friday and Saturday demonstration.

Daily was quickly going through all of the unbroken and troublesome horses in the area. By the time he reached Brighton, they had to hunt for some livestock. Ronnie Keel came up with a "bad stud" who had torn up some cow pens and was considered a rogue. He

was extremely hesitant to bring the animal, but Daily said he would evaluate the horse before beginning and to bring him on.

By the end of the evening, the results were spectacular. Not easily impressed, Keel stated, "This man's no phony, he's the real thing."

This is the general reaction, wherever the Wild Horse Ministry goes.



Rhonda Roff

Paul Daily worked several unbroken horses.

Fifth Ceremony for Chupco's Landing Homeowners in Fort Pierce

By Lila Osceola

FT. PIERCE, FL — Once again three new Tribal citizens are "blessed beyond measure," as Ft. Pierce Liaison Sally Tommie, opened the fifth recognition ceremony for Chupco's Landing.

Tommie's speech was definitely a heart felt moment for the new homeowners: Shavanta Timothy, Carlton Tommie and Virginia Tommie.

What a beautiful day in Ft. Pierce to make dreams come true for Tribal citizens Virginia Tommie and her family. The moving process began as soon as the ceremony was over, with her and her two kids, Anthony, 6 and Flarrisha, 8, the excitement of having their very own home was overwhelming.

Fighting back the tears of joy was apparent and having their brand new three bedroom house has been a dream come true, and when they get in their house, Flarrisha said she is going to, "put hearts on



Lila Osceola

Virginia Tommie and kids are excited to get keys to their new house.

my walls and play computer" in her new room. Little brother Anthony said he is going to "play with my toys" in his new room.

"Moving around from house to house is something we will never have to do again" said mom Virginia.

Sally Tommie said it best: "turn a house into a home." That is definitely the goal of these lucky Tribal citizens.

First things first, reading of the rules and regulations of the association guidelines was a necessity before they were given their keys. Acting Director of Housing, Pete Russo read portions of the guidelines to reiterate the importance of the rules.

Once the new homeowners received their important information, they were given their "Bibles," which consisted of a 28 page association guideline, rules and regulations manual.

Then they were handed their keys to their long awaited brand new homes, followed by a lunch buffet and a walk through with the tenants and staff.



Lila Osceola

Pete Russo reads a portion of guidelines from the "Bible."

Tribe is Grand Benefactor Sponsor for Red Cross Gala at Hyatt Pier Sixty-Six

By Lila Osceola

HOLLYWOOD — Seminole Tribe of Florida Hollywood Representative Max B. Osceola Jr. presented a check for \$30,000 on Feb. 9 at the Red Cross Gala. This check signifies that the Tribe will be the grand benefactor sponsor of the gala.

The 2006 American Red Cross Gala and Auction will be held at the Hyatt Pier Sixty-Six Hotel & Resort on May 20.

Danielle Johnson and Kathryn Cousins of the Broward County Chapter met with Osceola, on Feb. 9. They were grateful for the Tribe's generosity. The Tribe has already supported important local fundraising events of the Broward County and Collier County Chapters of the American Red Cross.

As grand benefactor sponsor the Seminole

Tribe will receive great recognition at this event.

"When we needed help people came to help, so when we can help others we do," Max Osceola explained to the Johnson and Cousins.

American Red Cross chapters in Florida are responsible for specific areas that include: all Seminole reservations, Broward County Chapter, Tampa Bay Chapter, Collier County Chapter, Greater Palm Beach Area Chapter and North Treasure Coast Chapter.

The Broward County Chapter of the American Red Cross serves a vital purpose in the community.

"Just because we are Seminoles of the Seminole Tribe we are still proud to be in South Florida, and a part of Broward County," Osceola said.

Everyday the Red Cross carries out its mission of preparing families, schools, and organizations for the unexpected, teaching life saving skills, assisting military families in a crisis, and providing shelter, food and counseling for disaster victims.

All proceeds from the gala will benefit vital life-saving programs and services in Broward County. The American Red Cross plays a major role in the rejuvenation of the county after the hurricanes.

In return of all the great things that the Seminole Tribe does for the community, the Red Cross is in a position to provide community service for our High School students.

"This is definitely something we will be interested in," Osceola said as the meeting came to a close.



Lila Osceola

Max Osceola hands check to Danielle Johnson and Kathryn Cousins of the Broward County Chapter of the American Red Cross.

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Tony Heard

McGruff the Crime Dog with the two-year-old preschoolers.

McGruff the Crime Dog Pays a Visit to Preschool

By Tony Heard

HOLLYWOOD — "Take a bite out of crime" is the saying everyone is probably familiar with since childhood. McGruff the Crime Dog has been on numerous commercials and programs informing our kids about safety issues. Jan. 25 McGruff was visiting the preschoolers on the Hollywood reservation.

Seminole Police Department Crime Prevention Officers Ulysses Boldin and Susie Lawson were responsible for getting McGruff on the rez.

McGruff entered the school and received hugs from majority of the kids. Soaking up all the love and warmth McGruff stayed focused on the task at hand, which was to properly inform the kids about safety issues.

The main focus was making sure the kids know about properly wearing seatbelts, crossing the street at the light and wearing helmets when riding bikes or scooters. Officer Boldin asked a few questions to the kids and many of the kids had the correct answers. The event lasted about 45 minutes and was a very positive experience for the young Tribal citizens.

The following day on Jan. 26 McGruff the Crime Dog made a trip to the Brighton reservation to see the youth and inform them on the same safety issues. McGruff received a warm welcome in Brighton as well and had a good time talking to all the kids out there. McGruff will stay involved in the development and knowledge of our youth about safety, by making visits with different points of emphasis frequently.

"I felt it went great, all the kids were excited to see McGruff and knew who he was," Officer Lawson said at the end of the event. "All the



Tony Heard

The three-, four- and five-year-old classes enjoy their time with Mr. McGruff the Crime Dog.



Tony Heard

Carol Crenshaw (center) and Officer Boldin (right) have a chat with McGruff.

kids were very responsive to what he was saying about safety and got involved in all the activities. This is a good thing because that lets us know that the parents are touching on these safety issues also. I think the kids enjoyed it and will be looking forward for McGruff's return"

The next time McGruff the Crime Dog stops by to pay a visit the focus will be on, not talking to strangers and what to do if you get separated from your mom or dad in a public place. Thanks to McGruff and the Seminole Police Department we can all keep our rez safe by trying to "take a bite out of crime."

SPD's Neighborhood Watch

Submitted by Sgt. Al Signore, SPD

The Seminole Police Department (SPD) is organizing the Neighborhood Watch program in all our communities. Our mission is to create a proactive community police partnership for crime prevention and problem solving in each community.

What is Neighborhood Watch?

This program was developed to bring together law enforcement teams and community members in a cooperative effort working together for the betterment of all our communities. Much work is done by the committee chair people and the crime prevention officers who are involved in the program.

This is a simply a program of neighborhood watching out for each other. It is designed to enlist the active participation of community members with the police to reduce crime and improve the quality of life on each reservation.

The success and primary purpose of the Seminole Police and Neighborhood watch Association are:

- To become acquainted with your neighbors.
- To work together to identify and solve problems in our communities
- To help the police by being aware of and reporting any unusual activities as they occur.
- To implement crime prevention techniques to enhance home security
- It is putting neighbors back into neighborhoods.
- To facilitate, maintain and improve commu-

nications between the community members and the Seminole Police Department by establishing and maintaining a liaison with the Seminole Police Department and exchanging information on crime and crime prevention.

To advance crime prevention concepts in the community by educating the community in the application of physical crime prevention techniques

To encourage participation in the Neighborhood watch program

To work together for a betterment of living conditions for all residence of our communities through participation and anti-crime and community service activities.

Please contact your reservation's SPD Crime Prevention Officer and asked about how you can make a difference. Help schedule your initial Neighborhood Watch meeting. At this meeting a Crime Prevention Officer will explain how you can create an alert neighborhood by using simple crime prevention methods. Neighborhood Watch does not require frequent meetings.

It does not ask that anyone take personal risk to prevent a crime. Neighborhood Watch leaves the responsibility for apprehending criminals where it belongs, with SPD.

SPD Crime Prevention Officers: Hollywood Reservation: Officer Susie Lawson, (863) 763-8210, Brighton and Ft. Pierce Reservation: Officer Ulysses Boldin, (954) 967-8900, Big Cypress and Immokalee: Sergeant Al Signore, (813) 478-2680

Dear Seminole Tribal Citizens,

The Fire Prevention Division of the Seminole EMS Department is available to do a Life Safety inspection of your homes at your convenience. We will also supply and install smoke alarms in your homes if you need them. This is done as a courtesy for our Tribal citizens.

Please call Seminole Tribe of Florida Lead Fire Inspector Lieutenant David Logan at (863) 381-9595 or (863) 983-1996 for more information.

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Big Cypress Community Birding Day

Saturday, March 4th, 2006 at 7:30am
 Meet in the Gymnasium, Big Cypress Reservation
 Morning Refreshments will be Provided

Who should come?

Anyone interested in seeing all the diversity of birds that make Big Cypress their home!

What will we be doing?

We will be going out in the Reservation to observe a wide variety of birds.

What should you bring?

You need binoculars, outdoor clothes and walking shoes; we'll provide the rest.

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Hosted by Water Resource Management Department

Rez Hosts 6th Annual Super Bowl Cook-Off

By Emma Brown

BRIGHTON — The 6th Annual Super Bowl Cook-Off was held on Feb. 3 at the Brighton 4-H complex. There were nine teams that showed up this year to compete for the best barbecue around.

Each team that enters the cook-off has the opportunity to barbecue chicken, ribs, or both, in hopes to have just the right concoction to excite the judge's taste buds. The winner of each category walks away with prize money, a trophy, and best barbecue



The 2006 rib champ, hard at work.



Barbecue chicken champs Crystal & Jamie Smith.



Four time champ Betty Billie.



Is he judging the taste? Or how much he can eat?

bragging rights for a year.

Each year in conjunction with the barbecuing, women battle for the title of best pumpkin bread and best fry bread cook. Throughout the day spectators can stop and visit with each team and often bribe them out of a taste test.

Along with their prize meat teams also cook up items like steak, shrimp and sausage and send it to their rival teams to show good sportsmanship and to let them know that this battle is all in good fun.

The teams had from 1 p.m.-4 p.m. to prepare what they hoped would become the award winning meat. Each team was given aprons and towels to assist in their preparation and had their own special recipes that were used in hopes to add just the right flavor and texture to their barbecue.

As always judges are needed to put their taste buds to the test and decide who the master grill men and bread cookers are. We are thankful for this year's judges: Glades County Sheriff Stuart Whiddon, Glades County Supervisor of Elections Holly Whiddon, Pastor Bill Bloomberg, Trading Post Assistant Manager Lillie Maisonet, Firefighter Bobby Crist, and SPD officer Jack Morgan.

Once the results were in and the winners were announced all of the day's meat and bread went into one serving cooler along with side dishes and a

delicious meal was served for everyone to enjoy.

The cook off was, as always, a great way to celebrate the Super Bowl and to find out who has this year's winning recipe. Special recognition must be given this year to Betty Billie for earning her fourth championship in the pumpkin bread contest.

Thanks to Brighton Board Representative Johnny Jones, Brighton Council Representative Andrew Bowers, Alex Johns from Brighton Recreation and John Huff Jr. for sponsoring and coordinating the day's event and helping make the day fun and successful.

Congratulations to all of this year's winners: Rib Winners: 1. Alex Johns and John Huff Jr., 2. Bill and Angel Osceola, 3. Johnny Jones and Johnnie Jones Jr.; Chicken Winners: 1. Crystal and Jamie Smith, 2. Alex Johns and John Huff Jr., 3. Connie and Mike Haught; Pumpkin Bread: 1. Betty Billie (2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006 champion), 2. Mary Jo Micco, 3. Alice Snow; Fry Bread: 1. Mary Jo Micco, 2. Amanda Smith, 3. Joyce Jumper.



Fry bread champion Mary Jo Micco (with trophy).



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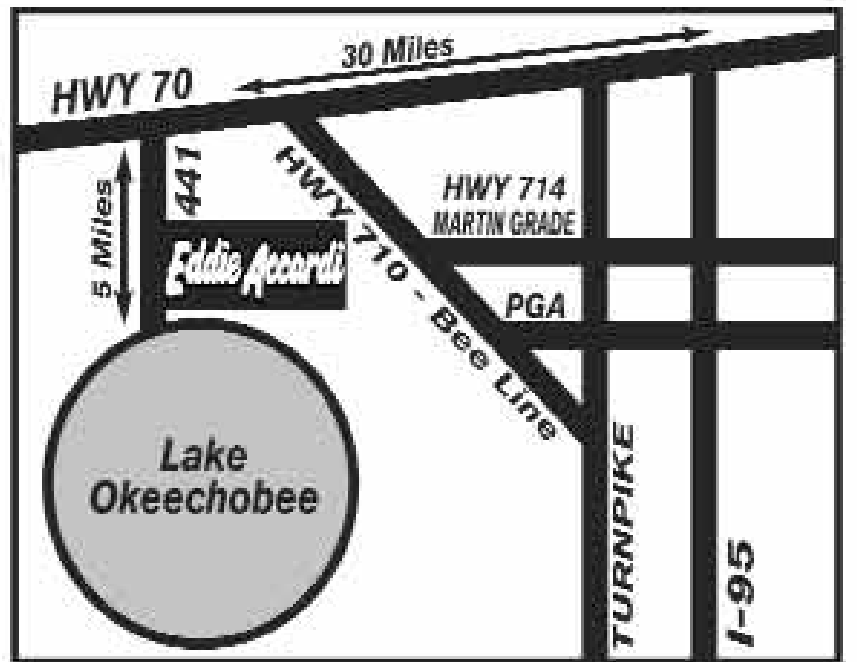
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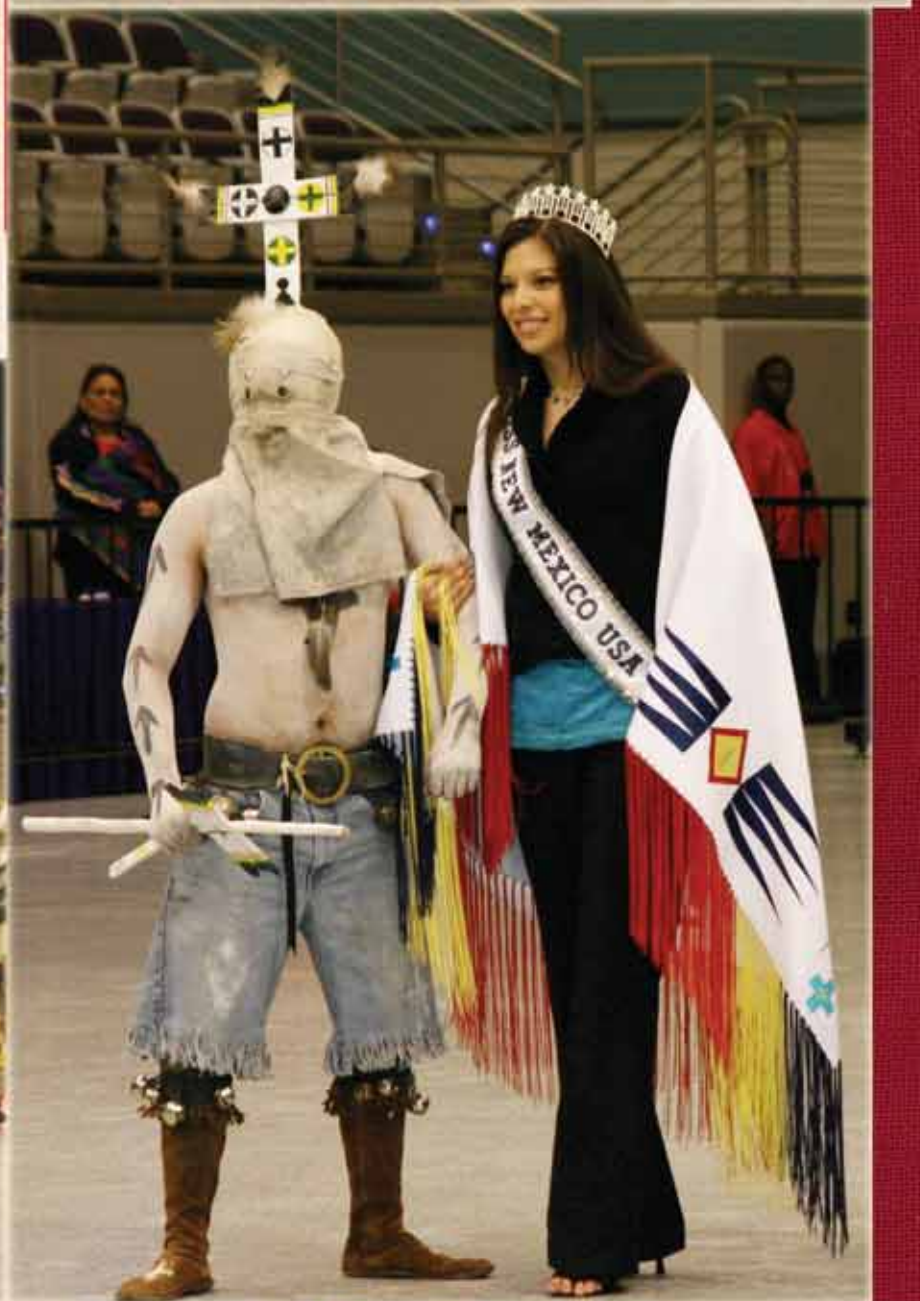
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35th Annual Seminole Tribal Fair & PowWow



Higher Education Student on the Dean's List



Geraldine Osceola

By Erlinda Iley
SALISBURY, MD — To be on the Dean's List is no ordinary feat. Geraldine Osceola, a student at Wor-Wic Community College in Maryland, found herself in this honorable position for achieving a 3.5 GPA at the end of the Fall 05 term.

"Shocked" was how she described her feelings. She was not expecting it, but she said she was doing her work, turning in papers on time and studying daily. She has a goal, which is to complete her degree in chemical dependency and help her people.

Like the wind—she comes from the Wind clan—Osceola said she felt the wind of change and left for Salisbury, Md. She thought that by going there, she can concentrate on her studies and achieve her goal.

She is expecting to graduate with an associate in science degree in chemical dependency in spring 2007. She said she will pursue a bachelor's degree either in social work or psychology.

Geraldine, who is married to Randall Byrd and a

mother of six children (ages ranging seven to 14) is definitely a doer and an achiever. She is very involved with her children and said she believes keeping them occupied with worthwhile activities will keep them out of trouble.

She is also a basketball coach at the local YMCA and a secretary of the Chemical Dependency Student Association Club at the Wor-Wic Community College.

How does she accomplish all these and still be in the dean's list?

"Patience," Osceola said. "Lots of patience." She said she believes "Nothing lasts forever, money-wise, so it is smart to have a degree and a career so that there is something to fall back on."

To all students, Osceola advises, "Don't cram; study consistently, and do not study at the last minute."

Wise words from a wise lady. We are proud of Geraldine!

For more information on Wor-Wic Community College, please see www.wor-wic.edu.



Susan Etzebarria

Kathleen Thompson with student Burgundy Pierce buying a book at the Book Fair.

Student Awards and Activities at First Indian Baptist Academy

By Susan Etzebarria

BRIGHTON — The First Baptist Indian Academy (FIBA) at Brighton wishes to announce that they have hired two new certified teachers: Kathleen Thompson, a former teacher in the Clewiston, Fla. schools, and Ana Vazquez, who recently moved to Florida from Puerto Rico. Thompson teaches the kindergarten class and Vasquez teaches middle school.

This year the school is also participating in Seminole 4-H as a school project. The students in each grade take turns feeding and caring for a hog they call Wilbur. The hog was donated to the school by Ellen Smith and the parents are donating the money for the feed. Wilbur's pen is at the Hog Farm where Gary Sampson keeps an eye on the hog.

Students go to the Hog Farm every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The Student Council will select one student to show the hog at the annual 4-H Show and Sale. Their selection will be based on the student who works the hardest and shows the most interest in the hog-raising project.

A Book Fair at FIBA took place the week of Feb. 5-9. Books were delivered to the school by the national program known as scholastic that encourages children to take an interest in reading. Hundreds of books were on exhibit and students, their parents and school supporters had the opportunity to buy them.

A percentage of the sales will go to FIBA to be used for purchasing school supplies and books. First grade teacher, Luis Maisonet, is also a certified martial arts teacher. On March 11 he will be teaching a self defense class at the school. The class is open to all staff, students, parents and Tribal members who wish to learn fundamentals of self defense. There will be a \$15 fee for the eight-hour class beginning at 8 a.m. and will include lunch.

On Jan. 8, the FIBA students were entertained by country gospel singing duo, Debbie and Jesse Garrett. The dynamic couple sang and then spoke about their personal ministry to drug addicts and alcoholics, young men and women in prisons in Canada and the U.S. Jesse Garrett shared with the youth how his life was nearly ended by his reckless behavior and drug addiction until he met the Lord.

"You are looking at a miracle standing here," he said, after telling the students how he had been stabbed and almost died after a bar fight. "The doctors said that I would die but there was another Physician in the room that night. It was the Lord."

Now sober and clean 15 years, a book about Garrett's life will be coming out next year. He was invited to speak to the chil-

Shae Pierce, Second: Deliah Carrillo, Sixth: Reese Bert, Dalton Bert, Terence Billie, Seventh: Ashton Baxley, Brandon Billie, Janae Braswell, Tenth: Troy Billie; Second nine weeks: First Grade: Eric Jaden Punte, Second: Deliah Carrillo, Sixth: Terence Billie, Reese Bert, Seventh: Janae Braswell.

B.U.G. (Bring Up Grades), First nine weeks: First grade: Isaac Osceola, Sixth: Dalton Bert, Reese Bert, Terence Billie, Seventh: Ashton Baxley, Brandon Billie, Ninth: Clint Bowers, Twelfth: LeAnna Billie; Second nine weeks: Sixth grade: Dalton Bert, Seventh: Janae Braswell, Eighth: Branden McAdams.

A Honor Roll, First nine weeks: First



Susan Etzebarria

New FIBA teacher Kathleen Thompson with her kindergarten class.

grade: Eric Jaden Punte, Second: Deliah Carrillo, Seventh: Janae Braswell, Twelfth: Candice Simmer; Second nine weeks: First grade: Eric Jaden Punte, Sixth: Dalton Bert.

B Honor Roll, First nine weeks: First Grade: Samuel Osceola, Shae Pierce, Huber Leon, Third: Kaley Riley, Seventh: Ashton Baxley, Eighth: Taylor Johns, Twelfth: Marilee Johns; Second nine weeks: First grade: Huber Leon, Shea Pierce, Second: Deliah Carrillo, Third: Kaley Riley, Seventh: Janae Braswell, Tenth: Troy Billie, Twelfth: Candice Simmer.

C Honor Roll, First nine weeks: Third grade: Ty Pierce, Fourth: Christopher Olivarez, Trewston Pierce, Sixth: Dalton Bert, Reese Bert, Terence Billie; Second nine weeks: First grade: Samuel Osceola, Third: Ty Pierce, Fourth: Trewston Pierce, Christopher Olivarez, Twelfth: LeAnna Billie.

Kiwanis Terrific Kids, First nine weeks: Kindergarten: Tavis Jumper; Vivianna Martinez- Gore, Burgundy Pierce, Joseph

Family Services Dept. Offers Computer Classes

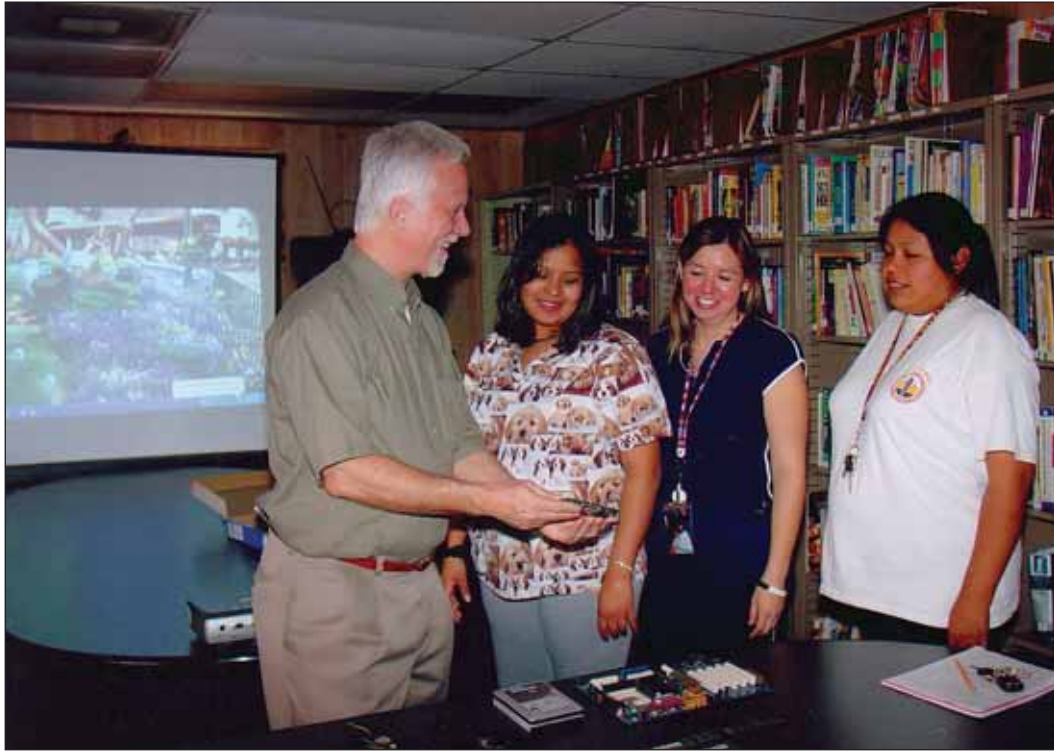
By Judy Weeks

The Family Service department's Adult Education Program is hosting a computer course to all adult 18 and older Tribal citizens. Targeting new computer users, the classes have been divided into separate categories and are being held monthly in Hollywood, Big Cypress, Brighton and Immokalee.

The first series in the program, Computer 101, was held in January and introduced the participants to the various parts of the computer and their function. As beginners, a computer can be a very formidable piece of equipment. Knowledge of its interior and capabilities can help to relieve the tension for the first time user.

During the initial session, participants had an opportunity to examine the parts of a dismantled computer. They came away talking about mother boards, hard drives, memory clips, rams and roms. For the attendees, the fear of the unknown was replaced by a desire to put their computers to use.

Family Services Department Adult Education



Judy Weeks

Instructor Roger Fabel familiarizes (L-R) Myra Garcia, Michelle Ford and Amy Clay with the working parts of a computer.

Administrator Jasmine Porter has enlisted the services of Roger Fabel, an instructor with the Broward County Adult Education Program, to teach these classes.

Born in Michigan, he came to the Miami area in the 1950s and grew up in Coral Springs, Fla. While attending college in Alabama, he met and married his wife. Fabel's first job after graduation was service in the U.S. Military, where he put to use his newly acquired engineering skills. Following his tour of duty, he returned to Coral Springs and became an engineer for Florida Power & Light.

During the many years of his career, he worked with computers extensively and was able to eventually design and construct them. Fabel currently teaches both beginner and advanced courses in computer usage, designs and assembles custom computers for an assortment of elite clients and operates an engraving service.

Under Fabel's guidance the second stage of the program, Computer 201, was offered in February. The objective of the course was to provide basic fundamentals, such as accessing e-mails, keyboard skills, word processing and spreadsheets.

Fabel presents the material in an easy going, soft-spoken manner. While using familiar terms, he invites participation by the students and is quite willing to answer any question that arises. Attending the classes is not only informative but very enjoyable.

Computer skills have become an intricate part of the employment process in many fields and can open the door to multiple opportunities. Regardless of age, knowledge of the computer can enhance your business skills, assist in the education of your children, and provide endless hours of entertainment.

This is an opportunity that you can not afford to pass up. The classes are held two days each month from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. This provides enough time to learn without being over-whelmed. Classes are free to all adult Tribal citizens and although, space is limited, it is not too late to make a reservation.

For additional information, contact Jasmine Porter at (954) 989-6840, Ext. 1313.



Judy Weeks

Amy Clay receives instruction from Roger Fabel.



Susan Etzebarria

New teacher Ana Vazquez at FIBA teaches middle school.

dren by Pastor Wonder Johns.

On Feb. 1, students at FIBA were given awards for scholastic achievement and perfect attendance. The list below recognizes these students.

Perfect Attendance, First nine weeks: Kindergarten: Joseph Osceola, Isaac Osceola, Tavis Jumper, First grade: Eric Jaden Punte,

Osceola, Fourth grade: Trewston Pierce, Sixth: Dalton Bert, Reese Bert, Terence Billie, Seventh: Janae Braswell; Second nine weeks: Kindergarten: Isaac Osceola, Seventh grade: Ashton Baxley, Eighth: Taylor Johns, Branden McAdams, Tenth: Troy Billie, Eleventh: Dewell Johns.

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Having Fun at Snow Mountain

By Susan Etzebarria

BIG CYPRESS — A huge "mountain" of sparkling white snow delivers the magic of a winter wonderland to the swamps and enralls young and old alike at the wonderful *Winterfest* at Big Cypress



Susan Etzebarria

King of the snow hill

on Jan. 22.

"We bought 60 tons of ice from Palm City Ice and made the snow in two and half hours," said BC Recreation Manager Stan Frischman, whose glee was growing as he watched the final shovels of snow



Susan Etzebarria

This kids lined up repeatedly for six hours to slide.

being added to the flanks of the mountain.

Like the creation of a giant Disney World prop, the ice was put into a chipper and the shavings were cautiously blown into just the right places to produce a grand illusion just moments before the community festival started at 10 a.m.

The Recreation department staff actually started building the foundation of the mountain on Thursday. The structure to support the snow began with a 15 foot staircase ladder they borrowed from the Aviation department. The rolling portable staircase is normally used so passengers can access the cockpit door of an airplane.

Railings had to be constructed and then, one at a time, 350 bales of hay were methodically placed, one on top of the other, to help construct the slope and the hill bed for the placement of deep-caked snow.

"We actually had to 'engineer' the hill," Frischman tells *The Seminole Tribune* as he watches and paces, adding that he saw a similar snow mountain at a Florida festival and had always wanted to try it at BC. He says he hopes the kids will love sledding down the hill. He seems excited but wary. He doesn't want anyone to get hurt and nothing to go wrong.

Once the mountain is ready for sledding action, Frischman announces over the loud speakers:

"Take a ride down Snow Mountain," said Frischman. "It's not everyday you see snow in Florida. After today you will have to go to Colorado

to see snow. After today the snow will melt so now's your chance to ride down Snow Mountain."

For the next six hours kids line up repeatedly for their umpteenth slide down the slippery slope of Snow Mountain. To add to the enjoyment of the day, the weather stays chilly enough to keep the mountain from melting.

The mounds of sparkling snow surrounding the mountain proves to be very tantalizing recreation as well. It is nearly impossible to stop the thrill of getting in a snowball fight. Kids and even adults can hardly resist. As a game, it is so much fun. However, it can get just a little too dangerous sometimes.

Aiming snowballs at friends or make-believe foes proves to be too irresistible for the many exuberant youngsters at Winterfest but these snowballs, unlike Colorado snow, hit a little harder since they are actually shaved ice.

One little girl got hit—not too badly—but enough to shed some tears! No matter how many times the kids were told not to throw snowballs at each other, well...it took constant reminders. What child could resist?

All that is missing from the scene is a ski lodge for the illusion to last.

But, wait! There is a lodge. Close to the snow, the Chili Cook Off is taking place under one of the massive white tents with chefs arriving as early as 8 a.m. By 10:30 a.m. most chefs are offering free bowls of hot chili to passers-by, many still wearing their jackets or sweaters. Chili is a long time favorite on the ski slopes. This is a lodge southern-style.

Testing and tasting chili interests the cook in all of us and satisfies our ravenous appetites.

Thus, tasters stroll past the chef's cooking booths all day long. And some take a seat at a nearby folding table to eat and have some conversation. The chefs receive lots of compliments and encouragement. They have to wait most of the day until the judging. Then they will know if theirs is chosen as the best bowl of chili over all the rest.

There are many distinctly different kinds of chili recipes in this competition. Trying to get that special secret ingredient out of the chefs is almost impossible.

One man says he is cooking his chili "Western" style; another chef uses cilantro while someone else relies on cold peeled tomatoes. Chipotle chili seasoning, hot sauce, fresh garlic is other favorite ingredients. Most of the cooks say their chili is mild-flavored but three of the five winners make their chili hot and spicy.

The winners are: 1. Rick Alumbaugh, 2. Louise Billie, 3. David Cypress, 4. Dale Grasshopper and Lucille Jumper, 5. Nickolus Andrus.

From atop the delightful ferris wheel one sees the string of large white tents and a good crowd milling around as people walk from tent to tent enjoying all the games and activities.

One large tent seems like one of those crazy game arcades inside a Broward mall. Only here it is in the swamps in the glorious sunshine. This tent is hopping with kids all day long. All kinds of "hit the target" type of games and prizes and other challenges, like the balance ladder, draw the kids.

Every department has a booth. Each booth seems even better than the last time they did this kind of thing. Everyone is having fun, laughing, glad to be here. Except for poor Frosty, the Snowman who was getting shot at by a bunch of kids trying to win a prize at the Building department's booth.

Of course Frosty wasn't a real snowman, just a super size image on a paper, and it wasn't easy to



Susan Etzebarria

Balance ladder.

shoot the ammunition straight through Frosty's large button holes.

At the Housing department's booth you don't have to do anything to get a prize. Sue Jane Cypress, and her brother, Andy Cypress, give out free candy and pocket-size snacks and their generous smiles, for which everyone is grateful. No pressure on you to win at anything.

Seminole Broadcasting set up a table for tribal heads of household at Big Cypress to sign up for Direct TV and offered up cupcakes with chocolate frosting. They even had a representative from DirecTV on hand to explain the new plan by which residents will be able to watch Tribal news at home. To bring attention to their mission they held a series of drawings for cash prizes throughout the day.

The next big tent is the outdoor bingo hall. Steve Frost, the billiards instructor, is used to announcing so he calls the numbers. Slow start until after the lunch hour. Soon the tent fills up with Tribal players about the same time SweetTooth sets up a huge mid-day meal at the last white tent. The buffet of food smells so good. There's chicken and pork steak, salads and slaws, rice, tomato and corn dishes and fantastic fry bread and much more.

There's an abundance of good food and beverages available everywhere and last but not least is the popular red-colored cooker at the corn on the cob booth sponsored by the Councilman's Office. There



Susan Etzebarria

Louise Billie makes chili and fry bread



Susan Etzebarria

It took 60 tons of ice and 350 bales of hay to create Snow Mountain.

all day is Nery Mejicano cooking the corn and he is a master at it.

People eat the sweet corn roasted on the husk and seem to slurp the juice it tastes so good. It is not often you can have a taste experience like that.

It is over corn on the cob that an odd conversation happens. Sitting at a table working on some notes, a young couple sat down across the table and eat their corn. They are not recognized as Tribal citizens or employees so *The Seminole Tribune* asked who they might be. Turns out they are sweethearts on vacation and he is from Chicago and she is from London.

They had gone on an airboat ride at Billie Swamp Safari and were on their way to Alligator Alley when they see the ferris wheel and the snow mountain and stop their car, get out and walk in. They think it is a festival open to the public - perhaps. The first thing they see is the roasted corn and they are surprised it is free!

Once they are politely informed it is a private community event, the young man and his companion left shortly later - but not until after they take a photo of Snow Mountain and hear a little history of the unconquered Seminoles.

The people and the pride of the Seminoles seems to touch a chord. The 35-year-old man shyly admits he is half Apache from the Jicarilla but sadly he says he knows very little about his heritage. After seeing the Seminole way, he says he knows he needs to search for who he is - for his true identity.

The BC Recreation department produced this awesome event, under the auspices of the BC Council, and with the whole-hearted involvement of nearly every department at the reservation. All the departments and staff and councilmen and the community deserve a big round of applause for all their work. It is the first BC Winterfest and if all agree there may be a second.



Susan Etzebarria

Ferris wheel

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The Healthy Senior

By Fred Cicetti

[Editor's Note: Fred Cicetti is a syndicated columnist who writes about issues concerning senior citizens' health. The opinions he expressed are his own. If you would like to ask a question, please write fredcicetti@gmail.com. All Rights Reserved © 2006 by Fred Cicetti]

Q. I heard a comedian make a reference to "shingles" as if there was something funny about them. I had shingles and I didn't find any humor in the experience. Am I missing something?

Shingles is a painful skin disease caused by the chickenpox virus awakening from a dormant state to attack your body again. Some people report fever and weakness when the disease starts. Within two to three days, a red, blotchy rash develops. The rash erupts into small blisters that look like chickenpox. And it's very painful.

Does this sound funny? I don't think so....

Anyone who has had chicken-pox can get shingles. Half of all Americans will get shingles by the time they are 80. Shingles occurs in people of all ages, but it is most common in people between 60 and 80. Each year, about 600,000 Americans are diagnosed with shingles.

The virus that causes chickenpox and shingles remains in your body for life. It stays inactive until a period when your immunity is down. And, when you're older, your defenses ain't what they used to be. The inactive virus rests in nerve cells near the spine. When it reactivates, it follows a single nerve path to the skin.

The shingles rash helps with its diagnosis; the rash erupts in a belt-like pattern on only one side of the body, or it appears on one side of the face. It usually begins as a patch of red dots which become blisters.

Physicians treat shingles with antiviral and pain medications. The antivirals don't cure shingles, but they weaken the virus, reduce the

pain and accelerate healing. The antiviral medications work faster if they are started early—within 72 hours from the appearance of the rash. The disease's name comes from the Latin word *cingulum*, which means belt. The virus that causes shingles is *varicella-zoster*, which combines the Latin word for little pox with the Greek word for girdle. In Italy, shingles is often called *St. Anthony's fire*.

If you have had chickenpox, shingles is not contagious. If you have never had chickenpox, you can catch the virus from contacting the fluid in shingles blisters. However, you will not get shingles, but you could get chickenpox.

The pain of shingles can be severe. If it is strong and lasts for months or years, it is called *postherpetic neuralgia*. Persistent pain is a common symptom in people over 60. However, most victims of shingles overcome their symptoms in about a month. And the odds are against them getting shingles again.

Outbreaks that start on the face or eyes can cause vision or hearing problems. Even permanent blindness can result if the cornea of the eye is affected. In patients with immune deficiency, the rash can be much more extensive than usual and the illness can be complicated by pneumonia. These cases, while more serious, are rarely fatal.

Researchers at the National Institutes of Health are now working on a shingles vaccine to prevent the disease in people who have already had chickenpox. It is designed to boost the immune system and protect older adults from shingles later on.

The vaccine is basically a stronger version of the chickenpox shot, which became available in 1995. The chickenpox shot prevents chickenpox in 70 to 90 percent of those vaccinated, and 95 percent of the rest have only mild symptoms. Millions of children and adults have already received the chickenpox shot.



Seminole Health Department

Front Row: Anna Puente, Doris Nicholas-Mir, Dorothy Tommie, Amber Giebtbrock, Edna McDuffie, Les Gopher Jr., Lalani Gopher, Kristen Duda, Marty Duda and Jamie Schevis **Back Row:** Les Gopher, Harley Roberts, Betty Tigertail-Roberts, Hillary Denerstien, Tina Mennella, Linda McCarthy, Lawanna Niles, Charlotte Porcaro, Wanda Bowers, Donelda Mercer, Tracy DeLaRosa and Magada Ayala.

American Diabetes Association's Walk for Diabetes Team Seminole does it again!



Seminole Health Department

Team Seminole proudly displays its walk banner.



Seminole Health Department

Harley Roberts and Betty Tigertail-Roberts finish the walk with smiles.

Submitted by the Seminole Health Department

FT. LAUDERDALE, FL — For the fourth year in a row Team Seminole, comprised of Tribal citizens, community members and employees, has participated in the American Diabetes Association's Walk for Diabetes at the Bank Atlantic Center on Feb. 4.

Though the heavy rains had rolled in that very morning, it did not deter the 24 individuals of Team Seminole who were determined to walk and raise awareness for diabetes research. Many members of the team were walking for family members and friends who have the disease or who lost a loved one to diabetes.

Team Seminole members took part in all the day's festivities including a high energy warm up, the 3.2 mile walk, photos with nationally syndicated TV per-

sonality Mr. Food and a health fair with more than 20 vendors and health organizations.

Lead by Edna McDuffie, Team Seminole participates in many national walks, including the Walk for Diabetes, the American Heart Association's Heart Walk, the American Cancer Society's Breast Cancer Walk and Walk America for the March of Dimes.

If you are interested in beginning a walking program or learning more about the events that Team Seminole takes part in, please contact your reservation's health educator. Big Cypress, Brighton, Hollywood and Immokalee all offer weekly or monthly walks.



Seminole Health Department

Team Seminole stops for a photo op with TV's Mr. Food.



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Rez Hosts 2nd Annual Diabetes Carnival

By Tony Heard

HOLLYWOOD — The Seminole Tribe of Florida's Health department conducted their 2nd Annual diabetes carnival, on January 31. Merging with Recreation and Family Services, it was a night of fun, health food, games, moderate exercise, and knowledge on diabetes.

Health Education Coordinator Brenda Bordogna and Nutrition Coordinator Cari Saldin did a great job arranging many activities that would attract all ages to come and participate.

Everyone from the Health department did a great job having health food for everyone to eat and having great prizes to be distributed to those who played games. Big Cypress, Health department sent a few of their own to travel down to help with the event.

Sporting games such as basketball, bowling, and football throw, golf and archery were fun for all. Carnival games like bobbing for apples and a bean bag toss, which also combined with the educational games like health lucky duck and shooting down junk food. These games were fun but also provided questions and answers about diabetes prevention and exercises. All games had prizes, but everyone who participated got a prize even if they came up a little short on winning.

Some of the more popular activities were the horse drawn hayride, the rock clinging wall, and the bounce houses. But I think everyone at the carnival had one or two throws at the target on the popular dunk tank.

The Seminole Police Department helped out by having a couple different officers dangle in the tank. The team effort among departments was a success considering the date for this event had been pushed back many times due to the hurricanes.

The whole basis behind having the carnival is of course to have tons of fun, but also focus on providing knowledge on the prevention of diabetes to youth and adults. Also, to encourage more physical activities that families can do together.

Only those who registered were counted in the final tally on how many participants came to the carnival. The total maxed at 76 Tribal citizens, community members and employees who came and enjoyed the festivities.

The sack race alone brought 32 brave participants, which was very exciting to watch adults and youth compete to see who crossed the finish line first. The egg scramble event drew a crowd of 45.

When asked how the carnival went Bordogna said: "I felt it went good considering

the date was pushed back from November. Walking around the whole time it looked like everyone who came had a really good time. The amount of people who came out was good considering there were other things going on that night. I can't wait to do it again next year."

With Junior Battiest controlling the music and announcements, everyone present was kept well informed and aware of activities. Some of the game prizes were raffle tickets for the raffle that would take place at the conclusion of the event. The



Tony Heard

Francisco Rodriguez



Tony Heard

Lucky Duck Game

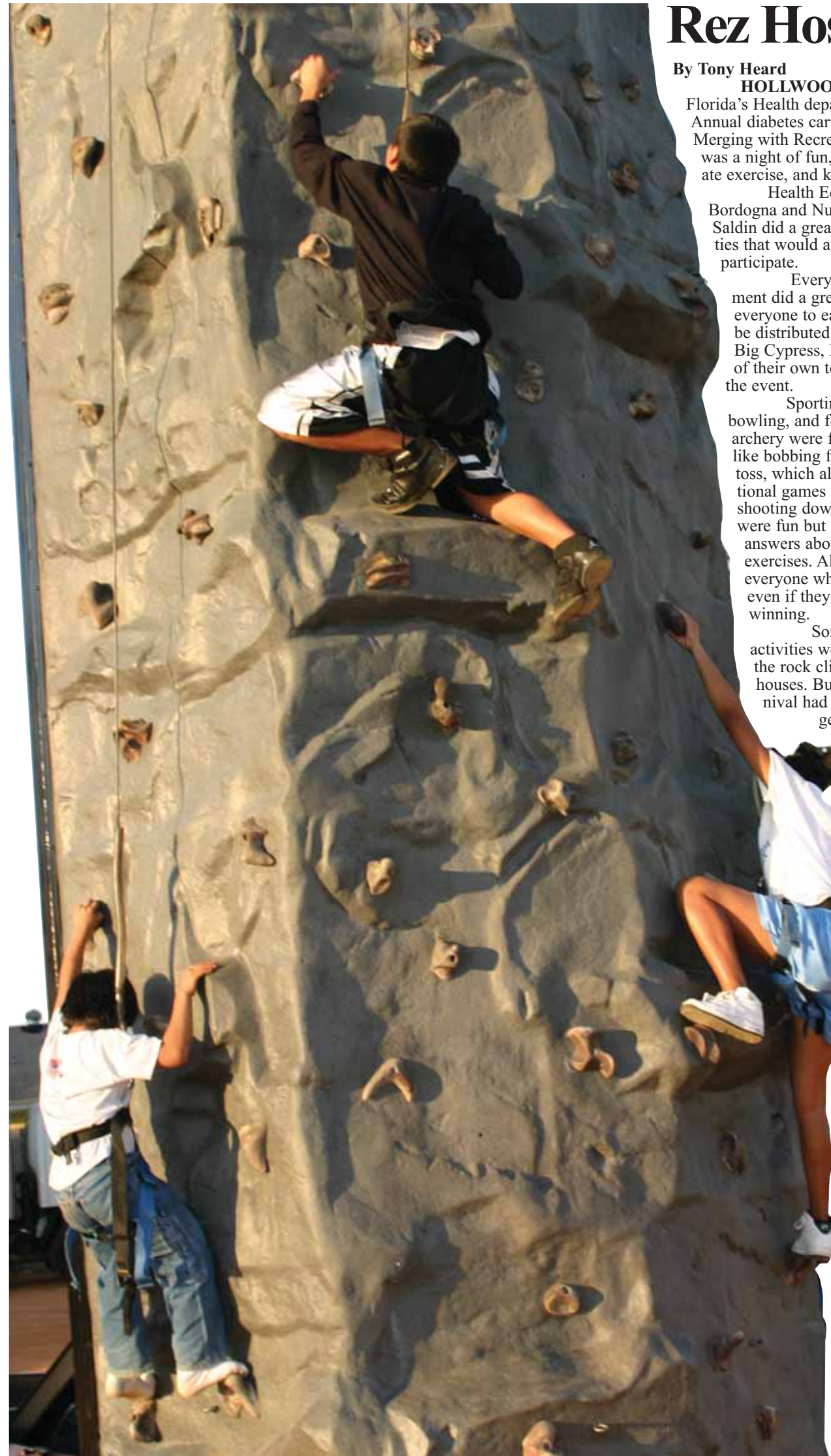


Tony Heard

Jeremy Harrison

items to be raffled off were a beautiful Seminole doll, donated by hot meals, and two bicycles with helmets, donated by the Health department.

Once all the raffle ticket stubs were collected Battiest and Bordogna pulled the winning tickets. The first thing that was raffled off was the Seminole doll which was won by Francisco Rodriguez. Coral Battiest won the first bike that was raffled off and Justin Frank won the second bike.



Tony Heard

Josh Cypress (top) Lacey Jordan (right)



Tony Heard

Justin Frank (left) Coral Battiest (right)



Tony Heard

Tony Roberts points out the spleen



Tony Heard

Joe Collins with Chloe Smith

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The hiring of an attorney is an important decision that should not be based solely upon advertisement. Richard Castillo worked as a Public Defender in Broward County from 1990-1996 and has been in private practice for nine years. In 1995 he was voted the Trial Attorney of the year. He graduated from Capital University in 1989 and was admitted to the Florida Bar in 1990, Federal Bar in 1992, and the Federal Trial Bar in 1994.

Health Corner ❖ Chah-nee-ken chà-ke ❖ Cvfeknetv onakv

Seminole Children's Dental Health Month 2006

Submitted by the Seminole Dental Program
 February is Seminole Children's Dental Health Month. In honor and celebration, the Seminole Dental Program will be sponsoring a Dental Activities Contest. Beginning on Feb. 6, children will be asked to complete one dental themed activity per week. Children completing each week's activity will receive a dental trading card with an oral health message. At the end of the week of Feb. 26, all children that have received all 4 trading cards will be eligible for the Grand Prize drawing. And of course, it wouldn't be Seminole Children's Dental Health Month without the poster contest! Creating the posters will be one of the activities for a trading card, but extra poster paper will be available at the four Health Centers for those children who wish only to participate in poster contest. Remember: A healthy smile is something to cheer!

The dental activities contest will take place at the following locations:
Big Cypress: Big Cypress Community Center – (863) 983-7800
Brighton: TBA
Ft. Pierce: Contact Emma Johns Brown – (772) 467-2454
Hollywood: Boys & Girls Club – (954) 410-0967
Immokalee: TBA
Naples: Contact Christine Zack – (239) 352-1411
Tampa: TBA

February is National Children's Dental Health Month

Did You Know?

- Teeth are the hardest substance in the human body.
- Our first president, George Washington, had a set of dentures made from ivory (not from wood—that's a myth). His dentist, John Greenwood, made four sets of false teeth for him. The false teeth were sometimes set in gold.
- Dogs have 42 teeth. Cats have 30 teeth. Pigs have 44 teeth. Adults have 32 teeth. Armadillos have as many as 104 teeth, more than any other land animal.
- Beavers must gnaw on wood and other materials to wear down their teeth. Otherwise, the incisors would grow too big for their head.
- Sharks have an unlimited supply of teeth that are set in layered rows in their gums. If one tooth falls out, a tooth from another layer takes its place. A shark may shed as many as 50,000 teeth in its lifetime.
- It takes 26 muscles to smile, and 62 muscles to frown.
- The Cheshire cat in the book 'Alice's Adventures in Wonderland,' written by Lewis Carroll, often disappeared gradually, leaving nothing but a grin hanging in the air. "I've often seen a cat without a grin," thought Alice, "but a grin without a cat! It's the most curious thing I ever saw in all my life!"

Arachnophobia is the fear of peanut butter sticking to the roof of the mouth.

The first modern (bristled) toothbrush was made in China about 1600 A.D.

Do you recognize these names?

They were all dentists!

Paul Revere – famous for his wild horse ride in 1775 to warn the American Colonists of the approaching British troops.

George W. Boers – created the game called Lacrosse.

Doc Holliday – helped Wyatt Earp win the OK Corral shootout.

George Grant – invented the wooden golf tee.

Zane Grey – wrote best-selling Western novels.

Thomas Welch – his company was the first to bottle grape juice.

Know the ABCs of Diabetes and Heart Disease

February is Heart Health Month

Submitted by the Seminole Health Department
 Diabetes is a disease that affects a person's blood sugar levels. Many times a diabetic patient will say their sugar is high or that they are really sweet today. Unfortunately, high blood sugars can be silent and very dangerous. The high levels of glucose, or sugar, in the blood vessels tend to make these vessels sticky. This makes the job of moving blood throughout the body more difficult for the heart. The good news is that diabetics can fight back. Knowledge is the key to preventing heart disease. People can keep their heart healthy by learning and controlling the ABCs of diabetes. A is for A1C. This is a blood test that is performed in the Seminole Health department every three months on a diabetic patient. This simple laboratory test can tell the physician and diabetes management team what your average blood sugar has been for the last 90 days. The goal is to have an A1C of less than seven. B is for blood pressure. A diabetic's blood pressure should be lower than 130/80. Having excessive pressure in the blood vessels makes the heart work too hard. Someone watching their blood pressure can take the following measures: try to be more physically active. Walking at least 30 minutes a day can help lower blood pressure. Also, try to cut back on salt intake and lose weight if necessary. By losing only five to 10 pounds, blood pressure and the risk of long term problems will decrease. C is for cholesterol. Cholesterol is tested in a laboratory along with other blood lipids such as triglycerides. These tests are completed at the same time as the A1C test. In general, cholesterol should be less than 200 and triglycerides less than 150. These lipids can build up and clog blood vessels. The blocked vessels increase the strain on the heart. Eating foods that are low in fat and increasing physical activities will help reduce cholesterol level. Learning and utilizing the ABCs of diabetes can help improve heart health. The Seminole Health department is celebrating Heart Health Month in February. Please join in and make a pledge to manage diabetes and improve heart health. For further information regarding diabetes management call your local Seminole Health department. Ask to speak with the dietitian and health educator. Remember—Together we can manage diabetes.

Important Medicare Information

Submitted by Connie Whidden, Health Director
 Medicare is a health insurance program for people age 65 or older, people under age 65 with certain disabilities and people of all ages with End-Stage Renal Disease, or permanent kidney failure requiring dialysis or a kidney transplant. Medicare offers three types of coverage:
Part A
 Hospital insurance – Part A is usually free since people or their spouses have already paid for it through their payroll taxes while working.
Part B
 Medical insurance – There is a premium for Part B. The Seminole Tribe of Florida pays the premiums for Tribal Members or reimburses Tribal Members for the premiums that are deducted from their Social Security benefit checks.
Part D
 Prescription drug coverage – There is a premium for Part D. The Seminole Tribe of Florida Health Department is currently recommending that Tribal Members not enroll in Medicare Part D. Medicare Part D would not be beneficial to Members since prescriptions are covered by the Seminole Tribe of Florida Member Health Plan. The Seminole Tribe of Florida's Health department encourages all Tribal citizens to apply for Medicare Parts A and B when they become eligible to do so. Someone from the Health department will be contacting Tribal citizens prior to their 65th birthday to assist them in applying for Medicare. Medicare enrollment will be completed by someone from the Seminole Health department on the internet or on the telephone with a Medicare representative. Tribal citizens should contact the medical social worker at their health clinic if they turn 65 and have not been contacted by the Health department staff. It is very important to enroll in the initial enrollment period, which is the three months prior to the Tribal citizen's 65th birthday, the birthday month, and the three months after the 65th birthday. However, if the initial enrollment period is missed, the person may enroll with an increased premium in the general enrollment period, which is January, February and March of each year. If a Tribal citizen becomes eligible for Medicare for a reason other than turning 65, please contact the medical social worker at one of the Seminole health clinics for assistance in applying for Medicare. When Medicare becomes effective, please inform medical providers prior to receiving health services that Medicare will be the primary insurance coverage. The Seminole Tribe of Florida Member Health Plan will pay secondary. Prescription drugs will still be obtained from the Seminole Pharmacy on the Hollywood reservation or at a Pharmacy Services Group (PSG) participating pharmacy such as Walgreens or CVS using the Seminole Tribe of Florida Member Health Plan. In order for the Seminole Health department to begin paying a Tribal citizen's Medicare Part B premium or reimbursing the person for the premium, the Health Department will need a copy of the Tribal citizen's Medicare card and or a copy of the premium bill. Therefore, as soon as a card or bill is received, it should be brought into one of the Seminole health clinics so that a copy can be made for our records. In addition, any correspondence that a Tribal citizen receives from Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services or Medicare should be forwarded to their Seminole health clinic so that we can better manage the payment of Part B premiums and the coordination of benefits.

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Immokalee Community Anti-Drug March

By Judy Weeks
IMMOKALEE — Residents of the Immokalee community joined forces on the afternoon of Feb. 3 with one goal in mind—impact the need for a drug free community.

Immokalee Family Services Representative Cathrine Robinson organized the community anti-drug march and dinner with the assistance of her co-workers, sponsors and numerous other departments.

Children returning from school at 3 p.m. were greeted by Victor Billie and Marie Asencio in front of the gym, where they had set up a table for cultural activities. With their assistance the youngsters turned bars of soap into small carved sculptures. Family Services offered a special thank you to Victor Billie for working so diligently with the children regarding the cultural activities.

By 4 p.m. a group of approximately 35 people had gathered in front of the gym. Recreation's Gary McInturff addressed the assembly and thanked everyone for their participation.

"This is your home and today we are a group of one walking through our community in support of one objective—a drug free atmosphere in which to live and raise our children," he said. "Many of us have known the dark times and are in recovery. Today we



Destiny Jimmie was one of several youngsters carrying the Anti-Drug message in her community.

Charlotte Porcaro led the marchers in anti-drug slogans and chants. The enthusiasm of the group was contagious and as they passed through the streets, they were joined by residents who came forth from their homes.

Even the dogs wanted to participate. Seminole Police Department's Laura Herran and some of her co-workers participated in the march and held traffic on the main road for the group to pass. Marchers ranged in age from less than a year to over seventy years. By the time they returned to the gym, the group had nearly doubled in size.

Upon entering the gym, Cathrine Robinson offered opening remarks, "In the year since coming to your community, I have seen tremendous growth and change. Addiction and despair were languishing in the dark hollows of your community. Substance abuse has an impact on crime and disease. Wherever it exists, it is a family and community problem. You have all worked together to bring light into these corners and offered the support necessary to make a difference."

Taking the microphone, Board Representative Raymond Garza, expressed his pleasure in the wonderful participation. After giving a brief glimpse into his own background, he explained his position in the community.

"While I would gladly support the efforts of anyone attempting to overcome alcohol or drug addiction, I can not get involved in domestic matters," he said. "Abuse and politics can not mix and by my intervening, the situation would become political and hurt the family rather than be beneficial. On the other hand, I was extremely pleased when Cathrine approached me about the drug march and am very supportive of this event. Don't let our young people be driven away or stolen from their homes by addiction."

Immokalee Council Liaison Ralph Sanchez said, "All the departments of the Seminole Tribe are 100 percent against drugs. Drugs are never the easy road, when you come down the problems are not only still there, but have increased. Every one of us have a lot to live for and are a valuable part of this community."

Nutritionist Charlotte Porcaro congratulated everyone in recovery. "I would like to take this opportunity to explain to you the negative nutritional impact that drugs and alcohol have upon your bodies. They speed up or slow down your metabolism, lead to malnutrition, liver disease and diabetes."

Going into great detail, she offered the basic facts concerning the negative effects created upon our bodies by addiction and the -irreversible damage they can cause.

Community member Raynaldo Yzaguirre came forth and offered a heartfelt testimony. "This community means a lot to me and I want to give back to it. I have been down that long road to addiction and you didn't give up on me. I was a kid all my life and wouldn't accept responsibility for my actions. Coaching baseball, I was a role model to the youngsters and threw it all away on alcohol and drugs. Finally I got into the program. My addiction will always be with me, but with the 12 Steps, the Bible and God, I can kick it out of my life. I pray to God each day to help me hold up my shield in defense. Now I can be a dad again with God before me one day at a time."

Allen McInturff said, "I want to commend Ray. It takes a lot to stand up and pray for help. When you are on drugs, you are selfish and refuse to accept responsibility. I know because I have been there. Without Elaine to get me in rehab and my mom's faith in me, I could never have made it this far. If you need help, go to your elders they will give you the faith and support you need to work the miracle that is necessary for sobriety. We have so much help in our community: Family Services, Church, Indian Medicine, AA and numerous support groups. You are not alone."

A quiet spiritual man, Victor Frank, shared the agony of his addiction and celebrated 14 years of recovery.

"A life of addiction takes many roads. Emotion, peer pressure, boredom and curiosity are just a few. Drugs stunt your emotional growth and make it impossible for you to overcome your problems. If you are motivated by curiosity, look at me," Frank said.

Holding up his notes, he said: "Because of drugs, I have to write everything down. Don't be misled. If your friends are addicted, you will be also. When I had money, I had a world of friends, but when I was broke, they were no where around."

Driving his message home, he quoted several appropriate Biblical passages before saying, "Look at those who do drugs, a picture is worth a thousand



The Immokalee Anti-Drug march drew a considerable crowd.

words. Look at those who don't do drugs, they are warriors. Unselfish fighters who are not afraid to show they care. I commend everyone in recovery. Never look down on anyone."

Family Services Director Helene Buster thanked everyone for their heartfelt words and participation in the day's activities. Using portions of her past, she made a connection with the residents of the community.

"Every day I ask God to help me make it through the day," Buster said. "Twelve Steps doesn't promise that our problems will go away. Life is life. The program promises that we will be able to handle life. Learn to love yourself and discover who you are. Soon you will be able to look in the mirror. We must not be the unconquered Seminoles being killed by their own hands. We must relearn to handle our lives. AA is not a job, it is a way of life and everyday is a blessing."

Andy Buster pointed out that it takes two to make a difference, because you will need someone for support and reassurance.

"Life is a good journey, but we need to learn self-discipline," he said. "Draw on God for the strength you need to carry on."

Following these phenomenal speakers, a buffet supper was served. Mark Arriaga and Carolyn Louis entertained the gathering with some fabulous dance routines as a climax to a very successful evening.

The community was very grateful to the sponsors, Moses Osceola, Ralph Sanchez, Allen and Gary McInturff.

In closing Cathrine Robinson said: "I want to thank you all for your participation and support of the Immokalee Community Anti-Drug March. I am sure that we all agree that the heartfelt experiences shared here this evening reflected courage, strength, faith and hope. Both the challenges and victories of recovery certainly resonated though our community



Agnes Cypress joined the Immokalee community in its Anti-Drug march.



Little Jaiila Yzaguirre saved on shoe leather as she accompanied her mother, Jaime and Grandma Norita Yzaguirre

support their effort and offer them encouragement. There is a quote, "It takes a village to raise a child" and we are here to let the children of our community know that we care."

Seniors Mary Sanchez on her bicycle and Louise Motlow in her wheelchair joined Cathrine



Victor Billie and Maria Asencio used soap to teach the youngsters how to carve.

Robinson in leading the march out into the community. They were quickly joined by Agnes Cypress, Delores Jumper and Elaine Aguilar.

Immokalee Council Liaison Ralph Sanchez, Board Liaison Raymond Garza, Immokalee Education



(L-R) Mary Sanchez and Louise Motlow took the lead in the Anti-Drug March.

Director Norita Yzaguirre, Preschool Manager Michelle Ford and Recreation Director Allen McInturff were scattered throughout the crowd offering encouragement and assisting the children with their posters and banners.

Taking a megaphone in hand, Nutritionist

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Family Services Honors Foster Parents

By Eric Bricker, Family Services
BIG CYPRESS — On Jan. 25 the Family Services department hosted the first annual "Preservation of the Seminole Family Celebration" at the community center in Big Cypress. The purpose of the event was to honor those Tribal citizens who have taken on the incredible responsibility of becoming foster parents.

Family Services foster care team staff: Kristi Hill-Polk of Big Cypress, Kerry Lanier of Brighton, Marie Asencio of Immokalee and Beverly Davis of Hollywood, all worked diligently during the past two months to prepare to bring this Tribal-wide event to life.

Family Services foster care program administrator and Seminole Tribal citizen Theodore Nelson said: "We want these members of our community to know how much we value what they do for the Tribe."

Nelson, who is a licensed clinical social worker, has faced many challenges in developing the Tribe's foster care system. For the past two years Nelson and his team have worked tirelessly to help Family Services overcome some of the stigma associated with the task of child placement and painful memories of the past.

He said he believes that in order to forge partnerships with the community, Family Services must consistently show support for the foster parents, and recognize them for what they have contributed to the welfare of the Tribe.

"This event is about showing our appreciation, and it's also about recruitment and retention of foster parents," he said.

The availability of foster parents within the Tribe is what makes it possible to keep a child within the Tribe when that child is removed from his or her home. Families willing to open up their homes to foster children are always



in demand.

The ceremony was emceed by Family Services' resident motivational speaker and Mental Health Counselor Basil Phillips. Kristi Hill-Polk, also of Family Services, opened the ceremony with an informative power point presentation on the vital role of Tribal citizens in the foster care system.

Brighton Family Services Site Supervisor Doctor Pamela Martin shared her experiences as a foster parent in Canada and England. Martin also offered some helpful hints to the foster parents in the audience, as well as her appreciation for their efforts and willingness to take on the awesome responsibility of caring for these Tribal children while their biological parents are unable to care for them.

Dr Martin was sure to remind the audience that she teaches parenting classes in Brighton for foster parents and non-foster parents alike. Martin urged members of the audience to participate.

Seminole Tribe of Florida, Inc. President Moses Osceola also spoke about the importance of Tribal foster parents.

"The children are what's most important," he said.

Osceola went on to speak about some of the political elements of foster care, particularly, that mainstream society provides more support for non-Native foster care parents than it does for Tribal Citizens.

He said: "We are developing our own family court so that we can decide how these issues are handled."

Osceola also expressed his gratitude to the foster parents and Family Services for the work that has been done to meet the needs of the Tribe's foster children.

"The system isn't perfect but I know that they are working at making it better,"

Seminole Preschool Director Leona T. Williams gave an impassioned and heartfelt testimonial about her experiences as a foster parent.

"You love them like they're your own, and it breaks your heart when you have to let them go," she said.

Williams shared her emotional ties to the children that she has foster-parented, saying her former foster daughter "still calls me 'Mommy'" and her former foster son calls Williams his "other mom."

Preschool Social Services Coordinator Sandi Fike spoke about her experiences as a Native American dealing with the state child welfare system in the past.

"They would come and take a child from the home for any reason," she said.

Fike went on to discuss her passion for working with children in the preschool and offered some very helpful tips to the parents in the audience.

"Be firm but fair, and always discipline in private," she said.

Language Coordinator for the Seminole Tribe of Florida Culture Department Josephine Motlow North offered a very valuable cultural perspective to the issue of foster care. North spoke about her own experience as a child who was in foster care with relatives for a period of time.

"Back then it wasn't because of drugs and alcohol, she said. "It was because we were poor."

North went on to explain that historically, caring for the children of parents who were unable to care for their own children, has always been the Seminole way. North sites one example of a camp where the children were orphaned because the adults got sick and died.

A group of adults from another camp stumbled upon the children, and observed that they had been orphaned. Without question, these adults took the children back to their own camp and raised them as their own.

These were people of modest means who never even considered the toll of the sacrifice that they would endure as a result of taking on the task of raising someone else's children. They shared what they had because it was in their hearts to do such things.

One of the highlights of the evening's festivities was a performance by the Brighton Boys Band (BBB) featuring Dewell Johns, Clint Bowers and Troy Billie. BBB was joined on stage by Hollywood reservation rock band Hybiscus, featuring up and coming singer-song writer RC North and his father Robert C. North Sr.

The elder North is also the director of development and operations for the Hollywood Boys & Girls Club. Family Services staff, Eric Bricker and Basil Phillips also joined the band on stage for two brief sets. In addition, Tribal Youth Alexis Aguilar took the stage for a question and answer period.

Phillips of Family Services said: "We wanted the children to play significant role in the event because a lot of this is about them."

As far as the foster parents are concerned, most of us would all agree that enough cannot be said about them. Without the quiet sacrifices of these guardian angels, there would simply be nowhere within the Tribe to place these children who so desperately need a loving home.

Those interested in becoming a foster parent should contact Foster Care Program Administrator Theodore Nelson at (954) 965-1314.

Health Dept. Offers Tips for a Healthy Heart

Submitted by the Seminole Health Department

February is Heart Month and the Seminole Health department wants all Tribal citizens to know that a healthy heart can easily be achieved through small changes in daily behavior. Check out our Best Heart Health Check List and our Tips for a Healthy Heart to learn ways to take control of your health.

Best Heart Health Check List:

Visit Your Clinic – An appointment with your doctor will help determine your risk of heart disease. Factors such as family and personal medical history, lifestyle, blood pressure, body mass index, waist-to-hip ration, and some basic tests are used to determine your level of risk.

Thorough Medical and Family History – Provide your doctor with a detailed family and medical history. Knowing who in your family may have the same conditions can be helpful in figuring out your risk as well as what tests you should have.

Be Aware of the Symptoms – Early signs of a heart attack in women may not be as easy to see as a man's. Some signs can include: fatigue, back pain, shortness of breath, severe heartburn, chills, nausea, numbness in one or both arms, heart palpitations. See your doctor if you experience any of these symptoms.

Know Your Basic Measurements – Routine physical exams include blood pressure monitoring, anything higher than 120/80 is risky, BMI, or the ratio of weight and height and waist-to-hip ratio, the waist measurement divided by hip measurement. Knowing your measurements can help you determine your risk.

Must-Do Tests – The following tests are important to ask for: a fasting lipid profile test to measure levels of three blood fats including LDL, the bad cholesterol forms plaque that attaches to blood vessel walls, triglycerides, which transport fatty acids into your blood and HDL, or good cholesterol.

A fasting blood glucose test reveals your diabetes risk, a major heart disease contributor. A resting electrocardiogram or ECG is especially important for women older than 40.

Maintain Your Health – Once your risk factor level has been determined, work with your doctor, dietitian, and health educator to determine your next course of action.

Fun Tips for a Healthy Heart:

Eat Your Fruits and Veggies – Trade in pepperoni pizza for lower fat veggie pizza and sugary cereals for whole grain, higher fiber cereals. Blueberries, strawberries, spinach, brussel sprouts, broccoli, beets, oranges and red grapes are rich in antioxidants which can prevent hardening of the arteries. See your dietician for healthy eating tips.

De-stress – You may have stress from work and family life. Learn to deal with stress by adopting a relaxing routine like going to yoga classes or getting manicures. Seek counseling or a support group if needed.

Make physical activity a part of your daily routine – try to get at least 30 minutes of exercise five days a week. Working out with weights twice a week can increase your lean body mass, boost your metabolism and prevent weight gain. Try resistance-



training classes or consult with a personal trainer. Always check with your doctor before beginning an exercise program.

Stop Smoking – smoking more than doubles your risk of heart disease.

Avoid Sugar, Salt and Refined Flours – eat these in small doses to avoid high cholesterol and high blood pressure.

Socialize/ Form Close Relationships – this can lower blood pressure and lower heart disease risk. Going to church, volunteering or joining a club are all great ways to build healthy relationships.

Drink Herbal Tea – Caffeine may increase stress hormone levels and take a toll on your heart. Trade in your morning cup of coffee for an antioxidant rich, lower caffeine cup of herbal tea.

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Dear Counselor,
 Why do some people drink alcohol and nothing happens and other folks drink alcohol and get addicted?
 Signed,
 Anonymous



Basil Phillips
 M.S. Mental Health Counseling

Letters of interest from the community

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

Dear Anonymous Recovery,
 Addiction to alcohol is a physiological addiction that becomes a psychological addiction. The reason a person uses alcohol in the first place is due to a desire to have the euphoric feeling, or a sense of well being.

Some people are more prone to addiction than others because their brain produces a drug, called THIQ, which is more addictive than morphine. It never dissipates and stays inside the membrane that envelopes the brain.

By itself it is harmless, but when alcohol is ingested, it causes a vicious cycle of wanting and needing more. In Alcoholics Anonymous, or AA, they say one is too many and a thousand never enough.

A person who is not an alcoholic doesn't have this problem. However, injecting THIQ into a non-alcoholic's brain would subsequently turn them into an alcoholic.

The only way to stop alcoholism is to stop drinking. A prolonged period of drinking will cause a psychological dependency, and the problem gets worse, you get a double whammy! If a person sees no reason to quit, it is a degenerative sickness and it degenerates until the person dies. The alcoholic can have the strongest will totally over powered by the chemical in the body.

The answer is abstinence. Just like any other addiction, a person must control what they ingest. Dependence means the person cannot do without it (alcohol) without going through some behavioral consequences, withdrawal, etc.

A variety of approaches are used in treatment to help a patient address the cravings for alcohol. To avoid a relapse a program of recovery in AA is recommended. Patients learn to control their addiction and live relatively normal lives.

I pray that you remain in recovery, and be an example for others to follow.
 Signed,
 Counselor

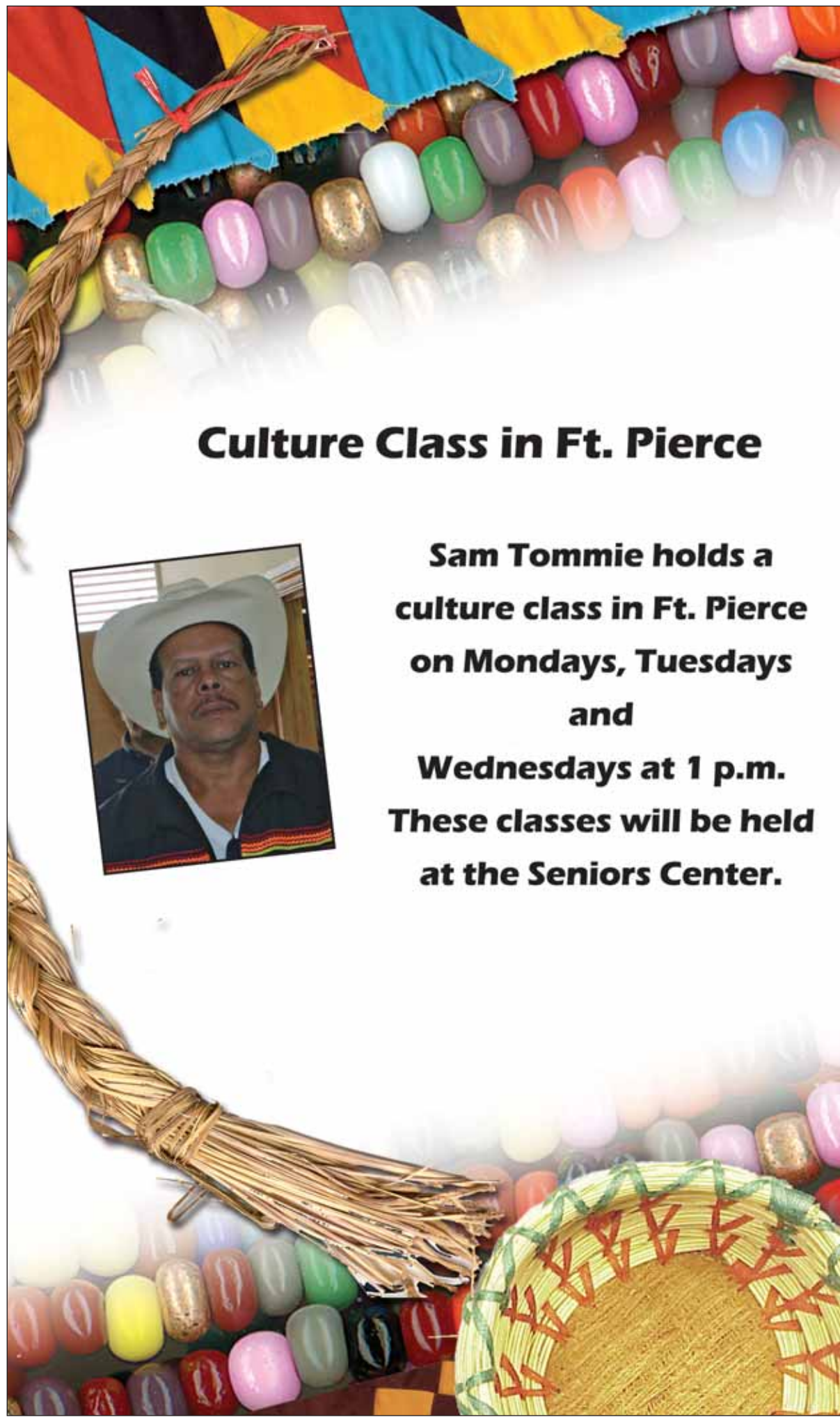
**Grandfather,
when you talk, I will listen.
When you teach, I will learn.**

As an elder in your community being involved with your grandchildren will help prevent them from doing drugs. Take the opportunity to teach our grandchildren about the dangers of drug use.

To get information on keeping your grandchildren away from drugs, call 1(800) 788-2800. Or visit our website theantidrug.com.

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Office of National Drug Control Policy



Culture Class in Ft. Pierce



Sam Tommie holds a culture class in Ft. Pierce on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 1 p.m. These classes will be held at the Seniors Center.



IMPORTANT NOTICE: Mandatory Animal Registration Drive

Starting on **February 15, 2006**, the STOF Health Department will be sponsoring a registration drive in accordance with the soon to be adopted STOF Animal Control Ordinance. All dogs and Cats on reservation must be registered by **April 15, 2006**. Please bring proof of rabies vaccination to the office nearest you to obtain a Seminole animal license tag. Animals in need of rabies vaccinations will receive a voucher for the upcoming rabies clinic.

Please be aware that all untagged dogs and cats will be picked up by animal control.

The drive is to promote a safer environment and improve quality of life for both animals and residents



Please contact the Environmental Health Office if you have any questions:
954-962-2009 ext 126 or 125

Locations & Schedule

Hollywood — Environmental Health Office in Trailer — Mondays — Fridays 9-5

Big Cypress — Wellness Trailer — Tuesdays & Thursdays 10-3

Brighton — Environmental Health Office — Monday — Friday 9-5

Immokalee Medial Clinic — Wednesday & Thursday — 10-3

CLUB Red

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***10 MEMBERS**
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Club Red is a dynamic group of young professionals, age 25-45 that are committed to helping their community prevent, prepare for, and respond to life's emergencies through community service, education and social fundraising activities. Members also help raise awareness of the mission of the American Red Cross, Broward County Chapter among other young adults. Club Red's goal is to develop and maintain a vibrant and fun group that fulfills this mission while providing members with a social setting to meet and network with other young adults. Club Red will meet every two months at exciting locations throughout Broward County.

Brighton Indian Reservation

Lake Placid Hwy. 70 Okeechobee

← Hwy 721 N ↑

4-H Barn 721-A

← Hwy 721

Moore Haven Hwy. 78

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2006

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BUYERS DINNER: March 24, 2006 (Friday)
5:00 p.m.

SALE: March 24, 2006 (Friday)
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Ninth Annual Marie Billie Memorial Basketball Tournament

By Tony Heard

HOLLYWOOD — It was time again for the excitement and intensity of another Marie Billie Memorial basketball tournament. This year the tournament was held the weekend of Jan. 27-28. This tournament always brings out those who love to compete to be the best.

The ninth annual boasted seven men's teams and five women's teams, all ready to battle for the title of champion. Unfortunately, there was a death in the Panther Clan on Jan. 26 in Big Cypress and many were not able to participate in the tournament, but there were still plenty athletes who came ready to play and have a good time.

The first few games were forfeits and lopsided wins on the both sides of the bracket. But once morning came all the games became more significant to all the players, and it showed in the effort that was displayed on the court.

Big Cypress and Trail Kings played an elimination game at 5 p.m. that went down to the wire. Trail was in control the whole game, and then B.C. went on a run and closed the lead to three points late in the second half.

Both teams were moving the ball well on offense and playing defense good in spurts. It was in the final minute and twenty seconds that Trail buried the hopes of B.C. team when a loose ball ended up in the hands of "Wild" Bill Osceola in the corner.

To his surprise there was no one from the B.C. team headed his way, so he took the shot and connected to put his team up by six with less than a minute to go. After a few missed attempts by B.C., Trail passed the ball around until the time ran out and moved on to the next round.

make.

The women shot on-one-end end of the court while the men used to the opposite end to try and knock down as many long range bombs as possible. In the end Celeste King of Sem. Rec., was crowned three point champ in a heated competition that called for two tie breaker shoot-offs.

Although there was not a tie breaker on the men's side, it was still an exciting contest with a lot of good shooters involved. When it came down to it, Carlos Adamson was crowned the three point champ.

The free throw contest is set up where anyone who wants to compete gets in line and those who make the free throw stay in line; if a contestant misses, they sit down. The last one standing wins. Simple enough right? Wrong. The women's side came down to two women going round and round for about 10 shots each. The men's side there was four guys who simply refused to miss.

The women finished first with Celeste King taking the honors of being the free throw champ to go along with her three point championship. As time passed going round and round, all remaining men were not missing any free throws. The tournament director decided to have the men shoot more than one shot at a time.

It got up to three shots before two guys missed and had to sit down. The contest continued with the final two going two rounds before one missed. Making his final three free throws to seal the deal Tony Heard was crowned the men's free throw champ.

On the women's side of the bracket the Sem. Rec. team was put into the loser's bracket at the hands of a strong Sundown team. Therefore they had to fight their way back to get a win over a fiery Miccosukee team who wanted a little redemption.

The game was exciting and was looking like it was going to come down to the last few seconds. Then late in the second half the Sem. Rec. team went



9th Annual Marie Billie Mens champions, Canes.

Lila Osceola

A convincing win made the Sundown team the 9th Annual Marie Billie Champions.

The men's championship panned out almost the same way. The Sem. Rec. team came out more in tune and ready to battle a powerful Canes team. The game was everything the spectators have become a custom to seeing when these two teams match up. Hard nosed defense, big blocks, long range three-pointers, and precision passing is what both teams were bringing to the court.

The Canes had a four point lead that the end of the first half with balanced scoring. The Sem. Rec. team wanted to cut the lead and take control within the first five minutes of the second half, but things did not quite go to plan. With hot shooting from the Canes, they came out and began the second half on a 12 to two run.

The Sem. Rec. team called a timeout to try and regroup but it didn't seem to help. The Canes had more firepower and were on top of their game this night. With two minutes to go in the game the Canes had a commanding 18 point lead and were ready to knock off the defending Marie Billie champs from a year ago. As the final horn went off the celebrating began on the Canes bench and fans cheered on the 9th Annual Marie Billie Men's Champions.

Tournament Director Francine Osceola and family discussed who should be placed on the men's and women's all-tournament teams. The men's all tourney was: Shawn Dogherthy (Canes), Charlie Frye (Sem. Rec.), Amos Huggins (Canes), Julius Willis

on a run and opened up a commanding lead that the Miccosukee ladies could not overcome. Sem. Rec. moved on the face Sundown in the championship game.

The Sem. Rec. Men's team was put in the loser's bracket by a strong Canes team who has been on a good winning streak of late. The additions of players from a few different states have given them the edge over all Florida teams in the past few tournaments.

Nevertheless, the Sem. Rec. team had to face the Trail Kings to see who would advance to meet the Canes in the championship game. The game was intense and full of big shots from both teams. The Trail Kings simply could not get enough stops against a Sem. Rec. Team that struggled a bit. However, through teamwork and great interior defense from Charlie Frye the Sem. Rec. team pulled it out and headed to another match up against the Canes in the championship game.

The championship game on the women's side of the tournament was another match-up between the Seminole Rec. team and Sundown. This time around Sundown seemed focused on stopping the high powered run and shoot offense of the Sem. Rec. ladies. With an up tempo game plan of their own, Sundown continuously beat the Sem. Rec. team down the floor and pounded them on the boards.

This championship game was surprise to many that have seen these two teams compete in the past. Usually the games are close and come down to key defensive stops or big shots toward the end of the game. This time around the Sundown team pulled away early in the second half and never looked back.

(Canes), and Tony Heard (Sem. Rec.); the women's all-tourney team was: Farren Cypress (Sem. Rec.), JoJo Osceola (Sundown), Candace Blackbird (Sundown), Celeste King (Sem. Rec.) and Jackie Sanchez (Sundown).



9th Annual Marie Billie womens champions, Sundown.

Lila Osceola



L-R: Celeste King free throw and 3 point champ for women. Francine Osceola, tournament director, Carlos Adamson and Tony Heard, 3 point and free throw champions, respectively.

Lila Osceola

Also on Jan. 28, the three point contest and free throw contest were to take place at approximately 1 p.m. Once the 10 minutes allotted for contestant sign up expired the contest began. Each contestant had 30 seconds to see how many shot he/she could



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Lila Osceola

The 2006 inductees of the Seminole Sports Hall of Fame.

♦ Banquet

Continued from page 1

Following the youth recognition ceremonies the much anticipated part of the evening came. Bobby Bowden was introduced to the stage by President/Vice Chairman Moses Osceola.

"We are proud to be Seminoles," as Bobby Bowden opened up his speech with, as the Seminole crowd roared in cheers and happiness," he said. "I wondered if the Seminoles liked us as much as we like them?"



Lila Osceola

Cheyenne Osceola

He didn't even have to ask that question by the warm reception that the Seminole Tribe gave him when he visited the Hollywood reservation.

"I am very impressed with the hospitality of the tribe and they way you have treated us since we stepped off the airplane", he said.

The main message that Bobby Bowden wanted to give to our youth and everyone in the audience was to "get your priorities in order and live by them." He said there are three things that everyone should live by.

"Priority number one: God, priority number two family, priority number three other people; serve them and help them," Bowden said.

There is a Biblical Proverb he said he lives



Lila Osceola

David Anderson

by, that states: "Keep your heart with all diligence because out of heart comes issues of life, Proverb 4:23."

"Because everything you do, everything you say, keep it clean and keep it honest. Thought originates in your heart and becomes a word. Thought becomes a word, a word becomes an action, an action becomes a habit, and a habit becomes character," he said.

Bobby Bowden is a great speaker yet humble legend and presents lots of speeches around the U.S. and for him to express so much insight to our congregation was a great honor.

After the heartfelt message from this living legend, Moses Osceola thanked our guest speakers, and brought Moses "Big Shot" Jumper Jr. back to the stage for the second portion of the presentation.

Honorary inductees, Raymond Osceola and Dawn Snow were inducted into the Hall of Fame. Stephen Bowers, Tribal citizen of Hollywood, and Tony Sanchez, Tribal citizen of Immokalee were the Hall of Fame inductees for this year's ceremony.

The families of each inductee were brought to the stage to receive their plaques, and to listen as "Big Shot" read the inscription on their plaques.



Lila Osceola

Zack Battiest



Lila Osceola

Hunter Osceola



Lila Osceola

Shelby Osceola



Lila Osceola

Brittany-Leah Cox

Head Coach Bobby Bowden

By Janice Billie

HOLLYWOOD — On Feb. 7, the Seminole Tribe was honored to welcome Florida State University President T.K. Wetherell and Head Coach Bobby Bowden to its Tribal Headquarters.

Coach Bowden was invited to give the keynote speech at the Seminole Hall of Fame Sports Banquet and Awards Ceremony. President Wetherell and his wife Virginia were invited to come down and see the headquarters and visit with tribal citizens. They were accompanied by Monk Bonasorte, Executive Director of the Varsity Club, Michele Edmunds, Director FSU Photo Lab, Tom Block, TV producer of FSU Headlines and Jay Wirth, Broadcast coordinator for Visual & Media Productions

On the jet ride from Tallahassee to Ft. Lauderdale the Seminole Tribune had a chance to speak with Coach Bobby Bowden. With records set in winnings and championships he is a man who has achieved legendary status in college football. Bowden explains that coaching football was a calling but not his main priority.

The Seminole Tribune: Coach what were your thoughts when you received the invitation to come speak to the Seminole youth at this year's Seminole Sports Hall of Fame ceremonies?

Bowden: I was excited about it. I've always wanted to visit the reservation. I've never been there before and I'm looking forward to it. I've played golf with Max Osceola in Orlando and was invited down once before but I couldn't make it until now. We had a good time and I remember he is a Miami fan but that's ok.

The Seminole Tribune: To be great at any job a strong work ethic is not an option. Do you think about football night and day? Do you obsess about it?

Bowden: Well, I don't think of it night and day. Now when you're young and getting into it you're kind of gung ho and you probably think about it more. The older you get the easier it gets to see what's wasted time and what's not. You tell yourself don't waste your time, do this, this and this. Once you're finished, go home, spend time with the family and try it again another day.

Right now, we just finished the season, played in a bowl game, and went through recruiting. The next thing we have is spring training in about another month so until then I relax. After spring training, I get away from football. If you do something all the time it gets stale. I get away for about a month and I don't think about football. I play golf. We go all

over the state and play golf for the school. I enjoy that because I get to meet a lot of different people.

The Seminole Tribune: You will talk about this tonight at the ceremonies but I wanted to ask you, what is your message to young people?

Bowden: Ok, the big thing that I talk about when I talk to young people is getting their priorities in order. Get your priorities in order. A lot of times I get letters from mothers. I get letters from mothers with absent husbands raising teenage sons. Maybe they've read about me somewhere or whatever but they write and ask for advice.

I always tell them get your priorities in order. I say list God first. Make God your number one priority. Next, it's family and then others, help others. Now if a kid will do that, I believe he will stay on track. He'll be doing things he ought to do. After I tell them those things I tell them football stories.

The Seminole Tribune: At what point in your life did you realize that coaching football was your calling or purpose in life.

Bowden: I was taught early on in life that God calls all of us to do something. I was taught that He has a purpose for everyone. He might call some to be mothers, others to be writers or whatever. He calls some to be ministers but not everybody can be a minister. I've always felt like God wanted me to coach. It's funny, I've been coaching 53 years, I've had six jobs and every job I got was hand-



Janice Billie

Judy Billie Osceola (left) and Priscilla Sayen (right) pose with Bobby Bowden.

ed to me. I didn't apply for it. They called me and said we'd like you to be our coach. That was for every job I got and it doesn't usually work that way. What does that make me think? It makes me think God had a plan for me. My dad was a successful realtor who wanted me to get into the business. He was ready to retire at the time. I had to tell him that my interest was in coaching football. I have to say there have been many times in coaching when I was struggling, I'd wonder if I should have been a realtor.

The Seminole Tribune: Do you have any comments on the recently settled situation about the FSU mascot and use of the Seminole name and symbols?

Bowden: To adopt the name of a tribe of Native Americans who have struggled and withstood and survived against all odds, to me is an act of admiration and respect. Not only do I appreciate the support of the Seminole Tribe, I get excited about it, I'm proud of it. I would hate to change our name. I really love being a Seminole.

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Middle School Stars on the Court

By Lila Osceola

HOLLYWOOD — All this talk about our high school athletes, Seminole youth start young. Whitney Osceola and Courtney Osceola are our rising new basketball stars. Whitney Osceola is the point guard for Driftwood Middle School, and Courtney Osceola is a guard at University School. They are both teammates on the 14 & Under



Courtney Osceola shoots lights out against Sheridan Hills.

Seminole basketball team, as teammates they are also just as excited to play for their school teams as well.

Whitney Osceola is a 12 year old feisty defensive minded basketball player. She rarely plays less than 110 percent when she's on the court. If you know Whitney, she doesn't slow down much off the



Whitney Osceola, Driftwood Middle School, starting point guard.

court either. She has a great attitude and is willing to do anything her coach asks her to do. A hard worker like her is definitely few and far between, she makes



Whitney Osceola dribbles around defense.

a coach's job easier, to coach natural athlete like her.

Courtney Osceola is also 12 years old and comes from a long line of basketball players, it's in her blood. She is more of the mid range shooter, plays a post or guard depending on the team, and a very versatile player. She is also a dedicated hard worker on and off the court. Listening is a very important aspect of learning, and Courtney definitely listens and tries to do what her coach asks her to do. Being a student-athlete isn't all that it is



Courtney Osceola passes the ball into her teammates.

cracked up to be, with that comes lots of responsibility by staying eligible with grades, practices, and listening to your parents. Being on a school team no matter what it is, holds lots of responsibilities and is a privilege to most.

Whitney and Courtney are finding that out slowly and excel in every subject and hold high regards to academics and of course their sport, basketball. They are learning to be great role models not only for their tribe but also younger kids looking up to them.

Seminole Girls Match-Up in District Championship

By Tony Heard

FT. LAUDERDALE, FL — On Feb. 4 at Pine Crest High School District 14 3A championships was played at 7 p.m. After meeting each other two times during the regular season American Heritage and Pine Crest came face to face to see who would take home the trophy and be crowned the district champs.

Demetria Tigertail and Chelsea Mountain brought their team into this game with an impressive 19-3 record.

Coming off a big win against Pompano, Meghan Osceola and Krystle Young carried Pine Crest into the game with a record of 13-10. The game began and the pace was very fast-paced with both teams running and trying to get the upper hand each quarter. American Heritage fell behind early in the second quarter but managed to string together some stops and also converted some big buckets to take a three point halftime lead.

The second half proved to be just as up tempo as the first, but Pine Crest was at a serious disadvantage when Krystle Young picked up her fourth foul with about four minutes to play in the third quarter. The coach had no choice but to sit her down; her aggressive defense and good passing skills is something the team missed the rest of the third quarter.

Heritage began to drive to the basket and make passes for easy hoops continuously. Chelsea Mountain and Demetria Tigertail took advantage of the situation by playing more intense defense on Meghan Osceola, swinging that ball to get open shots, and penetrating on the offensive end. Plagued by turnovers the Heritage ladies could not pull away and get a comfortable lead.

Pine Crest kept the game close with defense and a few key players stepping up and making free throws. The third quarter came to an end with Heritage ladies up by a slim margin. Pine Crest was still in the game and needed just a few big plays to swing the tables in their direction.

Going in to the fourth quarter Demetria Tigertail got into a bit of foul trouble, picking up her fourth foul as well. Chelsea Mountain got tired and the coach was forced to have both of them sitting on the bench at the same time.

This was the opportunity that Pine Crest needed to take control of the game. The coach from Pine Crest realized it and put his girl in a full court press, and started getting steal after steal due to lack of ball handlers on the floor for Heritage. By the time Heritage coach was able to call a time out and get Chelsea or Demetria back in the game they were down six and had committed about five turnovers in a row.

Chelsea came back in the game and unfortunately the situation did not change much. Pine Crest kept the pressure on and even though Heritage broke the press a few times to get baskets; Pine Crest still had control of the game.

With about six minutes to go Krystle Young emerged from the bench to try and contribute to her team's efforts. Therefore the Heritage coach had no choice but to put the primary ball handler, Demetria back in the game.

About two minutes and ten seconds had gone off the clock and Pine Crest's lead had been cut to three points. Demetria drove to the basket took a shot and missed, Krystle and another one of her teammates went for the rebound. A Heritage player also went to get the rebound and was knocked to the ground; the ref blew the whistle and called the foul on Krystle, her fifth foul.

The crowd went into an uproar, Heritage fans cheering, Pine Crest fans booing and complaining about the terrible call they made. It was a great basketball atmosphere, palms sweaty, knees shaking, fans cheering, and emotions flaring. Krystle creates problems for opposing teams with her long arms, defensive tenacity, rebounding, and making the correct pass.

She brings the intangibles the her team and when she fouled out with 11 points, five steals, five rebounds and three assists; someone else was going to have to step up for Pine Crest and help Meaghan take this win from Heritage.

In the closing minutes of regulation Meaghan Osceola had the ball in her hands on the offensive end as much as possible. Whether she as slashing through the defense for a lay-up or getting fouled and knocking down her free throws, she was the single handedly keeping her team in this game. But the inside force of Taylor Smith was the deciding piece in this game for the Heritage girls.

With Meghan being double teamed every possession in the last two minutes of the game, fatigue was becoming an issue. She was determined and still creating opportunities for her teammates to score baskets or get fouled.

Heritage was making mistakes by not getting crucial rebounds and not taking care of the ball when they did get possession. Pine Crest was making the most of the extra possessions they had and held a one point lead with a matter of seconds remaining.

Heritage then hurried the ball down the floor and Chelsea fired the ball inside to Taylor Smith who was fouled in the act of shooting. She would only make one of the foul shots to tie the game.

Pine Crest got the inbounds and quickly got the ball into Meaghan's hands. She broke the press and drove to the basket where she was fouled in the act of shooting. She stepped up to the free throw line and knocked down both foul shots, but Heritage threw the ball inbounds and turned it over.

A Pine Crest player got the ball and missed a lay up that could have clinched the game.

Instead Heritage to the rebound and threw a full court pass to Demetria for a lay up to tie the game, once again with less than three seconds remaining.

Pine Crest did not even get a chance to take another shot. That meant this contest of lead changes, big plays, missed free throws and lay ups was going to take this excitement to overtime.

In the first minute of overtime Demetria committed her fifth foul while trapping the ball and trying to get a steal. She would have to watch the rest of this game on the bench cheering her team on. She fouled out with 12 points, seven assists, five steals and four rebounds.

Every possession was important to both team's and it showed in the intensity displayed on both sides of the ball. Both teams made few stops and turned the ball over a couple of times, in short the game was back and forth with about three lead changes and four ties in the overtime period.

The fourth tie coming with no time on the clock, sending this heated battle into a second overtime.

In the second overtime both teams were getting tired and fouling while trying to get defensive stops. The difference in this game came down to fundamentals. Free throws will definitely win or lose a game for you, Heritage was making them and Pine Crest was not.

Meghan missed a few and a couple of her teammates misfired on a couple attempts also. But on the American Heritage side of things Talyor Smith and Chelsea Mountain made every foul shot they attempted in the final overtime.

When the final buzzer sounded the Heritage ladies had squeaked by with a 65-59 victory. Chelsea finished the game with 9 points, 11 rebounds, six assists and four steals. Meghan's final stats were 20 points, five assists, seven steals and four rebounds.

Even though this was a very heated battle and all the girls wanted to win; when it was all over, it was hugs, laughs, and a few tears from every one of them. They compete hard against each other, and maybe give each other nice bumps and bruises, but after the game they are all still close friends who look forward to getting wins together when they team up as the Lady Seminoles.

Senior Spring Trike Fest Coming Soon

Submitted By Stan Frischman

March 30 is the date set by the Seminole Tribe of Florida Senior Trike Fest Committee, for part two of this semi-annual event. The committee is



Nancy of the Magnificent Seven at the Nov. 10 Trike Fest.

comprised of representatives from the Hot Meals programs on all the reservations, including: Allied Health department, The Chairman's Office, The Seminole Tribe Fitness Department, SPD, Emergency Services and Seminole Recreation.

The committee's primary objective is to promote fitness, nutrition, an active lifestyle, and an opportunity to renew old friendships amongst the Seminole Tribe's seniors.

The idea of a Trike Festival was derived from the growing popularity of the three-wheel bikes, or trikes, that have been springing up at all the senior centers. The senior population was seeking different challenges for their new found modes of transportation. Thus was born the Trike Fest Committee, a group of creative Tribal employees, looking to meet the growing needs of this active senior population.

On Nov. 10, 2005, nearly 200 people came out to the Big Cypress Air Strip for the First Senior Trike Fest. Seventy-six seniors participated in this all day event. The event, which was originally slated to be an annual event, was so successful, by popular demand was turned into a semi-annual event.

Senior Trike Fest is comprised of a long list of fun and competitive events. The day begins at 7:00 am where a nutritious breakfast is served at the Big Cypress Senior Center till 8:30 am. Then it's off to the Big Cypress Air Strip for registration from 9-10 a.m.

The first activity of the day is "Best Dressed Triker." Here seniors have fun trying to impress the judges with the most outrageous triker costume they can put together. Next is the judging of the "Best Rez Trike.", where judges seek to find the most uniquely decorated three-wheeler of the day.

With fitness and safety in mind the first physical event of the day is preceded by a 15 minute warm-up session, where participants have an opportunity to gradually prepare for the day's activities as well as, make sure their trikes are in safe operating condition.

At approximately 10:15 the fun loving seniors will participate in "the Team Relay Race." Participants will hop on their trikes, ride 50 yards and pass the baton on to their team mate. There will be four seniors from each reservation competing. The age divisions are: Seniors: 55-59 yrs, Super Seniors: 60-65 and Golden Seniors: 66 and older.

The afternoon's activities will consist of three obstacle course type events.

The double figure eight: the object is to weave through the cones placed on this double figure eight cones without touching them or knocking them over, as quickly as possible. Fastest times win. The Maze: different configuration, with same object and rules as double figure eight. Fastest times win. Ball Toss: contestants will toss different types of balls into different sized and shaped containers while remaining on their trikes. They will receive points for thrown objects that remain in containers.

Prizes will be given for first through fifth place finishers in each of the above mentioned age categories in both the men and women's divisions. There will also be, a "Traveling Trophy" going to the reservation that accumulates the most points throughout the day.

If you were at the first Trike Fest you surely won't want to miss this one. For those unable to attend the first Senior Trike Fest, be sure to make plans with your local Senior Center to come out for this great event on March 30 in Big Cypress.!



Chairman Mitchell Cypress and Nancy Motlow share a laugh.

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♦ Rodeo

Continued from page 1

dropped several inches of much needed rain on Big Cypress. While the farms and ranches needed the rain, the rodeo arena could have done very nicely without it.

Arena Director Josh Jumper organized his workforce and worked very hard all day clearing the water from the arena and dragging the clay in order to prepare a safe playing field for the contestants.



Judy Weeks
Clown Clint Boney (right) keeps a watchful eye on Jobe Johns (left) as he rides his first calf.

on his heels in second and third place.

Wild Pony Riding Champion J.J. Johns remained undefeated. He managed to stick with the white bronc that he had drawn as it bucked its way down the length of the arena giving him a very impressive ride. It was a close contest for the Steer Riders with last year's Champion holding his own. Andre Jumper took first place with Zane Ducheneaux just two points behind him.

Four brave young men tried their hands at the junior bull competition. Ethan Gopher's white spotted bull gave him several hard shots as he exited the chute and Justin Aldridge was rocketed through the air by his ride. Seth Randolph put up a good fight and received the first place score. Dayne Johns qualified for a redraw, which gave him an opportunity to walk off with second place.

The rodeo clowns did a terrific job protecting these young athletes as they streaked down the arena on foot, rescuing the riders and distracting the livestock while the contestants made their way to safety.

Junior breakaway drew five contestants, who have been working on their roping skills with dreams of someday following the team roping circuit. Their performances showed that they have a good shot at their goal. A score of 14.47 gave Chebon Gooden the top slot with Andre Jumper taking second place.

There were numerous entries in all three levels of the

barrel competition. The wet arena was slippery and the clay hung on the horses' feet, but the riders remained undaunted. There were no falls and very few barrels knocked over.

The riders carefully paced themselves in the tight turns and flew through the timers on their way home with the following results: 4-8 barrels: 1.Kalgary Johns, 2. Ahnie Jumper; 9-12 Barrels: 1.Zane Ducheneaux, 2. Acelyn Youngblood, 3. Nauthkee Henry, 4. Kristina Osceola; 13-18 Barrels: 1. Shyla Jones, 2. Taylor Johns, 3. Chebon Gooden.

The Marki Rodeo Company was stock contractor for the weekend's presentations. Announcer Norman Edwards from Micanopy, Fla., did his usual fine job and was assisted by Montana Announcer Dale Oldhorn.

Taylor Johns from Brighton carried the American Flag around the arena while the audience stood up in respect for the national pride it represents.



Judy Weeks
Rodney Hayes AKA "The Texas Kid" and his niece Haylee Bird make their bulls bow for audience.

As the National Anthem arrived at the words "bombs bursting in air gave proof through the night that our flag was still there," fireworks burst forth from the flag staff illuminating Old Glory.

Dale Oldham offered a prayer for the safe return of our troops from Iraq and the many outposts in the world where they are stationed and asked God's blessing for the rodeo contestants.

EIRA Queen Shelby Osceola and Jr. Queen Shyanna Osceola led the Grand Entry displaying the Indian National Finals Rodeo (INFR) and EIRA flags. Rodeo contestants circled the arena for the pleasure of

Rodney Hayes, AKA "The Texas Kid." With an extensive background in rodeo, he began training bulls for amusement in 1991. Riding his long horn bull, Billy the Kid, he jumped through fire, laid the creature on the ground and stood on its side. He was accompanied in the arena by two small children riding miniature horses and performing tricks.

During the performance, all three rode their mounts up a ramp to the top of the stock trailer and then stood up on the animals' saddles. It was an incredible exhibition. Hayes on The Texas Kid knelt down in the arena, while his niece, Kaylie did the same on Wrangler, a two year old bull that he is currently training.

The team roping drew more entries than any other, but was very fast paced. There were many fine teams comprised of local EIRA members vying for the top positions. Unfortunately, not everyone can win. In the two day average, Header Josh Jumper and Heeler Cort Herrera took first place. Mike Smith and Terry Fischer came in second, closely followed by Mike Smith and Steve Romo in third.

Women's barrel racing brought out the best of the best. There were 16 riders with an extensive barrel history and the competition was tough. Chunks of clay flew, barrels rocked, horses spun and rocketed down the home stretch, while the audience routed for their favorites.

When the scores for the long and short time were averaged the winners were: 1. Boogie Jumper, 2. Tess Ducheneaux, 3. Lizzie Dixey, 4. Shelly Vocu.

This rodeo marked a special occasion for Lisa Osceola, who has spent the past six years in a secretarial position with EIRA. She decided it was time to come out of retirement and run those barrels once again.

Despite freezing temperatures, the crowd remained fast in their seats because in rodeo, it's never over until the riding of the bulls. The livestock was superior and the riders put on an excellent performance, risking their lives for qualifying points, prizes and the appreciative roar of the crowd.

The clowns really did their jobs. There were a few tense moments when one of the bulls picked up Brisk Forrest a.k.a. Weasel and took him on a long ride down the arena. Fortunately, he was swept off his feet by the bull's face and did not encounter the horns. As he eventually hit the ground, he scam-

ped to the audience.

Sanctioned events began with the bareback broncs. There was no lack of excitement during this dangerous presentation. A rider's hand got caught up in the rigging causing a few very anxious moments before he managed to free himself. Pickup man Spook Whidden took a hard blow to the stomach, when Freddie Warbonnet's horse got cantankerous before exiting the arena. Koty Brugh was thrown out of the chute by his horse before he could adjust his rigging and had to start over.

Past World INFR Bareback Champion Shawn Best Sr. is a showman at heart. Raking his ride for the high points, he completed his eight second run, smoothly cleared his mount with the help of the pickup man and then raised his hand and waved to the crowd.

High Scores in the bareback exhibition went to: 1.Freddy Warbonnet, 2. Lee Jay Harmon, 3. Byron Bruised Head, 4. Shawn Best Sr.

Bull dogging or steer wrestling gave the audience an opportunity to see not only the athletic skills of the contestants but also the excellent training they have given their horses. These horse and rider teams placed David Shade in first place and Armand Duck Chief in second.

The crowd was entertained throughout the evening by Brian Potter from Newville, Alabama. Playing the role of Motocross Mike, he jumped through a ring of fire and performed antics on his motorbike. Throughout the rodeo, his running commentary kept the crowd laughing and on several occasions he jumped the fence into the stands and interacted with the audience.

Saddle Bronc Riders Jake Caldwell, Shawn Best Sr., Robert Youngblood and Byron Bruised Head traveled from all across the U.S. to compete in this event. Some even traveled from as far away as Washington State and Montana. Competition was fierce as they collected four points toward qualification in the INFR.

Calf roping had numerous local entries as well as out-of-state. At one point Naha and Josh Jumper were holding first and second place, but were bumped back one slot by Ed Holyan who had two excellent runs. Young Hiliard Gopher threw his hat in the ring with the big boys, but had a tough break when he lost his catch. Rodeo is in that young man's blood and it's a certainty that we will see him again.

Ladies breakaway opened up the first of the women's events. Local entries abounded and were joined by past INFR qualifiers as they competed for their points.

Shelby Osceola, a former all-around Florida high school rodeo winner and current EIRA queen, had a very impressive 4.75 time in the long go and a 12.74 in the short go. This gave her a combined average for first place. Lizzie Dixey, a fourth place INFR qualifier came all the way from Idaho for this rodeo.

Upon averaging the scores, the local entries took the top three, Shelby Osceola, Billie Tiger, and LeAnna Billie, respectively, won money in the ladies breakaway. EIRA roping legends brought out their old horses and new ropes for their breakaway event. It was tough luck for several of the contestants with Billie Joe Johns taking first place followed by Amos Tiger in second.

The featured rodeo entertainment was



Judy Weeks
Ethan Gopher receives several hard shots in the junior bull competition.

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Judy Weeks
Aimee Jumper is covered in clay as she returns from mutton bustin'.

bled to his feet and rushed out of harm's way. The riders are very fortunate to have clowns of this caliber working to protect them and showed their appreciation with a loud cheer.

There were 15 entries in the bull riding, hailing from many different states. Following in the family tradition, Shawn Best Jr. rode in both the long and short go, totaling up a final score of 150 points for first place. Just one point behind him was Willie Covers Up followed by Craig T. Johnson in third.

Sports ♦ Ham-pa-leesh-ke ♦ Vkkopvkv

Super 7 Team Roping Event

By Judy Weeks

BIG CYPRESS — The Junior Cypress Arena in Big Cypress was host of the Super 7 Team Roping on Jan. 28. The event was divided into four categories featuring #10 and #13 United States Team Roping Champions Triad contestants.

The Super 7 was sponsored by the Seminole Tribe of Florida. It attracted entrants from throughout South Florida.

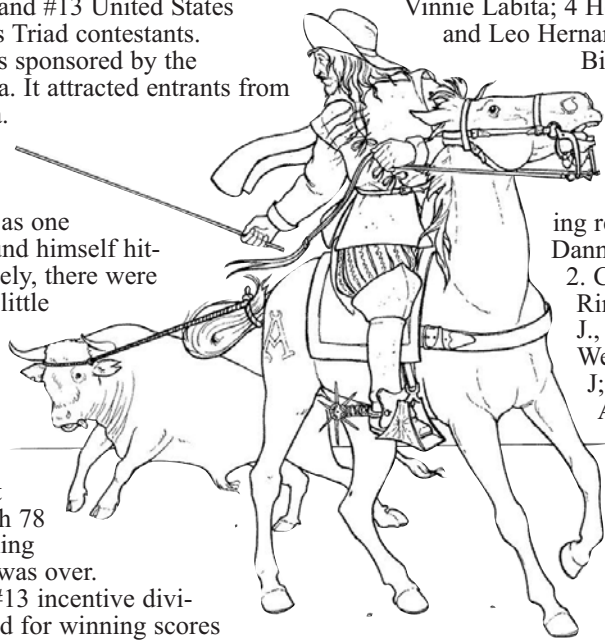
The cattle were fresh and the horses were frisky. There was no shortage of buck-offs as one cowboy after another found himself hitting the ground. Fortunately, there were no bodily injuries; just a little wounded pride.

Teams were allowed to enter up to three times giving them an opportunity to rope seven head of cattle in each entry. The event got under way at 11 a.m. with 78 teams vying for the winning positions before the day was over.

In the #10 and #13 incentive divisions, the teams competed for winning scores

on their first head of cattle. Paying back three places, the winning scores were as follows: 4 Head #13's: 1. Danny Garcia and Dustin Blake, 2. Danny Garcia and Salty Weekly, 3. Wayne Hicks and Vinnie Labita; 4 Head #10's: 1. Alvaro Alvarez and Leo Hernandez, 2. Jessie Remsburg and Bill Remsburg, 3. Frank Garcia and Vinnie Labita.

Super 7 winners totaled their scores on all seven runs and paid back five places with the following results: 7 Head #13's: 1. Danny Garcia and Salty Weekly, 2. Chester Rimes and Randy Rimes, 3. Josh Jumper and Kiki J., 4. Alvaro Alvarez and Salty Weekly, 5. Damion V. and Kiki J.; 7 Head #10's: Alvaro Alvarez and Leo Hernandez, 2. Jessie Remsburg and Bill Remsburg, 3. Richard H. and Kiki J., 4. Bill Remsburg and Danny Garcia, 5. David H. and Leo Hernandez.



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News From Indian Country

Hollywood Non-Residents Meeting

By Janice Billie
FT. LAUDERDALE, FL — On Jan. 31 a dinner meeting was held at the Tropical Acres restaurant in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. for all of the non-resident Tribal citizens of Hollywood.

The Hollywood Non-Resident Liaison Holly Tiger scheduled the meeting to get information out to this community of Tribal citizens. It was an opportunity for non-residents to ask questions on all aspects of the non-resident program.

President Moses Osceola attended the meeting to offer the

services of his office. He presented an update on current and upcoming Seminole Tribe of Florida, Inc., projects. These projects include new gas stations in Immokalee and Hollywood. In concluding his remarks Osceola emphasized the open door policy of his office.

Tiger addressed the meeting next. She reviewed a list of upcoming Tribal events as well as events for the non-residents such as trips. She explained the criteria for trips is limited to educational, cultural and some sports participation.

However, she said she

would take all requests under review. One point that was emphasized is the budget for non-residents. The budget is for non-residents nationwide not to a specific reservation.

The next scheduled trip will be in April for the spring school break. It will be on a first come first served basis with consideration to the ones who did not make the last trip.

Tiger informed everyone that she would be scheduling regular meetings and encouraged the non-residents to contact her for any information.

2006 Everglades Awareness Campaign Everglades Art Exhibition in Miami

Submitted by The Wallflower Gallery
MIAMI, FL — On March 2 The Wallflower Gallery, located at 10 NE 3 St in Miami, will open the Everglades Art Exhibition. The exhibition run from March 2-May 1.

This art activism showcase will feature a variety of independent artists from South Florida. The Everglades Art Exhibition will be juried and the winner will be chosen for an environmental ad campaign.

Everglades art can include

paintings, photography, digital enhancements, fabric art, mixed media and other wall pieces. Artwork should be submitted to The Wallflower Gallery no later than Feb. 27. Each piece would need to be delivered and ready to hang.

Artists must also submit a digital version also submitted with the actual piece. The digital version will also be considered for a video slide show that will be featured during 3rd Annual Everglades Awareness Benefit Concert, as well as other educa-

tional and artistic presentations.

There will be an Everglades Art Auction on March 26 at 3 p.m. This is a fundraiser for the Everglades Awareness Campaign and the efforts of the Sierra Club for Everglades conservation.

In order to keep the artwork organized, please call (305) 579-0069 for a drop off appointment. There is a \$10 fee for each piece submitted. If you have any further questions, please feel call the above number or visit wallflowergallery.com.

1. Sam Jones - A Very Important Figure in Seminole History - White Chocolate & Raspberry
2. Billy Bowlegs - Lead the Seminoles in the 3rd Seminole War - Dark Chocolate & Caramel
3. Remember the Clans! - All 9 Clans: Otter Bear, Snake, Panther, Big Town, Bird, Deer, Wind and the extinct Alligator Iced Lattes
4. Josie Billie - One of the Strongest Medicine Men of the Seminole Tribe - Dark Chocolate & Hazelnut
5. Ingram Billie - Brother of Josie, also a Powerful Medicine Man - Vanilla & Hazelnut
6. Laura Mae Osceola - Instrumental in getting Federal Recognition of the Seminole Tribe - Dark Chocolate & Banana
7. Joe Dan Osceola - Youngest elected President & First Ambassador - Almond & Dark Chocolate
8. Fred Smith - Longest serving Tribal President - Dark Chocolate & Mint
9. Jim Shore - Longtime General Legal Counsel of the Seminole Tribe - Dark Chocolate & Raspberry
10. Betty Mae Jumper - First Chairwoman of the Seminoles - Apple & Cinnamon
11. James Billie - Longest Serving Elected Chairman of the Tribe - Vanilla & Caramel

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12. Priscilla Sayen - Long time Respected Tribal Secretary - Irish Cream & Hazelnut
13. Howard Tiger - First Military person Elected President, Organized sports programs for the Seminole Youth - Dark Chocolate
14. Mitchell & David Cypress - Brothers and Leaders from the Big Cypress Reservation - White Chocolate & Caramel
15. David DeHass - Hollywood Representative - Board - Dark Chocolate & Coconut
16. Moses Osceola - President of the Seminole Tribe - Irish Cream & Dark Chocolate
17. Roger Smith - Brighton Representative - Council - Dark Chocolate & Vanilla
18. Paul Bowers - Big Cypress Representative - Board - Caramel & Hazelnut
19. Johnny Jones - Brighton Representative - Board - Dark Chocolate & Pretzle
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

Indian Arts Festival Kicks Off in Santa Fe

Submitted by Museum of New Mexico
SANTA FE, N.M. — Native Treasures: Indian Arts Festival, an invitational art show and sale featuring more than 100 of the best Native artists in the U.S., takes place at the Museum of Indian Arts & Culture on Museum Hill on Memorial Day weekend, May 27-28.

The event kicks off an exciting holiday weekend of special museum events in Santa Fe.

Native Treasures is Santa Fe's newest Indian art show and sale. Its 2005 debut as a one-day event titled Small Wonders raised \$25,000 for the

that this year's festival was extended to a full weekend.

Native Treasures takes place May 27 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Early bird tickets, for entry between 9-10 a.m., are \$10; after 10 a.m. admission is \$5. All tickets are available at the entrance to the show. On May 28, the show is open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday admission is free.


For more information about all Native Treasures events, visit www.nativetreasures-santafe.org or call (505) 476-1247.



Clare Lighton

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| 2003 SATURN IVE | 2001 JEEP CHEROKEE | 2002 FORD TRUCK EXPLOER | 2002 FORD TRUCK EXPEDITION |
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| 2001 MERCURY SABLE | 2001 FORD TRUCK EXPEDITION | 2004 FORD TRUCK EXPLORER | 2005 FORD TAURUS |
| 1993 MERCURY COUGAR | 2002 FORD TRUCK F250 | 2004 FORD TRUCK EXPLORER | 2002 FORD TAURUS |
| 2002 MAZDA MI LENA | 2002 FORD TRUCK F350 | 2005 FORD TRUCK EXPLORER | 2002 FORD FOCUS |
| 2005 MAZDA 6 | 2002 FORD TRUCK ESCAPE | 2002 FORD TRUCK F150 | 2003 FORD CROWN VICTORIA |
| 2002 MAZDA TRIBUTE | 2002 FORD TRUCK EXPEDITION | 1998 FORD TRUCK EXPLOER | 2002 FORD MUSTANG |
| 2002 MAZDA MAZDA MPV ES | 1999 FORD TRUCK F150 | 2003 FORD TRUCK F150 | 2002 FORD FOCUS |
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| 2002 MAZDA TRIBUTE | 2003 FORD TRUCK EXPEDITION | 2002 FORD TRUCK F150 | 2001 FORD FOCUS |
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Kissimmee Slough Shootout and Rendezvous 2006



❖ Shootout

Continued from page 1

in the event by invitation only, were screened for the highest caliber of workmanship and historical validity. The result was an incredible history lesson for those who immersed themselves in this recreated world.

On Feb. 3 masses of school children from numerous private and public schools were identifiable as each school wore differently colored t-shirts. Tribal school children from the Brighton Pull Out Program, the Big Cypress Preschool and Ahfachkee Elementary school were also in attendance.

The re-enactment was an intriguing event with all the noisy shooting and bombardment of loud cannons as the reenactors depicted the manner and style of battle in the 1830s. It featured authentic weapons, soldier and warrior attire, and the battle tactics of both sides.

Representing the Seminole warriors were: Seminole re-enactors Brian Zepeda, Pedro Zepeda, Wilson Bowers, Moses Jumper Jr. and Chebon Gooden, among others.

"We do this to try to convey the truth," said Jumper Jr. "We try to make this as authentic as we can."

The re-enactment showed how Seminole battle strategy was superior to the invading U.S. Army with troops that outnumbered Indian warriors. In defending their homes and families, the Seminoles had great battle superiority due to their knowledge of the Floridian land, their courage and determination.

The well-armed U.S. Army never won the Seminole Wars but the U.S. government used trickery and deception during peace talks to capture their foes.

The U.S. government offered the Seminoles unjust

treaties and then violated the terms by continuing an invasion into designated Seminole country.

In the worst cases, there were wholesale massacres of Seminoles and the burning of their villages. Yet, despite their losses, the Seminoles remain the only Native American tribe to never have signed a peace treaty with the U.S. government.

"The battle reenactment presented this weekend honors the Seminole peoples struggle for our freedom," the museum's Executive Director Tina Marie Osceola wrote in the program. "I'm glad to see Seminole history and culture coming alive."

Earl DeBary of Ocala, Fla. was one of the period re-enactors who did not engage in the mock fight but created a true to life Seminole encampment at the Rendezvous. DeBary, a retired museum curator, has always loved the Seminole people from his childhood spent at Silver Springs, Fla. and then discovered late in life that he had a great-grandmother who was a Seminole.

Fueled by his pride to possess even a drop of Seminole blood flowing in his veins he has devoted the past 50 years learning Seminole history. He has collected volumes of information about the domestic life of the Seminoles that demonstrate how progressive they were as a people long before the wars. His encampment was a canvas tent with food and bedding supplies typical of the 1830s.

"The Seminoles were given 6,000 yards of canvas as an enticement to relocate which shows that they used the modern materials of the day," said DeBary.

Meanwhile under another canvas tent Leather Betty of Tampa displayed her beautiful leather jackets and dresses made in the style worn in the 1830s. Having made many similar coats and jackets for Tribal members over the past 30 years, Leather Betty has studied Seminole history. She said that the Seminoles had trade routes that reached far and wide.

"At one time Florida was the biggest supplier of deer and fur skins in the U.S.," she said.

Wherever you stopped to admire the artwork and handicrafts, vendors like Irene, the finger weaver, had a lot of history to tell you. She said her woven sashes are made without a loom and thus are exactly the same on the back as the front. Some have been purchased by the museum to show the decorative way the sashes are utilized in Seminole dress of the 1800s.

In addition to re-enactors, the Warriors of AniKituhwa, a Cherokee dance group, performed the War Dance. This group, designated as the official ambassadors of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, has performed at the National Museum of the American Indian, Colonial Williamsburg and at events in North Carolina, Tennessee and Georgia.





2006 Rez Rally

❖ Rally

Continued from page 1

this culmination and nothing was taken for granted. The route ran through the usually docile streets of the Hollywood reservation neighborhoods.

One section of busy 64th Avenue was cordoned off from thru traffic for the morning. Seminole Police, Fire Rescue and EMS were involved in planning and facilitating safe conditions and emergency services.

By the time race was completed and most of the people had been fed, the reservation tallies were counted. The stage was set for announcements and presentations of the awards. All of the coordina-

tors, volunteers, team captains and tribal officials readied for the results.

Big Cypress with 334 and Brighton with 322 were close but the trophy went to Hollywood with 374 registered participants. It was Hollywood Rez's first Rez Rally trophy so the taste of victory was especially sweet.

Just about everything about Rez Rally 2006 was a victory. The numbers in participation alone set a new record. All the individuals, departments and sponsors involved worked hard for the success of this event Outside sponsors Nike® and Jamba Juice were on site and great.

This year's Rez Rally was an outstanding testament to the dedication of people who take an action for health and community spirit.



❖

Vicky Barogiannis, Fitness Director:

Fitness can be for anyone young or old. The great thing about it is that you can customize your activity to your own abilities. Fitness For Life—that sums it up. The Rez Rally is a great motivator to get fit.

Connie Whidden, Health Director:

It was a perfect day for a lot. I just could not believe the turnout. I am so glad to watch us grow each year. It feels good to see more people taking an interest in walking - even if it starts out as just that one day. Competition between the Reservations is certainly alive and kicking - it's nice to be able to use that in a positive way. I think everyone enjoyed themselves - it was good to see that.

Jo Motlow North, Hollywood Reservation Team Captain (Culture Program, Boys & Girls Club):

The 2006 Rez Rally took a lot of effort and meetings of Seminole Tribal staff and volunteers. The 2006 Rally looked like the biggest of all time. It was great that the Seminole Tribe of Florida and NIKE Inc were able to come together to sponsor such a worthwhile event.

The collective hope is that events such as these have lasting effects throughout the year to combat diabetes, obesity and heart disease in our Tribal and employee populations. For now, I have witnessed



Chairman Mitchell Cypress:

It is good to be able to watch the whole Tribe take a step toward improving fitness and health. The Reservation Rally 5K event represents a stepping stone to a healthier way of life. Every participant out there makes a difference—every person walking, every person in a wheelchair and every family in the stroller category.

It is good to see the kids out there having fun while their parents are helping them to develop good fitness habits that will last them for a lifetime.

Sam McCracken, Nike®'s manager of Native American Business:

I travel throughout Indian Country throughout the year. The Reservation Rally is by far the premier Wellness event hosted by any individual Tribe. We are very happy to be working with the Seminole Tribe of Florida on this great 5K race.





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Congratulations to all the team captains for a job well done!

Hollywood/Ft. Pierce/Trail: Jo North, Diane Buster, Holly Tiger, Francine Osceola, Leoma Poore, Bonnie Motlow, Wanda Bowers, Dora Tiger, Leona Williams; **Big Cypress:** Cathy Cypress, Candy Cypress, Shelia Billie, Rochelle Osceola; **Brighton/Tampa:** Michele Thomas, Jodi King, Lonnie Gore, Richard Osceola, Leroy Boyet, Rita Gopher McCabe; **Immokalee/Naples:** Amy Yzaguirre, Gary McInturff, Anne Puente

A heartfelt thank you to the following who make the Reservation Rally possible:

- Seminole Tribe of Florida Council and Board Representatives • Health Department • Recreation Departments • Fitness Department • Family Services
- Edna "the rock" Mcduffie • Leah Minnick and Hollywood Senior Center • Seminole Police Department • Seminole Fire and Rescue • Communications
- Buildings and Grounds • Utilities/Public Works • Broadcasting • Kippphotos • NIKE Inc. • Native Threads
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and all the competitive participants who make this event come alive each year.



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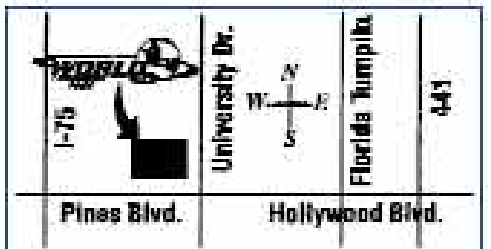
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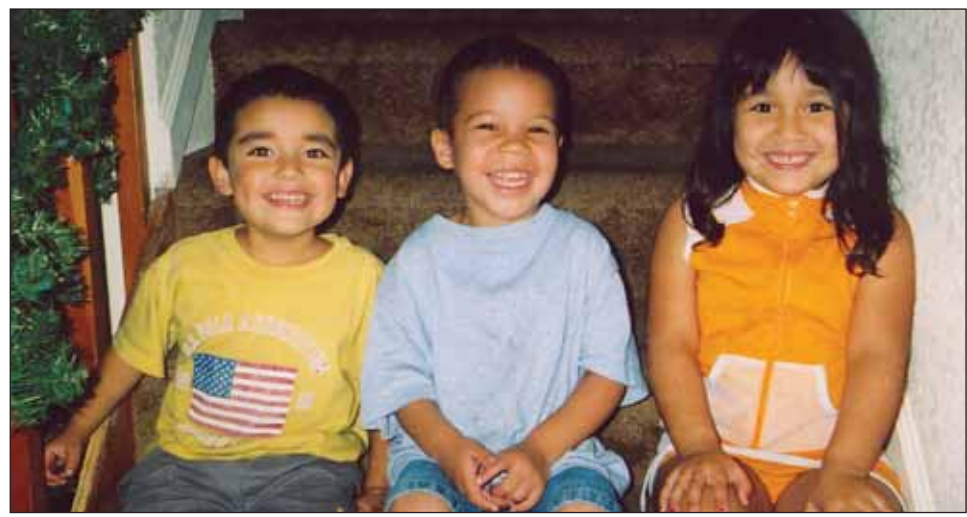


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Announcements ❖ Ahaaheeke ❖ Nak-ohkēkēcetv

Poems



Prayers Were Answered on February 2, 2002
To Damien Lee Marcus Fish

Through my eyes I see nothing but pure beauty
Beauty that lives loud in life, in my son and in me
Never was really sure, but hope does exist
Will it help me get through all this?
I have nothing but questions even though I may know the answer
Yet I ask that this beauty might give me hope
And I pray that God watches over us here and after
This is a fact... I do know all the answers to my questions
Thru pain I still see what lies ahead
Despite of all who want to cause distractions
Because for once, I'm using my head
And let me say it feels pretty good
Just to breathe and look into those eyes and smile
Thank you Jesus for showing my reason for being
Prayers were answered

Love,
Mommy (Leslie Fish)

Seminole Pride

The restless souls of long ago look down
from heaven's opened doors
They see the beauty that knows the pain
that paved the way for you and me
The tears of war some may have cried
But like true Seminole warriors they
fought each battle side by side
Out numbered by many as the government
tried

However, each attempt was a failure on
our unconquered Tribe
The Bear stood strong and displayed its
strength

As the Bird sang its Medicine Song
through these brave warriors' camp
The Wind gave comfort on those hot,
swampy nights

A blessing from the Great Spirit
Who welcomes home the souls that were
sacrificed in this genocide fight

As smooth as silk the Otter slips away
Only to return with much needed commu-
nication and wisdom for the day
Camouflaged by its surroundings as the
sun slowly fades,

The Deer prepares for its destiny as one
more brave
Without a sound the Snake makes its way
through the heart and soul of the mighty
Seminole land

The moon casts its shadow as the black
water lies still
There patiently waiting is the European
fears

The Panther steps up to accept its fate
Its intrepidly expression written clear
across its face

A treaty of peace was a document of their
lies
A reservation home was to be our confines
But with our will and determination we
made our presence known

History is what we are
The ones who wouldn't be claimed
A Big Town establishment constructed
with our pride

Unity, trust and dedication is the essence
of our Tribe
Love and respect is not a choice it's a way
of life

Seminole Pride...

—Lyle V. Billie
Panther Clan

Wars of Life

The hate replaces what ever emotions you
once felt inside

You try to understand this transformation
as the human you once was slowly dies
A beast with in emerges from the depths
of your soul, your heart no longer beats as
you steady loose control

You fall faster and faster into these arms
of hate, your life flashes before your eyes
as each passing day whisper's that it is too
late

Your tears no longer fall and your smile is
soon replaced, you hear your cries for help
in this hell of no escape

The screams penetrate the night of the
souls that grow cold and old
The Angels of Darkness cry sweet delight
as another soul lets go

—Vandell Billie

The Game

Behind a disguise you play your game, the
street life becomes your addiction as you
claim your fame

The poison slowly takes control as you
believe the lies you're trapped in a dream
chasing a wasted high

At the roll of the dice it starts to take its
toll, another pull of the trigger another
empty soul

Deep down inside it starts to take its struc-
ture, you don't know what it is but you
know it brings you danger

You have the will to survive but this is
something new, a taste of reality you can't
learn in school

The night time becomes your jungle as
you learn to spread your wings, from a
pawn to a bishop now you stand alone as
the king

You see the hard times disappear but the
pain is always the same camouflage by a
lie that you know as the game

—Vandell Billie

Thanks



To my baby girl Jazmine
Essence Billie, I had so much fun hanging
with you watching Lil John. Stay beauti-
ful, stay you, but most of all stay mine.
Your father,
Martcell Alan Billie



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Recruiting: A Function of the HR Department

By Glen Altman, Human Resources Analyst/Recruiter, Seminole Tribe of Florida Human Resources Department

I would like to talk about recruiting employees for the Seminole Tribe of Florida (STOF). I thought it might be easiest to discuss recruiting in terms of the Who, What, When, Where, and How questions that you might ask to learn just what is involved.

I think I'll start with the "What."
What is recruiting? Recruiting is the art of proposing an opportunity to someone who values it. It could be a college football coach proposing a scholarship and a place on the team to a talented high school player, it could be an army recruiter promising training and experience and a chance to serve one's country, or it could be me proposing a job to a prospective candidate for employment. Recruiting is the function used to help the organization find and hire the best possible employees to do the jobs it needs done.

Who do we recruit? We make every effort to find and hire the best available person to fill each job opening we have. We want the top talent. That person should be the one whose qualifications match the requirements of the position to the greatest extent possible.

To help us determine how well a candidate meets the position's requirements, we compare their experience, education, knowledge, skills and abilities with what we are looking for. Does the candidate meet the minimum qualifications? Does the candidate exceed them? Does the candidate meet or exceed them more than the other candidates being considered?

In the last issue of *The Seminole Tribune*, our compensation and classification manager discussed the need for accurate job descriptions. A properly developed job description is the key to successfully recruiting the right people to do the job we need to hire someone to do.

We use the job description to compare the necessary requirements of the position with the background and experience of the individual candidates applying for the job.

One of the most important aspects of the recruiting work we do is our focus on Seminole Tribal Members and other Native Americans. We practice Seminole and Native American preference in our hiring. One of the goals of the recruitment function is to work with Tribal Members seeking employment with the organization and assist them in pursuing employment opportunities.

When do we recruit? Put quite simply, we recruit when we have a need. When a job becomes vacant we seek to fill that job to help the company maintain proper staffing levels to ensure that the work that needs to be completed gets completed.

Similarly, when there is a need to add staff due to growth, it is time to begin recruiting. In order to help the STOF succeed in running the business and providing the services available to the Seminole Tribal Members, we want to employ people who meet the needs of the various areas of the business.

People are among a company's most important and valuable assets. This value can be measured in the work and productivity that they bring to their jobs. It can also be directly traced to the cost of replacing them. Companies that invest in getting it right on the front end (when the right employees are hired), come out ahead by having less turnover, increased productivity, and even in having a better reputation than their competitors.

Recruiting costs money and recruiting the wrong people cost even more money (advertising, time, pre-employment screening costs, downtime or lost productivity, possible overtime to make up the difference) or even expensive temporary help to fill in the gaps.

Where do we recruit? We recruit people in a multitude of ways. We recruit actively (seeking out candidates) and passively (waiting for candidates to come to us). We look for places to find the people we need and we try to be creative and do things to help us find both active and passive candidates. Active candidates are people looking for jobs and passive candidates are people that may not be looking for jobs but may be interested in the right opportunity.

Among the places we recruit are: advertisements in newspapers, trade journals, magazines, various industry websites and job posting boards. At unemployment centers (unfortunately there are a lot of people seeking jobs there), at job fairs, and through programs at colleges and trade schools. Sometimes, however, one of the best places we can recruit is right here in our own backyard.

One of our key tools in recruiting new employees is our weekly job posting. Our employment and recruiting policy is to post available positions for a period of two weeks to allow Tribal Members the opportunity to apply and be considered before any Non-Tribal candidates are considered. Once that two week period has passed we will continue with the recruiting process until we have filled the job opening or openings. The weekly job posting also helps current employees learn about the jobs that we have available. This often generates employee referrals which are very helpful to the recruitment process as it saves us time and money and they are generally good quality candidates.

How do we recruit? I've discussed what the aspects of recruiting are and what we go through in recruiting people to work for the Seminole Tribe of Florida? But once we've identified the best possible candidates available for the job, we need to decide upon who the best person to hire is. This process involves interviewing which is a chance for us to determine if the experience and education the person has is a match for our needs.

It is our chance to ask questions of the candidate and measure them against other candidates to help us determine who the best fit is for the job at hand. As I stated previously, a complete and accurate job description is key to helping us determine how well a candidate matches what we need. The interview process helps confirm that.

It is also a final step in the recruiting process as we still have the opportunity (assuming we are interested in hiring the individual) to convince them that they should come work for us.


People look for jobs for many reasons. Of course the key motivating factor in having a job is earning money. However money isn't always the most important factor for some candidates when accepting a new job.

The nature of the job (is it what the person wants to be doing?), the location of the job, the people that they might be working with (employee referrals can really help here), the company culture, the working environment and benefits all play an important role.

Attracting top talent to an organization is hard work, but when it pays off with a good hire, it is all worthwhile.

For information about our current job openings please visit the Human Resources department or www.seminoletribe.com.







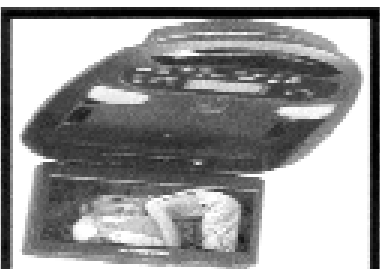






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Bill Cosby Takes the Stage at Hard Rock Live

Submitted by Hard Rock Live

HOLLYWOOD — Bill Cosby, one of the most influential stars in America today, is taking to the stage on April 2 at 4 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. in Hard Rock Live. Tickets for these shows went on sale Feb. 3 at noon.

Best known as Cliff Huxtable on The Cosby Show from 1984-1992, Bill has used humor to touch people's lives while providing insight into our roles as parents, children, family members, men and women. His accomplishments span television, film concert appearances or recordings, commercials and education. He's authored several books for both adults and children including Fatherhood, Time Flies, Friends of a Feather and I am What I Ate...and I'm Frightened!!!

He also launched Little Bill, an animated

series based upon his children's books, airing daily on Nickelodeon and Saturday mornings on CBS. Cosby was recognized by the Kennedy Center for his lifelong contributions to American culture in 1998 and as a recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom, America's highest civilian honor, in 2002.



William H. Cosby Jr.

Tickets are \$49.50; seats are reserved and will be available at the Hard Rock Live Box Office, open daily from noon until 7 p.m. Tickets purchased in-person at the box office will not incur a service charge.

Tickets also are available at all Ticketmaster outlets online at www.ticketmaster.com or charge by phone: Miami-Dade (305) 358-5885, Broward (954) 523-3309, and Palm Beach (561) 966-3309. Doors open one-hour prior to show start time.

Tallest Tilt-Wall Ever Goes Up at Hard Rock

2,300 Space Parking Garage Construction Project on Target for Opening in Late Spring

By Felix DoBosz

HOLLYWOOD — On Feb. 2, the new Lucky Street parking garage at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino, off US 441, just north of Stirling Rd. hoisted the tallest tilt-up wall in the world at 96 feet, six inches.



Felix DoBosz

Solid concrete blocks are tilted and stacked to form the outer walls.

This beat the old record by more than five feet. The tilt wall process not only saves time by constructing the wall on-site but saves money.

The wall is made of solid concrete blocks and beams. All 11 retail buildings in the Seminole Paradise were constructed by Tilterete with the tilt-up wall process. This Tilt-Wall process also meets building code specs and can withstand winds of up to 150mph.

The 2,300 parking spaces encompass more than 800,000 square feet, with seven levels of multi-directional speed and ramp access.



Shelley Marmor

At 96 feet this piece is the tallest tilt-wall in the world.

7th Annual Flute Retreat & Workshop February 23 - 26, 2006 Billie Swamp Safari

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Stephen Galla

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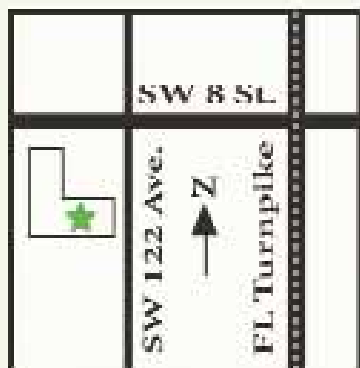
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