EDUCATION: B1

Creating a balance between authority and program developed to build trust and reach out and offer citizens an opportunity to gain a better understanding about the front lines of law enforcement and police work perspective overall from four of the reservations with the incoming 15-year-old Big Cypress resident and Jr. Miss Florida Seminole Crowned in 53rd Edition of Pageant

BY JUDY WEEKS

MISS FLORIDA SEMINOLE CROWNED

"I felt so excited and my heart was racing. I felt with this 53 years later," said Wanda Bowers, "Seminoles in Recovery put together a broad spectrum of topics such as physical, mental and spiritual well-being. As director of the Seminole Family Services Department, Heline Nurse coordinated representatives, from Recovery, Health, Fitness, Culture, Education, the Seminole Reservation Department, so all facets of activities and presentations to assist, support and improve wellness." This year the focus is on you," said Brant. "A girl that wanted to know who they were as a person," Brant said. "The Seminole Princess." "I also gained a lot more knowledge of the Seminoles especially as a founding of this state," Garcia continued. "I was looking for someone [as the new royalty] that was looking for someone [as the new royalty] that Seminole you have to have heart. It is not just your talking and traditional demonstrations such as basket and clothing, impromptu question answer and a the Brighton Reservation.

In summary, President Richard Bow- teens, climate, culture, substance abuse, understanding Attent Detoxification Hypertension Disorder (ADHD) and other childhood dis- From left, Julie Tena, Chloe Chalfant and Barbara Billie share information about healthy food choices and photos. Judging also began for each contestant during this time. Participating Tribal departments included the Seminole Po- ects, warning signs and relapse. The extraordinary agenda ensured that everyone understood countless items of interest. The term "wellness" covers a broad spectrum of topics such as physical, mental and spiritual well-being. As director of the Seminole Family Services Department, Heline Nurse coordinated representatives, from Recovery, Health, Fitness, Culture, Educa- Regulation (ADHD) and other childhood dis-

SPD Citizens Police Academy Celebrates Graduation of First Series

BY JUDY WEEKS

The Big Cypress Police Academy graduated at the Big Cypress SPX Headquarters on the evening of July 15. The initial 10-week course enrollment included 14 candidates, and resulted in 10 graduates. The course comprised a three-hour session per week for nine weeks with a final graduation event. Big Cypress Board of Directors Rep. Paul Byrnes Sr. assisted Sgt. Gonzalez in distribution of diplomas to Candy Cypress, Sara Osceola, Morris Osceola, Elder Tu- man, Sheila Billie Bovee, Sue Jane telling and traditional demonstrations such as basket and clothing, impromptu question answer and a the Brighton Reservation.

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Big Cypress Tribal Council Election Results Announced

Seminole Tribe and Okeechobee County Keep Western Heritage Alive at National Cattle Drive

Tribal Council Holds Meeting in Big Cypress

Seminole Casinos Partner Toward Canine Adoptions

Best of Best Entertainers Go Head to Head in Annual Seminole Superstar Finals
Visit www.AveMaria.com for a full list of shops and restaurants.

This Summer

We invite you to visit the shops and restaurants in La Plazza, Ave Maria!

Publix is now open to all and located only 5 miles from the Immokalee Casino and 40 miles west of Big Cypress Reservation.
Prince Markie D to work with him on his budding rap career at Circle House Studios in Miami, a popular studio in the music industry today. He wanted to start recording in the studio. He says, “I want the people out there to know about my music. I want them to feel my pain. I want to be a rapper that can relate to everybody, regardless of where they’re from. As long as I can do that, then I’ll be alright.”
Seminole Moments Teaches Fort Pierce Tribal Community About Alligator Wrestling

Fort Pierce Tribal citizens and employees gathered around the table in the cabin at the Chupco Ranch Aug. 4 and got a lesson from Everett Osceola on the history of alligator wrestling within the Seminole Tribe. Osceola explained how in the early years Seminoles used alligators for food and armor as a way for survival. He then led the listeners into the early 1900s when Seminoles began wrestling alligators for tourists as a means of financial survival.

Big Cypress Seniors Invite Various Departments for the Annual Services Round Up

Tribal Senior Joe Osceola Sr., left, receives a generator pamphlet from Big Cypress Building and Grounds Administrative Services Generator Service Advisor Scott Calvert.

Tribal Senior Ginnie Bowers, left, receives an informational lesson from Big Cypress Administrative Projects representatives Denise Freund and Mary Mejicano on how to obtain a passport and renew a driver’s license at the Big Cypress Senior Services Round Up on July 27.

Seminole Fire Rescue Breaks Ground in Live Fire Training Session

Big Cypress Wellness Nutritionist Jillian Guralski, left, hands Tribal senior Mary Jane Robbins a to-go container and a diabetes nutrition placemat at the Big Cypress Senior Services Round Up.

Seminole Fire Rescue firefighters test out the water hose in the live training drill conducted on June 16 at the Fire Rescue’s training ground facility in Big Cypress.

With temperatures approaching 100 degrees, the firefighters take a break to cool off.

In the Seminole Fire Rescue’s first live fire training on June 16, firefighters clad in bunker gear, safety and effectively put out a fire at the department’s fire simulation building – a two-story facility that has two doors and one window.

Big Cypress Seniors Invite Various Departments for the Annual Services Round Up

Tribal Senior Louise Billie, left, shows Big Cypress Family Services Employee Linda Fleischman her newly printed identification card, created by the Tribe’s Information Technology Department.

Seminole Fire Rescue Breaks Ground in Live Fire Training Session

A group of firefighters from the Seminole Fire Rescue enter the department’s two-story simulation building, where a fire awaits them to put out. In the simulation building is a supply of hay, which sits atop three stacks of wooden pallets. Just before the firefighters rush into the building an ignition officer sets the hay on fire.

The firefighters get ready for the simulation.

The firefighters put on their gloves as they prepare for training.

The firefighters remove protective gear after successfully completing the live training.

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The firefighters remove protective gear after successfully completing the live training.

Captain Michael Hopkins gives an overview of how the Tribal department’s personnel accountability system works.
Outgoing 2009-10 Miss Florida Seminole Brittany Smith said her time as princess provided several memories including traveling and the opportunity to meet other Tribal youth and teens.

"To hear the youth in some of these high schools made me realize how fortunate we, as a Tribe, really are," Smith said. "Our kids often overlook what our Tribe has been through in the past."

"Be true to who you are and be true to yourself," the sophomore architecture student at Indian River State College said to the new sovereigns.

The evening also included musical performances by Native flutist Sonny Nevaquaya and Seminole R&B artist Spencer Battiest, as well as Tribal Council and Board appearances.

PRINCESS PAGEANT

An emotional Brittany Smith, the outgoing 2009-10 Miss Florida Seminole, says her goodbyes during the Pageant ceremony.

Jr. Miss Seminole and Miss Seminole Princess pageant contestants and judges together at the pageant dinner.

Miss Florida Seminole 2009-2010 Brittany Smith, bottom, poses with pageant contestants at the Hard Rock Cafe in Hollywood.

Tribal royalty from the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma along with, third from left, Miss Seminole Princess Brittany Smith, Miss Indian World Dakota Brant, Miss Florida U.S.A. Lissette Garcia and Little Miss Seminole Elle Thomas, bottom.

JT Miss Seminole contestant Brooke Osecola demonstrates the process of shaker making during the talent portion of the pageant.

Former Jr. Miss Stevie Brantley, right, helps the newly crowned Jr. Miss Lorelei Tommie with her sash.

Former Jr. Miss Steakley Brandley, right, helps the newly crowned Jr. Miss Lorelei Tommie with her sash.

Painted and artist Nick San Pedro, right, offers former Miss Seminole Princess Priscilla Sayen a custom-painted portrait of her from 1964.

Seminole R&B artist Spencer Battiest entertains the guests with some of his original songs.

Christine McCall, far left, coordinates routines and activities with the pageant contestants prior to the big day.

Tribal Council: Chairman Mitchell Cypress, far left, and Tribal Board President Richard Bowens Jr., far right, joined by the newly crowned Jr. Miss Seminole Princess Lorelei Tommie and Miss Seminole Princess Cassandra Jerome.

Princess Pageant Committee Chairwoman Wanda Bowens, middle, with the new Princess royalty, Cassandra Jerome, left, and Lorelei Tommie, right.

Jr. Miss and Miss Florida Seminole pageant contestants together during the ceremony.

Tribal Council Chairman Mitchell Cypress, far left, and Tribal Board President Richard Bowens Jr., far right, joined by the newly crowned Jr. Miss Seminole Princess Lorelei Tommie and Miss Seminole Princess Cassandra Jerome.

Jr. Miss Seminole contestant Brooke Osecola demonstrates the process of shaker making during the talent portion of the pageant.

The newly crowned Jr. Miss and Miss Florida Seminole with family members.
Hurricane Preparedness
Lowered Seasonal Forecasts
Can Still Mean a Busy Storm Year

BY CARL FOWLER
Emergency Management Coordinator
Broward, Fort Pierce & Tampa Reservations

In early August, the federal government’s official weather agency lowered its forecast for the number of tropical storms and hurricanes expected this year. The forecast, issued by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), now calls for 14-20 named storms with top winds of 39 mph or higher, 8-13 hurricanes with top winds of 74 mph or higher, and 4-6 major hurricanes, which could be major hurricanes with winds of at least 111 mph. (Those numbers include the storms that have already occurred.)

The good news is that these numbers are down slightly from the May forecast NOAA issued calling for 14-16 named storms, 8-14 hurricanes and 3-7 major hurricanes.

However, the revised forecast doesn’t mean the coast is clear. The most active part of the Atlantic hurricane season, which extends from June 1 to Nov. 30, is in full swing.

“All indications are for considerable activity during the next several months,” said Dr. Gerry Bell, a lead seasonal hurricane forecaster with NOAA. “As we’ve seen in past years, storms can come on quickly during the peak months of the season. There remains a high likelihood that the season could be very active, with the potential of being one of the most active on record.”

According to NOAA, the Eastern Pacific which extends from May 15 to Nov. 30, is also expected to be active through the end of the year.

“Tropical multi-decadal signal that appeared in 2013 in the tropical Atlantic and Caribbean. NOAA also cites the warmer-than-usual water in the tropical Atlantic Basin that often tears storms apart.”

Despite its staff of highly qualified scientists and meteorologists, there are always people who question the accuracy of NOAA’s seasonal forecasts. Last year, the agency predicted 14 named storms, 4-7 hurricanes and 1-3 major hurricanes. The actual numbers for 2019 were 9, 3, and 2, respectively.

Emergency management personnel rely upon seasonal forecasts as more of a planning tool for how active those months from June through November will be, rather than focusing on the actual numbers. Seasonal forecasts are based on current conditions in the ocean and in the atmosphere in addition to historical data from previous years.

NOAA, in issuing its revised forecast, also cautioned that the conditions are very dependent on the current state of the ocean and in the atmosphere in addition to historical data from previous years.

NOAA’s seasonal forecasts predict 1-3 major hurricanes with winds of at least 120 mph.

In a La Niña year, there is lower wind shear over the Atlantic Basin, allowing storms to organize and grow. It’s the opposite of an El Niño year when strong winds in the upper atmosphere can rip apart storms.

According to NOAA, another reason to expect an active hurricane season is the warmer-than-normal water in the tropical Atlantic.

Bell noted that NOAA also cites the continued presence of something called the tropical multi-decadal signal that appeared in 1995. Since then, it has produced favorable ocean and atmospheric conditions, leading to more active hurricane seasons.

With all of this in mind, the Emergency Management Department urges all Tribal citizens and employees to be prepared for the possibility of severe weather that year from a tropical storm or hurricane. Here’s the information about the Brighton Water Use Study.

Broward Water Study Brings Useful Information

The Brighton Tribe’s Environmental Resource Management Department (ERMD) is looking ahead to answer that question and how water deliveries occurred during times of drought.

The study will review how much water was provided to Brighton Residents and Tribal citizens. This portion of the study will determine if all water inflows to, and outflows from the Brighton Reservation are measured, and if the SFWMD water measurement calculations are correct by computing their water flow data to actual water flow measurements made in the field.

The SFWMD “measures” water flow through Broward by mathematical equations based on the level of water in the canal, and whether flood control gates are open or not. This portion of the study will determine all of water flowing into and out of Brighton Reservation is measured, and if the SFWMD water flow measurements accurately reflect real water flow.

The remainder of the Brighton Water Study will provide a comprehensive analysis of water supply available to the Brighton Reservation for the past 10 years, and water used by the Brighton Reservation.

Brighton Water Study Brings Useful Information

The Seminole Tribe Brighton Water Use Study is the latest FY19-20 Bill, Water Rights and Water Resources Management Planning and Pre-Development Program Project on the East Coast. The study will review how much water was provided to Brighton Reservation by the South Florida Water Management District and how water deliveries occurred during times of drought.

For 2010, it hasn’t really followed regular seasonal weather patterns, we had a wetter winter (‘dry season’), and a drier summer (‘wet season’).

How might this impact South Florida Water Management water supply deliveries to the Brighton Seminole Indian Reservations?

The Seminole Tribe Environmental Resource Management Department (ERMD) is looking ahead to answer that question and how many others.

ERMD recently initiated a study of water use for the Brighton Reservation.

In the last 10 years, the Indian Prairie Basin has experienced severe drought, and flood events, including four hurricanes in one year.

In August 2009, ERMD recognized the advantage to the Tribe of studying water delivery and supply to the Brighton Reservation. With Tribal Council approval, ERMD applied to the United States Department of Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) for grant funding. The proposal was one of only two East Coast Tribe studies to receive funding from BIA under the Water Rights and Water Resources Management Planning and Pre-Development Program. The Seminole Tribe received the largest grant amount.

In 1987, the Seminole Tribe settled a long-standing land claim and water rights dispute with the state of Florida and through a negotiated water Rights Compact, quantified the Tribe’s entitled water rights for the Big Cypress Reservation and the Brighton Reservation.

The Big Cypress Reservation’s entitlement water supply is 47,000 acre-feet of water per year (divided into 12 equal amounts, to be delivered on a monthly basis). The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) provides the Tribe’s entitlement water through pump stations G-409 (in Confusion Corner). The negotiated entitlement amount of water for the Brighton Reservation is 17 percent of water available to all users in the Lake Okeechobee watershed, and an amount of water from Lake Okeechobee proportionally equal to the amount of land the Brighton Reservation occupies in the SFWMD’s Lake Okeechobee Basin.

The Big Cypress Reservation Entitlement water process is very clearly defined.

The Brighton Reservation’s entitlement process is based on percentages. It is the goal of the Seminole Tribe to obtain clear information on water supply for the Brighton Reservation as well.

The Brighton Water Use Study developed by ERMD will be an objective professional independent study of water quantity delivered to the Brighton Reservation in a scientifically and legally defensible manner.

The first part of the study requires investigation and identification of all water inflows to, and outflows from the Brighton Reservation to determine if all water quantities are measured. It will also examine groundwater withdrawals by property owners adjacent to the Brighton Reservation to determine if there may be any effect to the Brighton Reservation’s groundwater levels.

The second part of the study is to determine if the SFWMD water measurement calculations are correct by computing their water flow data to actual water flow measurements made in the field.

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The remainder of the Brighton Water Study will provide a comprehensive analysis of water supply available to the Brighton Reservation for the past 10 years, and water used by the Brighton Reservation.

This study will consider current and future Brighton Reservation needs, as well as water needs in the future.

The Seminole Tribe Environmental Resource Management Department is looking forward to receiving the results of the Brighton Water Use Study in order to inform the Brighton Residents and Tribal citizens.

For more information about the Brighton Water Use Study, please call 954-965-4380 for more information about the Brighton Water Use Study.
My grandmother made a patchwork shirt for me on Sunday, and I was moved to tears. As such, she assisted in the late 90s at the ValuJet airliner crash site in Miami. I spent most of the ride to Paris staring into the English/French countryside. The haze is undeniable. I take several pictures and stop over the entire city. I take several pictures and stop over the entire city. I can just barely get around. We spend an hour in the Gare Du Nord trying to get a ticket for the SNCF, which is actually much larger structure than I thought it would be. The three of us went through the security and the people were just decided to go the concert tomorrow. Nearly two and a half hours takes for a train leaving from London to reach Paris. We decide to do it. We’re on the Eurostar - a high-speed passenger rail service that connects London with Paris and Brussels - the road will not be as busy as the highways we pass through the many tunnels. The crew serves us bread and coffee. I nod my head to the music. I end up eating bread and eggs, but I couldn’t pass up the eggs Benedict this morning. I spend most of the trip to Paris staring into the haze. The haze makes up for most of Paris’ impressive architecture in near perfect condition makes up for most of Paris’ beauty. But the blanket of pollution is incredible. I take several pictures and stop over the entire city. We spend an hour in the Gare Du Nord trying to get a ticket for the SNCF, which is actually much larger structure than I thought it would be. The three of us went through the security and the people were just decided to go the concert tomorrow. Nearly two and a half hours takes for a train leaving from London to reach Paris. We decide to do it. We’re on the Eurostar - a high-speed passenger rail service that connects London with Paris and Brussels - the road will not be as busy as the highways we pass through the many tunnels. The crew serves us bread and coffee. I nod my head to the music. 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OKEECHOBEE — The Brighton Reservation was honored by the Okeechobee School District for its continued support of education at the regularly scheduled School Board meeting in Okeechobee.

Brighton Tribal Council Rep. Andrew J. Bowles Jr. was recognized at the July 13 meeting with the Commissioner’s Business Recognition Award by Okeechobee’s Superintendant Dr. Patricia Cooper.

“It is a great feeling and it goes toward the relationship that we have always had with Okeechobee County,” Rep. Bowles said.

Each year the Florida Education Foundation and Florida Department of Education recognizes businesses throughout the state that have shown an outstanding commitment to improving education by partnering with schools in their community. The Okeechobee School Board selected the Brighton Reservation as the honored business for its financial contributions and moral support toward the Okeechobee schools.

“The Seminole Tribe has been a great business partner for the Okeechobee Public Schools for many, many years,” Cooper said. “It’s quite an honor for us to receive that support, but it’s nice recognition for the Brighton Tribe as well.”

The Brighton Reservation and Seminole Tribe give out scholarships to graduating seniors every year, to help further their education. The Tribe has also offered financial athletic support by purchasing the Naples High School’s football field scoreboard and contributing to Yauch-Middle School’s volleyball team in the form of warm-up outfits and sponsorship.

“The Tribe puts education at its number one priority these days,” Rep. Bowles said. “And I think it’s important that we recognize the effort that Okeechobee County has put toward our children. [...] We want to be able to show some kind of appreciation and I think that it works out for a good relationship.”

The Tribe’s relationship with Okeechobee dates back as early as the 1950s, Cooper reminded during the meeting about the days when she and Rep. Bowles used to ride the school bus to the Okeechobee schools.

“Throughout the years the two entities have grown in size and in the bonds that we are sharing. They hold special interest toward educating the tribes.”

Not only are they business partners with us, but the

Naples Gives Incentive Awards During Trip to Tennessee

BY JUDY WEEKS

NAPLES — Parent involvement plays a key role in the education of children and the Naples community takes this to heart. With students enrolled in public and private schools, their progress is closely monitored by their parents, the Seminole Education Department and the Parents Advisory Committee (PADC).

Attention to the homework assistance and tutoring program offered at the Anna Maria Osceola Center is tremendous success,” said Tutoring Specialist Julissa Collazo. “This is a very close-knit community and watching the children’s progress, I have reached the top of the world and it become a social experience as well as education. The young people have told me that our sessions are to focus further on their studies to ensure that they are prepared to get a higher level of education.

Traveling to the Lodge at Buckberry Lane in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, the families visited the Dollywood theme park and Smokey Mountains National Park. The younger generation from the families got to experience the thrill of sightseeing by day, and also soaked in the history on a series of amazing fire and storytelling at the lodge during the events. Family time in included hiking and games on the lodge area and the time.

Pioneering the patterns at the theme park are the young students and their corresponding teachers. The children and the young people were able to go on excursions and learn about the history and culture of the theme park. The teachers and young people were given the chance to explore and experience the theme park on their own.

Pinnacle of the Seminole Education Department’s Summer Reading Program is the Seminole Education Director’s annual trip to the theme park and Smokey Mountains National Park. The young people were able to experience the thrill of sightseeing by day, and also soaked in the history on a series of amazing fire and storytelling at the lodge during the events. Family time in included hiking and games on the lodge area and the time.

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Amanda Smith receives her award for earning her Associates Degree and Indian River State College. Amanda Smith is one of nine Brighton 2010 high school graduates. With a curriculum unique to the Brighton community aimed to make the high school year more engaging, it is to recognize the academic achievements of the Tribal youth of the 2010 Brighton High School Incentive Awards. The Education Department awarded 28 percent of Brighton's Tribal youth with academic awards including honoring two college graduates and nine high school graduates. Along with their award each recipient received a backpack and folder to help them prepare for the upcoming school year. -Rachel Buxton

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Open House Gives Brighton Preschoolers Opportunity to Meet Their Teachers for the School Year

BY JUDY WEEKS

Cocoa Thomas, left, and Talena Holida, get to know their new teacher Alaka Whyte while doing crafts. Decorated in a western theme with teachers in dunks and bandanas, the Brighton Preschool welcomed parents and students Aug. 5 for an open house to help get the children ready for their first day of school Aug. 5. Students were introduced to their teachers and new classrooms for the upcoming school year. Students received goody bags to get them excited for the big day and then enjoyed refreshments with their parents. -Rachel Buxton

Teacher Lamore Thomas helps Cocoa Thomas put on her handmade western necklace.

Trail Students Attend Back to School Bash

BY JUDY WEEKS

Children of the Trail community play in the water slide pool at the Back to School Bash.

Trail Students Attend Back to School Bash

BY JUDY WEEKS

Seminole Education’s K-12 Advisor Will Dunnington delivers a steady stream of children made trip after trip down the water slide into a miniature waterpark with bounce houses and a slide for a Back 2 School Bash.

Julie Bush

Children of the Trail community play in the water slide pool at the Back to School Bash.

Trail Students Attend Back to School Bash

BY JUDY WEEKS

Parents gathered in the community chickee to experience the wonderful barbecue dinner that had been prepared over the fire. Under the chickee, the youngsters discovered an added attraction of snow cones, popcorn and cotton candy.

July Bush

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Immokalee Education Incentive Awards Recipients

Immokalee Education Incentive Awards for the year of 2009-2010 were presented as follows:

5th Grade:

6th Grade:
- Chelsey Avery GPA 3.56, Camisha-Celestin-Effort, Chelsey-Avery Effort-Three Days or Less Absent-Awards & Certificates, Jodi Tselavuchik-Effort, Alphonso-Avalos, Jr.-Effort, Tarra Boone-Effort, Kasey Davis-Perfect Attendance-Awards & Certificates, Joel Frank-Effort, Alex Montoya Awards & Certificates, Tonya-Quaggin-Effort, Lauren-Flores GPA 3.71-Advanced Class-Awards & Certificates, Reana-Burge-Effort, Neheemah-Robbins Three-Three Days or Less Absent, Celeste-Quaggin GPA 3.63-Advanced Awards & Certificates, Randi-Cruz-Quaggin GPA.

7th Grade:
- Larissa-David-GPA 3.76, Ashley Fox GPA 3.54, Vanessa-Billie-Effort, Johnny Boone Jr.-Effort, Alexis-Jimenez-Effort Awards & Certificates, jake-Tapia Effort, Elyse Frank-Effort, Erika-Boon-Effort.

8th Grade:

9th Grade:
- Alexis-Aguilar GPA 3.33-Honors Class-Advanced Class, Tyrell-San-Jeff-Award-Three Days or Less Absent, Jon-Avalos GPA 3.06-Awards & Certificates, Alex-Montoya GPA 3.08-Improved GPA, Juliza-Martinez-Effort, Corey-Garcia-Effort, Charlie-Quaggin-Perfect Attendance, Jon-Avalos GPA 3.33-Advanced Class-Honors Class, 11th Grade: Jon-Avalos Effort, Charles Storm GPA 3.56-Three Days or Less Absent, Spencer-Avalos Effort, Michael-Shaffer GPA 3.56-Perfect Attendance.

Reading Challenge Hours:
- Conny-Garcia-Effort, Charlie Quaggin-Perfect Attendance, Jon-Avalos GPA 3.33-Advanced Class-Honors Class, 11th Grade: Jon-Avalos Effort, Charles Storm GPA 3.56-Three Days or Less Absent, Spencer-Avalos Effort, Michael-Shaffer GPA 3.56-Perfect Attendance.

More Photos from the 2010 Brighton Education Incentive Awards Ceremony

Larissa Cortez takes the stage for her academic achievement.

Sheila Jones, left, receives her award for 10th grade.
Learn About Mold and How Mold Affects Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Is to Your Home

What is Mold?
Mold is living microorganisms that exist everywhere in the environment. Their purpose in nature is to help facilitate the decay of dead plant (cellulose) materials in the outdoor environment. Mold will feed on any cellulose material such as wood, fabric, leather, dust, etc., in the indoor environment. Mold reproduces by producing spores, which are tiny, “spores.” The spores can stay dormant for extended periods of time (months to years) until the conditions become favorable for growth.

What Causes Mold Growth Indoors?
• Moisture
Mold will grow when three conditions are all in harmony:
1. Food supply (such as drywall, paper, clothes, dust, etc.)
2. Moisture or High humidity (usually above 60 percent)
3. Warm temperature

What can I do to prevent mold indoors?
The best way to minimize the chance of mold growth is to control the three factors mentioned above:

Control the food source. Since mold lives off the cells of living things, it can live in your home as long as dead and live cells are present. Damp paint, wallpaper, furniture, and cardboard are all food sources for mold growth.

Control the humidity. Keep the humidity below 60 percent. Mold will not grow at a high humidity level. Go for a professional moisture meter. This will be the most accurate way to determine if the moisture is high or low in your home.

Control the temperature. Mold will not grow if the temperature is below 68 degrees Fahrenheit. Most mold conditions are maintained in the 70’s and 80’s. The mold will not grow if the temperature is below 68 degrees Fahrenheit. Mold will grow if the temperature is above 68 degrees Fahrenheit.

What should I do if I have mold in my home?
If you have mold in your home you should call a professional mold remediation team immediately. Do not touch the affected area. Limit occupant exposure to the affected area. A mold remediation team will advise you on the next steps to take.

What is the Health Impact of Mold?
There are millions of mold species in the environment. Some are benign and do not cause any harm. However, some species are toxic and can cause serious health problems. The most common mold that causes severe health problems is called Aspergillus. Aspergillus can cause a lung disease called aspergillosis. This disease is most common in people with weakened immune systems. People with HIV/AIDS, cancer patients, and transplant patients are most at risk.

The best way to prevent mold is by controlling the source. Prevent mold by controlling the three factors mentioned above.

Gambling Addiction: Know the Signs and Where to Find Help

Gambling addiction is a dangerous and destructive disease that can destroy lives. It is one of the most difficult addictions to overcome. Gambling addiction is a disease that does not discriminate. It affects people of all ages, races, and socioeconomic backgrounds.

What is Gambling Addiction?
Gambling addiction is a disease that affects the brain and affects the brain cells. It is a disease that affects the reward system in the brain.

The best way to prevent mold is by controlling the source. Prevent mold by controlling the three factors mentioned above.

Mold is a small fungus that grows in the environment. Mold can grow on any organic material, such as wood, fabric, leather, paper, and dust. Mold can grow in any environment, but it thrives in moist environments. Mold can grow in the home, on the clothes, on the walls, and on the ceilings. Mold can grow in any environment, but it thrives in moist environments.

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Follow These Tips and Have a Safe Labor Day

SEMINOLE TRIBE FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT

The Seminole Tribe Fire Rescue Department would like to wish everyone a happy and safe Labor Day holiday. Labor Day weekend is traditionally the end of the summer season, when people take advantage of the weekend to have fun with family and friends. But that is also a time when serious accidents can happen from the misuse of backyard grills, fireworks, and sparklers.

The following are some safety tips to follow when grilling, using fireworks and sparklers:

• Do not leave the grill unattended.
• Keep grill free from fat buildup and the following:
  - • Charcoal grill should only be used outdoors (they give off a deadly gas known as carbon monoxide).
  - • If you use starter fluid, only use charcoal fluid or any other flammable liquid to the first possibility of the fire following the fluid back into the can and burning you or an explosion of the fire itself.
  - • Keep charcoal fluid out of the reach of children and away from heat sources.
  - • When you are finished grilling, let the coals completely cool before disposing of them in a metal container.
  - • Have a Flapjack and Sole! Labor Day!

There is a reason so many of our teens and pretends behave as if they are immaterial, acting on impulse without considering the consequences. Blame it partially on their brain.

The part of the brain that promotes impulses and risk-taking develops early in life, while the brain area responsible for planning, judgment, decision-making and impulse control is under- going the most change (and will continue to develop well into a person’s mid-20’s). Because of this lack of brain maturity, teens are far more likely to engage in behaviors that control impulses like adults do, which in turn increases an adolescent’s chance of engaging in risky behavior, like smoking, drinking and illegal drug use.

In this critical stage of development, there is a need for a “trusted” friend, step in, set clear boundaries and show that it’s not just about trust; it’s about understanding the adolescent brain.

During this time in your life, there are certain keys to consider:

• Only adults should use fireworks and sparklers.
• Keep spectators away and the shooter should wear eye protection.
• If a device does not ignite, wait 10 to 15 minutes and then follow the manufacturer’s instructions.
• Never relight a dud firework. Wait at least 20 minutes and then soak it in water.
• Always have water handy.
• Use fireworks/sparklers outside only.
• Keep the area free from flammable building and the tray below the grill surface.
• Do not leave the grill unattended.

Charcoal grills:

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• Have a Flapjack and Sole! Labor Day!

In Order to Help Your Child, Know the Adolescent Brain

BY CHIEF DAVID LOGAN, FIRE MARSHAL

The Sunshine State is a top tourist destination and second home for many visitors, largely due to the attractive subtropical climate, which is atypical from the rest of the U.S.

However, it is apparent that many outdoor activities in the hot, humid conditions can become life threatening for those not prepared to deal with it. As the body succumbs to the heat hazard, and body temperature races, the following symptoms of one of these heat emergencies can occur:

• Heat cramps occur when existing the body during strenuous activity in a hot environment, which leads to muscle pains and cramps, often in the legs. Typically this is an early warning that the body is in trouble because it is dehydrated. The cramps are usually due to a depletion of water, salts, and minerals, and an affected person will need to stop and address the problem immediately by resting and drinking water or a sports drink.
• Heat exhaustion causes the body to overheat in the skin, but not in the core of the body. The body cools by reducing body temperature to normal, and the body cannot cool itself because its core temperature is already too high. Gradually, the person develops a mild shock condition and symptoms include:
  - • Heat stroke, is most severe out of the three heat emergencies, and a deadly heat illness. The key symptom is that the person becomes hot but flushed and is not sweating. It is almost impossible to cool the body. There may still be sweat on the skin, but very little sweat is being produced. Other symptoms are loss of consciousness, seizures and delirium. The body temperature has reached 105 degrees and this is definitively a life-threatening situation in which emergency medical services should be contacted immediately.
  - • Outdoors temperatures can become extremely dangerous when it then prolonged period of time. If it is necessary to be outdoors, include periodic breaks in a cool environment. Even a shaded area such as under a tree may be too hot if the sun is directly overhead. The cool environment is very important because if the body temperature exceeds 105 degrees, the person is in danger of death.

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• Keep spectators away and the shooter should wear eye protection.
• If a device does not ignite, wait 10 to 15 minutes and then follow the manufacturer’s instructions.
• Never relight a dud firework. Wait at least 20 minutes and then soak it in water.
• Always have water handy.
• Use fireworks/sparklers outside only.

SAFETY CORNER

Know What Heat Emergencies Are and How to Treat Them

Know What Heat Emergencies Are and How to Treat Them

The Seminole Tribe Fire Rescue Department recommends that you watch a professional show instead of making your own show.

Hurricane Portable Generator Safety Tips

• Generators should be operated in well-ventilated locations outdoors, far from doors, windows and vent openings.
• Place generator to the exhaust fumes cannot enter the home through windows, doors or other openings.
• Install carbon monoxide alkaline in your home. Follow the manufacturer’s advice for proper placement and regulating height.
• Prevent the cooler from setting in while it is running. Turn it off and allow it to cool before refueling.
• Do not start the fuel in the home. Gasoline and other flammable liquids should be stored outside of living spaces in properly labeled containers.
• Appliances should be plugged directly into the generator or a heavy-duty outdoor-rated extension cord. Check all cords for cuts and tears, and make sure the plug has all prongs.
• Oil levels should be checked to the house wiring to power appliance. A qualified electrician should install a properly rated transfer switch.

Fireworks and Sparklers:

• Use fireworks/sparklers outside only.
• Always have water handy.
• Only use fireworks as intended. Do not alter them.
• Never ignite a dud firework. Wait at least 30 minutes and then soak it in water.
• Keep spectators away and the shooter should wear eye protection.
• Do not mix alcohol and fireworks.
• Keep spectators away and the shooter should wear eye protection.

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**NOTICE OF SECRETARIAL ELECTION**

**DATE:** July 22, 2010

**Contact:** Keith Neves (954) 983-1537, Ext 22

**THE BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS TO CONDUCT A SECRETARIAL ELECTION FOR THE SEMINOLE TRIBE OF FLORIDA**

Hollywood, Florida – The Seminole Tribal Council has requested the Bureau of Indian Affairs to conduct a Secretarial Election pursuant to Tribal Council Resolution No. C-257-10, “Secretarial Election, Amendment No. XXI to Constitution and Bylaws Semi- nole Tribe of Florida.”

Members of the Seminole Tribe of Florida are hereby advised that a Secretarial Election will be held on September 7, 2010, for the purpose of voting on the proposed amendment to the Tribal Constitution to retain or repeal Article II, Membership. Section 9 of this election is being conducted by the Bureau of Indian Affairs in accordance with Part 81 of Title 25 of the Code of Federal Regulations (25 CFR Part 81).

Pursuant to the requirements of 25 CFR 81.6(a), all tribal members who register to vote in this election shall be entitled to vote for the retention or removal of Article II, Membership, Section 9 of the Tribal Constitution. A notice is being mailed to all tribal members 18 years of age and older thirty days prior to the election, at the address listed on the current Tribal Membership roll with a voter registration form enclosed. Any member who does not receive such form by mail should request one from the Seminole Agency, 6100 Hollywood Blvd, Suite 206, Hollywood, Florida 33024, or from the Election Board, Seminole Tribe of Florida, 6300 Stateline Road, Hollywood, Florida 33024.

VOTING IN PERSON: Applications for absentee ballots must be designated on the voter registration form enclosed. Immediately after the ballots are counted, the results of the election will be posted at the Seminole Agency and the Tribal Administrative Office.

This is the hardest letter we have ever had to write. To start off we would like to thank all the employees, friends and family for all the hard work and support given to our family at this pivotal time in our lives. To all the persons who believed in our family, we want to thank you for your support.

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**WE WANT TO WISH YOU A HAPPY 19TH BIRTHDAY MELA!!**

You have grown from our adorable baby girl to a princess, intelligent woman and we hope you have a wonderful birthday and wish you many, many more birthdays to come.

Love always,
Mom, Dad, Ethan & Vanessa Billie

**POEMS**

**My Perfect Little World**

In my perfect little world, people greet,
They hush and hug each time they meet.
They treat each other with respect and care.
We make it a point to show we care.

Then things get tough and must disappear.
And showing love is somewhat rare.

But in the world today, most people cry,
And only pray in case they die.

And value the gift of friendship and trust.
People are loyal, honest and just,
And hurt with what we do or say.

In my perfect little world, children smile,
And parents get on extra mile.
No child is ever harmed or hurt,
Abused or treated just like dirt.

But in the world today, most people cry,
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People are loyal, honest and just,
And hurt with what we do or say.

In my perfect little world, children smile,
I am giving away my 2 Yorkshires for free due to the transfer I had from my working place. Kindly contact me for more info at Gregjarvis3@gmail.com

Congratulations to our baby girl Esmeralda Sabrina Billie on graduating high school.

It’s been a long hard road but we are so proud of you for sticking in there, working hard and never giving up.

This is just the beginning for you and we know you will do great things and we love you very much.

Love,
Dad, Mom, Vanessa & Ethan

Congratulations to my girlfriend Esmeralda Billie for graduating!! I’m so proud of you babe and I love you.

Love,
Randy Osceola

Congratulations to our baby girl Esmeralda Sabrina Billie on graduating high school.

It’s been a long hard road but we are so proud of you for sticking in there, working hard and never giving up.

This is just the beginning for you and we know you will do great things and we love you very much.

Love,
Dad, Mom, Vanessa & Ethan

For more information please contact: Paulette Robinson at 954-238-5763

You are cordially invited to celebrate Indian Day with the Fort Pierce Community

Saturday - September 18, 2010
At Chupco Youth Ranch

• The day will begin with our traditional 5k walk for wellness (Registration begins at 5:30am and the walk begins at 6:00am promptly)
• The day will continue with our annual Indian Day Celebration (Commencing at 11:00am)

Please join us for food, fun, music, cultural activities and fireworks!

Lunch and Dinner will be served.

For more information please contact: Paulette Robinson at 954-238-5763

Calling Volunteers:

We are looking for LOT’s of fun and friendly volunteers to help us at the Fort Pierce Indian Day Celebration.

Volunteers are needed on Saturday, September 18, 2010 from 9:00am to 9:00pm at Chupco's Youth Ranch.

This is the perfect opportunity if you like to have fun and meet new people!!!

For more information please contact: Paulette Robinson at 954-238-5763
Beneath the Blob - What Really Goes on at Seminole Youth Camp?

The older kids at Camp are on a Service & Life Skills’ track. Family Serv- ices Staff Roy Yanezpo from Immokalee successfully taught them. “The camp is more than playing sports and learning about managing your bank account. It’s about learning about teamwork and respect.”

3. Campers Learn Respect, Teamwork,

At the end of a game of a ten-pin bowling charged flag football, a group of five young men were standing with arms crossed and beads facing on the side of the field. A counselor says as another, “We’re going to be driven fast.”

Details surfaced, some boys were not happy with others. The counselors encouraged them to voice their grievances. Brightwater School Rescuor District Chili Harrison challenged the campers to do one another. “To give them an idea that maybe, maybe, their perception of another was wrong. Maybe they didn’t know each other. He listened intently, and then he moved in on a possibly underlying reason for the conflict.

“You feel like you have to prove to someone you’re not scared? But there’s no need to prove to me anymore. No one’s asking you to do this. You don’t have to prove nothing to no one.”

Tyrus Billie, age 12 (Big Cypress)

Wrestling the Ichetucknee River is one of camp’s highlights. Youth learn courage, trying new things and patience.

“Counselors ask us to be respectful. They get the message if a child is being angry at people all day. It’s part of the behavior, improving each day. In the case of one week, little, positive changes are happening. “At the beginning of camp, they wanted my attention, they said, ‘Hey!’ Now they are saying, ‘When an adult is speaking, do not talk back, to be better people.’”

Turquoise Battiest, age 13 (Hollywood)

The lessons kids learn at camp are in the outdoor education, don’t drop, stay active, follow the cabin rules, and respect. While the kids feel safe. Kids have a sense of being respected, they are just kids. Counselors are on the job.

Lilly Yawn has been a cook at Camp Kulaqua since 1983. “I think the youth can retain what I cook. They can handle it. I think they are all the reservations have great rec departments.”

The atmosphere of camp is changing, noted many adults. It is calmer, runs more smoothly. Of course, the staff are more experienced. But something more profound is happening. Youth are changing. The atmosphere of camp is changing.

The Seminole Summer Youth Camp is not a one-time, week-long vacation. It is a life-changing, multi-year experience for youth, starting at age 5 and ending at age 17. Imagine if a boy or girl, age 5, goes to camp each camp year, for 15 years. Imagine if, during the school year, parents, staff and tribal programs reinforce what the youth learned. Imagine if health, body and spirit, high self esteem, and respect of elders, and community, are embraced, put into practice and never forgotten by 250, 300, 350 Seminole youth.

No need to imagine. This is happening now.

Life Lessons Happen on the Sidelines

The youth learn that they have to choose what they do. “We learned to not stoop to a bully’s level. Be healthy, but when you start learning about them, you could shape your reality.”

“Tyrus didn’t exactly say that. He used other words to get the young men to see that, through positive thoughts, they could shape their reality.”

The youth variety comes still could. They weren’t buying it. They were mad. Dar- win hadn’t said that. He used other words. “They’re from the same creed. You’re from another tribe. He encouraged them to stop focusing on the one thing that separates them. “I find one thing you like about the other people.”

Standing by a column and instructed the young man to let it go, say exactly what was bugging them. Voices rose. Murmural, bodies leaned in, took steps toward each other. Coun- selors moved in and separated the group into two. After 5 minutes of talking and listening, a counselor said, “You said everything out of you?”

Some of the boys shook hands. All went away knowing that they could all get along, that they could get over it, or not. In 13, short, leaned minutes, the counselors had given five young men tools to solve interpersonal conflicts, to acknowledge fear, talk things out, care for each other as brothers- cousins-family, to look for the good in people and ignore the bad, and OMG, the big one – the option to forgive, get over it, and get on with camp.

Would each boy really “get this” mini-life lesson known on the sport sidelines? Each boy had the remainder of the day, the next three days of camp, and the weeks and months ahead to decide.

4. With Parents’ Help, It

Parents and other adults are Parents and other adults are helping the kids. If they have a friend, with commonground. “He encouraged them to put the big concept of respect was continuously reinforced in the cabins, dur-

ing lunchtime, on the ball fields.

Fred Mullins, a Family Services Counselor from Immokalee, was a counselor of a cabin of six 10-year-olds. He helped them learn how to put the big concept of respect into action by giving them three easy-to-follow steps: Be slow to speak, the slow an anger. Be slow to listen. The boy thanked Fred by making him a red, yellow, white and black beaded necklace. He says that Fred is an important part of his life.

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Camp Kulaqua - Seminole Tribe of Florida's Annual Summer Youth Camp

Teens Get an ABC Lesson From Boss

Teens Get an ABC Lesson From Boss

Poster Assignment Looks Simple, but Requires Grown-Up Skills

Talent Show Is Opportunity to Really Shine

Adults Learn Just as Much as Kids at Camp

Camp Unifies, with Friends, with Purpose

One goal of Youth Camp is to bring back the old feeling of “when everyone knew everyone.” Campers from Hollywood, BC, Brighton, Immokalee, Tampa, and Tallahassee are members mixed together in cabins. “We are a tribe. There should be no more, I’m from Brighton, I’m from Immokalee,” says Helene Buelho, Camp Director. But do living, playing and learning together? “I’ve made a lot of friends,” says Lisanne On’s creator is clearly not having fun. She has pushed her chair away from the table and explains, “They all want it, get it out, right sound track or wrong.

New York, NY • The Seminole Tribune • 11B

Darryl Allen, School Resource Officer from Brighton, says, “This camp, these youth, give me hard for their futures. ’This camp, these youth, give me reason to get up in the morning.”

Darryl, normally cool and calm, is visibly moved. Everyone ac-

Jalissa says, “That’s what they call kindness and respect.”...
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Big Cypress Seminoles T-Ball Players Honored in Inaugural Season's Awards Ceremony

BY NAJ TORKAS
Staff Reporter

BIG CYPRESS — In a fledgling sports program’s first year of existence, it’s not about winning or losing, according to Tribal citizen Carol Osceola.

During the Big Cypress Seminoles T-Ball Awards Ceremony held Aug. 9 at the Billie Swamp Safari’s Cell, the upstart Tribal team instead focused on the fundamental accomplishments made on the field this season. Osceola’s 7-year-old daughter, Brandi, was noted by her teammates, coaches and parental support group for making a commendable effort in learning the fundamentals of the game of T-Ball.

&#x201C;As a young kid like that, it’s hard to remember all the plays and where you’re supposed to be at.&#x201D; Osceola said of Brandi and her teammates at the awards ceremony. &#x201C;It’s more about the kids having fun and learning the basic skills of the sport.&#x201D;

Despite finishing their first season with a 3-4 record — the Big Cypress Seminoles T-Ball team’s final two games were cancelled due to inclement weather — the program finished its season strong after a slow start, as the players began to jell as a team toward the end of their inaugural year.

According to Tribal citizen Carol Osceola, first year of existence, it’s not about winning or losing, according to Tribal citizen Carol Osceola. The upstart Tribal team instead focused on the fundamentals of the game of T-Ball.

Big Cypress Seminoles T-Ball Head Coach Alfonso Tigertail and Assistant Coach David Rojas teamed up to form the collection of Tribal youngsters, comprised of 12 players - boys and girls, from 3 to 9 years old.

The Dedona Davis and Howard received baseballs from team and head Coach David Simmons, for their help throughout the season.

Tribal Youth Completes Championship Season

BY CHRIE J. JENKINS
Staff Reporter

HOLLYWOOD — The sky is the limit for Tribal youth softball player Charity Frye.

At the young age of 7 she still has time to dream and accomplish more, but she is well on her way.

She and her Pembroke Lakes Bandits 8-and-under A division travel softball team are still celebrating winning their state titles and One World Series title in one year, under Head Coach Pam Dedona.

Compiling a 56-5 overall season record, the young right fielder helped the Bandits go undefeated in the regular season winning 13 straight tournament games capturing the Independent Softball Association (ISA) and National Softball Association (NSA) state championships. To cap things off, they also took home the United States Specialty Sports Association (USSSA) championships on the state and world stage, facing teams from Texas, Iowa and Georgia.

In the World Championship Series A Division, the Bandits were squared off with Frye’s squad playing a string of games at Clearwater Bombers 4-2 for the title on July 31.

The experience has been a part of having fun and competing for the team, said a Member of the Clab.

“I like to put my best foot forward,” Charity, a left eye like to put my best foot forward. As the youngest player on the team this year, Charity found her footing and enjoyed the experience. She always has a natural tendency toward athletics following in the footsteps of older Davis.

“Charity is a special athlete,” Duddy said. “I love the sport softball, and I like that she sees what she needs to fix to correct her problem areas.”

Jumper-Frye said. “I told her often throughout the season, when you put on the field, nobody cares what your age is.”

“She approached every game the same and always kept her cool. What has impressed me the most about her though has been her analysis and understanding of the game at an early age,” Jumper-Frye continued.

Coach Denham said although Charity’s eyegy.o voter is evident off the field, her forward play on it speaks to her potential.

“When she showed up to play she was more seasoned than her years,” Denham said.

The coach also said Frye had a big role in the team’s great run, showing great hitting ability and solid throwing. But at this point, because of her young age, the enjoyment of the sport outweighs the team accomplishment.

“She [Charity] does not understand the reality of what we accomplished as a team,” Charity said. “She just put out there having fun. Right now, she just does what your typical kid would do. but she will look back on it and say, ‘you what older I get, Charity said. ‘I hope to play on through to the college and professional levels, but playing in the outfield, catching pop-ups and getting the older girls out on base was her most enjoyable moments this season.

As an only member to the 8-and-under squad for next year, Denham explained that the team will be centered around Charity as one of the team leaders. She said Charity should continue to improve on her speed and agility.

As her coach, I am expecting her to take on the role of leader. She is going to be the most experienced and needs to show the others what needs to be done and will be an important foundation for next year,” Denham said.

Seminole Warriors 12U Travel Team

BY RACHEL BUXTON
Staff Reporter

BRIGHTON — The tribal Youth Services 12U travel baseball team, which recently became the World Series champions, was recognized for their hard work and determination at a banquet in their honor put on by Brighton’s Tribal Council Office and the Recreation Department.

The banquet was held at the Seminole Veterans Building Aug. 3 and included a dinner, followed by a special No. 1 hall of fame dedication.

“I’ve seen these boys from beginning to now go from zero to cruze, to start walking and now they’re dancing. They’re Seminoles Warrior Founders and Brighton Event Coordinating Chair Howard said.

Each player was presented with a commemorative baseball and World Series Championship plaque for their accomplishments.

Director of Recreation Richard Osceola, Tribal Council assistant Lacy Bowers and Darnette Bowers, and Howard presented baseballs from team and head Coach David Simmons, for their help throughout the season.

Banquet in Bright Honors Seminole Warriors 12U Travel Team

BY RACHEL BUXTON
Staff Reporter

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NAYO Boys Bring Home 2nd Place Trophy

Native Tribes from around the country traveled to Atmore, Ala., to compete in the 2010 NAYO baseball tournament July 16-17. Tribes included Navajo, Cherokee, and the Creek, the 9-12 year-old Seminole boys division placed second in the tournament bringing home bragging rights and a trophy. Pictures and video are from left Lake Pulaski, Chehaw, 9-12, Graydon Bills, Anjke Jumper, Tiyakkiy Oscaukla, Joshua Madrigal, Cameron Jumper, Imlakshi Oscaukla and Jerry Smith. Back row Coaches, from left: Gene Thomas, Larry Howard and John Madrigal.
Seminole Warriors 12U Travel Team Capture Series Win

BY RACHEL BUXTON
Staff Reporter

ORLANDO — The Seminole Warrior 12U travel baseball team played their last game of the season July 23, making all their hard work and dedication worthwhile as they claimed the World Series championship title.

The World Series was held at the Wide World of Sports Disney resort in Orlando from July 19-23. The team snagged the season championship title as they claimed the World Series Championship.

The Tryout

ORLANDO — The Seminole Warriors 12U travel baseball team was born. Howard now saw the potential in many of the Tribal youth on the reservation and decided to create with help from the Brighton Council Office and from the Recreation Department, a travel baseball team giving the youth a chance to see life off the reservation.

“I always told them that if you have goals, you could get out of them in the way they’d get out of their shell,” Howard said. In January there was an open tryout at the reservation that brought players from Lake Placid and SoFlo. The tryout lasted up to being held in the Brighton gym due to a downpour rain. Twelve boys showed up allowing each one a spot on the team. After roster changes and the elimination of two players, the Seminole Warriors 12U team was born.

When we first saw the team we knew we were going to take a lot of work, a lot of practicing and they had to go,” Coach Simons said. “You can’t take kids in a travel league and expect them, bring them in and practice together and be successful. It just doesn’t work like that.”

Throughout the season the Seminole Warriors practiced at least three days a week, up to three and a half hours. They traveled around the state playing in tournaments, and even bringing home a few trophies that will reside in the Brighton Gymnasium. The boys, however, had to work to play baseball. In order to travel and pay to play in the different tournaments, they had to work to play base.

“The Seminole Warriors would like to thank Larry Howard, head coach, for giving us a chance to be successful.”

The Team

The Seminole Warriors were made up of mostly Tribal youth with only two Tribal youth, Layton Thomas and Josh Madrigal, coming to the team. After roster changes and the elimination of two players, the Seminole Warriors 12U team was born.

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A team that was made up of mostly Tribal youth with only two Tribal youth, Layton Thomas and Josh Madrigal, came together to become a winning team. They worked on and off of the field building friendship and teams together.

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The Big Cypress Senior Center held a pool tournament on July 29 in honor of the late Juanita Billie. Eleven Big Cypress Tribal seniors participated in the event, including Edward Billie, the son of Juanita Billie. "She dedicated this day every year for her (Juanita)," Big Cypress Senior Center Site Manager Cecilia Guzman said. "I didn't know her much, but I did get to meet her and she was a wonderful person. Juanita was very nice; she liked talking about history and her family." Left photo, Big Cypress Tribal Senior Louise Billie won the women's 8-Ball competition at the ninth Annual Juanita Billie Pool Tournament. Big Cypress Senior Center Site Manager Cecilia Guzman said she hopes "we can continue to do these pool tournaments in the future. "It brings a lot of laughter and joy to their (seniors') hearts and spirits." Photo below, Big Cypress Tribal Senior Esther Butler plays in a win in the women's 8-Ball competition. Big Cypress Senior Center Site Manager Cecilia Guzman talked about how the seniors left off about the experience. "It brings back a lot of memories." Guzman said. "They can sit back and remember the good pool moments they had in the past. Some that never used to play pool are now doing it." - Naji Tobias

The Big Cypress Senior Warriors 10U played in the first tournament in Kissimmee. The season brought home the first place trophy at their ball travel team made a name for themselves early on in the season competing in several tournaments at various levels. "The players just keep getting better," head coach Michael Warner said. "We appreciate the opportunity to help teach the young players about commitment, discipline, accountability and how to be part of a team while demonstrating good sportsmanship." The Seminole Warriors 10U travel team was part of the travel baseball program started by Howard-Brighton's event coordinator. "He has put so much work and energy into making this program a success," said Michele Thomas, mother of 10U player. "Our local community is very lucky to have people like him."
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