

IMMOKALEE BULLETIN

Serving Immokalee, Ave Maria and Eastern Collier County

Vol. 43 No. 11

Thursday, March 18, 2010

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Sports Network Team
See Page ...7

Homeless prevention presentation planned

The Legal Aid Service of Collier County will be making an HPRP Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Grant Presentation on Thursday, March 18, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Carl J. Kuehner Community Center, 2449 Sanders Pines Circle, Immokalee. This presentation will provide information regarding your legal rights as a tenant, and your rights if you are facing eviction or if you are a tenant in a foreclosure home.

Lions Club to hold free eye clinic

Lions Club will provide free eye exam tests for adults and children on Sunday, March 21, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Registration closes at 12:30 p.m. at the iTECH Center, 508 Ninth Street, Immokalee. Eye screening for Glaucoma, Cataracts, Macular Degeneration; tests for diabetes and blood pressure. free eye glasses. In partnership with: Collier County Health Dept., Friendship Health Clinic; Congressional Glaucoma Caucus, Bonita Springs Lions Eye Clinic; Edison College School of Nursing, Marion E. Feather Medical Center.

See Page 2 for information about how to contact the newspaper.

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Former educator dedicated to helping children

Immokalee GALs - friend to a child

By **Patty Brant**
Immokalee Bulletin

Although a number of Collier County Guardians ad Litem handle cases for Immokalee children, Jacob Leib is the only Guardian ad Litem who lives here. A former principal at Lake Trafford Elementary School, he has been working with children for most of his adult life and been a GAL since he retired in 2001.

The transition from educator to Guardian ad Litem was an easy one for him, since children have always been at the core of his professional life.

With eight years of experience with children trapped in the court system, Jacob said a child's first reaction is that what's going on with their family is somehow their fault. They may have even been told so.

The first step is to gain their trust, no small feat since often these children have little reason to feel at ease with adults.

According to Jacob, "the drug cases are the tough ones... they're pernicious." Drug problems just don't go away. It takes time, commitment and often professional help to kick a drug habit that wreaks such havoc in families. Drugs are a sad reality in our communities and patterns of abuse are difficult to overcome.

In fact, GAL Voluntee Services Coordinator for Collier County Connie Subrook said drugs are at the core of over 90 percent of their cases.

Normally, Jacob said parents complete their case plan in a year to 15 months. Department of Children & Families tailor the case plan to detail steps parents must take to regain their children. Once that plan is fulfilled, the child is returned to the home.

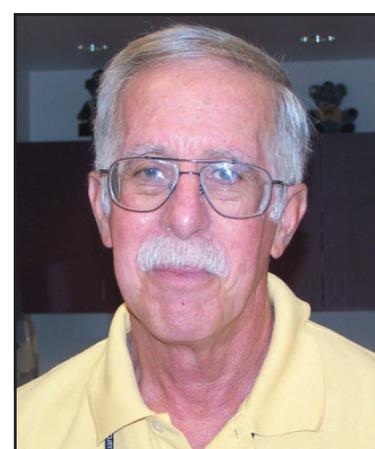
Sometimes, though, when the outcome of a parent's case is not good, the child can be removed permanently and parental rights severed.

It's not enough for a GAL to sympathize with their young client, objectivity is essential; not an easy task, especially if a child has been hurt physically or emotionally, Jacob said.

It can be difficult to get a child to open up. They're vulnerable; they're scared. A volunteer must be delicate, go slowly and earn their trust. No promises, though, Jacob said.

A GAL has to be prepared to deal with children of various backgrounds, different cultures. Interpreters can be found if necessary, but Jacob said language has never been a real problem.

GALs must also be ready to tackle any age level, although a volunteer can limit the number of cases they take on and even refuse



Former elementary school principal and educator is dedicated to helping children.

a specific case or specify the children they want to handle by gender, age, etc.

Jacob has had clients from

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Students spend Spring Break in Immokalee

Helping hands give up 'break time' to help others

By **Rick Heers**
Special to the Immokalee Bulletin

Hundreds of civic-minded college students have been descending upon Immokalee supporting work for the needy in the community. During the week of March 4, students arrived in town to work with Habitat for Humanity, building homes behind Lake Trafford Elementary School working for I HOPE in its ongoing ministry of rehabbing homes and mobile homes for the community. While some, like the students from Notre Dame University and the ones from the University of Florida-Gainesville were housed in other areas, many of the others have been accommodated within Immokalee itself. Students from the University of Florida completed the demolition of a mobile



Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/Rick Heers
University of Florida students spend their Spring Break week trading studies for some outdoor physical labor helping with cleaning up debris in the Immokalee area. Students from areas throughout the country will also be spending their time off doing worthwhile projects locally.

home that had recently been destroyed by a fire. The family was facing fines for not having it de-

molished. The father is currently

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50 years of Harvest Fest

Immokalee's 50th Harvest Festival is set for March 20, at the John Jimmie Memorial Arena - the Seminole Rodeo Grounds - on the Seminole Tribal Land, 1195 S.R. 29 in Immokalee.

The event will begin with a Saturday parade at 10 a.m. and include a ranch rodeo; a children's pavilion and bounce house; an authentic Seminole Indian camp site and alligator wrestling. The Shy Wolf Animal Sanctuary will provide a wolf exhibition. There will be craft and food vendors galore and a Wild Hog BBQ featuring the famous Immokalee Salad.

Admission will be \$5 and children 12 and under will be admitted free.

Check out www.immokaleeharvestfestival.com for more details and directions.

For more information call: 866-657-3237 or 239-657-3237.

GALS

Continued From Page 1

two days old to 18 years - at that time they "age out" of the system. Technically, they're adults and can be on their own.

He said he usually sees a child once or twice a month at their home or school. At home he will often talk with the parent. At school, he can have one-on-one time with the child.

As a seasoned veteran Guardian, Jacob said anyone interested in volunteering must be able to deal with difficult situations. You must be objective and mature.

The volunteer has access to most anything that will give insight into the child and his or her situation including the whole case file, Department of Children & Families reports and the like. They won't have access to certain psychological reports, however.

In our society when things go wrong in the family, kids can end up taking on a heavy burden. Jacob believes that it is the Guardian ad Litem's job to always, always do what's best for the child.

Mary Purchensky of Naples has been a Guardian for ten years. Many of her cases are Immokalee children. When her children got older she decided it was time to do something for someone else. She saw an ad in the paper for the Guardian ad Litem program and took it to heart.

Mary said the classes teach you everything you need to know. They give you the basics, explain what the cases are like. They "make it easy," she said.

Now, she said, new Guardians get a mentor to start off, which helps take some of the stress out of your first solo.

She said she visits her young clients at home, school, foster home, playgrounds and different settings. Mary said she carries 6-7 cases and spends 5-10 hours a week as a volunteer. Each case takes 1-2 hours per week.

Volunteering for this program is rewarding, Mary feels, even though they're not all happy endings. GALs need to accept that some kids have very rough lives. It's hard for them to pick up the pieces - even when they're going back to their parents. Perhaps especially if they're not.

It's a challenge, Mary cautions, not to get too personally swept up in the child's problems. You have to draw a line while at the same time giving a special part of yourself to

these kids. She once was Guardian for a boy whose dad tried to murder him. He had to testify against his father in court.

"You have to hold their hands and look into eyes as they implore you for kindness they've never had," Mary said.

A volunteer has to "go by their gut" a lot of the time, Mary explains. She said she raised her own children to know right from wrong. As a volunteer GAL, you try lead these kids in the right direction and give the judge the information that will help bring the case to a close that will be good for the child.

Mary said she deals with parents a lot, too, because volunteers must know the parent as well as the child to understand the situation.

The GAL must write a summary of the case along with their recommendation - either allow the child to go back to the parent or to a foster home. Without a Guardian to speak for them, children can just flounder in the system with no voice or friend to help them through. Being a Guardian for a teenager can be especially challenging.

One of Mary's former clients is Rose. She aged out of the program at 18, but has stayed close to Mary. At 23, she lives in Fort Myers, and has gotten her life in order. She recently graduated from Edison State College with an AS in paralegal. Next, she hopes to earn an AA, then attend FGCU for bachelor's degree in legal research.

Rose won't dwell on the past, but looking back on her time in the legal system she acknowledges that Mary was her savior.

At the time, Rose lived in Immokalee.

Rose's was a particularly difficult case, Mary recalls. One of five siblings, she came here from Haiti at age 2. Their home life was pitiful. Their mother neglected them, their home was dirty and there was no food in the house.

Removed from her home at age 13, the courts first tried to place Rose with an older sister. That did not work out well. She was shuffled around to foster homes in Naples, Lee County, Charlotte and St. Petersburg.

In elementary school in Immokalee Rose got As and Bs. She liked school, where she said she could get away from home. In foster care, she didn't feel she had any haven to go to. Rose said that, prior to Mary, nobody in the system did anything for her. Her first experience in the legal system was anything but positive.

For a while she was in a group home where she never met or spoke to a caseworker. She was moved to several different

foster homes because she was belligerent. Rage took control of the young girl, alone and lost in a system she had no control in. She had had a horrible past and needed the right GAL match. Rose was one of five siblings, the two older ones were not in the court system. When she was first taken in she had nothing but the clothes on her back. One caring caseworker at a group home took \$100 from his own pocket to get her some clothes.

Rose first met Mary when she was 13. From the first, Rose felt that nobody else cared, so she acted out. "I didn't want to make it easy on them. Nobody listened," Rose said.

But Mary was different and Rose loved her from the first.

"Nobody listened to me till Mary," Rose recalls, and Mary got a lot done. Rose wasn't a citizen so Mary helped her get her green card and get on Medicaid. She is now working on becoming a citizen.

She has a car, an apartment and is independent. Looking forward to the day when she has children of her own, Rose said, "I don't want my kids to go through what I went through." She's prepared to do whatever is needed to care for them. She said she knows she's a better person now, because of Mary.

"She taught me not to let anybody do whatever they wanted to me - not to be just another number. She gave me a voice and she's my best friend now. Others tell me of good experiences with GAL," she said, "but nobody quite matched Mary."

Rose has even done some intern work at the GAL office herself.

Mary said she would recommend becoming a GAL to any adult who loves kids, but said it's hard to realize that there are a lot of really abused kids in every community. "It goes on right under our noses," she said.

Working primarily in Immokalee, Mary said it's a wonderful community where she knows she is needed. "The community latches on to you," she said, adding, "It's loving; offers different cultures; is open and friendly." She said there are a lot of language barriers but it's not as difficult as might think. Newcomers all try hard to learn English.

Jacob and Mary agree that most of the time there is no more contact between a GAL and the child, once the case is closed. Still, there is always the knowledge that they made a real difference for a child that no one else could.

To Rose the difference volunteers make

to children adrift in a world they cannot understand, much less control, is summed up in one short sentence: "There's no feeling like being alone."

With a Guardian ad Litem, children like that 13-year-old Rose don't have to be.

BREAK

Continued From Page 1

an unemployed farm worker, and has been split up, living with separate relatives since the fire a few months ago. The Community Foundation of Collier County-Immokalee Initiative has provided a grant to I HOPE that is covering the demolition costs. I HOPE is currently searching for funding to provide a replacement mobile home for the family.

A large group of 50 students from the University of Connecticut arrived on the weekend and stayed through the week at the Bethel Ranch and Conference/Retreat Center on the beautiful 120-acre ranch previously owned by the Johnson family. Working directly with I HOPE on several projects, the UCONN students enjoyed the vast surroundings of the Ranch, and were the guests of the Immokalee Parks and Rec Center, using their shower facilities each day after work. Besides working on a number of projects, they also met with the Coalition of Immokalee Workers, did some sightseeing, and together with a group of students from Vanderbilt University, had an entertaining social evening with the staff of I HOPE and had a lively presentation by one of the local farmers who shed a great deal of light on the actual working conditions of local farm laborers in the fields and packing houses. It was great to see such a large group of college students who were full of questions, ideas and suggestions as to how they could help the disadvantaged in our community.

15 students from Vanderbilt University were housed in the gymnasium at First Baptist Church, using their gymnasium, rooms, kitchen and dining hall.

Many of the students left with sunburned bodies, but, more importantly, fond memories of a community indebted to them spending their Spring break time being productive and gaining many friends among the families they helped in Immokalee.

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IMMOKALEE BULLETIN

Serving Immokalee Since 1969

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Website: www.newszap.com/immokalee

To Submit News

The Immokalee Bulletin welcomes submissions from its readers. Opinions, calendar items, story ideas and photographs are welcome. Call (239) 657-6000 to reach our newsroom. The deadline for all news items is 11 a.m. on Monday prior to the following Thursday's publication.
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The Immokalee Bulletin is published by Independent Newspapers of Florida. Independent is owned by a unique trust that enables this newspaper to pursue a mission of journalistic service to the citizens of the community. Since no dividends are paid, the company is able to thrive on profit margins below industry standards. All after-tax surpluses are reinvested in Independent's mission of journalistic service, commitment to the ideals of the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, and support of the community's deliberation of public issues.

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- To correct our errors and to give each correction the prominence it deserves.
- To provide a right to reply to those we write about.
- To treat people with courtesy, respect and compassion.

County commission approves Immokalee Airport resolution

The Collier County Board of County Commissioners (BCC) has approved a resolution to support the Transportation Planning Department's application to add the Immokalee Regional Airport to the Florida Strategic Intermodal System (SIS). The Florida Department of Transportation is currently in the process of updating the SIS Plan and the BCC resolution also requests designating the Immokalee Airport as an Emerging SIS Facility in a Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern.

"The current economic slowdown will eventually come to an end and Collier County needs to be positioned to capitalize on the next growth wave," said District 5 Commissioner Jim Coletta. "A balanced, multimodal transportation program will play a critical role in enhancing our economic competitiveness and the Immokalee Regional Airport can serve as a catalyst to attract economic development to the region."

The airport is located on a 1,381 acre site. In its current role, the airport focuses primarily on serving general aviation aircraft. An important asset of the Immokalee Airport is its location - only 35 miles from the only designated SIS aviation hub in the Southwest Economic Region, Southwest Florida International Airport. The airport is also located in a designated Florida Rural Enterprise Zone which supports economic revitalization in high unemployment areas by offering tax incentives to businesses located with the Enterprise Zone. Additionally, a 60-acre zone in and around the airport is a designated Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ) which offers companies the ability to defer any duties or taxes until the business ships the goods outside of the FTZ.

"Community airports support essential community services and the Immokalee

Regional Airport has the potential to help make the region exceedingly more marketable to businesses and bring about a new era of economic prosperity to our region," said Richard Rice, Executive Director of the Greater Eastern Collier County Chamber of Commerce. "Our organization strongly supports the effort to recognize the Immokalee Airport as an emerging SIS Facility, especially when taking into consideration the major economic contribution this would bring to our community."

In 2009, the Florida National Guard signed a lease with Collier County and the Airport Authority for 26 acres of land that will be used for the construction of a new Readiness Center. The Guard anticipates that their activities and operations will include a notable level of aviation-related traffic. The increase in air traffic will be the result of training and operations in response to disasters such as hurricanes, wildfires and floods.

In order to accomplish these goals, runway expansion at the airport is needed. The BCC's 2011 federal legislative agenda includes a request for \$5 million to lengthen a 5,000-foot runway by an additional 2,750 feet.

"The Immokalee Airport offers an outstanding opportunity to establish a land side cargo and passenger facility that has access to I-75 and Collier, Lee and Hendry Counties and is positioned to provide a future alternative to Southwest Florida International Airport for domestic and international cargo transport," added Commissioner Coletta. "In order to diversify our local economy, we first need the tools to do so. The Immokalee Airport is an important public asset that can generate jobs and economic development today and into the future."

Gulf Citrus Gala planned

Tickets are now on sale for the Gulf Citrus Growers Association Country Gala to be held Saturday, April 10, at 6 p.m. at LaBelle Civic Center (directly behind City Hall).

Guests will be treated to a steak dinner prepared by the Hendry County Cattleman's Association. There will also be a live auction, raffles and a \$1,000 grand cash prize drawing.

Tickets are \$120 per couple/admits two and can be purchased by calling or stopping by the Gulf Citrus office located at 255 Main Street, LaBelle. Phone: (863) 675-2180.

Proceeds from the gala benefit the community outreach and legislative efforts of the association on behalf of the citrus industry in Southwest Florida.

The Gulf Citrus Growers Association is a trade association representing the citrus growers of Southwest Florida. Its geographical service area includes Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry and Lee Counties. "Gulf Citrus" addresses key issues of economic importance to the sustainable growth and development of the citrus industry of Southwest Florida.

Local Forecast

Weather forecast for Collier County from the National Weather Service

Immokalee Forecast

Today: A 20 percent chance of showers. Partly cloudy, with a high near 74. Calm wind becoming west between 6 and 9 mph.

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 42. Northwest wind around 6 mph.

Extended Forecast

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 77. Calm wind becoming northwest around 5 mph.

Friday night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 47. Light and variable wind.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 81. Light east wind.

Saturday night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 52.

Sunday: A 20 percent chance of showers. Partly cloudy, with a high near 83.

Obituaries

Fernando Borrego Ramirez, 54

IMMOKALEE — Fernando Borrego Ramirez, known as Bua, died Friday, March 5, 2010, in his home surrounded by his loving family. He was 54.

He was born in San Antonio, Texas, to Juan Amaro Ramirez and Victoria Borrego Ramirez, March 10, 1955.

He was preceded in death by his father, Juan, in 1999.

Survivors include his mother, Victoria; five brothers, Enrique (Frances) Borrego



of San Antonio, Texas, David (Leonor) Ramirez of Lakeland, Juan Ramirez of Wauchula, Rudy (Teresa) Ramirez of LaBelle, and Gonzalo (Elena) Ramirez of Rile, N.C.; four sisters, Erlinda Ramirez, Olivia (Felipe) Anzualda, Elida (Bartolo) Garcia, and Josefina Ramirez, all of Lakeland; wife of 37

years, Maria; sons, Fernando Jr. (Myita), Rafael (Rita), Juan (Amy), and Armando; daughter, Anita (Pablo) Silva; and 11 grandchildren, all of Immokalee.

Visitation was from 5 to 8 p.m. Sunday, March 7, and continued from 11 a.m. to 12 noon Monday, March 8, at Brister Funeral Home, followed by funeral services at Lake Trafford Cemetery, Immokalee.

Poem for Fernando:

Todos lloramos en este momento
Debido al dolor que llevamos por dentro
Fue un ejemplo para sus hijos
Al nunca juzgar con prejuicios
Si le pedias una mano
El te daba las dos
Hombre como el es dificil de allar
Donde quiera que estaba se ponía
macaniquiar
En este mundo hay pura venganza
Gracias a Dios hay esperanza
Por eso.....
Muchos vienen a decirle adios
Pero nosotros los que lo amamos
Le decimos: Hasta luego Fernando.

Engaged? Just married? Golden anniversary?
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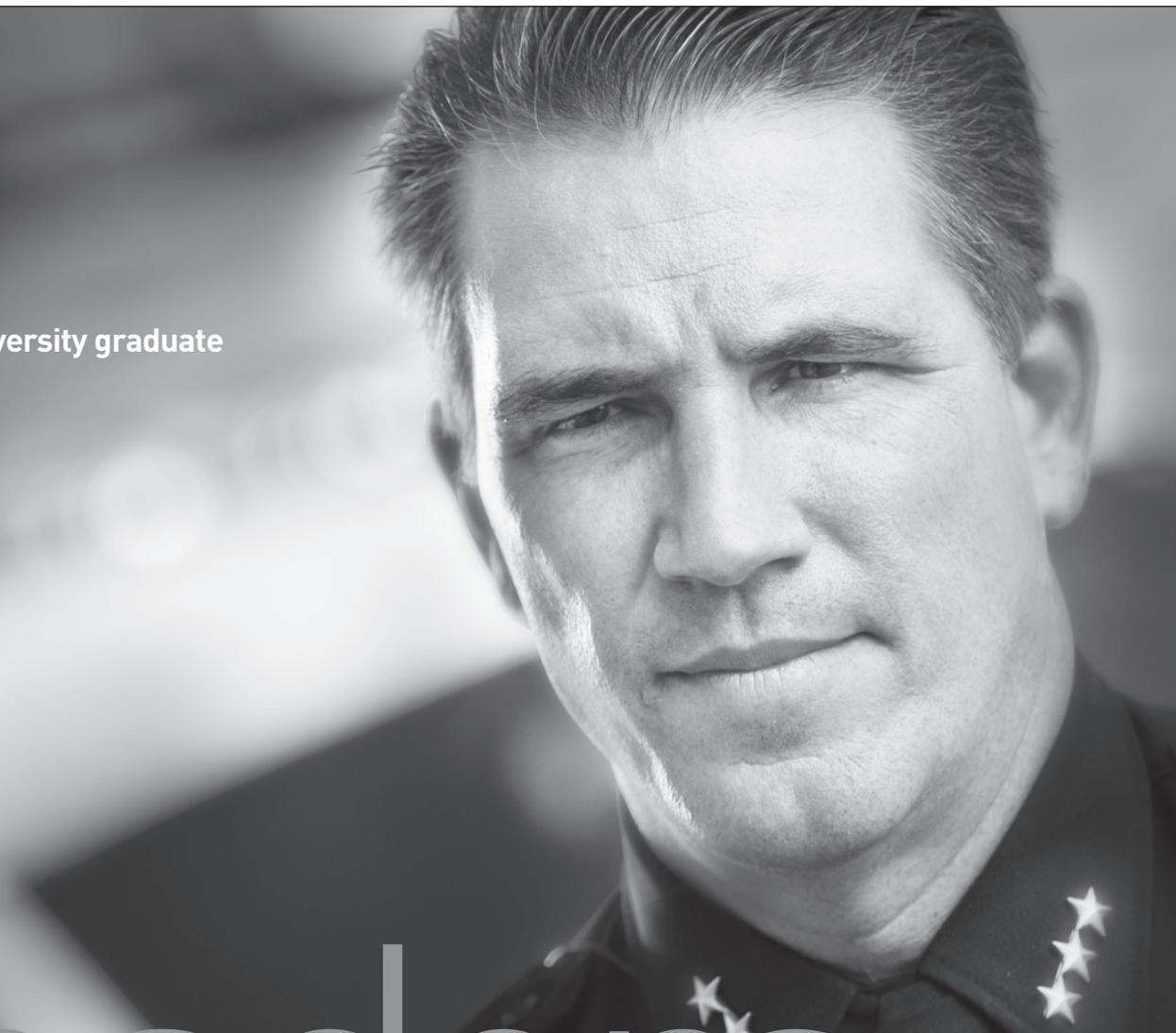


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Doug Baker
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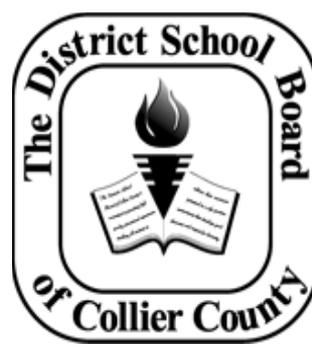
Students First

Good behavior - It's a positive thing

By Joe Landon
Collier County District Schools

PBS – the Public Broadcasting Service, right? Having spent most of my life in the broadcasting world, that's what I've always thought. But here in the school district, PBS stands for something else – something very positive – Positive Behavior Support. The program does just that – it supports the positive behavior of our students using recognition and various kinds of incentives to do so. The incentives could include computer time, or lunch with your teacher, or a gift certificate, or tokens that might be used in the school store. PBS is teaching, recognizing, and reinforcing positive behavior in keeping with school-wide expectations. According to the district's PBS coordinator, Dr. Pam Bruening, this is a grant-funded project, and the PBS program is currently in place in 90 percent of our schools and in all school grade levels – elementary, middle and high, and in our alternative programs. The transportation department is also on

board with PBS. We have what we call a PBS coach in all of our PBS schools, and all transportation supervisors are PBS coaches. They meet monthly to problem-solve, learn what's new, and explore other ways they can support the PBS mission. A goal is to have the PBS program up and running in all of our schools (100 percent) next year. So, how are we doing with all of this? Very well, thank you. We're seeing a major decrease in discipline referrals, an increase in attendance, an increase in the all-important student engagement piece, and a more positive school culture. School grades, issued by the state for our schools, have gone up in most of the schools where PBS is in place. The Positive Behavior Support program brings all school staff and students together with a common purpose in regard to school-wide expectations. Schools become a positive place to be, and there's an enhanced focus on the positive rather than the negative. Plus, we are a leader in the state, having more model PBS schools than any other district in Florida. This past year we had 23 model schools receiving gold, silver or bronze awards. Your next question



I'm sure is, is there anything I can do to help? You bet there is. You can volunteer time to help with PBS events, or work behind

the scenes with activities at one of our schools. A variety of donations can be helpful to, from left over t-shirts from a community event, to coupons for local businesses to you name it. Those donated incentives are always welcome. Just get with the school nearest you to ask what you can do to contribute to the "positive behavior support" of our students.

Next time, the rest of *Revenge of the Living Dummy*, the essay by student Jeffson Saint-Preux.

Tech school to host 'Prom Expo'

Attention prom goes from Collier County high schools. The Lorenzo Walker Technical High School (LWTHS) senior class is sponsoring a Prom Expo from 7-9 p.m. on Friday, March 19, at the school located at 3702 Estey Avenue. The Class of 2010 will model more than 25 dresses and 20 tuxedos, as well as distribute information about florists, limo companies, photographers, and more – all items pertaining to going to prom.

Any Collier County high school student is invited to attend. Cost is \$5 at the door, and everyone admitted will receive one ticket for many available door prizes. All of the vendors showcased are from the Naples area. Food will be provided by the LWTHS student culinary staff and will be sold during the evening. So come out and enjoy this fabulous event where everything is about prom!

To learn more, please contact senior class sponsor Joann E. Cassio at 239-377-3300.

Teen 'driver's ed' classes to open for this summer

Parents of teen drivers, the time is drawing near to apply for your son or daughter to be admitted into the School District of Collier County's summer school driver education program. The application must be completed and returned on or after Tuesday, April 6, in order for your student to be considered for one of the seats in the program. Applications are available online at: http://www.collier.k12.fl.us/student_services/drivered.asp. Simply click on the "View/Print Application" link.

Additional information regarding the program:

- Applications will not be accepted until Tuesday, April 6. Any applications sent before that date will not be processed.

- Your student must have a learner's permit in hand on the first day of the summer school class. Students who do not have their permits in hand will forfeit their seat in the program and it will be given to a student on the waiting list.

- Phone calls and e-mails will not reserve a seat in the program.

- Every attempt will be made to accommodate your request for date and location, however, it cannot be guaranteed due to the high demand for this program.

- Once all applications have been processed, you will be notified if your student has been placed in the program. Notifications of placement will be made via telephone or e-mail. Please ensure that the information on the application is correct and legible. Notifications will be made at the end of April. • Students who do not show up the first day of class will forfeit their seat in the program. That seat will be given to a student on the waiting list.

- Students who are placed on the waiting list will be notified. They have the option of attending the first day in hopes that a seat

will become available. There is no guarantee of placement for students who are on the waiting list.

• Please fax, mail, e-mail or hand deliver the application on or after Tuesday, April 6, to: Joe Kemper, Coordinator of Student Ser-

vices - c/o Office of Student Services
5775 Osceola Trail, Naples, FL 34109,
FAX: 239-377-0549, kemperjo@collier.k12.

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Easter fashion show fundraiser helps TIF kids

By The Immokalee Foundation
Special to the Immokalee Bulletin

The Immokalee Foundation recently hosted grandparents, parents and children to the first annual Beth Moné Children's Shoppe Easter parade fashion show luncheon.

The event, held at Bay Colony Golf Club, raised money in support of The Immokalee Foundation's efforts to empower the youth of Immokalee through education. It featured more than two dozen children modeling spring fashions from leading designers.

"The Immokalee Foundation is a deserving cause," said Susan Tigwell, owner of Beth Moné Children's Shoppe. "It was a wonderful day."

Her clothing store, located at 381 12th Avenue South in Olde Naples, is Southwest Florida's oldest and most respected source for children's fashions.

Since 1991, The Immokalee Foundation has been creating pathways to success for Immokalee's children through a variety of programs that focus on mentorship, after-school activities, college scholarships, the development of vocational skills and incentives for educational growth. In 2009, The Immokalee Foundation served 2,700 children through its core programs.

The Immokalee Foundation offers a road map toward a brighter future. It helps manage six core programs including: College

Success: Take Stock in Children, Direct Scholarships, Vocational Success: Future Builders of America, Out of School Program: The First Tee of Naples/Collier, Immokalee Readers and Community Grants. TIF's Take Stock in Children program has been recognized as one of the best in the state of Florida. Currently 100 percent of the students graduating from high school continue on to college.

The Immokalee Foundation is hosting a variety of upcoming events including a bus tour of Immokalee on March 22. Participants can learn more about the area and the programs provided by the foundation.

Also, TIF, along with The First Tee of Naples/Collier will host an Inter-Club golf-

ing challenge on April 26, at The Old Collier Golf Club in Naples. Clubs are represented by four members plus the club pro. After the players finish up their rounds of golf, they will head into the clubhouse for a luncheon and recognition of the winners.

"All of the events serve to help children receive an education," said Louise Penta, a foundation board member. "We have kids going to college who never dreamed they would have that opportunity. The impact we make is felt among the people and families in Immokalee." For more information, call 239-430-9122 or visit www.immokaleefoundation.org.

News in Brief

IHS to hold 20 year reunion

Save the dates - June 12 and 13! Immokalee High School old classmates will come together and reconnect.

The class of 1990 is celebrating the occasion with what will prove to be a memorable reunion. All of the fun will take place at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Fort Myers.

Events include a reception dinner, dancing and lots of reminiscing.

The weekend-long event will continue the following afternoon with a "Family Day" at Lakes Regional Park. The park plans in-

clude an old fashioned "cookout" and several outdoor activities for the entire family. For more information and to register, please go to: www.classreport.org <<http://www.classreport.org/>>. Click your way to the IHS site and sign up to be included in all of the announcements and updates.

You can also e-mail Pete Cade at: pcade@hodges.edu or call him at: 863-228-1359. The deadline to register is quickly approaching so please do not delay. Hope to see you there!

Coaches - Players - Sports Fans

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IMMOKALEE BULLETIN

HOME

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AWAY

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Connect with your teammates, fans and the **entire** community

Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/DAS

Pets of the Week

Beautiful Snickers (top) is an eight year old spayed female Calico Tort cat. Snickers front paws are declawed and she loves to tap her afternoon nap in a soft bed. Snickers is good with other cats and kittens. Samantha (left) is a 1.5 year old female brown and black domestic short hair tabby kitty. She mostly a lap kitty. She is sweet and would like a loving new home. Daisy is a 1 year old female black tabby cat. She is full of fun and has lots of love to give! Adopt from Collier County Domestic Animal Services located in Naples at 7610 Davis Blvd. Call 239-252-PETS (7387) or visit DAS online to find a lost or adoptable pet at: www.collierpets.com. Adoption is a \$400 value including spay/neuter, starter bag of pet food, pet micro chip ID and pet's license. Cats are \$60 to adopt and dogs are \$85.



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Immokalee Sports Network

Sports Shorts

Sports Network unveils 'Online Sports Directory'

The Immokalee Bulletin has launched the Eastern Collier County Sports Network, a Web site designed to provide extensive visibility for local sports action in the Eastern Collier County region.

It's fun, interactive and free to participants of all ages. ECCSN provides the opportunity for local sports teams, organizations and school athletic programs to display their team results and individual accomplishments for all to see.

And, various content each week will be extracted from the site to be printed in the hard copy of the paper.

Our new online Sports Directory is a convenient online platform for schools, park and recreational facilities, sports clubs and academies, leagues, and traveling organizations to share activity and program details.

The Sports Directory can be accessed simply by visiting www.newszap.com, clicking on your community tab, then clicking on "Sports" in the upper right portion of the page and selecting Eastern Collier County Sports Network.

Once at the site, click on the "Directory" tab in the top menu. Submit your information by clicking on the "Submit" button at the bottom of the page.

Please note that Sports Directory content must be approved before it appears online.

From baseball to basketball, football to soccer, fishing to swimming, cheerleading to yoga – if you represent a local sports organization that offers youth or recreational sports or activities, feel free to contact Renee Hawley at rhawley@communitysportsdesk.com or call 1-888-853-7904, ext. 323, to register your program.

Immokalee Seminoles registration planned for March 27, April 24

The 2010 registration deadline is coming soon. Please note the following registration dates: March 27, at sports complex from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. April 24, at sports complex from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. May-4, 11, 18, 25 at sports complex from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. June 19, - last registration at sports complex from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Bring: 2 x 2 picture or wallet size (no hat or sunglasses); Copy of birth certificate; Sports physical; Last report card (due June 19) Fee: \$100 Per child (football); \$160 Per child (cheer).

We will have the other forms that parents need to fill out to complete registration!

Featured Sports Organization of the Week

Minami Dojo

Special to the Immokalee Bulletin
The three students, Jason Castellano, Florencia Lopez and John Hurley, have all won gold medals in their respective divisions. Jason Castellano and Florencia Lopez also earned medals at the AAU National Championship, and went on to earn medals at the Junior Olympics this summer.



Jason Castellano



Florencia Lopez



John Hurley

These days karate training is for everybody

Our Philosophy

At Minami Dojo, we are dedicated to giving you the highest quality martial arts training of the body, mind and spirit working together.

Feel great mentally and physically. We use the ancient Sempai - Kohai system which means the senior has the responsibility to assist the junior as they were assisted by their seniors. There are no egos in traditional training only karate-ka working in harmony. This way you are never left alone. It's like having your own personal trainer beside you every step of the way.

Shihan Lynn Kureth

Shihan Lynn Kureth began his training in 1980. In 1988 he began teaching in Naples. His dojo was named Minami or "South" Dojo. The Minami Dojo is under the direction and management of Lynn Kureth. The style of karate he teaches is Shito-Ryu. His formal training is in Hayashi-Ha Shito-Ryu.

This system is one of the four main traditional karate systems in the world today. Shihan Kureth continues his training in Mo-

to-bu-Ha Shito-Ryu and has been issued his menjo (diploma) directly from Soke Kozo Kuniba, from Osaka Japan. Shihan (meaning master instructor) Kureth currently has the rank of 5th Degree Black Belt in Shito-Ryu Karate-Do and a 2nd Degree Black Belt in Okinawan Kobudo Kenshiryu. Under Kyoshi Woodard's (7th Degree Black Belt Karate, 5th Degree in Okinawa Weapons) direction, he continues to train and earn promotions.

Kyoshi Woodard's formal training is in Motobu-Ha Shito-Ryu. In addition, they are both lifetime members of the Ryu Kyu Kobudo, Tesshinkan (Original Okinawa Weapons), members of the National Karate and Kobudo Federation and branch dojo's of the Kuniba-Kai Motobu-Ha Shito-Ryu.

Lynn Kureth has trained with Masters from Okinawa, Japan, England and the USA. His dojo is also active in the AAU athletics and has had students win medals in the 2009 Jr. Olympics.

Who can learn karate?

Any man, woman, or child with a sincere

desire to learn can train in the art of karate. Training begins with simple motions of defense and counter-attack with emphasis on development of the various techniques.

As coordination, skill and strength develop, students are tested and promoted.

As they learn, they are given instruction in application of techniques for self defense against single and multiple attacks, as well as defense against weapons.

My students and I have trained with Soke Kozo Kuniba, from Osaka Japan, when he visits Florida.

Our next training seminar with him is scheduled for April 18, 2010, at Kyoshi's Woodard's dojo in Ocala. Thanks to Soke Kozo Kuniba I am able to learn more with his seminars and earn promotions.

For more information please contact info@minamidojo.com or call 239-404-6563.

You can follow Minami Dojo on the Eastern Collier County Sports Network, or on their website www.minamidojo.com.

Want your team profiled? Sign up for a free web page on the Sports Network. Contact Renee Hawley at 888-853-7904, ext. 323.

I HOPE teams with World Vision for Kids Against Hunger

By Rick Heers

Special to the Immokalee Bulletin

The next meeting of the Immokalee Church Fellowship is coming up on Wednesday, March 24, from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Bethel Assembly. Both Josh and Frank Rincon have promised us some good Mexican food as we take time to plan together some exciting events and even worship together. The following verses were a part of my daily reading today, and tie in with our BIG project that we are attempting to do together to help our local community AND help the poor in Haiti including: Blessed are those who help the poor and Those who oppress the poor insult their Maker, but those who help the poor honor him.

World Vision is coming to town with a group of 32 youth from Montana, and another 20 from Naples to minister to and with the local church community to put together 60,000 meals through the Kids Against Hunger program that has worked so successfully for the past two years under the direction of Sinclair Williams of One-by-One Leadership Foundation. This event will take place

on Tuesday, March 30. The meals put together will be delivered directly to the unemployed farm workers in Immokalee (due to the January freeze) and also will be delivered to Haiti as well.

The special program is just one of several projects that the World Vision group will be working on in conjunction with I HOPE. This is going to be a fantastic opportunity on a Tuesday during Spring break for local youth to participate in a very worthwhile Christian activity of service, fun, food and worship.

The day will begin with set up at Immokalee Middle School gym from 3-4:30 (we need a couple of youth groups to help us), continue with the actual packaging from 5-7 p.m.-all youth involved, and conclude with a huge pizza party and exciting youth worship service at the Bethel gymnasium from 7:30-9 p.m. with special music and a message from GOD's Word.

Can we count on you to be present?

Let's work together to make this a memorable day of service, worship and praise for our community...bring unsaved youth-they will hear and see the gospel in dramatic form!



Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/Rick Heers
Kids Against Hunger food packets containing 6 meals each show the 12,000-20,000 bags that will be provided over the next two weeks to the farm workers in Immokalee, thanks to World Vision and the United Methodist Church from Leesburg.

Groundbreaking set for farmworker housing development

Florida Non-Profit Services, Inc. (FNPS) and Immokalee Housing and Family Services (IHFS) are pleased to announce that they will officially break ground for the Esperanza Place Apartments – Phase I, a development of 47 one-, two- and three-bedroom multi-family rental residences for occupancy by farmworking families, on Monday, March 22, at 2 p.m.

The Esperanza Place Planned Unit Development, within which these new units are being built, will eventually contain 176 multifamily units, and 62 single family homes, the latter to be constructed by the Empow-

erment Alliance of Southwest Florida.

This PUD will, in the future, include a community center to house a variety of social programs for the residents of Esperanza Place and the immediate neighborhood. Designed by Slocum Platts Architects of Winter Park, with site engineering done by Q. Grady Minor of Bonita Springs, Phase I of the Esperanza Place Apartments will be built on eight acres. For the past 34 months, Florida Non-Profit Services has processed applications for the land use and financing approvals required to construct this \$6,500,000 project.

Financing for this development is being

provided by the: United States Department of Agriculture; Florida Housing Finance Corporation; Immokalee Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA);

J.P. Morgan; and Community Foundation of Collier County.

To learn more about these non-profits, please log onto www.ihfservices.org.

News in Brief

Walk in I.H.S. race against cancer

Immokalee High School will hold a mini relay in support of Relay for Life. Walk with them April 17, beginning at 9 a.m. from the high school past the football field, down Main Street, Immokalee Road and back to the high school. Just a \$5 registration fee will help support the cause. You can preregister by sending your check to Immokalee High School Athletic Dept., Atten: Mrs. Ayers, 701 Immokalee Drive, Immokalee FL 34142. For more information, contact Kelly Stevenson at 239-377-1920.

Casino collecting donations for Haiti

The Seminole Tribe and Seminole Indian Casinos, in association with Food for the Poor, are collecting donations for victims of the Haitian earthquake tragedy. Non-perishables, water, personal items and other items are needed. Items may be dropped off at the casino.

Library presents Story Time

Immokalee Branch Library, 417 N. First St. will present Story Time on Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. "ABC Combined Story Time" is open to children age 10 months-5 years. Bring your child and enjoy a good story! For information please call 239-657-2882.

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COLLIER COUNTY, FLORIDA
HUD Consolidated Plan
Citizen Participation



Collier County is developing a One Year Action Plan as part of the 5-Year Consolidated Plan (CP) required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The 5-Year Consolidated Plan guides housing and non-housing community activities. The goals of the CP are to: provide decent housing; provide a suitable living environment; and expand economic opportunities for very low, low and moderate-income persons. The One-Year Action Plan determines expenditures for activities that will be conducted in the 2010-2011 program year.

Pending entitlement notification, Collier County has tentatively allocated approximately \$2,348,840 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. Eligible activities include, but are not limited to: job creation, installation of public facilities and improvements, and public services in accordance with 24 CFR § 570. Approximately 100% of the total allocation will benefit low and moderate-income persons.

There will be an allocation of approximately \$754,154 in HOME funds to expand the supply of decent, affordable housing for low and very low-income families. HOME funds must be used for housing programs that meet local needs and priorities. Eligible activities include rehabilitation of low income rental units, energy efficiency upgrades for low income housing, rehabilitation of foreclosed homes and CHDO operating expenses. Approximately 100% of the total allocation will benefit very low and low-income persons.

There will be an allocation of approximately \$95,288 in Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) funds for facilities for homeless individuals and families, to operate these facilities and provide essential social services, and homelessness prevention activities. Potential activities include Emergency Shelter rehabilitation, renovation or conversion, essential services to homeless families and individuals, shelter and transitional housing operational costs, and homeless prevention activities. Approximately 100% of the total allocation will benefit homeless individuals and families.

The proposed One Year Action Plan for fiscal year 2010-2011 includes the following activities:

David Lawrence-Crisis Unit Construction	\$ 221,000
Collier County Transportation Department-Naples Manor Sidewalk Project	\$ 810,538
City of Naples-Anthony Park Upgrades	\$ 112,005
City of Marco Island-Landscaping Project	\$ 72,173
Immokalee Housing & Family Services-Job Creation Program	\$ 70,000
Immokalee CRA-Job Creation/Business Incubator Project	\$ 212,000
Goodwill Industries-Roberts Center Renovation Project	\$ 29,030
Collier County Housing & Human Services Department-Senior Meals Program	\$ 95,000
Guadalupe Center-Early Childhood Education Project	\$ 86,000
CDBG-Planning & Administration (HHS)	\$ 469,768
Shelter for Abused Women & Children-Legal Services Expansion Program	\$ 118,600
Housing Development Corp of SW FL-SHIFTING Program	\$ 52,726
CHDO Set-Aside	\$ 113,123
CHDO Operating-Empowerment Alliance of SW FL	\$ 37,708
Big Cypress Inc,-Main Street Village Energy Upgrades	\$ 225,000
Habitat for Humanity-Foreclosure Rehabilitation	\$ 132,908
Immokalee Housing & Family Services-Timber Ridge Energy Efficiency Upgrades	\$ 170,000
HOME-Administration (HHS)	\$ 75,415
ESG-St. Matthews House	\$ 92,906
ESG-Administration (HHS)	\$ 2,382
Housing Development Corp of SW FL-Homebuyer Ed/Credit Counseling Program*	\$ 45,000
Empowerment Alliance of SW FL-Homebuyer Ed/Credit Counseling Program*	\$ 35,000
TOTAL	\$3,278,282

*Funded with State Housing Initiative Partnership (SHIP) funds

Public Comment Period

There will be a public comment period from March 17, 2010 to April 16, 2010 regarding the One Year Action Plan. During this period, the draft Plan will be available for review in all County's Public Libraries, at the Public Information Desk in the Harmon Turner Building on the Collier County Government Main Campus, in the Housing & Human Services Department office located at 3301 E Tamiami Trail, Building H, Suite 211, Naples FL 34112, and the Collier County web site at www.colliergov.net. The document is available in a format accessible to persons with disabilities upon request (239-252-4663). All written comments from citizens will be considered in preparing the final Consolidated Plan One Year Action Plan FY 2010-2011. The County will respond to all written comments in writing within 15 days of receipt.

Next Step

A public meeting to take input on the draft Action Plan will be held on Friday, March 26, 2010 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at 3301 E Tamiami Trail, Building H, Room 216, Naples FL 34112

Final Action

Adoption of the One Year Action Plan (FY 2010-2011) is scheduled for Tuesday April 27, 2010 at a regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners. If you require special aid or services as addressed in the Americans with Disabilities Act or require someone to translate or sign, please contact the Housing and Human Services office at (239) 252-4663, no later than two (2) days prior to the Public Hearing date. For additional information contact Margo Castorena at (239) 252-2912 or MargoCastorena@colliergov.net.



CONDADO DE COLLIER, FLORIDA
Participación del Ciudadano
Plan de Acción de un Año
Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano (HUD)



El condado de Collier está desarrollando un Plan de Acción de un Año como parte del Plan Consolidado de 5 Años (Consolidated Plan - CP) requerido por el Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo urbano (HUD). El Plan de Acción de 5 Años esta dirigido a actividades comunitarias relacionadas con viviendas y otras actividades para la comunidad. Las metas del Plan Consolidado son: proveer viviendas decentes; un entorno de vida apropiado; y la expansión de oportunidades económicas para personas de muy bajo, bajo y moderados ingresos. El Plan de Acción de un Año resume los gastos para las actividades para el programa del año Fiscal 2010-2011.

Estamos pendiente a la asignación de Fondos del Gobierno Federal que tentativamente a asignado al Condado de Collier aproximadamente la cantidad de \$2,348,840 en Fondos para el programa de Desarrollo de la Comunidad (CDBG). Las Actividades elegibles incluyen, pero no son limitadas a: creación de empleos, instalación y mejoración de facilidades públicas, y servicios públicos de acuerdo al Código de Regulaciones Federales, 24 CFR § 570. Aproximadamente el 100% de la asignación beneficiara a personas de bajos y moderados ingresos.

Habrà una asignación de aproximadamente de \$754,154 en fondos del Programa de Asociación para Inversiones en Vivienda (HOME), para expandir el suministro de viviendas presentables y precios razonables, a familias de ingresos bajos y muy bajos. Los fondos de HOME deben utilizarse para programas de vivienda que reúnan las prioridades y necesidades locales. Las actividades elegibles incluyen la asistencia de alquiler, y la rehabilitación de casas con ejecuciones hipotecarias para venderlas. Aproximadamente 100% del total de la asignación beneficiará a personas de + bajos y muy bajos ingresos.

Habrà una asignación de aproximadamente \$95,288 en fondos del programa de Refugio de Emergencia (ESG) para instalaciones para personas y familias sin hogar, para el manejo de estas instalaciones para proveer servicios sociales esenciales, y para actividades de prevención. Las actividades posibles incluyen rehabilitación, renovación o conversión de refugios de emergencias; servicios esenciales a familias e individuos sin hogar, costos para la operación de refugios de emergencias y los de Vivienda de Transición; y actividades para prevenir carencia de hogar. Aproximadamente 100% del total de la asignación beneficiará a personas y familias sin hogares.

El propuesto Plan de Acción de Un Año para el año fiscal 2010-2011 incluye las siguientes actividades:

David Lawrence-Crisis Unit Construction	\$ 221,000
Collier County Transportation Department-Naples Manor Sidewalk Project	\$ 810,538
City of Naples-Anthony Park Upgrades	\$ 112,005
City of Marco Island-Landscaping Project	\$ 72,173
Immokalee Housing & Family Services-Job Creation Program	\$ 70,000
Immokalee CRA-Job Creation/Business Incubator Project	\$ 212,000
Goodwill Industries-Roberts Center Renovation Project	\$ 29,030
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CHDO Operating-Empowerment Alliance of SW FL	\$ 37,708
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Housing Development Corp of SW FL-Homebuyer Ed/Credit Counseling Program*	\$ 45,000
Empowerment Alliance of SW FL-Homebuyer Ed/Credit Counseling Program*	\$ 35,000
TOTAL	\$3,278,282

Período de Comentario Público

Habrà un período para comentarios desde el 17 de Marzo hasta el 16 de Abril de 2010 con respecto al Plan de Acción de Un Año. Durante este período, El Plan de Acción de Un Año estará disponible en todas las bibliotecas del Condado de Collier, en la Oficina de Información Pública que se encuentra en el edificio Harmon Turner que esta situado en el 3301 E. Tamiami Trail, Naples FL 34112; como también en el Departamento de Vivienda y Servicios Humanos 3301 E Tamiami Trail, Edificio H, Suite 216, Naples, Florida 34112, y en la pgina de internet del Condado de Collier www.colliergov.net. El Plan de Acción de Un Año está disponible a personas incapacitadas. Solicítelo llamando al (239) 252-4663. Todos los comentarios sometidos por escrito del público serán considerados para preparar la Enmienda del Plan de Acción de Un Año. Los comentarios presentados por escrito se tendrán en cuenta al preparar la copia final del Plan de Acción de Un Año. El Condado responderá por escrito a todos los comentarios del público presentados por escrito, dentro de 15 días de haber sido recibidos.

El Próximo Paso

Una junta pública se llevara a cabo el viernes, 26 de Marzo de 2010 de 9:00 a.m. a 10:00 a.m. en la siguiente dirección, 3301 E Tamiami Trail, Edificio H, Suite 216, Naples, Florida 34112.

Acción

La adopción del Plan de Acción de Un Año (Año Fiscal 2010-2011) está planificada para el Martes, 27 de Abril del 2010 en la junta regular de los Comisionados del Condado de Collier (Board of County Commissioners). Si usted requiere asistencia especial o servicios ofrecidos como los que especifica el Acta de Americanos con Incapacidades (Americans with Disabilities Act), o si requiere que alguien le traduzca en su idioma o lenguaje por señas, por favor llame al Departamento de Vivienda y Servicios Humanos (Housing and Human Services) al (239) 252-4663 por lo menos dos (2) días antes de la fecha de la junta pública. Para más información por favor llame a Margo Castorena al (239) 252-2912 o envíe un correo electrónico a MargoCastorena@colliergov.net.

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For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

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For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

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Some 800 and 900 telephone numbers may require an extra charge, as well as long distance toll costs. We will do our best to alert our reader of these charges in the ads, but occasionally we may not be aware of the charges. Therefore, if you call a number out of your area, use caution.

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Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE
COFFO Board meeting to hold:

Where: 778 West Palm Drive Florida City, FL 33034
When: Friday, March 26, 2010
Time: 10:30am
348508 IB 3/18/10

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Public Notice

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The IMMOKALEE WATER & SEWER DISTRICT, hereinafter called "District," will accept sealed proposals from individuals, partnerships, corporations, and other organizations and entities for a five (5) year lease of the District's land known as the Section 8 Sprayfield until **2:00PM on Wednesday, April 7, 2010**. At that time all proposals will be opened, and distributed to the members of the District's evaluation committee for review. The District's evaluation committee will review all of the proposals received and rank the proposals based on the proposed uses of the land that are in the District's best interests. The committee's recommendations are expected to be presented at the District's regularly scheduled Board Meeting at 3:30 PM on April 21st. After Board approval of the rankings, the District will begin negotiations with the top ranked entity. The District will then continue to negotiate with entities in rank order until all of the available acreage is leased or the list of ranked entities is exhausted, whichever comes first.

The Section 8 Sprayfield is a parcel of land containing approximately 638.0 acres, of which approximately 85.4 acres in the southern portion of the section are wastewater effluent holding ponds, approximately 20.0 acres in the southeastern portion of the section are currently being leased for a cellular tower, and approximately 260.6 acres are irrigated with reclaimed wastewater effluent by pivots and/or spray cannons. The remaining area is heavily wooded. The Sprayfield is located in Section 8, Township 47 South, Range 29 East. The land can only be accessed via private roadways owned and maintained by the District.

This land has previously been leased for cattle ranching, but other uses for this land will also be considered. However, permanent buildings, structures, and/or lighting will not be allowed. Residential and/or industrial uses will not be allowed. Fencing will be allowed.

The District reserves the right to accept or reject any of the proposals received and to divide the total available acreage into smaller parts and enter into multiple lease agreements. The annual value of all leases will be negotiated, depending on the use of the land and the amount of work the District will be required to perform, and will be paid to the District in twelve equal monthly installments.

Proposals shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope, and the outside of the envelope shall bear the words "Section 8 Sprayfield Proposal". Each proposal shall include a detailed description of the proposed use of the land and the number of acres desired. Proposals shall be addressed to:

Eva Deyo, Executive Director
Immokalee Water and Sewer District
1020 Sanitation Road
Immokalee, FL 34142

Interested parties may arrange to inspect the site prior to submitting a proposal by contacting Eva Deyo at 239-658-3630. All questions must be submitted to the District in writing.

RFP is available for download on our website: www.iw-sd.com
348826 IB 3/18/10

LEGAL NOTICE

DeMott Auction gives notice of intent, pursuant to subsection 713.78 of the Florida Statutes, to sell the following vehicles:

2005 LMT Trailer
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Engineering scholarships available to hispanic students

More than \$500,000 in college scholarships available

Apply for scholarships from AHETEMS, ExxonMobil, the Kellogg Corporation, Northrop Grumman, U.S. Steel, Verizon by April 1.

Hispanic graduating high school seniors and college students pursuing degrees in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) are invited to apply for more than \$500 K in scholarships available through AHETEMS (Advancing Hispanic Excellence in Technology, Engineering, Math and Science), the educational foundation of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE).

The scholarships range in value from \$1,000 to \$5,000. There is no fee to apply. Students may apply for as many scholarships for which they are eligible and may apply for multiple scholarships via one single application. All applications must be postmarked by April 1.

"There is an overwhelming demand for engineers in the U.S. that is not being met. Using the creativity, brainpower, resourcefulness and innovation found within our Latino community, we can be the solution," said Deborah Martinez, director of programs, AHETEMS. "Together with AHETEMS, sponsoring companies like ExxonMobil, the Kellogg Corporation, Northrop Grumman, U.S. Steel and Verizon are providing the tools and the opportunities for talented individuals to obtain the education necessary to pursue careers in STEM fields."

The Need for Outreach

According to a 2008 report by the National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering, Latinos/as together account for 13.1 percent of the U.S. labor force over 16 years of age. If "engineering" is defined as including all engineers, engineering managers and technicians, the 153,000 Latinos/as employed as engineers account for just 5.8 percent of the engineering workforce. Therefore, as a group, they are very much underrepresented in engineering.

Applicants may find a complete list of scholarships and requirements and apply at <http://www.ahetems.org/scholarships.html>. Applications may also be downloaded, completed and submitted via mail.

Scholarships vary in terms of qualifications and award amount, but all require a minimum 3.0 GPA both at the time of application and throughout the scholarship period. Students must be registered full-time (taking at least 12 credit hours as an undergraduate or nine credit hours as a graduate student) in a STEM discipline. For more information please contact the AHETEMS Foundation at 817.272.1116 or visit www.ahetems.org.

Specific scholarships, Deadline, April 1, 2010:

AHETEMS Dissertation Scholarships (Graduate students)

AHETEMS is offering merit-based awards in the amount of \$5,000 to doctoral candidates in a STEM field. Students must have passed to candidacy of a Ph.D. or Eng.D. and have completed all but the dissertation process.

AHETEMS Professional Scholarships (Professionals)

AHETEMS is offering SHPE professionals, the opportunity to receive a \$2,000 scholarship to continue pursuing their graduate education. Students must be employed full-time in a technical field and be enrolled at least half-time in a graduate STEM degree program and maintain a GPA of 3.25 on a 4.0 scale.

AHETEMS/ExxonMobil (Undergraduate students)

The world's largest publicly traded oil and gas company, ExxonMobil, has partnered with AHETEMS to offer merit-based scholarships to undergraduate students who demonstrate motivation and aptitude for a STEM career. Applicants must major in civil, chemical, electrical, mechanical or petroleum engineering. The award includes a \$2,500 scholarship for selected candidates.

AHETEMS/Kellogg Corporation (Undergraduate students)

AHETEMS and the Kellogg Corporation, the world's leading producer of cereal and a leading producer of convenience foods, are offering a scholarship award in the total amount of \$5,000 to undergraduate students. Qualifying applicants must be pursuing a degree in any engineering field and must belong to SHPE Region 6, which includes Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio and Wisconsin.

AHETEMS/Northrop Grumman (Undergraduate students) Northrop Grumman Cor-

poration is a leading global security company that provides innovative systems, products, and solutions in aerospace, electronics, and information systems. Northrop Grumman and AHETEMS are offering incoming sophomores, juniors and seniors the opportunity to be selected for scholarship in the amount of \$5,000. Qualifying candidates must attend a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI), a Historically Black College or University (HBCU) or one of any institutions listed by AHETEMS at www.ahetems.org.

AHETEMS/U.S. Steel Corp. (Undergraduate students)

An integrated steel producer with major production operations in the United States, Canada and Central Europe, U.S. Steel has partnered with AHETEMS to offer undergraduate students the opportunity to receive a scholarship award in the amount of \$5,000.

To qualify, students must attend one of any institutions listed by AHETEMS at www.ahetems.org and must major in chemical, civil, electrical, environmental, industrial, manufacturing, materials, or mechanical engineering; applied or engineering physics; computer or materials science; engineering technology; chemistry or mathematics.

AHETEMS/Verizon (Undergraduate students)

Verizon and AHETEMS are offering undergraduate students completing their sophomore year credit hours and entering their junior year the opportunity to receive a \$5,000 scholarship. Students must attend a university with an active SHPE chapter and must major in civil or computer engineering, or computer science to qualify.

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News in Brief

Church to hold clothing giveaway

Iglesia Bautista de Jesucristo located at 223 North Second Street will be giving away clothes on Saturday March 20, at 8 a.m.

Spanish: La Iglesia Bautista de Jesucristo estará regalando ropa el Sábado, Marzo 20, empezando a las 8 de la mañana. La Iglesia está ubicada en 223 Calle 2 Norte.

Free On-Line Tutoring

Free online tutoring service by Tutor.com connects students to expert tutors for many subjects including English, math, science, etc. using the Internet. Available to students K to

adult Monday-Friday from 2 p.m until close at Immokalee Community Park, 417 N. First Street. Call for more information at 239-657-2882.

Computer class helps answer questions

Bilingual staff from Naples Free-Net answers your computer and Internet related questions. Class size is limited to 7 participants. The classes will take place on Thursdays, April 15, May 13, at 6 p.m. at Immokalee Community Park at 417 N. First St. in Immokalee. Call 239-657-2882 for more information.

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FEATURED HOME



Beautiful home, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage, **\$189,900**. Call Elvira or Pat for details.

- 10 acres close to town on Experimental Rd. Call Elvira for details **\$129,900**.
- 2936 Immokalee Drive - single wide mobile home with 3bedroom 1bath. Call Elvira for details. **\$55,000**.
- 2.27 ACRES located on Immokalee Road, **\$24,900**. Bank owned, make an offer. Call Elvira or Pat for details.
- 5115 Quail Roost - 3 bedrooms, 1bath needs work, bank owned, make an offer. Call Elvira or Pat for details.
- NAPLES - Beautiful Condominium, Owner will finance. Close to hospital and Airport-Pulling Road. Call Elvira for details.

• **NOTE: NEW CLOSING COST ASSISTANCE AND APPLIANCE INCENTIVE - ON ALL FANNIE MAE LISTINGS - 3.5%- MUST CLOSE BEFORE MAY 1, 2010. CALL ELVIRA OR PAT FOR DETAILS.**

- 1155 Platt Rd, 5+ acres, doublewide mobile home - needs work. **\$105,000**. Call Elvira for details.
- LEHIGH ACRES 1228 Eburn Ave., 3 bedrooms, 2 bath, 2 car garage. Ceramic tile floors, new appliances- **\$58,000**. Call Elvira for details.
- **FARMERS MARKET FOR SALE - CALL ELVIRA FOR DETAILS.**
- NEW MARKET INDUSTRIAL - CORNER LOT HUGE METAL OPEN WAREHOUSE. **\$549,000**. CALL Elvira or Pat for details.
- INCOME PRODUCING PROPERTY - 2 houses, plus 5 mobile homes - ALL RENTED! Call Elvira for details-**\$225,000**.
- 709 Newmarket Rd. 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, need to see to appreciate, only **\$69,000!!!!** Call Sandra for details.



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Elvira Nodal
at
239-878-8001



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Sandra Freeman
at
239-462-2097



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