

# IMMOKALEE BULLETIN

Serving Immokalee, Ave Maria and Eastern Collier County

Vol. 43 No. 15

Thursday, April 15, 2010

## At a Glance

**Immokalee Sports Network - Soccer Club celebrates new clubhouse ...See Page 8**

**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., Attn: Mrs. Ayers, 701 Immokalee Drive, Immokalee FL 34142. For more information, contact Kelly Stevenson at 239-377-1920.

**Sports registration sign ups set**

Little League registrations will be held on the April 24, at Bank of America from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. for football. For the months of May, 17-28 and June 1-18, registration will be at the sports complex everyday from 5:30 to 7 p.m. On May 15 and June 19, they will be at the Bank of America. June 19, is the last day of registrations! Fee for football is \$100 and for cheer it's \$160. They must bring with them: 1. wallet size picture (NO hats or sunglasses); 2. birth certificate; 3. payment. Other forms for parents to fill out and sign will be available. First come first serve, spots do fill up so come early! Any questions call Mary at 239-707-0206.

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

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Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/Rick Heers

## Rebuilding

Thanks to a grant from the Collier County Housing and Human Services department, I HOPE continues to help needy families whose homes were damaged severely from Hurricane Wilma. IHOPE is seeing great progress on three of its final homes to be rebuilt free of charge for local qualified homeowners. Within the next two months three more families will be moving into their new, free, green homes using the latest in construction that not only makes them structurally much sturdier than typical wood construction, but also makes them much more energy efficient, and impervious to rodents, mold and mildew. When completed in May, this will make seven homes that have been built using SHIP funds and DRI-1 and 2 funds.

## Small Ministry has big impact on local area

By Rick Heers

Special to the Immokalee Bulletin

Operating out of a small storefront, a tiny staff aided by scores of Presbyterian volunteers is having a huge impact on many of the unemployed and underemployed farm workers in Immokalee that are struggling ever since the January freeze in southwestern Florida. Mision Peniel, headed up by a young pastor-Miguel Estrada-and his wife has been providing meals each Friday evening along with church services on Sunday afternoon. Area Presbyterian churches have been faithful in sending volunteers who come out to cook,

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Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/Rick Heers

Board chair of Mision Peniel, Rev., Dr. Jim Berger, and director of Beth-El Farmworker Ministry, Dave Moore help serve farm workers in Immokalee.

## Sheriff Rambosk to gather local community input

This year it's going to be even easier to help shape the Collier County Sheriff's Office Community Safety Plan.

Members of the community can attend one of the six meetings Sheriff Kevin J. Rambosk has scheduled around the county, or they can log on and provide their input online.

"Not everyone is able to fit a meeting into their schedule, but I still want to hear what they have to say," Sheriff Rambosk said.

Submitting input online is easy. On the <http://www.colliersheriff.org> home page just click on the icon that says, "Be a part of our virtual meeting." It links to a form where citizens can type in their ideas and concerns.

Input Sheriff Rambosk gathered

See SHERIFF — Page 2

## Much-needed forum on social media scheduled

Facebook, MySpace, Twitter, YouTube: Most students, and many parents, are using these social media sites on a daily basis; but are they safe? Are you aware of the risks and consequences that come with the use of social media sites? To make sure that we are all aware, a Community Forum on Social Media is being presented by the School District of Collier County and the Naples Daily News at 6 p.m. on Monday, April 19, at the district's administrative center.

In scheduling what he calls "a much-needed community forum on social media," Superintendent Dennis L. Thompson asks parents: "Do you know who your son's or daughter's Facebook or MySpace friends are? Do you know what's posted on their sites? You really need to know. If we are not up to speed on what's going on with so-

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## SHERIFF

Continued From Page 1

during a similar series of meetings in 2009 identified the five priorities that make up the current Community Safety Plan: youth programming, community outreach, crime prevention, communication and traffic.

Sheriff Rambosk's philosophy of involving the community in the strategic planning process is groundbreaking in the law enforcement profession. He believes that nobody knows a community better than the people who live there.

A meeting is planned in Immokalee on Tuesday, April 20, 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Immokalee Parks and Recreation, 321 N. First Street

## News in Brief

### 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.

### 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.

### Upcoming event?

The Immokalee Bulletin welcomes news and photos for and about the Immokalee community. Submit news of your upcoming event by email to: IBnews@newszap.com.

### Yoga classes offered at iTECH

Need a stress release? Yoga is a great way to do both. Two classes to choose from. Monday and Thursday from noon until 1 p.m. or Monday and Thursday from 3:30 until 4:30 p.m. Both classes are \$60 for a 15 class session. Classes run until May 27. Bring your mat and join in. Call the iTECH Center now for your reservation at 239-658-7080.

## FORUM

Continued From Page 1

cial media or networking sites, we are years behind our kids. We have to know how these sites work so we know what our kids are involved in." Dr. Thompson stresses, "It is all about awareness. By being aware, maybe we can stop the next bad thing from happening."

School District General Counsel Jon Fishbane will serve as forum moderator for a panel of experts. According to Fishbane, "The multiple ways our students can now communicate carry with them very serious risks and consequences. The content of messages or images being sent can not only create fears for one's safety and reputational

harm, but also could result in violation of criminal statutes or the Code of Student Conduct. It is important that all of us – students, parents, and teachers – come together in this way to learn more about social media issues so we can appropriately deal with them."

The Community Forum on Social Media will be held from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Monday, April 19, at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Administrative Center (behind Barron Collier High School). It is free and open to anyone in the community who wishes to attend. To learn more, just go to the home page of the district Web site ([www.collierschools.com](http://www.collierschools.com)) and click on the link that's posted there. You may also send an e-mail to [info@collier.k12.fl.us](mailto:info@collier.k12.fl.us) or call the Communications Services Department at 239-377-0180.



Submitted photo/Juan Medina

## Winner

**Congratulations! Ms. Guadalupe Loya whose winning ticket was drawn on Easter Sunday on our local Spanish radio station 92.1fm La Ley in Immokalee. Ms. Loya is currently attending FGCU in Ft. Myers and is majoring in criminal justice. She is pictured with Mr. Martin Navarro President of the states Florida Migrant Advisory Council (FMPAC) and member Mr. Juan Medina. The prize was a brand new Dell laptop computer donated by Backpack Gear from Orlando. A total of \$600 was raised through ticket sales in the community. The funds raised are for a new statewide FMPAC migrant scholarship where FMPAC members of other counties around the states are doing fundraisers for this scholarship. This scholarship will be open to any 2010 graduating high school migrant students around the state. The winner will be invited to receive their award this year at an annual FMPAC meeting in the state and the award of the scholarship will be determined on the funds raised around the state. We would like to say thank you to everyone that bought a ticket for this worthwhile cause. A special appreciation to our local Lions Club of Immokalee and their members who were instrumental in selling tickets and to Backpack Gear Inc. of Orlando for the wonderful prize. For more information regarding this scholarship contact the Migrant Center at Immokalee High and ask for Mr. Juan Medina.**

## MINISTRY

Continued From Page 1

distribute food and clothing to families in need.

The mission extension of Beth-el Farmworker Ministry in Wimauma, Florida, under the direction and inspiration of Wimauma director Dave Moore, has regularly served 350 meals each Friday prior to the freeze. Because the needs are so great, the little church has been serving between 1,000 and 1,100 meals each Friday, and has expanded its meal provision to Wednesday evenings as well. Recently the board of directors from Wimauma arrived in town with about a ton of food to be distributed by Pastor Miguel and his volunteers. After their dinner farm workers and their families are able to take home bags of 4 or 5 canned food items. Recently I HOPE provided them with over 1,500 bags of enriched, chicken flavored dried rice and vegetables for families to take home with them.

Cloudy weather and raindrops were not enough to keep away the crowds this past Sunday as an Open House and cookout was held to provide a Sunday meal before the service started. Hundreds of single farm workers, and others with families came to be fed by volunteers who cheerfully handed out fresh-cooked food to local farm worker families.

No amount of donation is too small! If you would like to make a tax deductible donation to help with the cost of purchasing food for needy families, you may make a contribution To Mision Peniel at P.O. Box 1204, Immokalee, FL 34143, or you can send checks designated for their mission to Beth-El Farmworker Ministry, P.O. Box 860, Wimauma, FL 33598.

## News in Brief

### Free On-Line Tutoring

Free online tutoring service by Tutor.com connects students to expert tutors for assistance with math, science, social studies, English, chemistry, book reports and more using the Internet. The Immokalee Branch Library is here to help! 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.

### We Pledge...

- To operate this newspaper as a public trust
- To help our community become a better place to live and work, through our dedication to conscientious journalism.
- To provide the information citizens need to make their own intelligent decisions about public issues.
- To report the news with honesty, accuracy, purposeful neutrality, fairness, objectivity, fearlessness and compassion.
- To use our opinion pages to facilitate community debate, not to dominate it with our own opinions.
- To disclose our own conflicts of interest or potential conflicts to our readers.
- 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.

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Serving Immokalee Since 1969

### To Reach Us

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Website: [www.newszap.com/immokalee](http://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.  
E-Mail: [ibnews@newszap.com](mailto:ibnews@newszap.com)

### To Place a Display Ad

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### Our Purpose...

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.

# Collier county celebrates National Library Week

National Library Week, April 12-17, is promoting a theme of Communities Thrive at your library, and this year Collier County Public Library is hosting a food drive for local food banks. "Communities really do thrive at your library as the theme goes, and that is why Collier County libraries want to help the community with a food drive to help those in need," said Marilyn Matthes, Director of Collier County Public Libraries.

Food donation bins will be available at all of Collier County's libraries. So go through your pantry and find non-perishable foods today, drive to your nearest library, and help make a difference in this community.

In tough and good economic times, li-

braries give free access to books, computers, information for resumes and job searches, accurate financial information and programs for adults and children.

First sponsored in 1958, National Library Week is a national observance sponsored by the American Library Association (ALA) and libraries across the country each April.

Collier County Public Libraries circulates more than 3 million items to customers each year including printed books, ebooks, audio books, CDs, DVDs and downloadable books.

For more information, call the Headquarters Regional Library call 239-593-0334 or visit us online at [www.colliergov.net/library](http://www.colliergov.net/library).

## Transportation Improvement Program Amendment public comments welcome

The Collier Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is announcing a public comment period to amend the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for Fiscal Years (FY) 2009/10-2013/14 to modify the description and clarify the project location on a pedestrian safety improvement project in Immokalee. On December 11, 2009 this project was added to the TIP for FY 2009/10-2013/14 to add pedestrian safety improvements. With this latest amendment the project will include overhead signs to establish a pedestrian zone on S.R. 29 as well as flashing beacons warning motorists of the presence of pedestrians in the roadway from west of 11th Street to west of Jerome Drive (approximate project length of one mile).

The comment period for the TIP amendment, part of the MPO's Public Involvement Process, began on April 8 and continues through Monday, May 10, 2010. The TIP amendment is posted on the MPO's Web site

at [www.colliermopo.net](http://www.colliermopo.net). To access the TIP amendment on this Web site, select public documents, and go to the Draft TIP amendment (#5-14-10) for Fiscal Year 2009/10-2013/14.

The TIP amendment will also be on display at the customer service desks at the local site listed: 750 S. Fifth Street, Immokalee, FL 34142 - All Collier County Public Libraries

The MPO Board will be asked to approve this TIP amendment with consideration of all the comments received during the public comment period. A public hearing will be held on the TIP amendment in conjunction with the MPO's regular meeting on May 14, at 9 a.m. at the Board of County Commissioners chambers on the third floor of the Harmon Turner Building (Administration Building F) Collier County Government Center, 3301 E. Tamiami Trail, Naples.

## Weather Forecast

Weather forecast for Collier County from the National Weather Service

### Local Forecast

**Thursday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 86. East wind between 8 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

**Thursday night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 60. East wind between 3 and 11 mph.

### Extended Forecast

**Friday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 83. East wind between 3 and 9 mph.

**Friday night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 60. East wind between 6 and 9 mph becoming calm.

**Saturday:** A 20 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 84. East wind between 3 and 9 mph.

**Saturday night:** A 20 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 61.

**Sunday:** A 30 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 85.

**Sunday night:** A 30 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 62.

**Monday:** A 30 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 84.

## Letters to the Editor

Dear friends,

The advent of social networking has shown that used correctly it is an excellent way to communicate. Being a Collier County Commissioner I have always tried to ensure very open communication and sometimes I have been frustrated at not reaching a wide enough group of citizens.

Currently I have a Twitter account and my Facebook page is in the final stages of design.

I look forward to this being an exciting venture as we use the latest social network-

ing technology to improve the information flow from me as a Collier County Commissioner. Please join me and follow my "Tweets" and as you do any suggestions you might have on what else I might communicate to you would be welcome. The link to take you to Twitter is <http://twitter.com/Jim-Coletta>

**Regards,  
Jim Coletta  
Commissioner, District 5  
Collier County Board of County Commissioners**

## Immokalee canvassed with last minute campaign

By Dick Rice

Approximately 70 people gathered together to bring the message "March to the Mailbox" to encourage those who have not returned their 2010 Census questionnaire, while another 80 completed the march in Clewiston on Saturday, April 10, as a part of the nationwide campaign to bring awareness to this year's Census.

Immokalee and Clewiston were among a number of areas identified as hard-to-count, meaning they had low returns from the 2000 Census. An extra effort was put forth with this year's Census to concentrate on these areas to bring up the number of residents responding to the Census questionnaire mailed out in mid-March, and again about a week later.

## CHS welcomes new local dentist

CHS Healthcare announces Matthew T. Navidomskis, D.M.D., M.P.H. as their newest addition to the team of dentists. Dr. Navidomskis will be working at CHS's Marion E. Fether location in Immokalee, providing general dental care. He received his bachelor degree from Duke University and his Doctor of Dental Medicine (D.M.D.) degree from Tufts University School of Dental Medicine in Boston. Dr. Navidomskis's experience includes working in non-profit health care service environments with both English and Spanish speaking patients of varying ages and needs.

CHS Healthcare ([www.collier.org](http://www.collier.org)) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit healthcare organization with 12 medical and dental locations throughout the community. CHS offers primary medical, pediatric, dental, and women's health services, with programs for the underserved population such as the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile® Program and, in Immokalee, the Early Health Pride® Program.

### Water utility payment assistance available

Collier County Social Services has received a federal grant to help Collier County residents with their water utility bills. They are able to assist with up to \$300 per household and it is easy to qualify. To see if you qualify, please contact Collier County Social Services at 239-252-2696.

## Support unbiased local journalism!



At a time when newspapers everywhere are struggling to survive, you can show your support for your Immokalee Bulletin newspaper by purchasing an e-subscription. It's only \$26 annually (50 cents a week). Each week you'll receive an email with a live link to the latest issue. This will allow you to read the entire newspaper online — even when you're traveling. Please call 1-800-282-8586 or subscribe online at <http://circulation.newszap.com>

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# Pinecrest Elementary Book Fair goes retro

Pinecrest Elementary School, 313 S. Ninth Street, in Immokalee will be hosting its second book fair this school year, April 16-23. The theme for the book fair is the "Book Diner," with some special activities planned.

The fair kicks off with students and teachers enjoying a sneak peek of the books on Friday, April 16. At this time, students may write down what they would like to purchase and share the information with their families. Teachers may also place orders.

Then from 5-7 p.m. on Monday, April 19, the school library will be transformed into an old 1950's-style diner for Family Night.

Families attending the event will not only be allowed to purchase books from preschool age to adult books, they'll also be able to enjoy a root beer float and have their picture taken in an old-style car.

The book fair will have extended hours from 3-7 p.m. on Friday, April 23, to accommodate families in the community.

Books vary in price from \$2 sale items to regular priced books. All proceeds from the sales of the books will benefit the library by adding new books to the collection.

To learn more, please contact media specialist Shirley Wallner at 239-377-8000.

## Education News in Brief

### Annual Golf Tourney helps local kids

On April 24, at The Lely Golf Resort a benefit to help Redlands Christian Migrant Association, nonprofit operator of child-care centers for the rural poor in 21 Florida counties will begin at 8:30 a.m. with a shotgun start. Entry fee of \$225 per person includes breakfast and lunch, goodie bag, eligibility for extensive prize list. For more information, please contact Judy Brill at 239-658-3560 or judy@rcma.org

### IHS to hold 20 year reunion

Save the Date - 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. For more information and to register, please go to: [www.classreport.org](http://www.classreport.org) <<http://www.classreport.org/>>. You can also e-mail Pete Cade at: [pcade@hodes.edu](mailto:pcade@hodes.edu) or call him at: 863-228-1359. The deadline to register is quickly approaching so please do not delay.

## School district and students to celebrate Pineapple Day

Through The Education Foundation of Collier County and Sweetbay Supermarkets, the School District of Collier County's Department of Nutrition Services received a grant for the enhancement of nutrition education projects. This grant will help schools throughout the district celebrate Pineapple Day on Thursday, April 15.

Each school will offer pineapple on the breakfast and lunch menus to promote and support the pineapple industry. There will also be pineapple decorations on the serving lines and in the cafeteria. For breakfast, students can choose from pineapple muffins, fresh fruit, and juice.

At lunch, the choices include Asian rice and pineapple bowl, a salad with pineapple vinaigrette, fresh pineapple spear, pineapple juice, and pineapple upside down cake.

But students won't see pineapples just on the menu! At the elementary schools, students and staff are encouraged to wear pineapple colors, and middle and high

school students are encouraged to wear spirit day shirts.

While the celebration promises to be fun with contests, decorations, and pineapple carving, there is, of course, an educational element as well. Classrooms will use reading, art, math, science, and writing activities to celebrate this special day at their school.

Some healthy facts about pineapple:

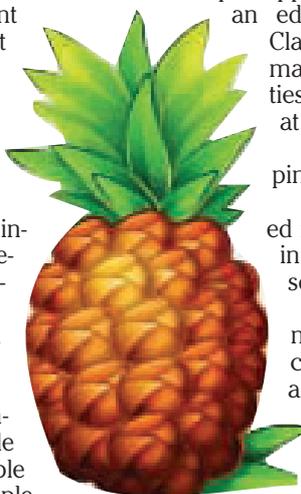
Pineapple is fat free, saturated fat free, cholesterol free, high in vitamin C, and has very low sodium.

Pineapple contains micro-nutrients that protects against cancer, breaks up blood clots, and is good for your heart.

The Department of Nutrition Services would like to thank The Education Foundation and Sweetbay Supermarkets for their generosity and assistance in making Pineapple

Day a success.

To learn more about school meals, please contact Lori Johnson at 239-377-0286.



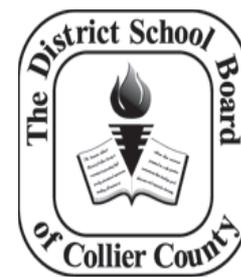
## Students First

### Social media topic of discussion at upcoming forum night

By Joe Landon

Collier County District Schools

Need to remind you about what those of us here at the school district offices believe to be a very important evening – this Monday, April 19, the night we're conducting a Community Forum on Social Media. If you're a mom or dad with middle or high school age kids, it is critically important for you to join us or watch the forum on TV Monday evening. Even a casual observer knows there isn't a day that goes by where we don't hear about a kid's life being changed forever by something stupid, for lack of a better word, being done with social media. I shared a couple of examples last week, but I've got more! In Oregon, awhile back, two students were convicted of disorderly conduct for a discussion had on MySpace that they claimed was just dark humor. In Tampa recently, a student was kicked out of the National Honor Society and then transferred to another school after what he thought was just a funny Facebook page post was judged by teachers to have contradicted a pledge he made when joining the honor society. Even something a kid may think is clever, funny and harmless can be used against them if it draws attention in the school community. Then the case of a high school teacher in Georgia forced to resign because of photos and expletives found on her Facebook page. And did you hear about the guy offered a pretty good



job by a major company that he lost, as quickly as it was offered, because of a negative tweet about the folks who just hired him? And did you know the "kick a blank day" that made worldwide headlines last November was a

mass psychology event fueled by Facebook postings by students? Then you've got the problem of online sexual predators, latching on to kids first as "friends," and then going who knows where with a dangerous relationship; and last week we shared the tale of some horrific cyber bullying that led to suicide. On the plus side, the National School Boards Association tells us that 60 percent of students using social networking sites talk about education topics online and, surprisingly, more than half of the students using social media talk about school work! Social networks can be all about supporting relationships between teachers and between teachers and students. Let's face it, social media can be a very good thing, great fun – we just want to help make sure it's safe fun!

So parents, students, school staff, and community members – we invite you to join us for the Community Forum on Social Media, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Monday, April 19, at the administrative center in Naples. If you can't make it, we'll have it for you LIVE on The Education Channel, Comcast cable 99.

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# ‘Doing the right thing’ brings local teen recognition

Each month the Collier County Sheriff’s Office recognizes students for “doing the right thing.” Ten students received ‘Do the Right Thing’ awards this month including Jordan Alviar, a student at Immokalee High School. Jordan not only took home the prize as overall winner for March, but for the entire 2009-2010 school year! He was nominated by Irene Barnhart-Sauceda, his aunt and an employee of Immokalee Middle School. She was there as Jordan saved her neighbor’s life. Here’s her nomination submission, in her own words:

“Jordan P. Alviar is just your typical high school senior. He plays baseball, piano, and hangs out with his friends – but on December 15th Jordan did an extraordinary thing. It was about 5 p.m. and Jordan arrived at my house to pick up some things he needed for a school project. As he was preparing to leave, a call came from the elderly woman next door. The woman was hysterically crying, pleading for help for her husband. Her husband had taken his canoe on their three-acre lake and had fallen in. I started to panic; it was only Jordan, my two young sons, and myself at home because my husband was

still at work. Jordan ran out of the house towards the lake. The woman met Jordan at the lake; she was crying and scared because her husband had gone under two or three times already. Jordan ran over to the lake and tried to get the man out by throwing a rope so the man could grab it and Jordan could pull him to shore. The man was tired and weak from fighting to stay afloat that he was unable to grab the rope. Jordan jumped in with one end of a rope wrapped around his arm and the end was held by me. Jordan did not hesitate to enter the lake even though it is about 15 feet deep. It also has a steep drop off, full of muck, and thick with weeds and has a few alligators. Jordan struggled trying to get the man. During this time, the man went under a few more times and each time he was under longer. Jordan finally reached the man, and using all of his strength pulled himself and the man back to shore. When everything was over, Jordan realized what he had done. He had saved a man’s life without thinking about his own. The man would have drowned if Jordan had not been there to save him. Jordan, you are considered a hero for ‘doing the right thing’



Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/Collier County District Schools  
**Doing the right thing brought local teen, Jordan P. Alviar the recognition he deserved in the way of a surprise visit at school by Sheriff’s Dept. Deputies to present him with an award. The young man saved the life of a local man who had fallen into a lake while canoeing.**

in a crisis.” – Irene Barnhart-Sauceda  
 To learn about the good works of all the Do the Right Thing winners for the month of March, visit [www.collierschools.com](http://www.collierschools.com). The information is posted on the Students page.

To learn more about the Do the Right Thing program, contact Collier County Sheriff’s Office Corporal Joe Rakow at 239-377-6584, or by e-mail at [rakowjo@collier.k12.fl.us](mailto:rakowjo@collier.k12.fl.us).

# Immokalee students prepare to tee off in tourney

The 2010 Charity Classic Inter-Club Challenge, a golf tournament that pits golf club against golf club in a friendly rivalry, is set for April 26, at The Old Collier Golf Club, with 20 local teams participating along with the ‘clubs’ golf pros. The Immokalee Foundation is hosting the tournament in partnership with The First Tee of Naples/Collier Program in Immokalee.

Immokalee students from The First Tee of Naples/Collier Program in Immokalee will be at the tournament to cheer on teams from clubs such as Bay Colony, Bonita Bay, Calusa Pines, Grey Oaks and Mediterra. These students will also play with the teams on the Par 3s. More than 50 Immokalee students participate in The First Tee program, and those with the highest grades will participate in the Inter-Club Challenge.

“The First Tee is a national youth development organization dedicated to positively impacting the lives of young people through the game of golf,” said Cindy Darland, executive director of The First Tee of Naples/Collier.



“Since 2008, we have developed a very rewarding partnership with The Immokalee Foundation. Together we are looking to expand The First Tee program to even more middle and high school students in Immokalee.”

The 2010 Charity Classic Inter-Club Challenge is hosted by The Old Collier Golf Club. Morgan Stanley Smith Barney is the presenting sponsor, and other corporate gold sponsors are Fifth Third Bank (founding sponsor), Bigham Jewelers, Porsche of Naples and Jaguar Naples and Naples Illustrated. The tournament’s underwriters are Arthrex, Quarles & Brady, Sagemark Consulting, Tom and Arlene Weyl, Don and Ellen O’Neill and Dick and Marie Stonesifer. Prize sponsors are Bigham Jewelers, Marquis Jet, Porsche of Naples and Jaguar Naples and Hamilton Harbor Yacht Club.

“Proceeds from the tournament support a brighter future for the children of Immokalee through The Immokalee Foundation’s seven core programs, one of which is The First Tee of Naples/Collier Program in Immokalee,” said tournament co-chair Kevin T. Johnson.



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**NOTICE OF MEETING**

There will be a Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners for the Immokalee Water & Sewer District on Wednesday, April 21, 2010 at 3:30 P.M. at the office of the Immokalee Water & Sewer District, located at 1020 Sanitation Rd, Immokalee, FL 34142.

**REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

1. Call to Order
  2. Preliminaries
    - A. Pledge of Allegiance
    - B. Roll Call
    - C. Adoption of Agenda
    - D. Employee Recognition
      1. February- Employee of the Month- Ofelia Gonzalez
    - E. Public Concerns
    - F. Staff Good Cause Items
    - G. Board Concerns
    - H. Old Business
    - I. New Business
  3. Consent Agenda
    - A. Adoption of Minutes
      1. March 17, 2010 Regular Meeting
    - B. Civil Rights Compliance Report
    - C. February Budget Review
    - D. Fixed Assets Acquisitions-Disposals
    - E. Various Reports
    - F. USDA/FDEP Reporting for Stimulus Money
    - G. Project Change Orders
    - H. Engineer's Report - AECOM
    - I. Director's Report
  4. Action Agenda
    - A. Sprayfield Proposals Recommendations
    - B. Cross Connection Committee Recommendations
  5. Discussion Agenda
    - A. Attorney's Report
  6. Other Public Interests
  7. Adjournment
- 351033 IB 4/15/10

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# Michigan spring breakers work with I HOPE

**By Rick Heers**

Special to the Immokalee Bulletin

Thirteen youth and 4 adults from Bethel Baptist Church in Marquette, Michigan have spent the week working with I HOPE, finishing the renovation of a home that needed new flooring and repainting on the inside. Standing water from Tropical Storm Fay had damaged the structural base of the home, and many of the flooring struts were replaced. They also pressure cleaned the outside of her home and cleaned up her yard. While in Immokalee, they joined with a church mission group from First Baptist and distributed flyers in several housing developments during the evening. The group also visited other I HOPE clients to encourage them.



Along with the student Spring Breakers, came several adult volunteers from the Bethel Baptist Church from Michigan. This volunteer is making repairs to flooring badly damaged after Tropical Storm Fay dumped torrents of water on the region.



Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/Rick Heers

This group of students from Michigan came to Florida on their Spring Break but not for sun and fun. They are working in the Immokalee community helping to rebuild homes destroyed or damaged by Tropical Storm Fay.

## FWC urges responsible behavior when living near Florida panthers

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) has received several reports in recent weeks of panthers roaming around Collier County residents' yards. FWC panther biologists have confirmed panther sightings since February near Golden Gate Estates. A panther killed goats in two incidents at one location. The residence where the incidents occurred did not have predator-proof enclosures for the animals.

The FWC advises that these incidents are preventable if pet owners and livestock hobbyists take proper measures.

"Vigilance is key to protecting people's pets and livestock," said Mark Lotz, a biologist on the FWC's panther team. Lotz says securing livestock and pets will protect them from all predators, such as dogs, coyotes and bobcats, in addition to panthers. Panthers are attracted to prey, such as deer, wild hogs, raccoons, rabbits and armadillos. By feeding deer or other wildlife, people can inadvertently attract panthers. Residents should secure all potential food sources, such as garbage or pet food, which attract wildlife.

Pets that are free-roaming, or pets that are tethered and unfenced, are easy prey for predators, including panthers.

"Where practical, put chickens, goats, hogs or other livestock in enclosed structures at night," Lotz said. "Electric fencing can be an effective predator deterrent."

Florida panthers were listed as endangered in 1967 and are protected under both federal and state laws. The panther population declined to approximately 30 cats by the early 1980s. Today there are about 100 panthers in Florida. Human-panther encounters are occurring more often because of human encroachment near panther habitat and an increase in the panther population.

According to FWC biologists, it is important to remember that a panther sighting does not necessarily constitute a threat to human safety. The FWC recommends that anyone who spots a panther should enjoy the experience from a safe distance or from inside a structure. Following all of the precautions outlined by the FWC will help protect pets and livestock.

"Removing the offending panther is not a solution. If the attractant remains, another panther will move in," Lotz said. "Protecting your investment is the best solution for you, your animals and the endangered panther."

To report panther threats, pets or livestock lost to a panther, or an injured or dead panther, call the FWC's Wildlife Alert Hotline at 888-404-FWCC (3922). For more information on how to live safely with panthers, download the "Living with Panthers" brochure at [www.FloridaPantherNet.org](http://www.FloridaPantherNet.org). The purchase of panther specialty license plates helps fund panther research and management. Visit [www.buyaplate.com](http://www.buyaplate.com) for more information.

## IHS Key Club plants trees for Earth Day

Immokalee High School (IHS) will be receiving some new landscaping this week. Thanks to Key Club president Maria Bustamonte, two brand new oak trees will be planted on the north side of IHS located at 701 Immokalee Drive, in Immokalee. The trees, which stand 8' and 10' respectively, were planted on Wednesday, April 14, as a part of the Key Club's Earth Day project. The idea to plant the trees was born when

Bustamonte contacted Davenport Nursery to ask for trees to be donated to the school for the Key Club's Earth Day project. The nursery was happy to assist with the request, and is donating two oak trees to be used to fill in a bare spot along a row of existing trees on the campus at IHS.

To learn more, please contact IHS principal Linda Salazar at 239-377-1800.

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# IMMOKALEE SPORTS NETWORK

## Soccer Pit Cobras celebrate brand new clubhouse

By Manny Touron

Special to the Immokalee Bulletin

Saturday March 27, was a historic moment for the Soccer Pit Cobras. The inauguration of their new clubhouse was a dream come true. Thanks to the generosity of the First United Methodist Church of Immokalee, members of this youth soccer program have a place of their own. The church has allowed the club to use one of the portables on their property as a clubhouse for the players to gather and also take care of their academics. After speaking with Pastor Merritt and Board of Trustees' member Jackie Williams about our mission of using soccer as a mean of keeping students doing well in school, they decided that this was a good cause and allowed us to use the property. Our club's mission is to keep our players doing well in school therefore we now require that all members must maintain a 2.0 GPA in order to play in any of the teams. A player failing to fulfill this requirement will be put on probation for a period of nine weeks and must bring their GPA to a 2.0. They will be required to attend tutoring sessions at the clubhouse three times per week. If, after their probationary period, the grades are not

at the required level, the player will be dismissed from the club.

All of the sponsors of our teams were invited to the inauguration of the clubhouse and they received a certificate of appreciation with a team picture. Sponsors included, Barco Trucking, Resendiz Trucking, Palafox Trucking, The Immokalee Foundation, The First United Methodist Church, Little Caesars, Phil and Mary Beuth, Manuel Padilla Construction, The Florida Youth Soccer Association, Tina De la Rosa Insurance, iTECH, One by One Leadership Foundation and The Seminole Tribe of Florida. At the event, Phil and Mary Beuth from The Beuth Foundation gave the club a check for \$5,000 for the purchase of a van to transport players to and from games. The club also found out the The Immokalee Foundation had funded a grant for the club for the amount of \$5,000.

All of us associated with The Soccer Pit Youth Athletic Club are very thankful to all our sponsors for making this happen. This is a grassroots program and without their generosity this could not take place.



Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/Manny Touron  
Phil and Mary Beuth from the Beuth Foundation presented the club with a check for \$5,000 to buy a van.



Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/Manny Touron

In the top photo, Gloria Padilla from Manuel Padilla Construction, a large sponsor for game uniforms and practice T-shirts, receives a certificate of appreciation and a team photo. Below, Tina de La Rosa, sponsor for our U14 boys is presented with a plaque.



### Sports Shorts

#### Soccer Camp to open

A five week soccer camp is set to open for the weeks of April 20-May 20. The registration fee is \$25 and includes a camp t-shirt. Campers aged from kindergarten, first and second grade will be on Tuesdays from 6 until 7:15 p.m. and campers in grades 3, 4, 5, and 6 will be on Thursdays from 6 until 7:15 p.m. Groups are limited to only 40 players in each. First come, first served with no exceptions. Registration will be on Tuesday, April 13 and Thursday, April 15 at 6 p.m. at the Immokalee MS Soccer Field. Contact Manny Touron with any questions at 239-877-7135.

#### Sports Desk network invites participants

Youth, adult recreation leagues, and sports teams in the Immokalee, Ave Maria and Eastern Collier County are invited to participate online in the Eastern Collier County Sports Network. To visit Eastern Collier County Sports Network online, go to newszap.com, click the Immokalee, Ave Maria or Collier County homepages, then click on the Sports tab in the upper right part of the page. The web address is: <http://fl.newszap.com/EasternCollierCountySportsNetwork>. Interested teams and leagues can contact Renee Hawley by e-mail at: [rhawley@communitysportsdesk.com](mailto:rhawley@communitysportsdesk.com). Or call her toll free at 888-853-7904 for a demonstration or to get started right away.

## Coaches - Players - Sports Fans

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