

IMMOKALEE BULLETIN

Serving Immokalee, Ave Maria and Eastern Collier County

Vol. 43 No. 25

Thursday, June 24, 2010

Workshop set to guide homeowners with foreclosure fears

Worried about foreclosure or having difficulty making your monthly mortgage payment? Make plans to attend the upcoming workshop that will help you get your questions answered.

If you're having difficulty making your monthly mortgage payment or are worried about foreclosure, plan to attend the Foreclosure Prevention Workshop to be held Thursday, July 1, at 5:30 p.m. at the Immokalee Library. The workshop is hosted by the Empowerment Alliance of Southwest Florida, a

HUD approved, non-profit Housing Counseling Agency. The workshop will include an overview of the foreclosure process and possible alternatives to foreclosure. Afterwards, clients can meet with the HUD approved counselors to discuss their cases and schedule follow-up appointments as necessary. The workshop and the counseling are free and are funded through HUD and County grants.

One of the available programs to be discussed includes President Obama's Making Home Afford-

able program. Under this program, banks are given incentives to work with homeowners to modify their loans, rather than go into foreclosure. A modified loan can involve a reduced interest rate for five years with a gradual increase to a rate that is manageable for the rest of the loan. Homeowners must show they have enough income to handle the new payments to qualify for the modified loan.

In one client's case, the bank decreased the homeowner's payments from \$1,748 per month to

\$931 per month, by reducing the interest rate from 8.6 percent to 2.5 percent. After five years, the rate will gradually increase but will not rise above 6.2 percent, still a significant savings for the family that allowed them to keep their home.

Due to differences among banks and individuals' situations, not every loan can be modified, but many are benefiting from the new program. In addition, some banks offer other programs beyond the Making Home Affordable program to benefit homeowners and pre-

vent foreclosures. Additionally, if a family does not want to keep their home, there are the short-sale and deed-in-lieu options. These alternatives will also be discussed at the workshop along with the possible tax consequences they may produce.

There is no fee for the workshop, but registration is encouraged. Please contact the Empowerment Alliance at 239-658-3318 to register for the foreclosure workshop.

Eastern Collier Sports Network - Soccer Pit Cobras ... Page 8



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

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Taking the pledge: Nurses graduate



All of the graduates proudly read The Practical Nurse's Pledge as they graduate from the first-ever Practical Nursing Program to begin and complete their entire nursing program at the Immokalee Technical Center (iTECH). A total of 15 graduate practical nurses participated in the commencement took place on Wednesday, June 16, in the iTECH conference center located at 508 North 9th Street, in Immokalee. See Page 5 for more photos.

Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/Adam Herrera

Youth group helps build solar cells

By Rick Heers
Special to the Immokalee Bulletin

In a prime example of expanding partnerships to assist the Immokalee community youth from Palm Beach Community Church (UMC) joined together with local youth from Bethel Assembly of God Church under the direction of

See SOLAR — Page 2



Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/
Rick Heers

Youth from Palm Beach Community Church (UMC) assisted with an experimental program to build solar cells.

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SOLAR

Continued From Page 1

World Vision National Director of Rural Ministries and local Long Term Disaster Recovery Organization I HOPE. In addition to working on mobile home repairs in Immokalee, the two youth groups began what could be an interesting and quite profitable experimental program to build solar cells to use on the former "Johnson Ranch," now the site of Bethel Assembly's retreat/conference center that is being used by volunteer groups who come into the community to work on projects with I HOPE.

Solar panels, totally assembled by youth will eventually be used by Bethel Assembly

to operate their generators which pump waters in areas of their 120-acre ranch which are planted with vegetables. These solar panels, the brainchild of Ruston Seamon, National Director of Rural Ministries of World Vision have already been set up and are being used in Philippi, West Virginia, to provide power for homes, also in Mendenhall Ministries to generate power to the church and chapel of their youth ministries in Mendenhall Mississippi. Future projects are already being prepared for use on two Indian reservations-one in South Dakota and another in New Mexico. With the prevalence of sunny weather in southwest Florida, this holds great potential for our local community. One day it may very well serve as a generator for additional industry for the local community as well.



Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/Rick Heers
Youth from Palm Beach Community Church join with Bethel Assembly in a community project involving building solar panels to generate power to the church and chapel of their youth ministries.

Pepper Ranch Preserve to open hunt program

The Collier County Pepper Ranch Preserve Quality Wildlife Management Program was approved by the Board of County Commissioners this morning. This year, the County will be offering 6 public hog hunts, 1 public turkey hunt, 2 Youth Hog Hunts, and 1 Youth Turkey Hunt for the residents of Collier County. Hunters will be chosen via a Random Draw process. Applications will be available on-line July 1, 2010 and will be accepted for the Random Draw until July 30, 2010: www.colliergov.net/conservationcollier.

Deer surveys will be conducted this season in anticipation of hopefully opening the ranch to limited deer hunting next year.

Thank you to all who assisted in creating this hunt program!

For more information, contact Melissa Hennig, Principal Environmental Specialist - Conservation Collier Program, Collier County Facilities Department, 3301 Tamiami Trail E., Naples, FL 34112, phone: 239-252-2957, cell: 239-289-2934, fax: 239-252-6720 or by email to: melissahennig@colliergov.net.

Local Forecast

Weather forecast for Collier County from the National Weather Service

Local Forecast

Today: A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 93. East northeast wind between 6 and 10 mph.

Tonight: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 75. Northeast wind between 3 and 6 mph.

Extended Forecast

Friday: A 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 93. East wind between 5 and 9 mph.

Friday night: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 76. East wind around 6 mph becoming calm.

Saturday: A 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 93. **Saturday night:** A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 76.

Sunday: A 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 93. **Sunday night:** A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 76.

Monday: A 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 93.

Church to host Vacation Bible School

Join us for Vacation Bible School at Saddle Ridge Ranch. Saddle up and hit the trail with Bible stories, crafts, motivating music and games. Kids from kindergarten through eighth grade can sign up for the session from June 27-July 1, from 6-8:30

p.m. at Iglesia Bautista De Jesucristo, 214 N. Second St., Immokalee. The phone number to call for more information is 239-657-2516. Registration for Fun Day will be held on June 26, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. The day will include water games and food.

Recovery Coordinating Committee prepares call list

The IRCC, working in coordination with Collier County Emergency Management, will be activated after a hurricane or other natural or manmade disaster to assist in the emergency response for the Immokalee area of Collier County and act as a conduit between the agencies and residents of Immokalee and Collier County's Emergency Management.

A goal of the IRCC would be to quickly assess the status of area agencies in the days immediately after an event. As soon as possible after an event members of IRCC would begin calling agencies for a status

report on the agency. In order to develop the call list I need your assistance.

If your agency is located in Immokalee or the immediate surrounding area and would like to be included on the call list please submit your name/title, address, email address and phone number(s) where you can be reached and return the information to Nancy_Frees@doh.state.fl.us by July 1.

You can also submit the information by fax to: 239-252-7329.

Thank you from the members of IRCC.

Published by

IMMOKALEE BULLETIN

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To Reach Us

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Physical Address: 22 Ft. Thompson Ave.
Phone: (239) 657-6000 • Fax: (863) 675-1449
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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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.

We Pledge...

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- 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.

CCSO names first female captain

On her first full day as a Collier County Sheriff's Office captain Wednesday, Beth Richards' phone rang steadily with calls from colleagues congratulating her for "breaking the glass."



CCSO Captain Beth Richards

Those good wishes were referring to the proverbial glass ceiling. Captain Richards is the first female certified officer in CCSO history to attain that rank.

Sheriff Kevin J. Rambosk made the appointment Tuesday afternoon, June 15.

A 23-year veteran of the agency, Captain Richards most recently served as commander of CCSO's Professional Standards Division, which oversees internal affairs, training and accreditation.

In her new position she will oversee the Naples Jail Center, the Immokalee Jail Center and the agency's Bailiff Bureau. She said her leadership style has always been to de-

mand professionalism and accountability from those who fall under her command.

While CCSO has had civilian females in the upper rank of director and chief, Richards is the first female certified officer to do so. As the agency's first female captain, she looks forward to serving as an example of what female deputies can accomplish.

"When I was coming up through the ranks I didn't have a certified female mentor I could look up to," she said. "I look forward to fulfilling that role for others."

Sheriff Rambosk said Captain Richards will be a good fit for the position.

"Captain Richards brings to this position a background rich in education and professional experience," said Sheriff Rambosk. "Her hard work and leadership capabilities make her a perfect fit for this position."

She earned a master's degree in criminal justice administration from Hodges University. She also has a bachelor's degree in business management from Hodges and an associate's degree in criminal justice from Edison State College. In addition, she is a graduate of the Command Officer Development Course at the University of Louisville

in Kentucky.

She grew up in Immokalee and began her career with CCSO as a corrections deputy in 1987. She was promoted to corrections supervisor in 1990 and remained there until being reassigned in 1996 to serve as a sergeant in the Training Division. In 2000 she was promoted to lieutenant and assigned to the Policy Compliance Bureau. She remained in that position until 2007 when she was named commander of the Professional Responsibility and Training Division. Since 2009 she has been commander of the Professional Standards Division.

Many in the community also know Captain Richards as the owner of Cowboy, CCSO's miniature quarter horse mascot.

Captain Richards' promotion was part of a reorganization following a voluntary separation option. In all, 26 CCSO members, including Richards' predecessor, Captain Joe Bastys, retired from the agency. The remaining organizational changes were accomplished without promotions by consolidating, collapsing and distributing functions throughout the CCSO command staff.

Obituaries

Howard. M. Skipper, 71

IMMOKALEE — Howard. M. Skipper, 71, of Immokalee, passed away June 21, 2010, surrounded by family.

Mr. Skipper was born in Sebring and spent over 21 years as a proud member of the United States Navy before retiring. He moved to Georgia for approximately 15 years before moving back to Immokalee, as Immokalee was always "home."

He is survived by son, Dean Quesberry (Angela) of Cape Coral; daughter, Sharon Turrubater (Rudy)



of Immokalee; grandchildren, Sissy, Tiffany, Kenny, Cody, Amy, Dean Jr. and Melissa; six great-grandchildren; two sisters, Ina (Tootsie) Johnson (Karol) of Virginia, and Golda Synder (Howard) of Immokalee. Mr. Skipper was preceded in death by his wife, Betty Quesberry Skipper, 2004; and brother, Sid Skipper, 2008.

Visitation will be held today, June 24, 2010, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Brister Funeral Home. A Funeral Service will be held at Graveside at the Immokalee Baptist Cemetery, Friday, June 25, 2010, at 10 a.m. Brister Funeral Home, Immokalee was entrusted with his care. Sign the guest book at bristerfuneralhome.com

Traffic Safety Campaign nets 1229 citations

Collier County Sheriff's Office deputies issued 1229 citations during the two-week "Click It or Ticket" campaign.

An additional 286 drivers were issued written warnings during the campaign, which ran from May 23 through June 5.

The purpose of the special enforcement effort was to increase safety belt use and to reduce fatalities on the roads in Collier County.

The fine for not wearing a seat belt is \$113 in Collier County. The fine for a child restraint violation is \$163.

Collier County continues to have the highest safety belt compliance rate - 92 percent - in Florida, according to the state Department of Transportation.

Deputies conducted various countywide heightened enforcement details during the campaign to draw attention to the importance of safety belt use.

In 2009, 22 people killed in traffic crashes in Collier County weren't wearing their seat belts.

CCSO reminds motorists that drivers in Collier County can be pulled over by deputies for not buckling up. In May 2009 Florida became the 28th state to have primary offense safety belt laws. Previously, drivers could only be ticketed for not wearing a seat belt if they were pulled over for another offense, such as speeding. The recent law allows deputies to stop drivers who aren't wearing their seat belt.



Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/Rick Heers
EOC and IRCC Meet to plan for the upcoming hurricane season to get into full swing. From left to right are David Grove, Chief Birge, Kitchell Snow, Ron Moser, Judy Scribner, Nancy Frees).

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CCSO offers kids 'Have a ball' program this summer!

Two of the keys to keeping kids on the right path are preventing them from getting bored and making sure there are positive influences in their lives. That's why the Collier County Sheriff's Office is partnering with the community to launch "Have A Ball This Summer!"

Throughout the summer, the trunks of many marked patrol cars will contain a basketball, a football and a soccer ball. If a deputy is between calls and spots kids congregating, he or she will stop, take out a ball and toss it around with them while getting to know them. At the end of the informal encounter the deputy will leave the ball with the kids as a memento.

And here's where the community comes in. CCSO has purchased several dozen balls

to get the program started. To keep it going, boxes have been placed in each of the CCSO substations throughout the county. Members of the community are invited to drop off their gently used sports balls such as basketballs, footballs, soccer balls and volleyballs for the program.

"This is a grassroots, community-based program that builds relationships between kids and deputies and leaves kids with not only a positive impression of law enforcement officers, but an activity that will keep them occupied in a positive activity," said Sheriff Kevin J. Rambosk. The idea for "Have A Ball This Summer!" was sparked earlier this month, when Golden Gate Cpl. Joseph Amorosi spotted a group of about a dozen kids playing football with a tattered ball on a

grassy area next to Peach Plum Apartments on Sunshine Boulevard. He got out of his car, joined the game for a few minutes and left. Later that day he bought a new ball and stowed it away in his patrol car.

"The ball they were playing with was all ripped up. The leather was falling off, the rubber was sticking out and you couldn't even throw it straight anymore," Cpl. Amorosi said. "I just thought it would be nice to give them a new ball. I thought it would be a good way to get to know them and show them that deputies care about them." The next time he saw the kids, who ranged in age from about 5 to 11, he got out of his car, grabbed the new ball and played with them for a few minutes. To their surprise, he handed the ball over to them when he

left.

"That was cool," recalled 8-year-old McCline St. Tulus, who plays half-back, "Everybody was having fun. Everybody said thank you."

Sheriff Rambosk said Cpl. Amorosi's gift was more than an act of kindness. It promoted a positive bond between law enforcement and the area's youth. "This is exactly of the type of informal, spontaneous interaction between deputies and children that helps build positive relationships," Sheriff Rambosk said.

Members of the community may drop off their gently used sports balls between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. at the Immokalee substation, District 8, 112 S. First St., Immokalee.

County access to free meals for kids program is now under way

The saying "there is no such thing as a free lunch" certainly doesn't apply this summer as Collier County youth, 18 and younger, are getting free breakfasts or lunches.

A collaboration between the School District of Collier County, the Collier County Parks & Recreation Department, the Hunger & Homeless Coalition, and Kids Against Hunger has resulted in a Kid's Cafeteria Summer Food Service Program in the Greater Naples, Immokalee, and Everglades

City areas. A free breakfast or lunch is being served to children during June, July, and August. The program, similar to the National School Lunch Program, provides nutritionally balanced meals to needy children. This is the program that was hugely successful last year, serving 126,446 free breakfasts and 163,523 free lunches during the course of the summer of 2009.

Some 48 summer feeding sites, scattered across the county, are providing free

breakfasts or lunches to any child under the age of 18, but the program sites are limited to geographical areas of need where at least 50 percent of the children are classified as being economically needy because they qualify for free or reduced-price meals during the school year. The program is open to all children under the age of 18 whether enrolled in a summer camp or not.

Most feeding sites began serving free breakfasts and lunches on June 17, and

most will end free meal service in early to mid-August.

For a full list of the free meal sites, go to www.collierschools.com and look in the Parents or Students sections or under "What's New?" on the home page. To learn more, contact the program administrator, Jim Thomas, in the Parks & Recreation North Collier Regional Park at 239-580-9112, or send an e-mail to Jim.Thomas@colliergov.net.

Shelter requests help to prepare for back to school

Summer may just have started, but The Shelter for Abused Women & Children is already busy preparing for the next school year and seeking community support for the nonprofit organization's Back to School Drive!

Throughout the year, families fleeing domestic violence arrive at The Shelter's Beau Venturi Home without extra clothing, personal items or school supplies. To ensure the organization can meet the children's ongoing needs, The Shelter is collecting the following supplies including: Gift Certificates: Wal-Mart, Target, Payless for back to school clothing needs (i.e. uniforms, shoes, socks, underwear), · School Clothes/Shoes and:

- Washable Crayons, Colored Pencils and Markers
- Erasers
- Binders (½, 1, 1 ½, 2 in.)
- Calculators
- Writing Tablets
- Calendars
- Protractors
- 1, 3, 5 Subject Notebooks
- Elmer's Glue

The Shelter, a state certified domestic violence center, provides programs and services crafted to prevent domestic violence before it begins; advocates for societal changes to end domestic violence; and meets the immediate and long-term needs of victims and survivors of intimate partner abuse.

Those interested in seeking further involvement, from businesses to individuals, are invited to host a Back to School Drive or party to help raise awareness and collect donations. To learn more about The Shelter's Back to School needs, as well as drop off locations, please call 239.775.3862, ext. 235, or email rgrabau@naplesshelter.org.

To Prevent. To Protect. To Prevail. The Shelter for Abused Women & Children. For more information on The Shelter, please call 239.775.3862, or visit www.naplesshelter.org.

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First iTECH nursing class celebrates graduation



Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/Adam Herrera

More than 1,000 hours have been invested in the making of this special day for graduates of the very first Practical Nursing Program at iTECH Center in Immokalee. The graduation-pinning ceremony took place on Wednesday, June 16 and presented 15 graduates with certificates including: Marie Alcide, Elyana Betancourt, Stephanie Carrillo, Priscella Caseres, Odyssey Christie, Cherlie Dervil, Lauren Eveland, Misty Courtney Harris, Selvin Holder, Nedlyne Mones-time, Norma Montgomery, Ileanna Ramirez, Tamara Smith, Heather Smith-Beau-brun, and Liliana Villa.



Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/Adam Herrera

Selvin Holder accepting his Nursing Excellence Award from Mrs Woods.



Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/Adam Herrera

(Top left) Ileanna Ramirez receives her certificate from Lana Woods-Instructor. Lauren Eveland (top right) accepts her Academic Excellence Award from Mrs Lana Woods. Bottom left is Tamara Smith accepting her Clinical Excellence Award from Mrs Woods. All of the graduates must now work on successfully passing the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-PN).



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Greater Immokalee Southside Front Porch Community, Inc.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) "INSTALLATION OF CENTRAL AIR AND HEAT PROJECT"

The Greater Immokalee Southside Front Porch Community, Inc. (FRONT PORCH) is seeking bids from qualified contractors licensed in the State of Florida for the "Installation of Central Air and Heat" for 100 units in the Immokalee Apartments located at 601 West Delaware Avenue, Immokalee, Florida. Bids, in triplicate, must be received at the Front Porch office no later than 4:00pm on Friday, July 16, 2010. Submissions received after this date and time, for whatever reason, will not be considered. Any questions regarding this Invitation to Bid should be directed to:

Vicki Carr
Greater Immokalee Southside Front Porch Community, Inc.
419 North 1st Street
Immokalee, Florida 34142
Phone: (239) 503-7733
Email: frontporch_imm@yahoo.com

Contractors are strongly encouraged to inspect the site prior to submitting bid. Please email: frontporch_imm@yahoo.com to schedule an appointment.

Bids submitted in response to this solicitation will be opened in the Front Porch Office at 2:00 PM on Friday, July 23, 2010. Interested parties are welcome to observe the bid opening but no decision will be made nor opinion offered until final review by the Immokalee Apartments, LLC and approval by the Front Porch Board of Directors. Proposals may be held by the Front Porch office for a period not to exceed sixty (60) calendar days from the date of opening proposals for the purpose of reviewing them and investigating the qualifications of the bidders prior to awarding the contract. All bids shall be accompanied by a bid bond, certified check, cashier check or money order in the amount of not less than five percent (5%) of the total amount bid.

The Board of Directors reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any formalities. The Board of Directors encourages participation by business owned and operated by minorities and women.

Funding is provided by Collier County Department of Housing, Human and Veteran Services using the Community Development Block Grant Recovery Act (CDBG-R) funds.
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Summerfest: CCSO's most ambitious summer youth program ever

Grab that beach ball and throw on those flip-flops. The first Collier County Sheriff's Office Summerfest is going to offer more fun than ever for area children and teens.

Collier County Sheriff Kevin J. Rambosk is announcing Summerfest, the most ambitious youth activities extravaganza in CCSO history. Summerfest is made possible thanks to partnerships with Collier County Parks and Recreation, the Collier County School District and many area businesses. Summerfest offers a wide range of activities for all grade levels. The focus will be providing fun activities in a safe environment.

For the first time, CCSO Youth Relations Bureau deputies will be assigned to summer youth programs instead of being assigned to patrol duties. This reallocation allows CCSO to expand its summer youth offerings without additional costs to the community.

Youth programs are especially critical in the current economy because many students have too much spare time on their hands due to a shortage of part-time summer jobs. Sheriff Rambosk also believes that youth programs pay off in the short term by keeping children and teens involved in fun and safe activities, and in the long term as well, by fostering the development of positive decision-making skills. In addition, for two years in a row Collier County residents who attended Sheriff Rambosk's community meetings identified youth programming as a priority.

CCSO has at least one activity, and in many cases as many as three activities, scheduled on every weekday between Monday and Aug. 6. Two programs, Open Gym and Fishing, are new this year. In addition, CCSO is arranging for Immokalee and Everglades are children to be transported to D.E.P.U.T.Y. Club each week, a move that is expected to boost attendance from an average of 60 per session to 150 per session. Also expanded is the Build-A-Boat program. One boat was constructed last year and three will be built this year.

"The more we can help our children and teenagers stay involved in fun activities in a safe environment, the better off we are as a community," Sheriff Rambosk said.

Here are some of the ways the Collier County Sheriff's Office is reaching out to make sure our community's children and teenagers have a safe and fun summer:

Open Gym - NEW!
Gymnasiums at Lely, Golden Gate and Palmetto Ridge high schools will be open and supervised by CCSO Youth Relations deputies several afternoons a week. The gyms will be set up to allow the high-school

students to have supervised recreation and interaction with law enforcement. Basketball, volleyball and table tennis are some of the activities that are planned. At Lely High School, Open Gym will take place from 1 to 5 p.m. every Monday and Friday from June 21, through Aug. 2. At Golden Gate High School it will be offered from 1 to 5 p.m. every Tuesday and Thursday from June 22 through Aug. 5. At Palmetto Ridge it will be offered from 2:30 to 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday and Thursday from June 22 through Aug. 5.

Fishing - NEW!
This program is a partnership between the City of Naples, the Boys and Girls Club and CCSO. Every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday morning during the summer 25-35 kids from the Boys and Girls Club will be taken to Naples Pier or to Lake Trafford in Immokalee to fish and learn about water safety.

D.E.P.U.T.Y. Club - EXPANDED!
D.E.P.U.T.Y. Club is a summer program for students in first grade through fifth grade. It takes place from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. every Wednesday from July 7 through Aug. 11, at St. Katherine Greek Orthodox Church, 7100 Airport-Pulling Road. Transportation will be provided for children in the Immokalee and Everglades City areas. It is made possible through the partnership of area businesses and organizations.

Build-a-Boat - EXPANDED!
This 40-hour program provides an opportunity for 16-20 youths to accomplish the task of building a boat while learning about water safety and interacting with deputies. Two teams will work together to build two boats. This program will take place from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. June 21 to June 25 at Palmetto Ridge High School. Another Build-a-Boat program will take place July 12 to July 16, in Everglades City.

Teen Academy
This 40-hour program is designed for returning high-school seniors who are leaders in their schools. Teen Academy is designed to educate these selected youth on aspects of Collier County. The 34 academy participants are hand selected from referrals by our Youth Relations deputies. Teen Academy will take place the week of June 14-18.

Hot Summer Nights
Back for a second year, this popular program will take place during various evenings throughout the summer at parks throughout the county. Open to students in middle and high school, Hot Summer Nights will include dances, water slides, laser tag, carnival games and water park events.

Teen Drivers Challenge

This is a 12-hour program that partners newly licensed drivers with deputies to learn driving skills and laws. This is both a classroom and hands-on program. Approximately 12-15 participants are involved in each monthly program.

Free Summer Movies
Deputies will be present at the Hollywood 20 theater during free summer movie days to interact with children and teens.

Parks and Recreation
Deputies will be present at Collier County park summer camps to interact with children and teens. In addition to these programs,

throughout the summer deputies will hand out a coupon for a free drink to children they observe wearing a bike helmet, going out of his or her way to help someone, or giving back to the community. Coupons from 7-Eleven are redeemable for a Slurpee. Handy Food Store and Circle K coupons are good for an ICEE.

For more information on any of these programs go to www.colliersheriff.org or call CCSO's Youth Relations Bureau at 239-793-9260.

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Water utility payment assistance is 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.

PAID CONTENT Lali Torres Y Grupo Esperanza En Concierto!

Embajadores Producciones presenta en concierto: Lali Torres y Grupo Esperanza.
Domingo, 27 de Junio 2010 7:30 pm Victory Christian Center 1201 Taylor Lane Ext. (Detrás de Burger King) Lehigh Acres, FL. 33936. Ven y únete a nosotros para este evento! La entrada cuesta \$ 10 por persona, menores de 10 años entran gratis.

Para obtener más información, llame al: 239-707-6224

EASTERN COLLIER COUNTY SPORTS NETWORK



Immokalee Soccer Pit Cobras claim top spots

By Manny Touron

Special to the Immokalee Bulletin

Two teams from the Soccer Pit Cobras claim Championships and one comes in second place.

The Soccer Pit Cobras did quite well in the Bonita Springs Wildcats Summer League. The U14 and U16 boys were declared Champions of their Division while the U12 team came in second place. The boys

will be getting their medals and trophies on Saturday, June 26, in Bonita Springs. These teams will continue to play friendly matches throughout the Summer and stay tuned up for league play in late August.

Three teams will travel to the Wide World of Sports in late July to play at the Nationals 3 v 3 tournament. The Cobras will send U11, U15 and U16 teams to the competition.

Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/Manny Touron
Girls going into eighth and ninth grades are invited and welcome to attend workouts every Wednesday at 3:45 at the Immokalee Middle School soccer field. The Cobras are trying to bring on a U15 girls team this coming fall.

News in Brief

Head Start program now registering for fall

The Head Start Program is currently registering children for the upcoming 2010-11 school year. In order to be eligible for Head Start, a child must be 4 years old by Sept. 1, of the current year, and a family must meet low income guidelines. When registering, you must provide the following: Proof of income (tax return, W-2) · Certified birth

certificate from vital statistics, · Current blue shot record with Varicella (chicken pox) · Current physical exam with hemoglobin results · Parent's picture identification · Medicaid/insurance card · Two proofs of residency (rental agreement, electricity/water bill). ransportation must be provided by parents. Families most in need may apply for limited spots. To learn more, please contact the Head Start Office at 239-377-0590, or visit their Web site at: <http://www.collierschools.com/headstart/>.

Coaches - Players - Sports Fans

Get Noticed!

Share your News!



From Baseball to Basketball, Football to Hockey, Soccer to Swimming, Cheerleading to Taekwondo – if you offer or participate in a youth or recreational sport/activity contact us today to join the Eastern Collier County SportsNetwork



Courtesy photos/DAS

Pets of the Week

André (top left) is a four year old gray and white neutered male domestic short hair cat. He is a very gentle cat. Pepper (top right) is a 10 month old Siamese mix. She loves to cuddle and play. Howie is an eight month white and brown old male Catahoula mix. He loves to run and play with adults and children. Shylow is a three year old brown and white female pit bull mix. He is well behaved and is trained to walk on a leash. Adopt from Collier County Domestic Animal Services (DAS) by calling 239-252-PETS (7387) or by visiting the shelter at 7610 Davis Blvd. Online at www.collierpets.com.

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