

IMMOKALEE BULLETIN

Serving Immokalee, Ave Maria and Eastern Collier County

Vol. 43 No. 25

Thursday, July 1, 2010

Immokalee Master Plan approved by lawmakers

Collier County lawmakers put Immokalee on path toward the future

After six years of planning by the community, the Collier County Commission approved the Immokalee Area Master Plan and

sent it on to the State of Florida for final sign-off.

If approved there, as expected, the new Master Plan will be in place and changing the future of Immokalee by the end of 2010.

"This is indeed a red-letter day for the community of Immokalee and its people," said Penny Philippi, executive director of the Immokalee Community Redevel-

opment Agency, tasked with the responsibility for shepherding the community to its future.

From the beginning the master planning process assessed the region's strengths to determine what industries can thrive here. In addition to a young workforce and available land, Immokalee has a strong partnership with the schools and colleges, an airport with an in-

ternational trade zone, and significant incentive programs already in place that make us attractive as a regional, national and international commercial trade hub.

It has a long history producing agricultural products, which can make it attractive to agribusinesses.

The new master plan addresses the need for attractive public spac-

es and cultural events. It celebrates the Seminole Casino and the ecological wonders of Lake Trafford and the Corkscrew Swamp, which can draw tourists and build a new tourism industry: hotels, entertainment and recreation opportunities, restaurants and outdoor cafes.

The plan anticipates growth of the construction industry will

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Transit meeting helps plan for better system

By Rick Heers

Special to the Immokalee Bulletin

Staff from the Collier Area Transit (CAT) met in a public workshop last week to discuss the Transit Development Plan for 2010-2020. This meeting was one in a series of meetings designed to review existing operations and share ideas to improve the services of the transit system throughout Collier County. From the business people and citizens who attended it was obvious that there is a great desire to maintain this valuable service. Michelle Edwards Arnold, Director of the CAT introduced her staff and the staff of Tindale-Oliver & Associates, Inc. who were hired to do an independent analysis of existing transit and helped take incorporate community information put to develop an action plan for improving services to our community.

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) requires a detailed analysis of the transit system and its operations be conducted every 5 years and the plan must show system improvements for a ten years period. Data collected for the Transit Development Plan shows that there were over 1.1 million riders on the CAT system annually in the last three years, with a majority of riders



Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/Rick Heers
The newest of Immokalee's CAT shelters at Goodwill Industries on Main Street. The meeting held last week to discuss changes to help serve the public better included many county residents and business community members.

using it to get to their places of employment. Currently there are nine routes which run from 6 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Monday-Sunday (except there currently is no Sunday service in Immokalee). In addition

to the regular buses, CAT also runs an ADA (American Disabilities Act) para-transit service for those who have special transportation service

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Preparations under way as storm season ramps up

By Rick Heers

Special to the Immokalee Bulletin

Immokalee residents were given another great opportunity to prepare in advance of storms hitting our community this past week. Judy Scribner, Human Services Program Manager for Collier County Emergency services hosted a meeting at the Community Park in which she invited representatives of local agencies to share their responsibilities, and recommendations for the individuals in the community to take.

Mark Johnson of the American Red Cross, accompanied by volunteer Meaghan Nichols, provided valuable information on the work that ARC does in the immediate aftermath of a storm as well as advise family members of their own preparations. The ARC will provide emergency shelters in Collier County depending on the severity of the storms. They reminded people that

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PLAN

Continued From Page 2

come hand-in-hand with economic growth in other sectors as the demand for commercial, industrial, and residential space grows and the economy rebounds.

The plan acknowledges new businesses -- international trade and distribution, green and high-tech industries, agribusiness, tourism, and construction -- are good fits for Immokalee and will become the focus of the future.

"Immokalee's leaders understand the community is competing with other communities and Florida counties," Phillippi said. "Companies considering Immokalee for a new home will evaluate if they can find or quickly develop adequate space and infrastructure. They will assess how supportive and cooperative the local government is; the availability of a reliable, skilled workforce; and whether the community is one where current employees would like to live. They will weigh what Immokalee and Collier County have to offer and how long it takes to get things done."

The Master Plan lays out several steps that government agencies, local businesses, the Chamber of Commerce, and other groups should take to make the region business-ready and business-friendly:

- Government agencies can address land use issues, streamline and expedite the approval processes, provide technical assistance, and align incentives and bonuses with planning goals. In some cases, government can provide funding or partner with private entities for funding streams. These changes

can take as much as three years, but time is money. To expedite change, interim land development codes are in the pipeline for approval early next year. In addition, we've developed a program to reimburse businesses up to 50% of the Impact Fees.

- Educational institutions, businesses, and Workforce Development Board can collaborate to strengthen our workforce by improving high school graduation rates and by providing convenient and affordable opportunities for adults to complete their high school education and pursue job skills training. A strong partnership has already begun to bring results like the new technical high school, iTech.

- Working together, the community can see built attractive homes for skilled workers, management, and their families and an interesting destination for tourists by upgrading Main Street, cleaning streets and vacant lots, developing recreation centers, improving the housing stock, and dealing with other quality of life issues. The CRA has already introduced a Commercial Façade Improvement Program and community groups are planning volunteer clean-up efforts.

- State, County, and local agencies with responsibility for infrastructure components like traffic and transportation, sewers, and storm water management, can move quickly to secure public and investor funding to implement improvements already planned.

"Immokalee is now poised to become the vanguard of a new Florida," Phillippi said. "We can join hands to market Immokalee's commercial, industrial, and tourism opportunities. Immokalee is Florida in the 21st Century."

CAT

Continued From Page 1

needs. Special workshops have been held in the county along with online and onboard surveys which were being conducted in order to obtain public input.

The following list (not in any specific order) provides some of the recommendations obtained from the public workshops:

- Routes operating every 45 minutes rather than every 90 minutes
- More shelters, benches/bike racks/bike carriers/lockers
- Connections to Lee County Transit System/Lehigh Acres/SWFL International Region-

al Airport/beaches/Everglades City

- Extending an existing route to go to Ave Maria/Immokalee Road (State Road 846) (near the Immokalee Airport-Trade Center)

- Greater east-west service
- Adding hours to extend to 10 p.m. as well as Sunday operations in Immokalee (was cut in 2009 due to budget constraints)

- Replacement buses/uses video cameras and, vehicle locators, and increase "Park and Rides"

Funding for the tTransit system is derived from fares, ad valorem taxes, and grants. The public needs to understand that there are restrictions placed on how the funding can be used, capital or operational, and the funds cannot be co-mingled. Keeping in mind, in order

PREP

Continued From Page 1

when they go to a shelter they need to take blankets, pillow, and personal hygiene supplies. Those needing a pet-friendly shelter (located at North Collier Park on Livingston Road in Naples) or a special needs shelter (located at Palmetto Ridge High School), must call the ARC and pre-register in advance. Transportation may be made available for the special needs shelter, but only in advance of the storm. It is important to remember that no public vehicles--sheriff's department, fire department, CAT or other county transportation--are allowed on the road once the winds reach 35 mph. Other items in their personal kits should include medicines, a flashlight, extra batteries, and important papers, including prescriptions in a sealed plastic bag. Homeowners who stay in their homes need to have at least 3 days of water supply (1 gallon per person per day), have several frozen plastic bottles of water that can be placed inside refrigerators to help keep it cool during a power outage.

Kurt Zeitler of the Domestic Animal Control recommended that, whenever possible animals be micro-chipped, and that owners also provide pictures of their pets...all of which must be housed in cages at the shelter on Livingston Road. Owners must also provide leashes for their pets.

Raul Dimas, Jr. of the Immokalee Fire Department reminded residents that they must prepare by having sufficient medicines and extra oxygen tanks for those on oxygen. He also reminded everyone that great care must be taken when running portable generators.



Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/Rick Heers
Mark Johnson of the American Red Cross showing a complete family hurricane kit.

A good precaution is to never run them inside...in the house, of course, but also on porches or in garages. It is a worthwhile precaution to have the power company check any direct connections of an emergency generator to the power system in a home before using it. Families are well advised to install carbon monoxide detectors in their homes, as the deadly fumes are odorless, but deadly.

I HOPE director Rick Heers reminded everyone that emergency operations for the Immokalee community in the event of a power outage would be held at the iTech center across from Immokalee High School. They along with Ron Mosher of the CCSO would direct emergency operations and be connected directly with the Emergency Operations Center in Immokalee.

to fund all the projects recommended through the public process, the transit system would be operating at an \$85 million deficit over the next ten years, with inflation. Grants are vigorously being pursued to help fund expanded programs to make the service even more beneficial for the ridership but alternatives funding sources are needed. Once funds do become available, the recommendations included in the plan will be brought back to the public to determine which services should be implemented first.

CAT personnel have been looking into purchasing vehicles with alternate alternative kinds of fuel, and thanks to sStimulus funding two hybrids buses have already been purchased that run on diesel and electric. Not only that

is there an expected to be a cost savings when using hybrids but also and reduction of the carbon gas emissions into the environment. Hybrids vehicles have become very popular.

The Transit Development Plan was presented to the MPO (Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)) in June. It, followed by a presentation will be presented to the BCC (Board of County Commissioners (BCC)) in July, and then will be submitted to FDOT in August.

Without exception those attending the workshop applauded and complimented the staff for the value of the service they are providing and the opportunity to share input to improve the operation to benefit those needing and using the service.

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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 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.
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- To treat people with courtesy, respect and compassion.

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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

Letters to the Editor

Goodbye to Immokalee

Twenty years. Twenty beautiful years. My family and I have been so blessed to be able to serve the beautiful people of Immokalee. But now it is time to say goodbye.

I am moving to Brownsville, Texas. In several ways, the patient demographics of Brownsville is similar to that of Immokalee.

You may say it's like I am leaving behind a family. I have grown to love the people of Immokalee so much that it took years of agonizing decision to see what can be done to continue my practice--to serve you. After years of prayers, I believe that the Lord God Almighty is pointing me to Brownsville.

Fortunately, Immokalee is blessed to be having an excellent medical facility in Collier Health Services, Inc., that is willing to handle your medical needs. Its medical director, Dr. Jerry Williamson, has thrice assured me that his facility will accept my patients if I ever leave.

On July 30, 2010, the doors of Immokalee Pediatrics will be shut. Until then, you can get a copy of your medical records from our reputable staff. After that, most of your charts will be handled by calling a telephone number we will disclose later on.

Eastern Collier Chamber to publish new community guide

The Eastern Collier Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce that sales for its upcoming community guide and membership directory are now underway.

The 5,000 guides are on target to print this winter, and will be distributed in and around the Chamber service area.

The forthcoming Immokalee community guide and membership directory will act as an ideal community reference guide with the ability to serve as an informational relocation publication and exceptional Chamber membership recruitment tool. This customized publication will feature a refreshing writing style, coupled with eye-popping design and colorful pictures - grasping the distinct character of the community. In addition to the profile portion, the publication will include a complete Chamber membership directory and/or comprehensive buyer's guide (category listing).

Advertising in the Immokalee community guide and membership directory has unrivaled advantages. The multi-platform advertising bundle goes beyond the traditional print publication to include: a community Website and downloadable NewView eBook®, which convert the publication's editorial, pictures and design elements into a digital format; on-the-go wireless access via various Web-enabled devices; and the searchable vpMobile.us® Business Directory Portal, featuring the Chamber's entire membership directory, available wirelessly, 24/7. All of these elements come together to offer the Eastern Collier Chamber of Com-

merce, participating advertisers and the community valuable added exposure to a global audience.

This technologically advanced, royalty-generating publication is produced at NO COST to the Chamber. This leading-edge publishing program is made possible through a partnership between the Eastern Collier Chamber of Commerce and innovative Chamber publisher Village Profile™.

For publication and advertising information, contact the Eastern Collier Chamber of Commerce or Sales Representative George Marsoobian at 239-657-3237 to reserve ad space now.

Sincerely,
Dr. Melanio Villarosa
 Immokalee Pediatrics

merce, participating advertisers and the community valuable added exposure to a global audience.

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Local Forecast

Weather forecast for Collier County from the National Weather Service

Immokalee Forecast

Thursday: A 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1 p.m. Partly cloudy, with a high near 93. Southeast wind between 5 and 8 mph. **Thursday night:** A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 75. Light southeast wind.

Extended Forecast

Friday: A 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a high near 92. Light southeast wind.

Friday night: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 75.

Saturday: A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a high near 91.

Saturday night: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 75.

Independence Day: A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a high near 91.

CCSO urges safety during July 4 holiday celebrations

CCSO urges residents and visitors to put safety first when celebrating the Fourth of July holiday. Deputies will be on the lookout for illegal displays.

It is illegal in Collier County to use any fireworks that explode or fly, unless they are being used in a professional demonstration with proper permits or for agricultural purposes.

Sales at fireworks stands are limited to only legal fireworks which are on the Florida Division of State Fire Marshal's approved sparkler list. The list can be found on the Web at:

<http://www.myfloridacfo.com/sfm/indexsfm.htm>

Residents and visitors who want to create their own fireworks displays should consider the safety issues. You can injure yourself lighting the wick. Lit fireworks can travel and injure someone else or set a tree or house on fire.

Firing a gun into the air in celebration of holidays like Independence Day is also against the law. Florida law states that it is illegal to have a gun in any public place, over an occupied building or house, or in the right of way of any paved road, highway or street.

Deputies will also be patrolling neighbor-

hoods and answering noise calls related to fireworks. The initial complaint may result in a warning to the offender, but continuing to disturb the peace could result in arrest.

Be considerate of your neighbors and keep any celebrations involving noise to a reasonable level, especially after dark.

Better yet, the best way to stay safe is to avoid using fireworks and attend a display handled by professionals.

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FCAT scores finally released

The School District of Collier County has released the FCAT Assessment results for grades 3-10. Highlights from this year's results include improvement in science across all grade levels tested and improvement in reading and math in grades 6 and 10. Overall, the results show that the district maintained the gains noted from last year.

The FCAT Sunshine State Standards (SSS) results reported here are for all students tested, including Exceptional Student Education (ESE) students and students in the English Language Learners (ELL) program.

The FCAT Sunshine State Standards (SSS) assessment was administered for the first time in January 1998 to measure achievement in reading at grades 4, 8, and 10; and mathematics at grades 5, 8, and 10. Starting in 2001, all grades 3 through 10 were assessed in reading and math, and starting in 2003, grades 5, 8, and 10 (changed to 11th grade in 2005) were also assessed in science. The FCAT SSS was designed specifically to assess student achievement on Florida's rigorous academic standards, the Sunshine State Standards.

Total scale scores and achievement levels are reported for reading and math. Only the total scale scores are reported for science. Total scale scores range from a low of 100 to a high of 500 and achievement levels range from a low of 1 to a high of 5. Currently, level 3 is used as the grade level criteria.

The FCAT SSS results reported here are for all students tested, including ESE and ELL students. Overall, the results show that the district maintained the gains noted from last

year (FY09). Highlights from this year's results include improvement in science across all grade levels tested and improvement in reading and math in grades 6 and 10.

Figures show that the district improved overall in reading and math in the last five years. Similarly, most grades decreased or stayed the same in the percent of students scoring at Level 1 in reading and math. Scores for overall reading and math show that the combined grades 3-5 and grades 3-10 increased in the percent scoring at 3 or higher in the last five years.

In reading and math, we are higher than the State in some grade levels and lower than the state in others.

About half of the elementary schools showed improvement in reading and math.

Most schools showed significant improvement in sixth grade reading and math, and grade 8 math, while about half of the middle schools showed improvement in grades 7 and 8 reading.

Almost all high schools improved in reading and math.

Over the last seven years since FCAT science was administered, the district showed improvement in all grade level tested. Compared to last year, 74 percent of all elementary, 100 percent of all middle, and 60 percent of all high schools showed improvement in science.

In the last five years, the district has maintained its performance in FCAT writing across the grade level tested. We are about the same as the state average.

Edison State College to explore charter collegiate high school

The Edison State College District Board of Trustees has unanimously approved the exploration of a collegiate charter high school in Collier County.

The planned high school will be the third charter high school for Edison State College, each with the mission to provide an opportunity to earn college credits toward an associate degree while completing high school graduation requirements.

Jackson Laboratory is a private biomedical research organization that is developing a large facility in a new research park in Collier County.

The Collier Collegiate High School will be a small, welcoming charter high school with a curricular emphasis on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.

- Enrollment will be capped at 400 students in grades 9 through 12.

- High school and college textbooks, college-credit classes, use of a personal laptop computer, and access to support services will be provided without cost to the students.

- Admitted students will demonstrate readiness to undertake challenging academic work and maturity to participate in a college environment.

- This innovative high school will emphasize Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM), while, at the

same time, providing a strong liberal arts foundation and developing the skills of critical thinking, reading and writing.

The Program:

Freshman and sophomore students will enroll in a pre-collegiate program. Qualifying juniors and seniors will enter collegiate level courses when they have met dual enrollment requirements.

- The pre-collegiate program will consist of challenging honors level classes taught by high school teachers who also will work with students on correcting academic deficiencies.

- The collegiate program will consist of courses taught at the college level by college professors. All students will be encouraged to achieve both a high school diploma and an associate degree.

- The rigorous, well-structured educational program, which will meet all Florida statutory requirements for both a high school diploma and an associate degree, will demand high standards for all students.

- All courses will be designed to align with the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards.

The Edison State College will take the proposed charter to Collier County Public Schools for approval. If approved the charter high school could open in August of 2012.

News in Brief

Free Family Law seminar offered

Legal Aid is hosting a FREE family law seminar for individuals who would like to file for a divorce. The seminar is only for individuals with no children and no property in the marriage. Registration is required. No walk-ins. The seminar will be held at the Legal Aid Office at 4125 E Tamiami Trail, Naples on Wednesday, July 15, from 5 to 7 p.m. For more information or to register call 239-775-4555

County Health Dept to hold blood drive

Collier County Health Dept. will hold a blood drive on Monday, July 12, from noon until 3 p.m. at 419 North First Street, Immokalee. To sign up, please call Judes Albert at 239-252-7326. Successful donors will receive a free pass to Naples Zoo and a t-shirt. Also, donors participating from June 21-Sept. 30 can qualify for a drawing in the vacation getaway package. Prize drawings will be held on Aug. 2, Sept. 1 and Oct. 1. Winners will be notified.

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Latest fitness craze comes to Immokalee

Fitness pro, Holly Imbus moved to the Immokalee community from Ohio just one year ago. She began teaching the newest fitness craze, Zumba in 2008 and has brought her teaching and technique here to Immokalee.



**Fitness Instructor
Holly Imbus**

If you are not familiar with the Zumba program, it is a dance fitness party that blends Latin and International rhythms and body energizing moves into an exhilarating and effective fitness program that has revolutionized the way millions of people feel about their workout and their lives.

No dance experience or English is needed.

As of April 2010, Zumba® is in 75 countries with more than 6 million participants per week.

Zumba classes, which began at the RCMA Charter School – Cafeteria, 123 N. Fourth Street in Immokalee, began on June 2, just two days a week.

“Now that school is over we don’t want the party to end.”

Prior to June 2, RCMA had contracted with Ms. Imbus to give Zumba® classes two days a week for their employees only. And now that the word is spreading, the Immokalee party is getting even bigger.

“RCMA Charter School is allowing me to use their space to continue offering the most exciting and contagious fitness program in the world to the community of Immokalee,” says Ms. Imbus.

Her fitness classes are open to everyone and take place on Monday and Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. The fee for the class is just \$5

You can find out more about Zumba at: www.zumba.com. Or contact Holly with any questions at holly.imbus@gmail.com or 239-565-8765. Each participant should wear athletic shoes and bring water to drink.

Partnerships keeps I HOPE helping families

By Rick Heers

Special to the Immokalee Bulletin

I HOPE is unable to provide more mobile homes for people whose homes need replacing, so they continue to do the next best thing. Through partnership with Home Depot, the Community Foundation of Collier County-Immokalee Initiative, and volunteers continuing to provide assistance, rehabbing continues unabated.

The family who endured living in these conditions are now the proud owners of a refurbished home that was literally falling apart from several years of rain damage. The roof was in atrocious condition and now has

a new, sealed, rubber membrane that will prevent any rain from coming through. Walls and ceilings that were water damaged have been replaced and painted (with resident assistance), and Home Depot who has made I HOPE their “Charity of Choice” has provided a complete new set of kitchen cabinets and cupboards.

This is but one of at least a half dozen projects that keep the limited staff of I HOPE and their volunteers busy.



Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/Rick Heers
A happy family enjoys their new kitchen. It has new appliances, cabinets, roof and walls to make it one that will last for many years.



Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/Rick Heers
The roof in this kitchen was literally falling in. The family had to keep up with continually leaking and odor from the damaged materials. The roof the removed as well as the damaged walls, replacing them with new materials.

Shelter seeks support in making hurricane season preparations

With upwards of 50 adults and children, as well as their pets, residing in The Shelter for Abused Women & Children’s residential/emergency safe-haven this summer, the nonprofit organization is seeking community support for hurricane season. “Just as the average family needs to have their hurricane supplies on-hand, The Shelter needs those same supplies, times 50 to 60, for the children, adults and pets in our emergency shelter,” explains The Shelter’s Residential Manager Danielle Mordaunt. “Our mission is to ensure the safety and well being of those we serve; hurricane season just adds another level of preparedness to our proactive planning.”

The Shelter is currently seeking donations of the following new items to assist with the organization’s hurricane preparedness plan: Batteries - all sizes Flashlights Canned tuna fish Apple juice Peanut butter & jelly Cereal Spaghetti-o’s Canned ravioli Juice boxes Canned fruit Pudding cups Snack foods Baby wipes

Donations can be dropped at The Shelter’s two thrift stores during normal business hours:

- Options Thrift Shoppe, 968 Second Avenue N. in Naples; Monday through Saturday,

9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

- Another Option Thrift Shoppe, 5248 Golden Gate Parkway in Naples; Tuesday through Friday, 10a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Shelter is a state certified domestic violence center that 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.

For more information on The Shelter’s Hurricane Drive, 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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Announcements

Important Information: Please read your ad carefully the first day it appears. In case of an inadvertent error, please notify us prior to the deadline listed. We will not be responsible for more than 1 incorrect insertion, or for more than the extent of the ad rendered valueless by such errors. Advertiser assumes responsibility for all statements, names and content of an ad, and assumes responsibility for any claims against the Delaware State News. All advertising is subject to publisher's approval. The publisher reserves the right to accept or reject any or all copy, and to insert above the copy the word "advertisement". All ads accepted are subject to credit approval. All ads must conform to Delaware State News style and are restricted to their proper classifications. Some classified categories require advance payment. These classifications are denoted with an asterisk *.

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The Collier County Housing Authority is currently accepting applications for experienced Maintenance Technicians to maintain multi-family residential units.

Major Functions: Duties will involve performing preventive, routine, scheduled, and emergency maintenance. This type of work involves the performance of skilled maintenance tasks in connection with repairs to and maintenance of buildings such as carpentry, plumbing repairs, HVAC, electrical, plaster & dry wall, painting and other property maintenance duties. Knowledge of standard practices, methods, materials, tools and equipment used in building and grounds maintenance.

Experience and Training: Graduation from High School or GED Certification. Must have 3-4 years practical experience (including supplemental training) in the areas of plumbing, mechanical, HVAC, electrical, building, custodial, and overall property maintenance.

Special Requirements: Possession of a valid State of Florida Driver's license. Ability to be insured under the Authority's fleet insurance carrier and Authority's fidelity bond.

Call 239-657-3649 or apply at 1800 Farm Worker Way, Immokalee, Florida 34142 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The Collier County Housing Authority is an Equal Opportunity Employer and a Drug/Smoke Free Workplace.

Employment Full Time

Now Hiring
Are you a talented Barber seeking employment?
Contact Lorie
239-634-9828
Murphy's Beauty & Barber
509 Main St, Immokalee

How do you find a job in today's competitive market? In the employment section of the classifieds

Employment Full Time

Time to clean out the attic, basement and/or garage? Advertise your yard sale in the classifieds and make your clean up a breeze!

One man's trash is another man's treasure. Turn your trash to treasure with an ad in the classifieds.

Find it faster. Sell it sooner in the classifieds

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Interested in a Medical Career?

Express Training offers courses for both beginners & experienced in Ft. Myers/Naples

- CNA, \$429 next class-7/12/10
- Phlebotomy nat'l cert, \$800 next class-7/19/10
- Pharm Tech national cert, \$800 next class-7/15/10

Fees incl. books, supplies, exam fees.
Call 239-278-3800 or expresstraining.com

Business Opportunities

NOTICE

Independent Newspapers will never accept any advertisement that is illegal or considered fraudulent. In all cases of questionable value, such as promises of guaranteed income from work-at-home programs - if it sounds too good to be true, chances are that it is. If you have questions or doubts about any ad on these pages, we advise that before responding or sending money ahead of time, you check with the Better Business Bureau at 772-878-2010 for previous complaints.

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.

Merchandise

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Miscellaneous

HOME FOR RENT - 3BR/2BA/2Car home in Arrowhead, 1942 sq.ft Appliances and cable included. Need proof of employment \$1,100.00. (239)601-2217

It's never too late to find the perfect gift. Look for it in the classifieds.

Pets/Supplies

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Rentals

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Apartments

IMMOKALEE CORAL PINES
Apt. 601 to 613 Nassau St., 2BR, Central A/C, heat, carpet, verticals, laundry on premises. Convenient location in quiet residential area. Senior Citizens Discount \$625 includes water. No Application Fee. Apply at 601 Nassau St #4 Fort Myers Office 239-694-1951

Houses - Rent

Farm Worker Village invites you to come home. Available now 1, 2, 3 & 4 bedroom rental homes, starting as low as \$425.00. Call us at 239-657-3649 or stop by at 1800 Farm Worker Way.

Your new home could be in today's paper. Have you looked for it?

IMMOKALEE
3 bdrm, 2ba, \$925 mo. Need proof of Employment, On Mimosa Ave. (239) 601-2217

Immokalee, beautiful
2BR/1BA, Central A/C, W/D hookup. Big fenced yard. (239)503-6118

Looking for a place to hang your hat? Look no further than the classifieds.

Mobile Homes

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Apartments

5th WHEEL SALE
27' Coachman \$4,995
27' Sierra \$5,995
27' Cardinal \$6,995
(All of above have 1 slide-out room)
36' Holiday \$19,900
34' Holiday \$18,900
38' Alfa \$14,900
40' Alfa \$16,900
40' Travel Supreme \$11,900
(Bottom 5 all have 3 slide out rooms)
HOLIDAY RV SALES
19710 S. Route 41 (Between Alico & Corkscrew Rd) 239-590-0066 Ft Myers

Public Notice

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.
357882 IB 6/24/7/1,8,15/10

Mobile Home Sale

Trade-ins wanted. Get up to \$10,000 for your old mobile home and get a new energy efficient Jacobsen or Destination home. No cash down payment needed. Easy financing available with your good credit. 863-673-4325 863-675-8888

Campers/RVs

Seminole Casinos debut no limit high stakes poker

Beginning today, July 1, a Seminole Casinos began offering exclusive Las Vegas-style high stakes, no-limit, around-the-clock poker play thanks to the recent actions by the Florida Legislature and Seminole Tribal Council.

The new "all in, all the time" action, only at Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casinos in Hollywood and Tampa, as well Seminole Casinos in Coconut Creek, Hollywood, Brighton and Immokalee, removes the \$100 maximum buy-in for no-limit poker and eliminates the \$5 maximum bet per round in limit games. Poker tournament buy-in

limits will also be removed, as a \$1,000 limit had previously been imposed.

Only the Seminole Tribe of Florida will offer high stakes, no-limit poker 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Seminole Casinos offer 1,360 poker seats at six casinos, far exceeding any other card rooms. The new legislation allows the other poker venues, at horse tracks, dog tracks, and jai alai frontons, to be open 18 hours, at most, during weekdays.

Additionally, since January of this year, Seminole Casinos distinguished themselves in the payout of nearly \$2.5 million through

their exclusive Mega Bad Beat Poker Jackpot program that guarantees a minimum of \$100,000 each time someone hits. A bad beat occurs when an apparently unbeatable hand loses to a better hand. The Seminole Casinos Mega Bad Beat Poker Jackpot is funded by a \$1 contribution from every poker pot of \$10 or greater at each of the six Seminole poker rooms in Florida.

The Seminole Casino properties have a history of producing star-powered, celebrity poker events. With this new legislation, the potential certainly exists to attract larger, globally recognized poker tournaments.

Agrees Scott Long, publisher of Ante Up, a Florida magazine that covers poker in more than 12 southeastern states, "Nowhere is the potential exposure for Florida poker bigger than in the tournament arena. With buy-in caps removed, Florida rooms can now court the World Poker Tour, the North American Poker Tour, perhaps even a World Series of Poker circuit event, all of which provide expansive television coverage that will show players around the world that real poker can now be played in Florida."

CCSO program encourages good deeds

With the support of the Collier County Sheriff's Office, Circle K, 7-Eleven and Handy Food Stores, kids throughout Collier County can stay cool during the summer by performing good deeds.

Whenever a deputy sees a student wearing a bike helmet, going out of his or her way to help someone, or giving back to the community, the deputy will hand out a coupon for a free small ICEE or Slurpee drink.

Thousands of coupons have been do-

minated to CCSO to help emphasize the importance of good decision-making, being kind to others and doing the right thing.

Youth Relations Bureau Cmdr. Beth Jones said the coupons are a great tool for deputies to approach and develop relationships with youngsters.

Some places where deputies will be on "patrol" include local community and county parks, neighborhoods and beaches, and even during traffic stops when kids are found to be wearing their seat belts.

Museum launches theatre - seeks members

Discover history infused with a little dramatic stage presence with Collier County Museum's newly launched theatre company beginning October 2010. The Historically Speaking Theatre Company is currently scouting for prospective members to join in the fun of bringing history to life on the stage.

The theatre company will debut in October 2010 with their performance of "Killing Mister Watson." Celebrating it's 100th anniversary, this story recounts how Edgar J. Watson, a sly yet reserved sugarcane farmer in the swampy, mosquito-infested Ten Thousand Islands of Florida, was murdered by local Chokoloskee residents.

The Historically Speaking Theatre Company is considering other productions, but

will also incorporate one-woman shows depicting some of the local heroines in their exclusive performances. The theatre company is also looking for prospective participants to include in their newly created company. People interested in becoming a part of the Historically Speaking Theatre Company, please contact Mary Margaret Gruszka at the Collier County Museum, 239-252-8287.

About Collier County Museums: More than 10,000 years of Southwest Florida History is on display at Collier County Museums' four locations - the main museum location in Naples, two additional museum facilities in Everglades City and Immokalee, and the historic Naples Depot, a former train station and local favorite in the heart of downtown Naples. The main location is located just five minutes east of downtown Naples at 3301 Tamiami Trail East in Naples. The Museum's five-acre plot includes a native plant garden, orchid house, two early Naples cottages, a logging locomotive, swamp buggies and a WWII Sherman tank. The main facility is open Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m., and Saturday from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. Admission is free and the site is handicapped accessible. For more information, visit www.colliermuseums.com or call 239-252-8287.

PAID CONTENT

Melanio "Dr.V" Villarosa is leaving Immokalee!

Immokalee Pediatrics Inc will be permanently closed on July 30, 2010! Dr. V is moving to Brownsville, Texas. If you want your medical records, please notify the office at 239-658-2555 from 9-11:30 A.M. and 1-4 P.M.. Dr. V. sincerely thanks the beautiful people of Immokalee for 20 wonderful years!

Workshop open to homeowners

The Empowerment Alliance of Southwest Florida is conducting a Foreclosure Prevention workshop today, Thursday, July 1, at the Immokalee Public Library 5:30-7 p.m. to help current homeowners understand the foreclosure process and possible ways to save their homes. Homeowners can also meet with a Housing Counselor at the end of the workshop to discuss their situation and options for them. The library is located at 417 N. First Street.

The Empowerment Alliance is a non-profit, HUD approved Housing Counseling Agency. The workshop and any follow-up counseling are free and are funded through grants from HUD and Collier County. Please call Ana Salazar at (239) 658-3318 for more information on the workshop and to register.

BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY

AUCTION

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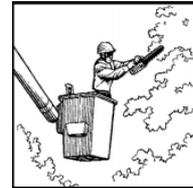
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TO ADVERTISE HERE

Volunteers brave extreme heat to help with repairs

By Rick Heers

Special to the Immokalee Bulletin

A small team of seven volunteers from two Presbyterian Churches in northwestern Pennsylvania drove to Immokalee to spend a week working in 95+ degree heat on mobile home roofing repairs in Immokalee. The group worked 10-hour days and thoroughly enjoyed getting acquainted with several I HOPE families. It helps the groups to stay-for a small fee-in the wonderful, air-conditioned facilities of Bethel Assembly of God Church, even using the pool for a refreshing dip after their day is completed. They, along with other groups have commented that I HOPE's facilities are the most enjoyable that they have stayed in. When larger groups are in town, the County Parks and Recreation Center allows them to use the swimming pool and shower facilities free.

Some of their work was completing the jobs that a previous group had started, and the rest was starting on a new project in Eden Park. The double-wide in the accompanying picture has been leaking since Wilma came through. A 'friend' helped 'repair' their roof with the \$400.00 they had received after the storm. Needless to say, the job was very inadequate. The volunteer group pressured-cleaned the roof, removing a great deal of mold and mildew, and then rolled on a thick roofing compound that will seal all leaks. The pressure cleaners were donated by Home Depot, and the roofing material was paid from a Chase grant obtained by the



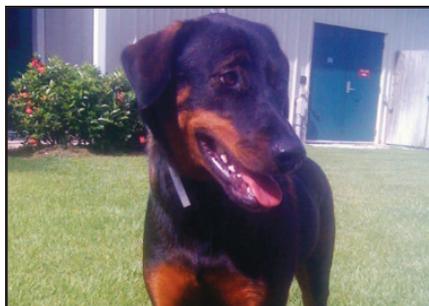
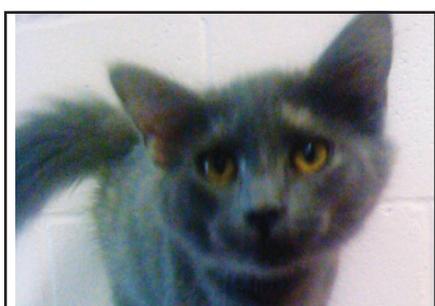
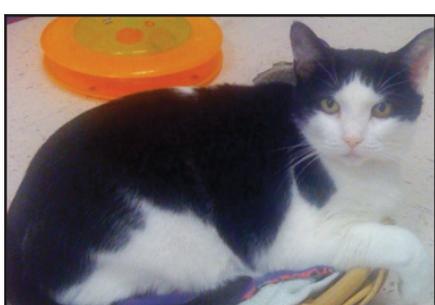
Volunteers from Bethel Assembly of God Church in Pennsylvania pose with the family that they are helping on Peach Street. They enduring extreme heat and humid conditions during their visit and completed a roof repair sealing it from future leaks.

Community Foundation of Collier County-Immokalee Initiative.

The group had one day of fun-filled activities that included an airboat tour around Lake Trafford and para-sailing at Bonita Beach. The next volunteer group to arrive in July will renovate several walls and ceilings, along with replacing a number of the bathroom fixtures. I HOPE's clients are on very limited income and cannot afford the repairs without assistance. Thanks to the generosity of donors, work continues as volunteers arrive.



This mobile home has had a roof leaking since Hurricane Wilma came through in 2005. Now, with the 2010 storm season upon us, the home finally has a non-leaking roof.



Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/DAS

Pets of the Week

Blossom is a female 2 yr. old Black and white domestic short haired cat. She is great with people and other pets. Shelby is a female one year old brown Shiba Inu mix. She is leash trained and well behaved Gabby is a female 4 month old Gray Tabby cat. She is very cute and playful. Rose is a female 2 years old Rottweiler Mix who is very well behaved and loveable. Adopt from Collier County Domestic Animal Services (DAS) by calling 239-252-PETS or by visiting the shelter at 7610 Davis Blvd. Online at www.collierpets.com.

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

HOME

77

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YOUR HIGHLIGHTS...

WITHIN YOUR COMMUNITY.

AWAY

55

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