

IMMOKALEE BULLETIN

Serving Immokalee, Ave Maria and Eastern Collier County

Vol. 44 No. 27

Thursday, July 14, 2011

IMMBIZ: New ideas grow with entrepreneur program

By **Patty Brant**
Immokalee Bulletin

Entrepreneurs have all sorts of interests. Some are high tech; some more traditional. Some work with their computers; some like to work with their hands.

For all, the ultimate goal is to build something they can be proud of. Something that has the potential to thrive and grow.

IMMBIZZ Center Manager Marie Capita said the center is set up as an “incubator without walls,” providing the expertise and facility framework designed to help Immokaleeans create the business of their dreams.

Aspiring entrepreneurs can get one-on-one counseling with Marie.

IMMBIZ also recently put on a six-week class on entrepreneur-

ship, with strategies for building a sound business as the core of the class. Classes met on Mondays, led by Tom Scott, executive director of the Southwest Florida Enterprise Center in Fort Myers.

IMMBIZ Executive Secretary Rosemary Dillon said the CRA's new office at 1320 N. 15th Street

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Toddler drowns
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Budgeting 101 series begins
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Relevanza co-founder invited to White House

Relevanza co-founder Steve Hart has been invited to the White House on July 15 for a briefing by Obama Administration agency leaders and officials on a wide range of issues.



Steve Hart

Hart, 57, is a long-time Naples resident, a veteran journalist, advisor to a long list of political office holders and a marketing consultant focusing on communication in the 21st Century. Together with Birgit Pauli-Haack of Pauli Systems, LC., he launched Relevanza earlier this year as Florida's first social media and online solutions agency.

Hart was invited to the White House as part of the Obama Administration's Community Leaders Briefing Series. He and other community leaders from around Florida and the nation will meet

with cabinet secretaries and officials to discuss small business, environmental concerns, education and reform of the health care system.

“It is a great honor any time one is asked to come to the White House to talk with the President's top officials,” Hart said. “This is a wonderful opportunity to talk with policy makers and carry to them the views and concerns of Southwest Florida residents.”

Relevanza, a strategic partner of Naples' INgage Networks, provides clients with state-of-the-art social media platforms, enabling new and better community interaction through the many ways in which people communicate today.

Among other clients, Relevanza supports the online platforms of Immokalee Community Redevelopment Agency and it's efforts to show the world Immokalee as

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Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/TIF Take Stock in Children students, Efen Corona, Linsey Deshommes, Natrone Means, Noemi Perez, Cassandra Banda-Chavez Lemuel along with their chaperones visited Washington, D.C. recently for a week - long sight-seeing and learning adventure.

TIF's Immokalee program students visit nation's capitol

Five students from The Immokalee Foundation's Take Stock in Children Immokalee program recently made their first trip to Washington, D.C. thanks to proceeds from TIF's Charity Classic Fund A Dream auction held last November.

The students – Lemuel Sanchez, Efen Corona, Cassandra Banda-Chavez, Linsey Deshommes and Natrone Means – were chosen for the trip based on grades, first time experiences, age, attendance and

essays they submitted. The students, plus chaperone and TSIC student advocate, Noemi Perez, departed from Southwest Florida International Airport Sunday, June 12 and arrived in the nation's Capitol in preparation for a week of adventure learning and sightseeing.

“From the moment we arrived at the airport, I could see the excitement in their eyes,” said Perez.

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IMMBIZ

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will be large enough to provide some new start up business offices. Staff will be moving into their new offices this week. Several candidates for this office space include a graphic arts designer graduating from ITECH.

This office space will serve as a kind of "home base" where new business owners can meet prospective customers and suppliers. Oftentimes new businesses only need minimal space, a physical address, use of office machines like a copier. All this is part of the "incubator without walls" concept.

The first entrepreneur series over six sessions graduated ten great potential new business owners. One of the unique possibilities is a yeast-free food production plant. Such a business will need a commercial kitchen. IMMBIZ is actively helping find a suitable facility for this business idea.

Other new graduates look forward to opening a fitness center in Immokalee and a soul food restaurant.

Another new graduate hopes to reestablish a florist shop while another wants to make their car detailing business independent. A doctor wants to open a Caribbean market. There is a photographer, a bail bondsman and an entrepreneur who hopes to sell canned gourmet jams.

Marie is an attorney and business major who has been working in the field for ten

years.

New entrepreneurs need ideas. They need a road map with directions to augment their hard work that can help them navigate their way to success.

Ms. Capita said entrepreneurship can help move Immokalee away from its seasonal economy toward more of a permanent business community, with a continuous investment in the local economy and local residents.

She said there is a lot of interest in the business incubator concept, from a dollar store to a lawn service relocating from Naples to Immokalee.

With some 1.7 million people coming to Immokalee to visit the Seminole Casino each year, it just makes sense to use that as an economic springboard to add more attractions, and more supporting businesses locally.

Services include introducing business owners to the state's Minority Business Enterprise program, which opens the door to landing government contracts.

Part of the success of IMMBIZ programs is that clients are held accountable with time lines and first making, then keeping up with, their own business plan.

You can call IMMBIZ at 239-252-2313 for more information.

TIF

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"Not only was it the first time on an airplane for most of them, but also the first time being away from home."

The students took part in a high school program offered by Close Up, a nonprofit that educates and inspires young people to become informed and engaged citizens. The program offered a one-of-a-kind opportunity for students to experience their government in action. From visits to Washington's famous monuments, memorials and institutions, to meetings with their Congressional delegation on Capitol Hill, students got a first-hand look at the American political system.

Throughout the week, TIF students had the opportunity to explore D.C. and interact with other high-school students from all over the country. "It was like a college experience," said Natrone Means. "There were so many new and different people; we had to use our communication skills to get to know them."

Perez said that because the group was under a strict itinerary, they were also able to work on their time management and organizational skills.

The students were inspired by the visit,

for a variety of reasons. Efen Corona said, "I'm seeing new places and I'm meeting new people. It's been exciting."

Lindsey Deshommes commented on all the rich history and education in D.C. "We've learned a lot about government on this trip. If politics is your future goal, then this is the place you want to visit."

With the help of program instructors, students were able to consider how people and events represented in D.C.'s memorials impact their lives today. Students returned home knowing they have key roles to play as informed and engaged participants in the U.S. democracy.

During TIF's 2010 Charity Classic, which raised a record breaking \$1.5 million towards educational programs for the children of Immokalee, guests were invited to be dreammakers by bidding on large packages and getting nothing in return except some very specific opportunities to change a child's life for the better. This was called the Fund A Dream opportunity. By the end of the evening, Fund A Dream raised more than \$550,000 with 100 percent going directly to Immokalee children.

To make dreams come true for Immokalee children through donations or mentoring, visit www.immokaleefoundation.org or call 239-430-9122.

HART

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Florida's 21st Century.

Relevanza is part of Startup America, an independent, private-sector coalition of major corporations, advisors, funders, service providers and mentors working with the White House to dramatically increase the prevalence and success of American entrepreneurs and to celebrate, inspire, and accelerate high-growth entrepreneurship throughout the nation.

Hart will be joining at the July 15 White House event acclaimed Collier County special education teacher Linda McDonald, who recently retired and has been tapped to become chair of TIGER, the Collier County teachers' union.

Hart was an award-winning reporter

and senior staff writer for the Naples Daily News for a decade, from 1986 to 1996, before returning to the political world where he worked with State Rep. Dudley Goodlette during his time in the Florida Legislature and with U.S. Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart in his first years in the U.S. House of Representatives. He also served the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce for a time as senior vice-president for public policy. He is a 1996 graduate of Leadership Collier.

He founded Resilient Collier to educate Collier County residents about the potential effects on the community from climate change and is spearheading PACE Collier, a public-private partnership with Collier County government to reduce energy use, create jobs and eliminate our dependence on foreign oil.

Florida 511 App now available for iPhone, iPad and iTouch devices

TALLAHASSEE— The Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT) Florida 511 iPhone application (app) is now available for free download on iTunes. The Florida 511 Traveler Information System provides traffic information on all of Florida's interstates, toll roads and many major metropolitan roadways. The app is available for the iPhone, iPad and iPod Touch in the iTunes App Store. The new app provides the same real-time traffic and travel time information as the 511 phone system and FL511.com.

The 511 app uses iPhone's GPS tracking to provide users with traffic information within miles of their location. Users can set the app to provide information for a range

of up to 200 miles from their location or receive traffic information based on their registered My Florida 511 custom routes. Travel time information is also available based on location and direction of travel. The Florida 511 app offers traffic updates in three ways:

- An audible recording of incidents
- On-screen list of incidents
- Map view displaying incidents

"This is a great addition to Florida 511's suite of traffic resources such as the toll-free phone call, FL511.com and My Florida 511 personalized services," said FDOT Secretary Ananth Prasad. "The app allows users to access traffic updates quickly and safely."

Published by
IMMOKALEE BULLETIN
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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...

- 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.

Annual 'Undy Sunday' event assists even more needy students

Organizers of the 15th Annual Undy Sunday event are preparing for more students than ever to be assisted with items to be ready for another school year. Needy children at 34 public elementary schools will benefit from the fundraiser.

Participating religious communities will set out donation boxes on Sunday, August 14 and Sunday, August 21. Donors will be asked to bring new socks and new underwear for boys and girls sizes six through 12. Monetary donations also are needed to purchase backpacks and school supplies. A total of 45 churches and synagogues will take

part in the event.

"It is undeniable that the economic problems that have affected us here in Southwest Florida are particularly acute among the children of the underemployed and unemployed," said Armando Galella, District Director of Catholic Charities of Collier County. The agency is organizing the event.

Youth Haven and the Shelter for Abused Women and Children also will receive the underwear and socks and school supplies to distribute to children during the school year.

"The overwhelming success of this ecumenical effort is testimony to the work of

the event's founder and chief volunteer, John Fitzgerald," said Galella. "Through his dedication, more and more churches and synagogues are drawn to this simple call for assistance."

Since the initial Undy Sunday in 1997, the number of churches and synagogues joining the cause has more than doubled. About 650,000 undergarments have been given to disadvantaged children in Collier County during the past 14 years.

A group of volunteers from Catholic Charities of Collier County will distribute collection boxes to participating local churches and synagogues prior to the two Undy Sundays. After the event, with help from stu-

dents of St. John Neumann High School they will collect the donated items, and sort and distribute them to the elementary schools and social service agencies.

Donation items also can be dropped off at the Catholic Charities office located at 2210 Santa Barbara from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays and from 9 a.m. through 3 p.m. on Fridays. For more information about the Undy Sunday Program contact Catholic Charities of Collier County at 239-455-2655.

Collier County Sheriff investigates Immokalee toddler's drowning

Collier County Sheriff's Office Deputies were investigating the apparent drowning death of a 2-year-old girl in a pool in Immokalee on Monday evening, July 11.

Andrea Meza Santana was found in a pool at a private residence at 610 Booker Blvd. around 4:45 p.m. The girl did not live at the residence.

Her parents told detectives that they were home when the child ran from them. They lost sight of her for approximately 30 minutes, when they discovered her in the pool.

The child was transported to NCH North Collier Hospital, where she later died.

An investigation continues.

Vets get special 'V' for driver's license

Florida veterans can now add a special blue "V" to their driver's license or state ID card.

"The new feature gives veterans an easy way to show proof of their veteran status, which is not always an easy task," Lt. Gov. Jennifer Carroll said at a news conference Tuesday.

"We hope that retailers and restaurants that offer discounts to military veterans will accept the license with the 'V' on it as proof

that someone is a veteran."

Here's what veterans must do when they go to replace or renew their credential:

- Bring your DD-214, which shows your honorable discharge from active duty.
- Pay a one-time \$1 fee, in addition to the replacement or renewal fee.
- Visit www.GatherGoGet.com to ensure you have all the other documents required.

IWSD 2010 quality on tap report

The 2010 Quality on Tap Report has been mailed to all of our customers. This report shows the results of our water quality monitoring for the period from January through December 2010. Additional copies will be available at the Eastern Collier Chamber of Commerce, 1300 N. 15th Street, Suite 2, Immokalee Branch Library, at 417 North 1st Street, Lake Trafford Marina at 6001 Lake Trafford Road, and in the IWSD office at 1020 Sanitation Road, Immokalee. Copies are also available for download from our website: (www.iw-sd.com) in both English and Spanish.

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Obituaries

Nash Lloyd Jr., 87

FRANKLIN, N.C. — Nash Lloyd Jr., 87, of Franklin, N.C., passed away July 4, 2011.

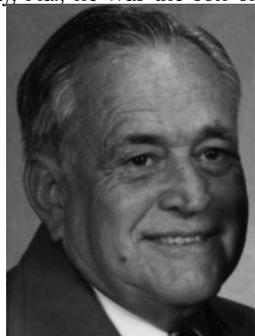
Born in Panama City, Fla., he was the son of the late Nash D. Lloyd and Arlee Rogers Lloyd.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Louise Lloyd who passed away March 12, 2011.

Nash was a US Navy veteran and served during WWII. He was Manager of Immokalee Florida City Water Utilities. Nash enjoyed woodworking and was a ham radio operator. He was a member of Mt. Hope Baptist Church.

He is survived by his son, Larry Lloyd and wife Melody; grandson, Justin Lloyd; a sister, Louise Adams of Brandon, Fla.; and brother, Judson Lloyd of Lighthouse Point, Fla.

Memorial donations can be made to Macon County Transit, 5 West Main Street, Franklin, NC



28734

Macon Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

Online condolences can be made at www.maconfuneralhome.com.

Louise Scott Lloyd, 85

FRANKLIN, N.C. — Louise Scott Lloyd, 85, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Saturday, March 12, 2011.

Born in Eustis, Fla., she was the daughter of the late Floyd and Mable Scott.

She was survived by her loving husband of 62 years, Nash Lloyd who passed away July 4, 2011; her son, Larry Lloyd and wife Melody and grandson, Justin Lloyd.

Macon Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

Online condolences can be made at maconfuneralhome.com.



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IHOPE cyclist joins group for Gift a Bike program

By Rick Heers
Special to the Immokalee Bulletin

IHOPE's cyclist Adam Winkler and his companions had a very successful ride from Kitty Hawk, N.C. to Naples Pier and then out to Immokalee. They arrived on Sunday, June 26, after traveling a total of 1,020 miles, a little less than the 1,038 that they had originally planned. They were warmly welcomed by many churches who literally opened their doors for them to rest, eat and even sleep. They were accompanied by a motor home driven by a local person who would provide temporary lodging, meals and sometimes a place to sleep and do minor repairs as needed on their bicycles. "Pedaling with a Purpose" is doing a wonderful ministry at Bethel Assembly of God Church here in our community, and we appreciate their offer to have one of their riders ride on behalf of IHOPE's ministry to the community. Several have jumped right in and IHOPE received just a little over \$2,000 toward the purchase of a used truck.



Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/Rick Heers
IHOPE's rider, Adam Winkler, is on the far right, Frank Rincon, second right along with Joel Gamez (second left) and son Joey. The four guys are not painted for Halloween, but have sunblock on areas of their face that were not covered by their goggles or helmets. Thankfully their ride was quite uneventful as far as mishaps or accidents.

If you are able, and haven't yet given, we extend now the invitation to join this project by sending a tax-deductible gift to the address below. Thank you in advance for any consideration you can give us. You can go onto Facebook, log in and search for gift a bike, and you'll be able to see many other pictures of their thousand mile trek.



Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/Frank Rincon

Repair stop

Gift-A-Bike fundraiser riders, including Frank Rincon and Adam Winkler, stopped in Eustis where they spent over six hours waiting at the First United Methodist Church in Eustis for other bikers, Joel and Joey Gamez to return from the local Wal-Mart where they were taken by local church volunteers to purchase bike repair supplies. They suffered seven flats causing them to run out of tubes and patches. After repairs were made, the group rode through the Ocala National Forest all night finishing their ride at 3 a.m. before stopping 123 miles from Arcadia. The group hoped to raise \$30,000 the annual fundraiser which is in its 11th year. Last year's efforts purchased and gave away 250 bikes and helmets. This year's goal is 500. For more photos go to Facebook and find Gift-A-Bike. Also, for more on donating to the program's fundraising efforts, please contact Frank Rincon at 239-503-8136 or by email at: godskid73@gmail.com

St. Matthew's House in need of food pantry supplies

Food pantry supplies running dangerously low, donations needed!

The St. Matthew's House food pantry in Naples is running dangerously low. Without significant nonperishable food donations, SMH will be forced to drastically scale back their assistance programs that help over 100 families weekly who cannot afford to buy groceries. Items needed the most include: dry cereal, oatmeal, pea-

nut butter and jelly (small jars), spaghetti sauce (16 oz. jars), canned vegetables and fruit, boxed macaroni & cheese mixes, both powdered and evaporated milk, dry and canned beans, and canned meats. Donations can be brought directly to St. Matthew's House at 2001 Airport Rd, South in Naples. St. Matthew's House is thankful for any and all donations in this time of need. For more information about SMH or any additional food pantry and Direct Assistance program needs, please contact Communications and Event Officer Julie Clay, or call 239-298-5026.

Free certification workshop for minority business owners

Certification can significantly help your business gain access to government contracts. Whether you are just starting a business or your company is already established, you can drastically benefit from these contracts.

Come and learn about the State's Minority Business Enterprise program. Attendees will be introduced to the application process and obtain answers to questions about how to navigate through the certification process.

Free workshop July 15, 3-5 p.m., 402 West Main Street Immokalee. Call 239-269-9628 or register via e-mail RosemaryDillon@colliergov.net

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Basic budgeting can help balance a household

Introduction to Budgeting

By Dottie Cook
Empowerment Alliance of Southwest Florida
Special to the Immokalee Bulletin



Dottie Cook

Do you sometimes run out of money before your next paycheck and feel like you don't know where it all went? Are your credit card bills higher than you would like? A budget is a simple tool that can help.

A budget helps us plan and track where we spend our money. The idea of creating a budget sounds difficult and time-consuming, but you can complete one in about 20-30 minutes. And tracking what we spend takes just a few minutes each night.

What takes a little more time is thinking about your money goals. What are you trying to accomplish? Is it buying a house or a car, paying off your credit cards, building a savings account, or something else? Our money goals can be short-term such as buying a new dress, or long-term, like buying a house. Most of us have several money goals at any time, but if we don't think about our goals and make a plan for how to accomplish them, we probably won't be successful in achieving them.

For purposes of a budget, you'll want to think about those goals not only in terms of initial cost, but also in terms of what they will cost on a monthly basis if it's more than a one-time expense. For example, think about buying a car. The costs involved will not only be the monthly car payment, but also the monthly costs of car insurance, gas, and regular maintenance. All of these costs must be included in our monthly budget as expenses of owning and operating a car. Many of our goals have costs we may not initially think of, but when we look at the whole picture, we have a better understanding of how much these goals cost. In the case of our car example, these other costs may determine if you buy a new or used car and how long you finance it. Better to think of these things now than purchase something and find out later that it's more than you can afford.

Think about your goals and identify which ones are most important to you and the true

Attention builders, etc.

Immokalee Business Development Center invites you to the Builder's Expo July 21, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at 750 S. 5th Street. General contractors, developers, builders and suppliers - meet with local tradesmen and procurement specialists. Admission is free.

If you would like the opportunity to showcase your organization please contact RosemaryDillon@colliergov.net or call 239-269-9628. Please respond by July 15.

costs of them. Also determine which goals can wait if you don't have enough income for everything right now. Next week we'll help you build your own budget so you can start tracking where you spend your money and working toward your goals.

The Empowerment Alliance of Southwest Florida is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization based in Immokalee but serving all of Southwest Florida. The Empowerment Alliance is a HUD-approved Housing Counseling Agency. We provide free one-on-one budget, credit, homebuyer, and foreclosure prevention counseling that is funded through grants by Collier County, HUD, and private sources. For more information, call us at 239-658-3315 or e-mail us at east@earthlink.net.

Dottie Cook is the Executive Director of the Empowerment Alliance of Southwest Florida

Editor's Note: This article is part of a series of articles from the Empowerment Alliance of Southwest Florida designed to give helpful information to local readers on Budgeting, finance, homebuying and other topics. Local businesses can become sponsors of this ongoing series by calling 863-763-3134 ext 4228 or by email to ibnews@newszap.com



Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/Frank Rincon

At the county line

Gift-A-Bike riders, Frank Rincon, Adam Winkler, Joel Gamez and Joey Gamez and a fifth cyclist arrive at the North Carolina State Line during their more than 1,000 mile trek from Immokalee to Kitty Hawk, N.C. and back to Immokalee to raise funds for the Gift - A - Bike program. The program raises funds each year to purchase bikes for local children at Christmas. This year's goal is 500 - double the bikes purchased last year.

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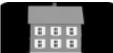
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NOTICE OF MEETING

There will be a Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners for the Immokalee Water & Sewer District on Wednesday, July 20, 2011 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. April- Employee of the Month-Olga Hernandez
 2. May- Employee of the Month-Jenna Cisneros
 - E. Public Concerns
 - F. Staff Good Cause Items
 - G. Board Concerns
 - H. Old Business
 1. New Business
3. Consent Agenda
 - A. Adoption of Minutes
 1. June 29, 2011 Rescheduled Regular Meeting
 - B. Civil Rights Compliance Report
 - C. May Budget Review
 - D. Fixed Assets Acquisitions-Disposals
 - E. Various Reports
 - F. USDA Reporting for Stimulus Money
 - G. Project Change Orders
 - H. Engineer's Report - AECOM
 - I. Director's Report
4. Action Agenda
 - A. Bid Recommendation - Rate Sufficiency Analysis Project
 - B. Bid Recommendation - USDA WWTP Expansion Project
 - C. Bid Recommendation - USDA WWTP - Force Main Project
 - D. Meter Tampering Policy
5. Discussion Agenda
 - A. Attorney's Report
6. Other Public Interests
7. Adjournment
9:2166 IB 7/14/2011

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INVITATION TO BID

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that sealed bids will be received by Goodwill Industries of SWFL, Inc. (GWSWFL), at their Main Office located at 4940 Bayline Drive, North Fort Myers, FL 33917 until 10:00am on Wednesday, August 24th, 2011. Bids must be hand delivered. These bids will be opened and recorded at 11:00 am on Thursday, August 25th 2011.

GWSWFL is accepting bids for minor renovation of a single story structure located at 905 Roberts Avenue, Immokalee, FL. **Bidders must be State of Florida Certified General Contractors.**

Further information may be obtained by contacting Mark Bowers at GWSWFL; (239) 995-2106 ext 269. Email: MarkBowers@goodwillswfl.org

Goodwill Industries of SWFL, Inc. is the owner of this property. Funding for this project is provided by Collier County Department of Housing, Human and Veteran Services, using the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. Federal Regulations during construction, such as Davis Bacon will be enforced. **Any award of this contract is contingent on the availability of these funds.**

Type of bids desired: Line Item Price as per plans and specifications.

A pre-bid meeting will be held **at the site (905 Roberts Avenue)** on Tuesday, August 2nd 2011 at 9:00am. (Meet and sign in at front entrance lobby). This meeting is for the purpose of allowing contractors to bring any omissions, or questions concerning the **Schedule of Work** to the attention of the Owner. This is an opportunity to observe the existing site limitations and ask questions concerning the project prior to bidding and failure to do so will demonstrate the contractors' acceptance of the **Scope of Work** as defined in the Schedule. Any addenda issued as a result of this meeting will be issued in writing within two (2) working days of the meeting to all contractors present at the meeting. **IT IS MANDATORY THAT THE CONTRACTOR OR HIS REPRESENTATIVE ATTEND THIS PRE-BID MEETING. FAILURE TO ATTEND WILL RESULT IN FORFEITING THE RIGHT TO BID ON THIS PROJECT.**

A copy of the contract documents including the plans, specifications and bid forms may be obtained from GWSWFL office at 4940 Bayline Drive, North Fort Myers, FL 33917 beginning Monday, July 18th 2011. **Interested contractors shall pay GWSWFL a \$150 non-refundable fee to obtain one complete set of architectural plans.** Questions regarding contract procedures and technical specifications should be directed to Mark Bowers, Facilities Director at 239-995-2106 ext 269. Email: MarkBowers@goodwillswfl.org

All bids must be in accordance with the plans and specifications and identified by the name of the bidding contractor, name and address of the Owner, name and address of project, and the date and time of bid opening.

Minority, female-owned and small businesses are encouraged to submit bids for this project. General Contractors are encouraged to solicit bids from minority and female-owned subcontractors.

The work to be performed under this contract is subject to the requirements of Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, as amended, 12 U.S.C. 1701u (section3). The purpose of Section 3 is to ensure that employment and other economic opportunities generated by HUD-assisted projects covered by Section 3, shall to the greatest extent feasible, be directed to low-very low income persons, particularly persons who are recipients of HUD assistance for housing.

The Owner reserves the right to reward the contract to the Bidder of his choice or to reject any or all bids.
992285 IB 7/14,21,28/2011

Reading a newspaper provides the opportunity to get involved in your community.

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CCSO warns of lottery scam

The Collier County Sheriff's Office is cautioning the public about a lottery scam.

Under the scam an individual approaches a victim and claims to have won the Florida Lottery. The scammer then presents a fake winning ticket and explains that he is unable to claim the prize either because he is not in the United States legally or does not have enough money to pay the taxes on the winnings.

The person then proposes a partnership in which the victim would provide cash or property up front in return for a percentage of the ticket winnings.

Occasionally the scammer has accomplices pose as strangers who pretend to overhear the conversation and encourage the victim to get in on the deal.

CCSO reminds the public that immigration status does not prevent anyone from cashing a Florida Lottery ticket. In addition, any taxes due are deducted from the winnings.

Anyone with information on this or any other scam should call CCSO at 239-252-9300.

Alumni 'hoops' game planned

Take it back to the ole' school days, the Greater Immokalee Front Porch will host and celebrate a basketball heritage with an alumni basketball game Friday, July 22.

"We're not sure what kind of turnout we'll have, but we're going to give it a shot," organizers said. "We've received commitments from about a dozen people, but players from the 70s to present are encouraged to pre-register or just show up that evening."

The game will be held at 7 p.m. Friday in "the Gym" located at 505 Escambia Street, and all former male and female players are invited, along with cheerleaders and coaches. "We're thinking this might be a way for some of the alumni to meet and do some fellowship," organizers said.

Spearheaded by the South Immokalee Community Circle group, all proceeds will benefit Front Porch's back-to-school giveaway. Donations are \$2 at the door. Sponsors are welcomed. No events are planned for Friday night, so we are hoping the lack of schedule conflicts will lead to a large turnout for the alumni game.

Come out and make this a great evening. For more information, call Wilson "Toot" Riley 239-867-1394, Vicki Carr 239-503-7733 or email frontporch_imm@yahoo.com.

Public Meetings

- The Collier County Government Productivity Committee's Outsourcing and Insourcing Review Subcommittee will hold a public meeting on **Friday, July 15**, at 9 a.m. in the County Manager's Office conference room, second floor, Collier County Government Center, 3299 Tamiami Trail East, Naples.

- The Collier County Planning Commission will meet **Thursday, July 21**, at 9 a.m. in the Board of County Commissioners chambers, third floor, Collier County Government Center, 3299 E. Tamiami Trail, Naples.

- The Collier County Planning Commission will meet **Thursday, July 21**, at 9 a.m. in the Board of County Commissioners chambers, third floor, Collier County Government Center, 3299 E. Tamiami Trail, Naples.

- The Collier County Contractors Licensing Board will meet **Wednesday, July 20**, at 9 a.m. in the Board of County Commissioners chambers, third floor, 3299 Tamiami Trail East, Naples.

- The Collier County and the Professional Firefighters of the Everglades International Association of Firefighters, Local 3670 will meet to negotiate a new collective bargaining agreement, on **Friday, July 22**, at 9 a.m. at the Emergency Management Building, 8075 Lely Cultural Parkway, Conference Room B (2nd floor), Naples.

Weather Forecast

Weather forecast for Collier County from the National Weather Service

Local Immokalee Forecast

Thursday: Scattered showers and thunderstorms after noon. Mostly sunny and hot, with a high near 95. South wind around 5 mph. Chance of precipitation is 40 percent.

Thursday night: Scattered showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 74. Light and variable wind. Chance of precipitation is 30 percent.

Extended Forecast

Friday: Scattered showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 94. Light southeast wind. Chance of precipitation is 40 percent.

Friday night: Scattered showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 75. Chance of precipitation is 30 percent.

Saturday: Scattered showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 93. Chance of precipitation is 40 percent.

Saturday night: Scattered showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 75. Chance of precipitation is 30 percent.

Sunday: Scattered showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 93. Chance of precipitation is 40 percent.

Sunday night: Scattered showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 75. Chance of precipitation is 30 percent.

Monday: Scattered showers and thunderstorms. Sunny, with a high near 93.



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FWC Field story: Panther den a hard place to find

Story and photos by Ralph Arwood, volunteer
Big Cypress National Preserve (BCNP)
Special to the Immokalee Bulletin

At over 729,000 acres, Big Cypress National Preserve is a vast expanse with many difficult areas to access. FP151's latest kitten den, discovered on June 10, was situated in one of those remote places. First handled at her natal den in April of 2002 as K113; the daughter of FP93 and FP79 (Texas cougar direct offspring - Don Juan), FP151 has always been a powerful and independent cat. So it was no surprise that her den would be a challenge to get to. She first distinguished herself from other panthers when we collared her in February of 2007. At almost five years of age and weighing ninety pounds, she proved to have a very high tolerance to our anesthetic drugs. FP151 denned unsuccessfully twice that year losing her second litter to a bear. She denned again in 2008 but her radio collar failed, so we lost contact with her and her two kittens.



Courtesy photo/Ralph Arwood

FP151 before her first capture in 2007

On October 28, 2010 houndsman Roy McBride was out exercising his dogs when they treed FP151, giving us the chance to replace her failed radio collar and subsequently handle her June 2011 litter. Fortunately, when it was time for the BCNP panther research team to visit the den and mark the new kittens, the National Park Service helicopter was available to take us to the den. This assured that we would arrive before FP151 returned from her search for prey. Plus we were spared a long and bumpy buggy ride to the site. Turned out that was the only hardship we were spared. At my assigned starting point I was facing an eight foot high wall of palmettos, tightly packed with thorny smilax vines and hog plum. FP151 sure had picked a good place for her den. It was impossible to walk through



Courtesy photo/ Ralph Arwood

FP151's kitten securely tucked beneath a rock ledge.

this terrain. The only way in was to crawl on hands and knees, hoping that I could find the small passageways that mom used to creep through to her den. As the palmetto leaves crunched around me, I couldn't help but wonder if that clatter didn't function as an "alarm" against intruders for this panther family. During the search we found something interesting: a flattened area that FP151 had probably spent some time at but there were no kittens. This was likely a place where she could rest near, but

not with, her kittens. Finally I came upon a less dense area and, following this slightly easier line of travel, arrived at FP151's den. It was a cool and shadowy cave under the foliage, shaped like an "L". At the bend of the "L" was an outcropping of limestone rock. And there, partially hidden under the ledge, was a panther kitten! Nearby was the second kitten, sleeping between two palmetto trunks. FP151's den was typical of most dens in South Florida in that it was located in a drier, upland area, within very dense palmetto vegetation. It was atypical in that it featured a rocky section for the kitten to hide in. While pumas living in mountainous terrain out west usually locate dens in a shallow nook on the face of a cliff or rock outcrop, Florida panthers do not normally enjoy that option. It seemed fitting that FP151's kitten, descendent of a Texas cougar, would naturally take advantage of this rocky cover.

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