

## Christmas Around the World plan

Christmas around the World Parade and Gala committee members are planning some exciting activities this year's Christmas event.

Christmas Parade Date December 10, 2011

Theme Christmas around the World is celebrating "Going Greener for our Environment"

Parade lineup time: 4:00 p.m. on the corner of Carver Street and Immokalee Road (First Street), directly across from the Immokalee Seminole Casino

The Famous Immokalee High School Marching Band

Entrance fee to our Gala is \$1:00 per person; 6 years and under free.

This year's Gala activities consisted of:

- \* Home town type Carnival with lots of rides and games
- \* Extreme games..playing laser tag, sticky wall and other cool inflatable games
- \* Kids can skate on the skating rink
- \* Snow mountain with various snow slides

\* Adults are welcome to participate in the "Can-you-Dance Contest" - Best Salsa Couples, and other popular dances can participate. There will be different categories ranging from 6 years old to adulthood. A cash prize will be given to the best dancers

\* Recycled costume Fashion Show. You can walk the run way with your fashions. Each entry must have a recycled

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## Student surprised with scholarship

by **Patty Brant**  
**Immokalee Bulletin**

You just know that some people are going to be successful. They seem to be outstanding when you first meet them, and the more you find out about them, the more you understand that there really is something special about them.

Mariela Vega is just a high school senior, but she's already way ahead of the pack.

On Sept. 21, she was surprised at Immokalee High School by a troupe of TV and print media along with Miami Dolphin foundation representatives, including two cheerleaders.

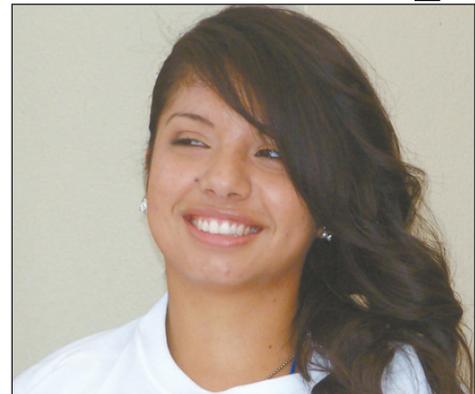
The reason for the visit? To present a \$5,000 scholarship to Mariela and a \$50,000 grant to the Guadalupe Center.

The Guadalupe Center applied for a \$50,000 grant and also nominated Mariela for the \$5,000 scholarship from Sun Life Financial.

Nat Moore, Vice President of the Miami Dolphins, hosted the award presentation. A former Miami Dolphin wide receiver, he is now a vice president in the Miami Dolphin Foundation.

Kaitlin Jaquez is Sun Life Financial's Senior Philanthropy Program manager. The group awards scholarships through its Rising Star Awards program. The program will invest a total of \$220,000 in grants and scholarships to South Florida students and nonprofit organizations. The program is the

See Scholarship — Page 2



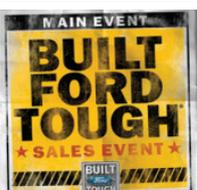
Immokalee Bulletin/Patty Brant  
A smiling Mariela tries to take in all that was happening during the check presentations.



Submitted photos/Rick Heers

### 'No sacrifice forgotten'

Marcela Rice was among some 60 plus mothers recognized by the Garrison Commander, Col. Kevin Milton, at the second Gold Star Mother's Day ceremonies held at Ft. Stewart and Hunter Airfield Army Base, Ft. Stewart, GA, on Sunday, September 25. This annual event held on the last Sunday in September was established by Congress, and signed into law by President Woodrow Wilson following World War I to honor those mothers who lost a son or daughter serving on active duty in the armed forces. Those in attendance were given the opportunity to contribute to a picture collage honoring their sons or daughters who paid the ultimate price while serving. Marcela received a garrison coin from Col. Milton inscribed with "No Sacrifice Forgotten" on one side, and "Dedicated to Surviving Families" on the other. This year marks the tenth Anniversary of Michael's passing. He was killed when his helicopter crashed during an Operation Freedom night training exercise in Poland.



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# Scholarship

Continued From Page 1

education cornerstone of the Miami Dolphins Foundation.

Like all the Sun Life recipients, Mariela was chosen by an independent panel of judges of Miami Dolphin organization including philanthropists and educators.

Mariela never stops. In addition to her heavy class load, she volunteers at the Guadalupe Center's Tutor Corps. Members of the Tutor Corps work on leadership skills, visit colleges and attend workshops as well as help younger students get the most out of

their education. She is also active on I.H.S. BETA Club.

Megan McCarthy, Director of Guadalupe Center's Tutor Corps Program, said Mariela is the "most driven" student she's ever seen, willing to sacrifice and work hard for the future at a very young age when most kids just want to have a good time.

The Guadalupe Center is celebrating 30 years of service. As part of the center, the Tutor Corps has been supporting education in Immokalee for five years, putting the enthusiasm and intelligence of high schoolers to work helping struggling youngsters.

Tutor Corps has an impeccable record for its tutors with a 100 percent high school graduation rate. Of those, 93 percent go to a college or university and 96 percent of those

students graduate, Ms. McCarthy beams.

Even after Tutor Corps students are off to college, the Center follows them with support all the way through graduate school, if they go that far. They get help with resumes and job search once they are ready to begin their careers. For many of these students, it is the first college experience in their family – and so it is with Mariela.

Mariela looks forward to becoming a doctor – a plastic surgeon, to be precise – and to share the fruits of her education with the people who she feels have given her so much as she grows up. But first, she hopes to travel to third world countries to treat children with facial deformities.

First, she plans to attend the University of Florida to study biology. She had decided on UF way back in middle school because of its excellence in science and medical studies.

When she finally returns to Immokalee, she plans to create a program of her own that will help push other local students to make the most of their talents.

Mariela's parents, Jose Vega Diaz and Maria Vega were on hand for the announcement. Through an interpreter, Maria explained what she feels is special about her daughter. "Todos," she said. "Everything."

Every day she works and studies, her mother said. She wants a better life for her parents and for herself.

Mariela is proud of her family. Her emotion shows through as she talks about how hard her father works.

"For him there's no such thing as slacking off," she said, and he has successfully imparted that attitude in Mariela and her brothers.

It is that attitude that Mariela herself impresses on her young students at the Guadalupe Center, reinforcing that school is important for a better life.

This scholarship is giving her a huge opportunity that she clearly understands her parents never had.

"He gives his all," she said about her father, "he is my inspiration to do better, adding that her mother is right there beside him.

Mariela has three brothers. Cristian is an I.H.S. graduate and is leaving in January for the Army. Mariela proudly said that he is always pushing her to do better. "He lets me know that no matter how smart I am I have to compete with the world – but I have to beat myself."

Her younger brothers are Israel, 13, and Lonnie, 11.

This honor means a lot to Mariela. She says, it means someone has faith in her.

Mariela Vega is on the road to success – almost assuredly in her career path, but without a doubt as a human being.



A very happy crowd of friends mobbed Mariela with congratulations the first chance they got after the presentation as over.

## Coletta's aide to visit Immokalee

Commissioner Jim Coletta's Aide, Paula Springs, will be in Immokalee on Wednesday, Oct. 5. Due to a previous scheduling commitment, Commissioner Coletta will not be available to meet with constituents.

Ms. Springs will be available by appointment to meet with constituents at the Immokalee office, 310 Alachua Street, from 9:30 a.m. -4 p.m. Anyone who would like an appointment to meet with her, please call 239-252-8097 or email her at PaulaSprings@colliergov.net.

"I am relieved that Immokalee was not challenged in the recent mandatory re-districting. Losing all or part of Immokalee

during my 26-year involvement would have been a tremendous blow, but my fellow commissioners chose to keep it an integral part of District 5. In order to continue my services to Immokalee in a more productive manner, I would like to provide my cell phone number to constituents to add an additional source of contact. My cell phone number is 239-370-0509. Feel free to contact me at any time with questions or concerns," commented Commissioner Coletta.

Commissioner Coletta remains available by telephone at 239-252-8391 or e-mail at jimcoletta@colliergov.net

## Christmas

Continued From Page 1

costume item. Cash prizes will be given.

\* Little Baby Dressed Christmas contest. Any Christmas dressed baby from 6 months to 18 months can compete in the competition. All baby outfits must have some red or green or gold or white to represent Christmas colors. The Naples News photographer and our local newspaper photographer will be at the Gala to take pictures of beautiful baby event.

\* We would like each school to select 4, 5 and 6th grade students to write the Christmas committee an essay on "How I can change my environment in Immokalee to go Greener." The schools can select the students to participate in this project. Our committee has been corresponding with the large beverage companies to see if a financial incentive can be offered to each school for the best essays.

\* There will be lots of exotic foods for all ages

\* We are asking for good community entertainment and arts and craft for our Gala

Please contact Myriam at the Eastern Collier Chamber of Commerce for applications. "Can you dance Contest," "Recycled fashion show" and the most beautiful dressed Christmas babies and don't forget the Chamber has applications for the Christmas Parade, entertainment, food vendors along with arts and craft applications.

The Christmas committee will be selecting this year's 2011 Grand Parade Marshal and Co-Parade Marshal shortly.

Santa Claus will be coming from the North Pole to attend the Christmas Parade and Gala and he will be taking pictures with all the boys and girls in Immokalee.

If further information is needed concerning the Christmas Parade and Gala, contact our local Chamber at 239-657-3237 asked for (Myriam) and (Joe Boney) at Parks and Recreation for the Gala @ 239-657-1951.

Published by

# IMMOKALEE BULLETIN

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### To Reach Us

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Physical Address: 22 Ft. Thompson Ave.  
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Website: www.newszap.com/immokalee

### To Submit News

The Immokalee Bulletin welcomes submissions from its readers. Opinions, calendar items, story ideas and photographs are welcome. Call (239) 657-6000 to reach our newsroom. The deadline for all news items is 11 a.m. on Monday prior to the following Thursday's publication.  
E-Mail: [ibnews@newszap.com](mailto:ibnews@newszap.com)

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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.

## Public Meetings

• **The Collier County Development Services Advisory Committee** will meet Wednesday, **Oct. 5**, at 3 p.m., at the Growth Management Division/Planning & Regulation building, conference rooms 609 and 610, located at 2800 N. Horseshoe Drive, Naples.

• **Board of County Commissioners** Tuesday, October 11, 9 a.m. Notice is hereby given that the Collier County Board of County Commissioners will meet Tuesday, October 11, at 9:00 a.m. in the Board of County Commissioners chambers, third floor, Collier County Government Center, 3299 Tamiami Trail East, Naples.

In regard to the public meeting:

All interested parties are invited to attend, and to register to speak and to submit their objections, if any, in writing, to the board/committee prior to the meeting if applicable. All registered public speakers will be limited to three minutes unless permission for additional time is granted by the chairman.

Any person who decides to appeal a decision of the Board of County Commissioners or quasi-judicial board will need a record of the proceedings pertaining thereto, and therefore, may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Collier County Ordinance No. 2004-05 requires that all lobbyists shall, before engaging in any lobbying activities (including, but not limited to, addressing the Board of County Commissioners, an advisory board or quasi-judicial board), register with the Clerk to the Board at the Board Minutes and Records Department.

The agenda is available on the Collier County government Web site at [www.colliergov.net/BCCAgendas](http://www.colliergov.net/BCCAgendas). The agenda is available at all Collier County library branches.

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the Collier County Facilities Management Department, located at 3335 Tamiami Trail East, Suite 101, Naples, FL 34112-5356, (239) 252-8380, at least two days prior to the meeting. Assisted listening devices for the hearing impaired are available in the Board of County Commissioners Office.

For more information, call the County Manager's Office at 252-8383.

• **All Terrain Vehicle (ATV) Park Site Public Information Meeting** Planned on Sept. 28

A public meeting is planned to obtain input on a potential All Terrain Vehicle (ATV) Park. All interested parties are invited to attend and provide their ideas on criteria for a proposed future ATV Park site. It will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 28 from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the University of Florida Extension Services, 14700 Immokalee Road, Naples.

Growth Management Division Deputy Administrator Nick Casalanguida will lead the discussion. There will be a short formal presentation followed by an opportunity for questions and input needed on where the potential park should be located, the size of the potential park and what type of facilities should be included.

In July, the Board of County Commissioners approved that staff move forward with public involvement and concept evaluations for an ATV Park. Funds have been set aside from a settlement with the South Florida Water Management District for the purpose of establishing a public ATV Park. This is the public's opportunity to have a say in where it is potentially going to be built as well as what amenities they would like to see included.

One or more members of the Board of County Commissioners may be in attendance at this public meeting.

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the Collier County Facilities Management Department located at 3335 Tamiami Trail East, Naples, Florida, 34112, (239) 252-8380 prior to the meeting; assisted listening devices for the hearing impaired are available in the County Commissioners' Office.

For questions about this meeting, please contact Community Liaison Connie Deane at 239-252-8192.

# I HOPE distribution center expands hours

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

Starting this Saturday, Oct. 1, the I D C (I HOPE Distribution Center) will be open from 8:30-11:30 a.m., for all members or those wishing to become members.

For \$25 per year for families, or \$100 per year for businesses, hundreds of dollars of savings are available on all kinds of supplies and equipment from cabinets, to doors and

windows, to plumbing and electrical parts and fixtures.

Save your gasoline, and come to 2050 Commerce Avenue at the Tradeport Technology Park to find some great deals that will save you money.

Starting this month the I D C will be open on the first and third Saturdays as well as expanded hours Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

## Letter to the Editor

### To all fellow Lions and friends closest to our heart,

I know this is in short notice but being a member of the Immokalee Lions Club this is pretty much normal, but our goal is to send out special notices in plenty of time.

We, The Immokalee Lions Club would like to invite you all for our five year anniversary that our club has been existence. Next Friday at 5:30 p.m. on Sept. 30, come join us for dinner, slide show, and music. In case I have forgotten anyone, feel free to invite other members or non-members, everyone is invited.

We will be serving a fajita-style Mexi-

can dinner with rice, two styles of beans, (your choice) and two styles of salads (your choice) served with a beverage for \$15 a plate all you can eat. We will also be having a 50/50 drawing after dinner.

The location of the event will be at the Habitat for Humanity Office, located at 640 North 9th Street, Immokalee. Event will start at 5:30 p.m. ending at 8 p.m., on Friday, Sept. 30. If there is any questions or would like directions, feel free to give us a call at the numbers provided. Thanks again and hope to see you all here soon.

**Always in Lionism,  
William B. Trevino III**



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# Students First

## Parent involvement goes high-tech

By Joe Landon  
Collier County District Schools

There is something new – something really exciting – for parents and guardians of our students.

It's called Parents K-12 and the hope is this Web-based service will help bring parents and teachers together to support the academic success of our students.

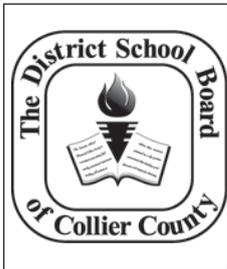
Using cutting edge technology, Parents K-12 is expected to bring parent involvement into the 21st century, possibly reaching hundreds of parents who might otherwise have never been involved in their child's education.

It's all research-based, and it ties in with standards that are aligned with core academic content in the areas of reading, math, science, and social studies/history.

So will ParentsK-12 replace existing parent involvement programs?

"Absolutely not" is the simple answer from Dr. Maria Torres, Executive Director of Federal & State Grants and our English Language Learners Programs. "What it will do is enhance, extend, and deepen programs already in place. It connects our schools with the parents of our students, while drawing everyone's attention to the academic success of each student in the process."

Dr. Torres tells us that there are more than 1,200 academically aligned parent resources available to reinforce at home what's taught in school.



"There is a resource bundle, for example, which gives parents helpful tools for homework, high-stakes test preparation, and next grade readiness."

Each resource is available in English and Spanish, and a Haitian Creole version will soon be available as well. Academics are the key to success here, stresses Dr. Torres.

"For decades, schools have tried to 'engage' parents by giving them information about every other aspect of school life: bus routes, lunch schedules, extracurricular activities, fundraisers, and the list goes on. Schools communicate the required information in spectacular fashion, but they have left largely untouched the critical information about how parents can help their children learn and master particular academic skills and subjects."

And Dr. Torres emphasizes that "it is simply not enough anymore to teach a student in the classroom. We need to be able to provide after-school, in-home support to students and their parents so that our students can meet the increasing demands of 21st century academics."

While Parents K-12 will be helpful for all families, it will be an extremely valuable tool for our English Language Learners. Parents will need to use a student ID number to get into the program.

The link to everything Parents K-12 offers will be "live" on Monday, October 3rd.

Visit our Web site at [www.collierschools.com](http://www.collierschools.com) to find an icon that will lead you to the wealth of info you'll find at your fingertips. Happy surfing!

# Edison offering ophthalmology assistant program

September 28, 2011 – NAPLES, FLA. – For those who are interested in a career in ophthalmology and optometry, Edison State College Collier Campus now offers an Ophthalmology Assistant Program.

The 16-week course provides students the basic understanding and skills needed to perform common tasks and procedures in a modern ophthalmology practice.

Registration is now underway and enrollment is limited to only 12 students. Tuition is \$1,050 plus books.

Classes meet on Saturdays and begin

January 14, 2012 and continue through May 5, 2012.

A free question-and-answer session will be held on the Collier Campus at 10 a.m. on November 19, 2011 and January 7, 2012.

To register for this class, call 732-3128 or to download the form, visit [www.edison.edu/collier/ce](http://www.edison.edu/collier/ce).

The Edison State College Collier Campus, 7007 Lely Cultural Parkway, is located off Collier Boulevard, three miles north of Tamiami Trail East.

# Over 2,000 students, parents attend college night

Collier County Public Schools' annual College Night was held recently (September 22) in the Golden Gate High School gymnasium.

According to Christy Kutz, Director of Student Services for Collier County Public Schools, "The event was a fantastic success! We had 97 colleges represented, with over 2,000 students and parents attending the event."

College and university representatives

provided information about programs offered, entrance requirements, expenses, financial aid, campus life and more.

A reminder to students and parents – early admission deadlines will be here before you know it.

For additional college resources, information, and decision-making questions go to [http://www.collierschools.com/student\\_services/college.asp](http://www.collierschools.com/student_services/college.asp).

# Church Brief

## Gospel Concert planned

The public is invited to a good ol' Gospel Concert featuring Mintzy Berry Lee of Immokalee along with guitarist Clyde McPhatter of Miami, Ricky Williams of Miami and drummer Bobby Williams of Miami.

The concert is set for Sunday, **Oct. 2** at 3 p.m., at The House of Prayer, 401 South Second Street, Immokalee.

There is no admission fee but a love offering will be taken. For more information, please call 239-658-1300 or 239-658-2771.

# Weather Forecast

Weather forecast for Collier County from the National Weather Service

## Local Forecast

**Thursday:** A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 8 a.m. Mostly sunny, with a high near 92. Northeast wind between 3 and 9 mph. **Thursday night:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly clear, with a low around 72. East wind between 3 and 7 mph.

## Extended Forecast

**Friday:** A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 91. Northeast wind between 5 and 9 mph. **Friday night:** A 20 percent chance of

showers and thunderstorms. Mostly clear, with a low around 72. Northeast wind between 3 and 8 mph.

**Saturday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 89.

**Saturday night:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly clear, with a low around 69.

**Sunday:** A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny and breezy, with a high near 87.

**Sunday night:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly clear, with a low around 69.

**Monday:** A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny and breezy, with a high near 88

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**WEDDING**  
JOSEPH W. EXAMPLE & JANE A. ILLUSTRATION  
Joseph W. Example and Jane A. Illustration were united in matrimony on September 28, 2011, at the Golden Gate High School gymnasium. The bride is the daughter of Mrs. and Mr. Example. The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Illustration. The ceremony was officiated by Pastor Example. The couple is expecting a baby in 2012.

**BIRTHDAY**  
SUSAN A. EXAMPLE  
Susan A. Example celebrated her 50th birthday on September 28, 2011. She was surrounded by family and friends at the Golden Gate High School gymnasium. The celebration was a wonderful day for everyone.

**ACHIEVEMENT**  
ALEX EXAMPLE  
Alex Example has been named the top student in his class at Golden Gate High School. He has a perfect 4.0 GPA and is a member of the National Honor Society.

**WEDDING**  
JOSEPH W. EXAMPLE & SALLY A. EXAMPLE  
Joseph W. Example and Sally A. Example were united in matrimony on September 28, 2011, at the Golden Gate High School gymnasium. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Example. The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Example. The ceremony was officiated by Pastor Example. The couple is expecting a baby in 2012.

**BIRTHDAY**  
SALLY EXAMPLE  
Sally Example celebrated her 50th birthday on September 28, 2011. She was surrounded by family and friends at the Golden Gate High School gymnasium. The celebration was a wonderful day for everyone.

# FWC saves two five-month-old panther kittens

They may have lost their mother, but two five-month-old Florida panther kittens have a good chance of survival, thanks to the efforts of staff from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, White Oak Conservation Center in North Florida and a volunteer

with Big Cypress National Preserve. The kittens were successfully captured Friday, Sept. 23, near the Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed area in Collier County.

FWC biologists began tracking the kittens' mother in February. She was captured, collared and released. In May, they exam-

ined and marked her three kittens on private land in Lee County.

On Sept. 14, a mortality signal from the mother's collar was detected during a routine telemetry flight. Her skeletal remains were located later that day. The cause of death is unknown.

Knowing orphaned kittens cannot survive long in the wild without their mother, biologists worked quickly to capture the kittens. Remote cameras and traps were set. Several days went by with no activity, and hope the kittens would be found alive was fading.

That is until Thursday. FWC biologists checked the cameras and found pictures of two panther kittens.

Last Friday, two kittens were trapped together in a single trap. It is believed that only two of the three kittens survived to this age. They were successfully rescued and transported via private plane to White Oak Conservation Center, where they will be raised and conditioned for a future return to the wild.

"Losing a mother panther in the prime of her life is tough," said Darrell Land, FWC biologist and panther team leader. "But we hope we can finish the job she started by raising her kittens so they can be returned to the wild. With only 100-160 adult panthers remaining in South Florida, every individual is important."

The public can support panther conservation efforts. Funds generated through the purchase of a panther license plate go



Submitted photo/Erin Myers, USFWS  
**Two orphaned panther kittens rescued by FWC biologists Friday morning in Collier County.**

directly to supporting the research and management of Florida panthers, including the care of these two kittens.

Most Floridians or visitors to the state will never get to see the reclusive long-tailed cat. But they can attend the first annual Florida Panther Festival on Saturday, Oct. 29, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at North Collier Regional Park in Naples. The purpose of the free festival is to raise awareness of the endangered Florida panther, while promoting safe coexistence of people, pets, livestock and panthers. To learn more about the panther, go to FloridaPantherNet.org.

## Collier County recognizes World Rabies Day

Collier—The Collier County Health Department (CCHD) promotes rabies awareness, education, and prevention by celebrating World Rabies Day on September 28, 2011. From 2008-2010 the Collier County Health Department investigated an average of 52 cases per year where an animal bit a human and post-exposure (after the bite) rabies treatment was recommended to prevent rabies transmission. Collier County health officials remind residents that rabies prevention begins at home. World Rabies Day provides an opportunity to increase awareness of a serious disease that affects humans and animals. Preventing rabies is as simple as ensuring adequate vaccination of pets and farm animals, avoiding contact with wild animals, and educating those at risk.

The worldwide campaign aims to raise awareness and resources to enhance prevention and control of rabies, with the overall vision of successful human rabies prevention and elimination of dog-to-dog transmission of rabies. Founded by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Alliance for Rabies Control, a United Kingdom charity, the World Rabies Day initiative aims to bring together relevant partners in an effort to address rabies prevention and control.

Rabies is caused by a virus that people and other mammals can get through certain exposures to the saliva or nervous tissue from a rabid animal and is nearly always fatal without proper post-exposure treatment. When an animal is infected with rabies, the virus is shed in the saliva and can be passed to another animal or a person, usually through a bite. Transmission may also occur if this saliva or the animal's nervous tissue enters open wounds, the mouth, nose or eyes of another animal or person.

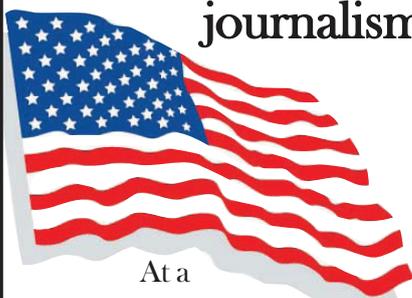
Thirty-two counties in Florida have reported 61 animal rabies cases during the period January 1, 2011-July 31, 2011. Raboons account for 43 of the 61 cases. Unvaccinated outdoor cats are the domestic animal particularly at risk for developing rabies in Florida. Because of good animal vaccination programs and human post-exposure treatment, rabies is an uncommon human disease in the U.S. Typically 1-3 cases of human rabies are reported per year in the U.S. During 2009 four human rabies cases from the U.S. and Puerto Rico were reported to the CDC.

If your pet, farm animal, or any wild animal bites you or someone, you should wash the wound thoroughly with soap and water

for at least 5 minutes, contact your physician immediately, and report the bite to the local health department and/or local animal control services. If your pet or farm animal is bitten by another animal, you should contact local animal control services, and your veterinarian immediately and have him/her examine your pet and assess your pet's vaccination needs.

CCHD promotes, protects and improves the health of all people in Collier County. Please protect your family and join the Collier County Health Department and other community agencies in raising awareness about this serious disease, and the methods for preventing it. For more information about rabies and World Rabies Day, please visit [www.worldrabiesday.org](http://www.worldrabiesday.org) or [http://www.doh.state.fl.us/environment/medicine/rabies/World\\_Rabies\\_Day.html](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/environment/medicine/rabies/World_Rabies_Day.html)

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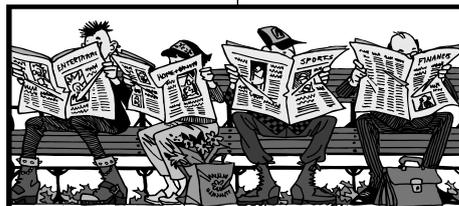
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**First Baptist Church celebrates 95 years**

Sunday, Oct. 9, will be a historic day at First Baptist Church on the corner of C.R. 29 and Lake Trafford Road as the church celebrates 95 years of service to Immokalee and the surrounding area. Regular Sunday school classes at 9:30 a.m. will be cancelled as the people from across southwest Florida gather for a time of great gospel singing and a special time to honor many of the senior adults who have been faithful to the church over the past 40-50 years. From 9:30-10:30 a.m. the sounds of stirring gospel music from four guest musicians will fill the sanctuary.

First Baptist Church was organized back in 1925 under the auspices of First Baptist Church of Fort Myers. The first church building was recently moved and established as a part of the historical site at the Roberts Museum on Roberts Avenue. The local church has helped start several branch churches over the years including,

Glendale Bible Baptist Church, Beraka Haitian Baptist Church and Iglesia Bautista de Jesu Cristos, all of which continue to provide services and a variety of ministries to the community. Starting with a small church where the Baptist Cemetery is now located next to Highlands, the church moved to Main Street, where RCMA is now located and then, in 1986, they moved to their present facilities on the corner of C.R. 29 and Lake Trafford Road.

Returning to preach at the Homecoming Service at 10:45 a.m., is former pastor, Dr. Babb Adams, who led the church from 1969-1981. Following the morning service all are welcome to attend a special "Dinner on the Grounds" in the spacious gymnasium next to the sanctuary. The general public as well as previous members are cordially invited to celebrate 95 years of service to Immokalee and the world.

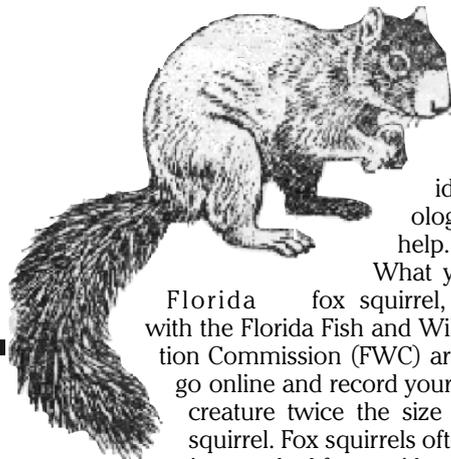


Submitted photo

**Six Ls changes names**

Immokalee-based Six L's – North America's largest field tomato grower – has changed its name to Lipman. The renaming applies to all divisions of the company: research and development, farming, processing, repacking and procurement. As a result, subsidiaries, including Custom Pak and RediPlants, will now operate under the Lipman name.

**Wanted: Help in mapping fox squirrel sites**



If you have seen a big squirrel with a long, bushy, fox-like tail, Florida wildlife biologists need your help.

What you saw was a Florida fox squirrel, and biologists with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) are asking you to go online and record your sighting of this creature twice the size of an ordinary squirrel. Fox squirrels often have distinctive, masked faces with a black head and white nose and ears but, there are wide variations in coloration - from tan to gray or black.

You can use the FWC's Google map application at <https://public.myfwc.com/hsc/foxsquirrel/GetLatLong.aspx> to enter the location where you spotted the fox squirrel. Your squirrel sighting will be logged automatically and assigned a specific latitude and longitude.

"The fox squirrel survey is a wonderful opportunity for children and adults to become amateur naturalists and get involved in conserving Florida's wildlife. We will learn more about where the Florida fox squirrels are by asking the public to go online and report their sightings

of fox squirrels," said FWC wildlife biologist Courtney Hooker.

The fox squirrel survey is part of a research project by the FWC and the University of Florida Department of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation. It combines the latest in online-mapping technology with the public's enthusiasm about sharing their wildlife observations. The fox squirrel survey began in August, and data will be collected through at least January 2012. So far about 600 sightings of fox squirrels have been logged online.

Fox squirrels have been observed throughout Florida in open woods, pine and cypress stands and mangrove swamps, but knowledge about their distribution is limited. Fox squirrels spend more time on the ground than in trees and often escape their enemies by running rather than climbing. Their favorite food is pine seed.

The Sherman's fox squirrel is found in the pine forests of central and northeast Florida and is classified as a state species of special concern. The Big Cypress fox squirrel is a state-threatened species in southwest Florida. The Southeastern fox squirrel lives in the Panhandle. All of Florida's fox squirrels are protected from hunting.

For more information about fox squirrels, visit the "Species Profiles" area of [MyFWC.com/Wildlife](http://MyFWC.com/Wildlife).

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