

11-1 Indians... On to Regional Playoffs!



Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/Adam Herrera

The Immokalee Indians (11-1) marched onto the field against Cape Coral like they had been there before - they had and handed the Seahawks a second walloping winning the game 54-7. After their close call win against Lehigh the week before, the Indians recovered and secured themselves a spot in the Playoffs. See the story on Page 2 and catch more great photos on the Immokalee Bulletin Facebook page.

Inside...

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

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Off-road permits go on sale Dec. 16

The 2012 Off-road Vehicle (ORV) permits for Big Cypress National Preserve will go on sale Friday, Dec. 16. Once purchased, permits are valid through January, 31 2013. Permits did not sell out in 2011, therefore, there is no need to submit lottery requests. 2012 permits will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis. Renewal forms should not be submitted until after December 16.

If your ORV is required to be inspected you may obtain permits at the ORV Office located at the Oasis Visitor Center. If your vehicle does not require an inspection you may submit your renewal request and payment by following the guidance on the ORV Permit Renewal

Form at - <http://www.nps.gov/bicy/planyourvisit/upload/2012-13-ORV-Permit-Renewal-Form.pdf>

We remind all ORV permittees that travel in the backcountry is along designated trails only. Travel off designated trails will result in permit suspension and possible fines. For more information on the designated trail network go to - <http://www.nps.gov/bicy/planyourvisit/designated-trail-implementation.htm>

For more information on ORV permitting and use in the Preserve go to - <http://www.nps.gov/bicy/planyourvisit/orv-use.htm>, or contact the ORV Office at 239-695-1205.

Guadalupe Center hosts 29th Annual Thanksgiving

More than 150 volunteers served turkey and all the trimmings (including salsa!) giving out an estimated 2,200 meals to Immokalee residents at the 29th Annual Thanksgiving in the Park.

To create this momentous event it took over 200 turkeys; 7,000 tortillas; 840 pounds of mashed potatoes; 44 quarts of salsa; 1,100 pounds of green beans and 500 pies and cookies. Plus an additional 250 dinners were delivered to homebound individuals.

Children played, residents blissfully chatted with one another and enjoyed a wonderful meal, as festive music was played by a band.

The Guadalupe Center of Immokalee, along with Moorings Presbyterian Church, St. Williams

Catholic Church and local businesses, coordinated the volunteers and items needed for the event. Thanksgiving in the Park is a way many Collier County individuals give thanks to Immokalee's hardworking families for picking the crops that end up on tables throughout the county and country.

The Guadalupe Center of Immokalee has been serving the children and families of Immokalee for 29 years. Its mission is to break the cycle of poverty by providing educational, social, and other support programs and resources. From the very young in Early Childhood Education, to

See TIP — Page 2



Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/Ann Hughes
More than 150 volunteers gave of themselves to assist in the annual Thanksgiving Feast celebration in Airport Park last Thursday. More than 2,000 came to join in, eat a great meal, enjoy music and celebrate the day.



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Students honored at NFL game

Local TSIC student received scholarship

Representatives from Take Stock in Children of Palm Beach County, Urban League of Broward County, Inc., The Education Fund of Miami-Dade County, The Guadalupe Center of Immokalee and four remarkable students honored for commitment to education

Students received \$5,000 scholarships; NPOs awarded \$50,000 grants in September as part of program

There were stars were on the field at Sun Life Stadium today, but this time it wasn't the players that garnered the all the recognition. Instead it was four outstanding South Florida students and nonprofit organizations, as they were each honored by the Miami Dolphins and Sun Life Financial at a special on-field ceremony as part of the Sun Life Rising Star Awards program.

In September, Sun Life Financial awarded a total of \$220,000 in grants and scholarships to four youth-oriented nonprofits and to an exemplary student nominated by each organization. The winning non-profit organizations — Take Stock in Children of Palm Beach County; Urban League of Broward County, Inc.; The Education Fund of Miami-Dade County; and The Guadalupe Center of Immokalee — each received a \$50,000 grant. Amanatulla Khan (Take Stock in Children), Miles Mallinson (Urban League of Broward, Inc.), Sarah Moreno (The Education Fund) & Mariela Vega (The Guadalupe Center) each received a \$5,000 Sun Life Rising Star scholarship towards financing a college education. Sun Life will collaborate with the organizations to increase financial literacy through curriculum and educational resources beyond the monetary support,

In addition to their on-field recognition, the honorees were also treated to a special breakfast reception hosted by Dolphins CEO Mike Dee, Sun Life Financial Regional Vice President Rob Georgiou and head coach Tony Sparano's wife, Jeanette Sparano, who helped select the recipients as a Sun Life Rising Star Awards judge.

The Sun Life Rising Star Awards pro-

gram aims to address low high school graduation rates in large urban school districts by providing financial and educational resources to students and nonprofit organizations committed to increasing success in high school and beyond. The program, now in its second year, also seeks to promote financial literacy as a means to achieve life-long financial wellness and stability. In 2011, Sun Life invested more than \$1 million to outstanding students and nonprofit organizations affiliated with large urban school districts across the country, including Boston, Detroit, Los Angeles, Philadelphia and South Florida. The Sun Life Rising Star Awards program is the education cornerstone program of the Miami Dolphins Foundation.

"These remarkable students and organizations are true rising stars and we are thrilled to have them join us here today as we celebrate their outstanding achievements," said Miami Dolphins Chief Executive Officer Mike Dee. "Rewarding students and organizations who are committed to giving back to their communities is precisely what we had in mind when we partnered with Sun Life and selected the Sun Life Rising Star Awards as the cornerstone educational program of the Dolphins Foundation."

An independent panel of judges comprised of some of South Florida's foremost education and community leaders, philanthropists, financial advisors, city officials and local activists selected the winning organizations. In addition to Miami Dolphins star Davone Bess, the panel included: Champion Services Group President and CEO James Champion; Consortium of Florida Education Foundations President Mary Chance; local philanthropist Ada Cole; Florida College System Foundation President Judy Green; Sun Sentinel "Society Scene" Publisher Stacy Ostrau; Sapoznik Insurance & Associates Founder, President and CEO Rachel Sapoznik; City of Miami Protocol Officer Dr. Wallis Tinnie; and Jeanette Sparano, wife of Miami Dolphins Head Coach Tony Sparano.

For more information on the Sun Life Rising Star Awards visit www.sunliferisingstar.com.

Indians march on to playoffs

Immokalee Indians pulled off yet another impressive win over Cape Coral this past Friday night dealing the Seahawks a second walloping with a score of 54-7. The Indians played the Cape Coral team earlier in the season dealing an even tougher loss to the team.

The home team Immokalee Indians have

secured a spot for themselves in the next leg of the playoffs. The team will play a tough rival - Palmetto Tigers (11-1) tomorrow night at 7:30 p.m. Be there to support the home team and help them bring home a playoff win! Go Indians!

For more photos, see our Facebook page.

TIP

Continued From Page 1

After-School tutoring, to providing college scholarships to the next generation of aspiring leaders, to the Soup Kitchen and Clothing Room programs, this privately-funded

non-profit 501(c)(3) organization makes a real difference in every aspect of their lives from the cradle to career. For additional information, call 239-657-7711 or visit www.guadalupecenter.org.

See more photos on our Facebook page!

Crystal Drake to run for House of Representatives

School teacher, Crystal Drake, has entered the race for the Florida House of Representatives, District 77 seat (Glades, Hendry, Highlands and part of Collier counties).

Mrs. Drake currently teaches middle school and is a former high school American Government teacher and Career Counselor who lives in Moore Haven with her husband of 32 years, J.W. J.W. works for a local pump company and they have a small beef cattle operation. They have two children, their oldest, Joey Drake is a cattle rancher, and is married to Erin (Dakin), who works on her family's dairy farm in Myakka City where they are raising two children. The Drakes' daughter, Chelsea, is a third grade teacher and is married to Tuyl Oxer of Venus, also a cattle rancher, and they have two children. "My grandchildren have made me realize

that the future of Florida is very important to me."

Many of Crystal's experiences in the classroom produced her desire to serve in state government. "My students and I have done some very interesting, and at times controversial, research projects on issues such as: Lake Okeechobee and the Caloosahatchee River water conditions, the need for more power plants in Florida and immigration issues that directly affected my students." These projects, in addition to annual visits with students to Tallahassee, inspired Mrs. Drake to try to become part of the solution. "Hopefully, my former students will want to work with me on this grassroots political campaign. I am not a politician, so I need everyone's help."

Public Meetings

• The Collier County Planning Commission will meet Thursday, Dec. 1, at 9 a.m. in the Board of County Commissioners chambers, third floor, Collier County Government Center, 3299 Tamiami Trail East, Naples.

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

Letters to the Editor

Domestic Violence seminar

The Clerk's last seminar for 2011, Understanding Domestic Violence Law will be held on Dec. 7, at 1 p.m. at Hodges University in the Science and Technology Building at 2647 Professional Circle in North Naples.

The focus of the seminar will be on Florida law and Florida Supreme Court forms related to Domestic Violence, as well as resources available on CollierClerk.com.

<http://www.collierclerk.com/CourtDivisions/Civil/DomesticViolence>

No pre-registration is required.

Bob St. Cyr, Director of Community Outreach, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Collier County, 3315 Tamiami Trail East Naples.

Office: 239-252-6879

Bob St. Cyr

Collier County Clerk of Court

Every 9½ Minutes! - HIV/AIDS Awareness recognized

Every 9½ minutes (on average), someone in the United States is infected with HIV. Because of this alarming statistic, on this coming World AIDS Day, Dec. 1, the Collier County Health Department encouraging people to take advance of HIV testing. An estimated 56,300 Americans each year are newly infected with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) data indicates that there are now over 1.7 million Americans living with HIV, approximately 100,000 people living with HIV in Florida and at least 25 percent of those individuals do not even know that they are HIV-positive. HIV testing is an important step in the prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS, which is why the CDC recommends that everyone between the ages of 14 and 64 take an HIV test at least once a year. The decision to take the test is the first step in taking responsibility for your health and the health of others with whom you may be intimately involved.

In Florida 1 in 202 Floridians are HIV infected - 1 in 64 Blacks; 1 in 224 Hispanics; 1 in 400 Whites;

HIV/AIDS has impacted Collier County for 29 years now, and we have witnessed the infections of nearly 1400 of our residents. In

2009 alone, there were over 55 new cases of HIV in Collier County. Whether we realize it or not, HIV/AIDS is in our neighborhoods and it affects all of us here in Collier County.

For this reason, the HIV/AIDS Network of Collier County (HANCC) is proud to sponsor the following FREE events celebrating World AIDS Day through Dec. 2. Some of these sites will be offering Rapid HIV testing with same day results. Others will offer traditional testing with a two-to-three week wait for results.

December 1

FREE Rapid HIV Testing: Marion E. Fether Medical Center.- Immokalee

FREE Rapid HIV Testing: Collier County Health Dept.- Immokalee

Dec. 2

FREE Rapid HIV Testing: Marion E.Fether Medical Center.- Immokalee

FREE Rapid HIV Testing: Collier County Health Dept.- Immokalee

For more information regarding these events, 2012 free testing days, the HANCC meeting schedule, or HIV/AIDS in Collier County please contact Nilda Proenza, Collier County Health Department HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis Program Manager, at: 239-252-8593.

Big Cypress to host ORV Advisory Committee meeting

The Off-Road Vehicle (ORV) Advisory Committee (ORVAC) will meet at the Big Cypress Swamp Welcome Center, 33000 Tamiami Trail East, Ochopee, from 3:30 to 8:00 p.m., on Tuesday, Dec. 6.

Members of the committee include Franklin Adams; John Adornato; Robin Barnes; Jim Coletta; Brad Cornell; David Denham; Edwin Everham; Manley Fuller; Jorge Gutierrez; Karl Greer; Chuck Hampton; Wayne Jenkins; Laurie Macdonald; Barbara Jean Powell; Jenny Richards; Dennis Wilson and, Curt Witthoff.

For more details about the ORVAC, meeting agendas and minutes, or to sub-

mit agenda items at: <http://www.nps.gov/bicy/parkmgmt/orv-advisory-committee.htm>. Comments and requests may also be submitted in writing to - Superintendent, Big Cypress National Preserve, 33100 Tamiami Trail East, Ochopee, FL 34141, Attn: ORV Advisory Committee.

The ORV Advisory Committee was established pursuant to the Preserve's 2000 Recreational Off-road Vehicle Management Plan and the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 to examine issues and make recommendations regarding the management of ORVs within the Preserve.

Local bank plans Finance workshop at iTECH Center

Fifth Third Bank is bringing its eBus to the Immokalee Technical Center, also known as iTech, on Thursday, Dec. 8, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The eBus, along with community partners such as Empowerment Alliance of Southwest Florida and the Immokalee Community Redevelopment Agency, will provide information and assistance in the areas of managing money, purchasing a home, starting a business, preventing foreclosure, and seeking a job.

Attention online shoppers - CCSO offers online shopping safety tips

Tired of driving from one crowded parking lot to the next, standing in long lines at the cash registers and fighting over that last Nintendo 3DS on the shelf with five other desperate parents?

Thanks to the World Wide Web, the bulk of your shopping can be done online. You can even have your orders gift wrapped. With the added convenience of shopping online, you need to know how to protect your bank account and identity.

Here are some good pointers to help keep your personal information safe:

Use companies you know.

When making purchases online, make sure the Web site you are using is secured

with "https://www..." in the URL and make certain the padlock symbol is on the bottom of your browser. Read the company's privacy statement carefully. Will they sell your personal information to other companies?

Trust your instincts. If something doesn't seem right, then it probably isn't.

Limit the amount of personal information you give out and print all online receipts.

Consider obtaining a credit card that you use only when shopping online to easily keep track of all your purchases.

If possible, call in your order.

Notify the issuer if your credit card is lost or stolen.

Local Forecast

Weather forecast for Collier County from the National Weather Service

Local Forecast

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 74. North wind between 3 and 8 mph.

Thursday night: Mostly clear, with a low around 48. North wind around 7 mph.

Extended Forecast

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 76. North wind between 8 and 10 mph.

Friday night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 54. North wind around 8 mph.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 78.

Saturday night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 56.

Sunday: Partly sunny, with a high near 79.

Sunday night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 56.

Monday: Partly sunny, with a high near 80.



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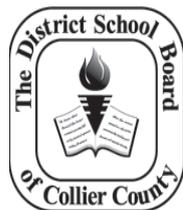
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Students First

Junior BETAs excel

By Joe Landon

Special to the Immokalee Bulletin



You, of course, know about the Immokalee High School BETA Club and the good work its members do,

and the fame they've achieved with their first place finishes in the State of Florida and National BETA Club competitions. Well, I want you to know that Immokalee Middle School has a Junior BETA Club, and just like their high school counterparts, the Junior BETAs do some wonderful things in the community as well. The BETA Club



Courtesy photo/IMS BETA

Junior BETA Club members at Immokalee Middle School invite new members to join them as they continue to perform in community service projects.

motto is "Let us lead by serving others." Immokalee Middle School Principal Abel Jaimes tells us that his Junior BETAs did

just that last week, raising enough money through a bake sale to buy Thanksgiving baskets for six Immokalee Middle School families. Each basket was chock full of food: a twelve pound turkey; apple cider; cans of corn, green beans, and yams; a bag of potatoes; and a box of stuffing. Each basket was delivered by the students with a warm Thanksgiving greeting.

Highlands Elementary School recently held a very successful Parent Reading Academy. First grade teacher Michael Lancellot provides this colorful description: "What has delicious aromas wafting from the barbecue grill, red bandanas, navy blue striped cotton hats, and a cheerful train whistle? It is a passion for reading encapsulated by our Parent Academy. On a recent Tuesday evening, parents and students were welcomed on board for an evening of reading education. The school community gathered in the 'dining car' underneath the outdoor pavilion. As boarding passes were punched, itineraries offered an array of activities to

arrive to a destination of reading. Students sprawled in the media center as they listened to teachers read poetry. Teachers in the cafeteria provided a menu of phonemic awareness and phonics entrees including alphabet bingo. As the train whistle sounded, clicks of keyboards were heard in the computer lab as leadership team members assisted families to integrate technology with suggested literacy websites. The hallways and classrooms buzzed of activities to promote vocabulary acquisition, fluency, and higher order comprehension. Free books were handed out to families thanks to the Reading is Fundamental program."

We appreciate Michael Lancellot's excellent description. Reading Coach Mary Charles sums it all up by saying, "Our main focus is to show parents how easy and important it is to read with their children." And that, my friends, is what the Highlands Elementary School Parent Academy is really all about.

Literacy Buddies - Reading program is a lifelong gift

By Patty Brant

Immokalee Bulletin

Nothing can take the place of reading.

The Early Learning Coalition of Southwest Florida's Literacy Buddy program helps get books into the hands - and hearts - of three- and four- and five-year-olds participating in a subsidized child care program.

Locals and part time residents are invited to become Literacy Buddies to a child right here in Immokalee who could gain a lifetime of knowledge through these volunteers' simple efforts.

In today's economy, a book is a luxury for many children and that is how Literacy Buddies can help shape a child's future. Volunteering for the Literacy Buddies program takes very little - just a caring heart and a commitment that every child deserves a chance at success.

The best way to get a child ready to read is for an adult to read to them aloud. That's where the program begins.

A Literacy Buddy volunteer is matched up with a local child in a child care facility served by the Early Learning Coalition, such as Immokalee Child Care Center.

The Buddy mails an age appropriate book to the child along with a letter three times a year. In return, the Buddy receives a letter written by the child.

The books are mailed to the child's preschool where the teacher can then work with the child, using his or her own book. The child's parents are also key figures in the program since the teacher then works with them on how to ask critical questions about what their child is reading.

This is the third year ICCC has participated in the program. All 63 Voluntary PreK students are enjoying the benefits of having a Literacy Buddy - benefits that will last a lifetime.

"They love it!" raves teacher Mary Shipman. She said her students write letters and draw pictures which are sent to the Literacy Council, where they are matched up with a volunteer Literacy Buddy.

Each student gets a great book all their own - all about trucks or trains or puppies or airplanes - the things that give flight to a child's imagination.

When they get their book the teacher helps them read it. Then they take it home where their parents can continue to support the child's interest in reading. In just a few months, the improvement can be significant.

This program builds comprehension as well as other reading skills, she adds.

Without good reading skills, Ms. Shipman notes, students get lost later in their school career.

Mary Shipman is a believer. "This program helps them learn to love books," she said of the Literacy Buddies. "And learning to

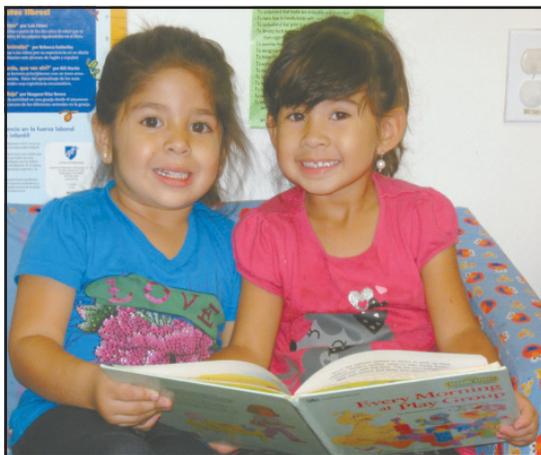
read early will help them all through school. They get a lot from these books."

For instance, students learn to appreciate the written word. She points out that you can travel all around the world with a book, even if you can't actually go to those places. Books can open the world to young minds

and hearts.

Having their personal books motivates the children and the parent, too. Literacy Buddies help instill joy and the love of reading at an early age.

Anyone interested in becoming a Literacy Buddy can call 239-210-6886.



Submitted photo/Valarie Bostic

You can tell from their smiles that Alexis Rodriguez, left, and Janelle Ozuna that children learn to love literacy at Immokalee Child Care Center, in part because of the role Literacy Buddies play in their educational development.

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Season of creativity - A child's Christmas spirit in an envelope

Holiday cards - Each a drawing from the heart

RCMA
Special to the Immokalee Bulletin

In Immokalee, Saray drew a wreath of oranges. In Homestead, Veronica drew a Christmas tree of tomatoes. In Wimauma, Marlene drew Rudolph.

Now, the painstaking artistry of these and dozens of other children has been converted into Christmas cards, for sale to the public in a fundraiser to benefit the children of Redlands Christian Migrant Association.

RCMA operates childcare centers, charter schools and after-school programs for children of the rural poor in 21 Florida counties. Money raised through its Christmas cards is



Henry Adee Veronica

matched 16:1 through a state grant that funds many of its 74 childcare centers. So a \$30 order of Christmas cards qualifies RCMA for \$480 in state funds.

"Usually, a child's best art gets displayed on a refrigerator," said Barbara Mainster, RCMA's executive director. "But here, it's printed and sold! The kids get intense."

A minimum \$15 order contains 10 cards and envelopes. The front of each card bears the holiday art; the back contains a photo and paragraph about the child artist.

An order of at least 100 cards, for \$150, entitles the buyer to choose an exclusive card, unavailable to anyone else.

They must be ordered by Dec. 15. An online order form is at www.rcma.org/holidaycards. When completed, it can be faxed to RCMA at 239-658-3593, or mailed to Judy Brill at RCMA, 402 W. Main St., Immokalee, FL 34142. Or you can call Judy at 1-800-282-6540 or 239-289-6822 or judy@rcma.org.

Orders of exclusive cards must be placed by phone to Sonia Tighe at 813-975-8377 or via email to sonia.tighe@ffva.com.



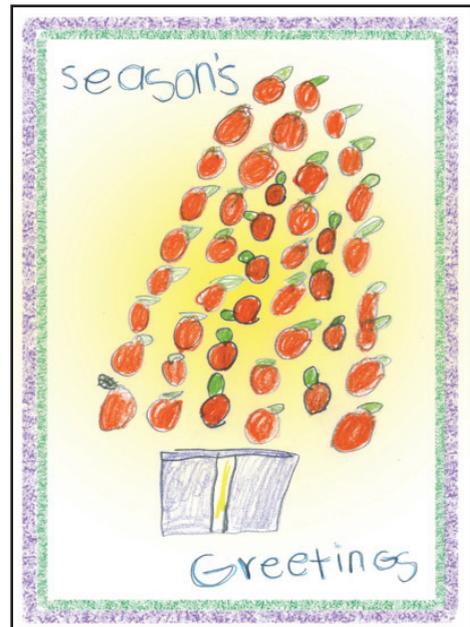
Adee drew her colorful angel as a fourth grader at RCMA's Immokalee Community School. She loves school and hopes to become a teacher one day. She is the oldest of seven children. Her dad works with a lawn service and her mom picks tomatoes.



Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/RCMA Henry drew Coconuts as a kindergartner in an RCMA after-school program in Homestead. His favorite subject is art and when he grows up he hopes to become a police officer. His father is a landscaper and his mother works in a plant nursery.

Local church to host free concert

Allen Chapel A.M.E. Church, 208 South Third Street, Immokalee will present a free Christmas Concert featuring tenor, Charles Haugabrooks on Sunday, Dec. 18 at 4 p.m. with free refreshments and giveaways. Church Pastor, Lori Snell will be present at the concert to greet visitors in fellowship.



Veronica drew her Christmas tree of oranges as a kindergartner in an RCMA after-school program in Homestead. Her favorite subject is art and she likes to play at the park. When Veronica grows up she wants to be a doctor. Veronica's father works in a plant nursery.

Thanksgiving in Immokalee - 'A wondrous' celebration

By Rick Heers
Special to the Immokalee Bulletin

While the numbers might not compare with the biblical feeding of 5,000 with a few loaves and a couple of fish, the wondrous 'miracle' of hundreds of people volunteering their holiday, and many, many organizations donating the food supplies happened again this past Thanksgiving Day as hundreds of volunteers worked together to provide a delicious Thanksgiving dinner to over 2,200 hungry individuals at the airport park in Immokalee.

Thanks to the coordination of Guadalupe Center and the graciousness of Harry Chapin Food Bank, children and adults were delighted with their great meal, and volunteers were as happy and cheerful as the people they were serving. Immokalee High School's BETA clubs were out in force preparing and serving meals. Folks from Naples, Ave Maria and Immokalee came out to work together to provide this annual great service to our community.



Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/Rick Heers **More than 2,000 waited patiently with the delicious aroma of Thanksgiving dinner calling to them. Hundreds volunteered to help feed the masses and help with clean up. It was a wondrous day. For more photos, please go to our Facebook page.**

When asked why the Ave Maria basketball team would come out in force to help the response was indicative of so many volunteers, "We wanted to serve God by serving needy families in Immokalee.

While the serving of food took place from Noon on and lasted for several hours, the preparations took days and weeks, and the positive impact on the community will be felt for weeks to come.

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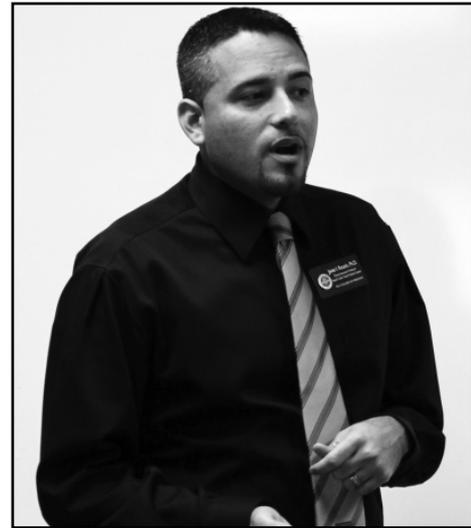
New arts in health care program announced

Representatives from the University of Florida Center for Arts in Healthcare (UF CAHRE) will be in Immokalee on Dec. 6 and 7, to host an informal reception and training to introduce a new arts in healthcare program for the Immokalee community. The Arts in Healthcare for Rural Communities initiative is a collaborative effort between the Florida Division of Cultural Affairs, Shands Arts in Medicine (AIM), the UF Center for the Arts in Healthcare and several Immokalee community agencies, including the FSU College of Medicine, CHS Healthcare (Collier Health Services), the Collier County Health Department, The Alliance for the Arts, and the United Arts Council of Collier County. Support for the initiative has been provided

by the Kresge Foundation and the Florida Division of Cultural Affairs.

The reception will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 6, at 5:30 p.m. at the FSU College of Medicine Health Education Site in Immokalee, located at 1441 Heritage Blvd. During the informal meeting, leaders from UF CAHRE will speak about the impact of the arts in healthcare in rural communities around the state of Florida. Local partners will talk about how the public, as well as professional artists, can become involved in this new program. The public is welcome and encouraged to attend. In addition, an Arts in Healthcare for Rural Communities Training will be held at the same location on Wednesday, Dec. 7 from 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Immokalee is one of the latest rural communities identified by UF CAHRE, Shands AIM and the State of Florida Division of Cultural Affairs to develop an art in healthcare initiative in response to locally identified community health needs. A multidisciplinary arts-based approach, including visual, literary, and performing arts, will be developed to address health literacy, community engagement, and health outcomes. The initiative aims to reach individuals of all ages, their families, health care providers,



Courtesy photo
Javier Rosado, PhD, will head up an informative training program in the local Immokalee area on Dec. 6 at the FSU College of Medicine Health Ed Site.

and the Immokalee community-at-large. To learn more, please contact Javier Rosado, PhD, at Javier.rosado@med.fsu.edu.

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CCSO teams up with community partners in Annual Feed Collier

The Collier County Sheriff's Office and its community partners recently provided Thanksgiving dinners to 156 families across Collier County.

Three families were selected by each Collier County school to be the recipients of the third annual Feed Collier initiative.

Thanks to the generous contributions of CCSO's community partners, each box this year contained a turkey, potatoes, green bean casserole fixings, stuffing, gravy, pumpkin pie, as well as pudding, hot chocolate, granola bars, and candy.

Before the delivery could take place, the boxes containing food for each family's Thanksgiving meal needed to be assembled. CCSO deputies and members of the public packaged these boxes at Sam's Club, 2550 Immokalee Road, North Naples, on Nov. 18. Deputies delivered the meals to the selected families the following morning.

CCSO gives special thanks to the follow-



Courtesy photo/CCSO Ellen Loftus
Local children assist with gathering of food items collected thanks to generous food contributions to help with CCSO's Feed Collier program.

ing community partners for their contributions to this effort: Sam's Club; Super Target, 2415 Tarpon Bay Blvd., Golden Gate; and Wal-Mart, 9885 Collier Blvd., East Naples.

The agency also gives special recognition to its East Naples community-oriented policing deputies for coordinating the event and to its Youth Relations and Crime Prevention bureaus for their roles in the initiative as well as everyone who volunteered their time to help pack and deliver boxes.



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	XR 500MG - \$15
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