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Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/RMCM
"A moment to remember," Jules Mijares, program manager of the Ronald McDonald Mobile Care Unit will be remembered by many for her caring towards local children and others.

Community remembers RMCM care manager

"A great loss to the Immokalee Community"

By Dr. Steve Weinman
Collier Health Services

The Immokalee community has been saddened with the passing on Feb. 14, of Jules Mijares, after an extended illness. Although months shy of her 40th birthday at the time of her passing, Jules was wise beyond her years. Jules was best known in the community through her work as the first manager of our Ronald McDonald Care Mobile Program. She was later given other tough assignments,

the latest of which was to build a successful partnership with the University of Florida in the NCEF Dental Center on the Edison College Naples Campus.

As impressive as the above achievements are, those fortunate enough to have known Jules know that they don't begin to describe the person that Jules was. Jules didn't "manage" the Care Mobile, she personified it. Thanks to her magnetic personality, her obvious love for the children and her stubborn determination to succeed, we are now welcome and sought after in the Collier Schools. I've heard so many sto-

See RMCM — Page 2

'Everglades Evangelist' preserving logging history

By Patty Brant
Immokalee Bulletin

The place called Immokalee grew up on the edge of Florida's Everglades and it remains just at the border of that wild and little known place. Over the years the 'Glades have attracted some unique individuals, able to stand for themselves and face Mother Nature on her terms.

In the early decades of the 20th Century, men came into this inhospitable environment to harvest the valuable and ancient trees, cypress and pine, that fed the development of this great land.

The story of that lust for the great trees of the Everglades attracted a man named Cesar Berra. In 1997 the Miami Herald called him the "Everglades Evangelist." It became his mission to capture that intriguing story from newspaper clippings and writings of the time as well as from those hardy individuals who lived it.

Cesar spent over 20 years interviewing the men who made their livelihood from felling those legendary trees.

Centered in Jerome, on SR 29

See LOGGING — Page 2



Submitted photo/Waddy Thompson
Many African American men labored long and hard, felling giants like this one to supply wood for the construction industry in the 1940s and '50s and before.

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RMCM

Continued From Page 1

ries of how Jules' intervention made a difference in a child's life...because she always took the time to care.

When Jules first learned she was sick, and had to be away from Naples, she took her laptop and continued to work during her treatments. She couldn't wait to be back home with her employees and the kids. In 2010, Jules was recognized by the National Association of Community Health Centers when she received the Outstanding Migrant Health Public Service Award. Below some sample vignettes give a glimpse at what made Jules beloved.

Seven year-old twins, Alicia and Marie, are from a farmworker family. The sisters had their vision screened when Jules and the RMCM visited Farm Workers Village in Immokalee. When vision problems were uncovered, Jules found a way to get them brand new glasses. "They just lit-up with joy," said Jules, "They were so appreciative." Marie said that the eyeglasses were the first new thing they have ever received in her life!

A four-year old child was being screened at a nursery. She had a sweet smile but Jules noticed that it was very hard to engage her and she acted withdrawn. During the hearing screening it was discovered that she was deaf in one ear and hard of hearing in the other. With follow-up on the doctor's recommendations, she now has a hearing aid and is learning English. She told her mother that she likes school so much now because she can hear the other children. Teachers say she is learning, happy, and much more interactive.

A little girl named Marisela, 6, visited the Care Mobile while at an after-school program in Immokalee. Jules brought the children to their appointment from the community center one by one. The time it takes them to walk from the building to the Care Mobile gave her a chance to know the child a little better. As Marisela sat anxiously in the waiting area watching a video of Ronald McDonald dancing, Jules asked her, "Can you dance like Ronald?" She elicited a big smile from the child. It's the first time she had been to a dentist. Marisela was found to have 12 decayed teeth. Jules had a "goody bag" for her and after the appointment she took the toothbrush out of the bag and showed Marisela how to use it correctly. "You need

to use this twice a day to brush your teeth," she told the little girl.

Not only did Jules work to win over the children and families, she also worked to build trust with community stakeholders. Schools have many competing priorities and obligations, and the first year on the road required persistence and tenacity to get into the schools to help the kids. Jules was not dissuaded and after a successful first year on the road she no longer had to make multiple contacts to schools and organizations asking if the unit could visit; they were calling her!

Through word of mouth, many families also began calling Jules directly for assistance. Once again, she pushed the boundaries of the program. She would tell the parents, "If you can have your child at this school on this day, we will make time to see him." Jules used the Care Mobile to continually seek solutions to improve access to healthcare by evaluating, expanding, and tailoring the services to meet the needs of the children.

The RMCM received recognition from Collier County in 2005, for providing relief when Hurricane Wilma devastated Immokalee. Many farmworkers were afraid to visit the National Guard troops who were passing out ice, water, and other relief sup-

plies. Because of the low turn-out for supplies that Jules knew were badly needed by farmworkers, she arranged for the Care Mobile to serve as an intermediary. Jules and the Care Mobile had earned the trust of the community, so the relief efforts were a success. Jules personally responded to this situation and helped many farmworker families when they needed help the most.

In the beginning, the Care Mobile started with a single coordinator; Jules Mijares became the face of a new, unknown program in the community. She was the first contact in the community and more importantly, this woman personally, one by one, took the hand of thousands of underprivileged children and introduced them to the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile Program. She created trust in the program and turned a doctor's appointment into a positive experience. How many of us can say we personally touched the lives of thousands of children? Jules Mijares could!

She was an inspiration to work harder to serve the community. She was never shy about giving an opinion, and she was usually right! Jules is going to be missed by so many people.

LOGGING

Continued From Page 1

south of Immokalee and ten miles north of Everglades City, the time of the logging industry is passed, but its rich history still lures Cesar to this area.

According to Cesar's painstaking research, CJ Jones had the largest and last sawmill operation in the Southeastern US. He began his operation in Felda in 1938, and moved it to Jerome in 1940 until 1957 when it folded.

Jones mainly cut pine, but the Lee Cypress Tidewater Corp. only took cypress, and shipped it by rail to Perry, FL to be cut.

Over the years Cesar has shared his knowledge of Corkscrew Swamp, the last stand of virgin cypress in the Southeastern US. It is the only large stretch of these wooden giants, many 15' at the base and 150' tall, left standing. They were 2,000 years old in 1940s and '50s when the loggers emptied the 'Glades of their shadows.

Originally, Cesar said, the loggers took only the best trees, in convenient locations. "World War II changed everything," he said. The government paid for all wood that

could be brought out of the 'Glades, not just best. Cypress in particular was prized as it was used to build all amphibious landing craft for US forces, including those at D-Day and other historic invasions. Much of that cypress came from the Florida Everglades.

Logging in the swampy terrain, mostly Fakahatchee and Big Cypress, was difficult and men had to build up grades in the swamps to accommodate locomotives to transport the logs.

During his most recent visit to the area, Cesar spoke at Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary and at the Everglades Museum for the Everglades City Marjorie Stoneman Douglas Environmental Festival.

Many of his Immokalee logging stories came from interviews with CJ Jones' assistant Edwin Jones, his brother and accountant for operations. Edwin even taught Cesar the accounting for logging operations for Cesar's book.

In those days almost all of the tough and dangerous logging jobs were filled by African Americans; whites worked at the mill and the locomotive jobs.

In addition to his logging operations, CJ Jones also had retail stores in Miami, Fort Myers and Immokalee. He said Gwendolyn Tate ran the lumber retail store in Immoka-

lee.

His new book, *Giants of the Swamp*, took ten years to write.

His labors include two summers interviewing 40 loggers, along with ferreting out old photos and documents. He is converting these into print, PDF and audio versions to be included in Florida International University's Project Everglades Digital Library.

Cesar's longtime friend Waddy Thompson of LaBelle is donating many photos of his pioneer family photos from those logging days.

The purpose of the FIU project is to house all these amazing stories under one roof.

Cesar feels the urgency of getting pioneer families like the Thompsons to donate photos and stories of the old logging days so they will always be available for future generations.

He also got leads for his stories over the years at libraries and from the pioneering agribusiness giant Alico, an important component in the story of Everglades logging. Alico owned the land Jones leased to log the coveted cypress and pine that fueled construction throughout the nation.

One fascinating bit of local history underscored by Alico historians involves the use of hauling temporary sawmills into the woods

after a big storm to collect damaged timber. Alico would allow Jones to go in to fetch this less desirable wood. Although Cesar knew about them, he had never seen a picture of an actual temporary sawmill until some were discovered in Alico's files.

Other interesting local facts: Jones was the last to log using steam, not diesel, to run his sawmill and locomotive and he never decimated a stand of pines. He always reseeded. Jones was also one of the few who employed state certified foresters.

A Miami resident, Cesar's love affair with the Everglades began at age ten when he flipped a canoe in the 'Glades. He said that experience "connected" him with the 'Glades and put him in tune with its heart. Since that time, he has developed a never-ending curiosity about this place he finds endlessly fascinating.

"It's a sad story. It's horrific what we've done," Cesar said about logging in the Everglades, but he's been dedicating himself to making sure that story does not die. It will live to serve as a cautionary tale to those who come after us.

You can order Cesar's book, *Giants of the Swamp*, from www.planetcesar.com.

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To Submit News

The Immokalee Bulletin welcomes submissions from its readers. Opinions, calendar items, story ideas and photographs are welcome. Call (239) 657-6000 to reach our newsroom. The deadline for all news items is 11 a.m. on Monday prior to the following Thursday's publication.
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The Immokalee Bulletin is published by Independent Newspapers of Florida. Independent is owned by a unique trust that enables this newspaper to pursue a mission of journalistic service to the citizens of the community. Since no dividends are paid, the company is able to thrive on profit margins below industry standards. All after-tax surpluses are reinvested in Independent's mission of journalistic service, commitment to the ideals of the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, and support of the community's deliberation of public issues.

We Pledge...

- To operate this newspaper as a public trust
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- 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.

Letters to the Editor

Walk for Kidney disease awareness

During my first year of college my father was diagnosed with renal failure, it wasn't our first rodeo with the disease sadly. The first time it had happened I was too young to remember the long process of getting on the donor list. This time around I fully understood the situation; I knew his chances of receiving another kidney were slim to none. To support him through this tough time me and a cousin signed up to do home Hemodialysis. To him this program feels like a god send, and the people who have helped us along the way have been so supportive of him. They work around the clock to make sure that he has the medical necessities that will keep him healthy and alive. To give thanks to the people who have helped us, I decided to form a team (Gomez Harvesting) and walk in their first Kidney Walk in Lehigh Acres. Since this is the first walk in the Southwest Florida area, I want to get some light shone on the National Kidney Foundation. To do this I have sent letters, and posted flyers in the Immokalee area to try and gain attention, because what they don't know is that one out of nine people have the disease. The worst part about it is that diabetes often leads to renal failure, which is a disease that hits the Hispanic community the hardest. The funds that are raised for the walk go to the National Kidney Foundation, and in turn they help with free screening for chronic kidney disease, and they also make it easy for patients to receive medication at a reduced cost. The walk is going to happen in less than 11 days on March 4, so people need to join me in bringing awareness and start looking to donate their time to a charity that doesn't really get a lot of limelight. If you want to join an already formed team I would be honored to walk by your side to fight this disease off.

I hope that you will consider joining the fight against kidney disease by:

- Joining my team and walking with me
 - Walking as an individual or starting your own team
 - Making a financial contribution by check, or online at www.kidneywalk.org
- Make all checks payable to the National Kidney Foundation

More than of our friends and neighbors in the Immokalee area have kidney disease. More than 29% are on dialysis, and 75% are waiting for a kidney transplant. Your contributions to the National Kidney Foundation will help fund critical research, direct aid to kidney patients, and vital kidney disease screening programs.

I am extremely proud to be a part of the fight against kidney disease, and I hope you will join me!

So log onto www.kidneywalk.org and register, or if you would like to learn some more information about the disease.

Thank you for your time Eleisia Gomez

Seeing Panthers

I went hiking the other day at the C.R.E.W. Trailhead Marsh nature preserve on Corkscrew Road at the northern edge of Collier County. While walking I saw a Florida Panther on the trail 30 yards directly in front of me. The panther was leisurely walking in the afternoon sun. I stopped and watched the panther for three minutes until it disappeared around a bend.

The panther never saw me, heard me, or smelled me. I was amazed at my luck and stealthiness in observing the panther. This skill will serve me well as I run for the Board of County Commissioners, District 5, Democrat.

**John Lundin
Immokalee**

Community News in Brief

Mr. Legs contest announced

Immokalee's 2012 Annual Harvest Festival will be host to the "Mr. Legs" Contest on April 14. Contact Jo Anna Villanueva - joannavillanueva@iw-sd.com or Oona Reyna 872-6147 for an application. Who will be the next Mr. Legs?

Come on guys! You want to be the next "Mr. Legs" of Immokalee? Announced contestants are Gary Ferrante, Fred Thomas, Daniel Rosario and John Lundin and Bernardo Barnhardt to name a few. We also need some volunteers for judging. The winner will be announced on Saturday at the Airport Park after the Harvest Festival Parade. If you are interested, or know someone who is interested, email Jo Anna at: joannavillanueva@iw-sd.com or call 239-826-5453 or call Oona at 239-872-6147 for the application.

Mr. and Miss Tomato Contest

Participants from ages 0-5 years of age are invited to compete for the title of Mr. and Miss Tomato on April 14 at the Harvest Festival. Containers will be provided by the Immokalee Chamber at the time of submission of your applications. You can place your container around the Immokalee stores and businesses. The dateline is April 9. Please bring your container with the money to the Immokalee Chamber of Commerce Office, 1300 N. 5th Street, Ste. 2, between Monday and Thursday from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. All contestants must appear on stage at the Harvest Festival Event to accept their award. If additional information is needed, please contact Ms. Cherryle and Myriam at 239-657-3237 or by email at immokaleechamber@gmail.com

Commissioner Coletta plans March Immokalee visit

Jim Coletta, Collier County District 5 Commissioner, will be in Immokalee on Wednesday, March 7.

Commissioner Coletta will be attending the Immokalee Chamber of Commerce breakfast meeting at 8 a.m. at the Roma In Havana Restaurant, located at 1025 West Main Street. The public is welcome to join Commissioner Coletta at the Chamber breakfast as he discusses the latest news about our community, and we encourage you to bring a friend and attend this very informative meeting.

Commissioner Coletta will be holding office hours in the Immokalee office at 310 Alachua Street from 1:30 until 4 p.m.

He will also be attending the Rotary Luncheon at noon. Commissioner Coletta is a fellow Rotarian and invites you to join him.

Anyone who would like an appointment to meet with him, please contact his Aide, Paula Springs, at 239-252-8097.

"The past three years has been an eco-

nomie challenge for not only Collier County Government, but many of our citizens. While times are still tough, I can see a light at the end of the tunnel. Some companies are now looking at Immokalee to relocate or grow their existing businesses. When this happens, we will start to see more local jobs and more business for the existing merchants in Immokalee. If you would like to discuss business in Immokalee or any subject of concern, please make arrangements to meet with me on March 7," commented Commissioner Coletta.

If you would like to speak with him on an immediate matter, please feel free to contact his cell phone at 239-370-0509.

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

ANNIE! - A children's theatre play planned for March

A.C.T. - Ave Children's Theater presents: Little Orphan Annie! Starring Lea Baker as Annie, Christina Ledesma as Miss Hannigan, Tyler Sievert as Daddy Warbucks and Marco Snaider as Sandy! The story takes you into the heart of an orphan, her search for her parents and how she finds a new home with the billionaire Oliver Warbucks.

Great entertainment for the whole family so bring the kids and grandkids for lots of singing, dancing, and good old-fashioned fun! Performances are March 2 and 3 (7 p.m. both nights) in the Ballroom of the Bob Thomas Student Union.

Ticket prices - \$10/adults - \$5/children 12 and under. Get your "Annie" tickets today online at: <http://plus.allforms.mailjoi.net/u/0451ebc5.php> or by calling 239-261-2606.

Do you have a Preschool age child?

If your child turns 4 years old on or before September 1, your child is eligible for VPK (Voluntary Prekindergarten).

Community Coordinated Care for Children (4C) in Labelle, Clewiston and Immokalee is open for VPK registration.

Please call the location nearest to you to find out more about signing your child up for VPK. Bring your child's birth certificate and proof of Florida residency (such as an electric bill) to one of the 4C offices located near you.



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Students First

'Principal interests'

By Joe Landon
Collier County District Schools

Some things seem to "run in the family," being handed down from generation to generation like a creative ability or skill set. I have a couple of what I believe to be extreme examples to share.

Osceola Elementary School Principal Jody Moorhead's family has principals, with an "a-l-s" and not "l-e-s." Here's the story in Principal Moorhead's own words. "My Dad William 'Gus' Moorhead was a high school principal - in fact the principal for all of his four children at South Ripley High School in Versailles, Indiana. My older sister, Molly, is the high school principal of Loveland High School in Cincinnati, Ohio. My younger sister, Jane, is an elementary principal at Milan Elementary School in Milan, Indiana. My brother, Rob, is principal at South Dearborn High School in Aurora, Indiana." Jody tells us that when they gather together, as you might guess, school business is always the topic of discussion. "And, while we work and live in three different states, the issues and challenges are very similar." We don't want to ignore Jody's mom - while not a principal, she's a retired high school teacher.

While we are familiar with "76 Trombones," the tune from the Music Man, our



next story is about a concert which featured the "10 Zumbrun Trombones" - 10 trombone players representing four generations of one family. I guess you could say that music runs in the family of Amy (Zumbrun) Hance, a Collier County Public Schools Instructional Technology Specialist. Her dad, William Zumbrun, has played

trombone with the Naples Concert Band since he retired and moved to Naples some 35 years ago. In celebration of his 90th birthday, Amy's family of 10 trombone players recently performed with the Naples Concert Band. Amy continues her story in her own words: "We began with a Trombone Concerto in which my 18-year-old son, Trace, a senior at Gulf Coast High School, played the first movement as a solo. The second movement was a duet with his dad, Adren, band director at East Naples Middle School. The third movement was a trio with Trace, his dad, and me." So the 10 included (feel free to count them with me) Amy, her husband, her dad, her two children, her sister Wendy Zumbrun, band director at Pine Ridge Middle School, as well as Amy's sister Connie and her two sons visiting Naples from Massachusetts. William Zumbrun's three-year-old great-grandson even played a trombone kazoo!

Literacy Academy celebrates reading

Maria Segura, a former participant and the current lead Preschool Instructor of the Family Literacy Academy of Immokalee, spoke at the 12th Annual Celebration of Reading at the Hyatt Regency in Bonita Springs. Maria recounted how her life has changed since attending the Academy and receiving a college scholarship in 2009. At the academy, Maria achieved her GED, went on to earned a CDA, and has now received her Associates of Science degree, with honors, from SW Florida College. Maria is currently studying for the General Knowledge Exam and will continue her studies at SW Florida College to finish her Bachelor's Degree in Education. The Family Literacy Academy of Immokalee is a Volunteer USA Academy, located in Farm Workers Village and sponsored by Collier County Housing Authority. The Academy will have its Second Immokalee Run and Ride for Literacy April



Special to the Immokalee Bulletin
Former Family Literacy Academy participant, Maria Segura spoke at the 12th Annual Celebration of Reading recently. She told those in attendance how the program changed her life.

14 and 15. For more information, visit our website at www.immokaleerunsandrives.com or call 239-657-2398 or 239-370-3630.

Annual Math and Science conference includes Collier County participants

More than 85 fifth grade girls and their parents participated in the Greater Naples AAUW Charitable Foundation, Inc., fifteenth annual GIRLS + MATH + SCIENCE = SUCCESS Conference on Saturday, Feb. 11. In cooperation with Collier County Public Schools the half-day conference was hosted by Edison State College - Collier. The conference is based on ground-breaking AAUW research highlighting the need to inspire female students to excel in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) subjects as they enter puberty.



Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/CCDS
Top educators from Collier County included: Dr. Monica Robles, David Lawrence Center; Dr. Betsy Glass, Educator and Psychotherapist; and Paula Sklodowski, WGPU and Children's Museum of Naples.

CCPS Superintendent Dr. Kamela Patton energized the girls and parents with her welcome remarks. Keynote Speaker Jack Gardner, Principal, Lorenzo T. Walker, challenged the girls to "Aspire to Inspire." The conference featured ten student workshops showcasing women business leaders from STEM-specific industries: Alicia Abbott, Nancy Beights (and

assistant Mark Cevallos), Bonny Eads, Joanna Fitzgerald, Eve Haverfield, Birgit Paul-Haack, Gay Thompson, Wendy Wahlstedt, Sarah Woofter, and Renee Zepeda. Presentations for parents featured top educations and STEM experts Dr. Monica Robles, David Lawrence Center; Dr. Betsy Glass, Educator and Psychotherapist; and Paula Sklodowski, WGPU and Children's Museum of Naples.

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Volunteer groups reach out to Immokalee families

I HOPE has been blessed this past week with two volunteer groups who have come to Immokalee to invest in families in need in our community...bring help, hope and happiness to all, and enjoying their work in the process.

The first group is comprised of nine young ladies and their youth sponsor from First Presbyterian Church in Delray Beach who worked the weekend on a mobile home that needed its entire flooring replaced. I HOPE purchased the materials, and the youth, under the direction of staff member Dave Schubert completed the placing tile on the entire floor of a mobile home that was desperately in need of repairs.

The following week, a group of 10 high school students and two sponsors from Fryeburg Academy, located in Western Maine, spent the entire week working on repair projects with the I HOPE staff. Established in 1792 by a charter signed by John Hancock, and including a famous American patriot, Daniel Webster, as one of their headmasters in the early 1800's, the Academy-with boarding and day students- has a unique history for over two hundred years. It has been only in the past 5 years that three groups of students from the school have vis-

ited Immokalee and have used their ingenuity and workmanship to assist in I HOPE's ministry of helping families who are unable to help themselves.

This week the students have worked on several projects including helping reorganize the I HOPE Distribution Center warehouse, putting cabinets together and redoing the interior bathroom of a home that had previously had work done on it by other volunteers. Our community is uniquely blessed to have groups like this who live for a time in our community and reach out to and become acquainted with our families. An added bonus for the students is the pleasant weather in Southwest Florida that is dramatically different from their winter weather along the Canadian border.

In an effort to serve our community better, the I HOPE warehouse will be open to members and the general public interested in becoming a member, next Saturday, March 3, from 8:30-11:30. Come in and see our new shipments of tile available at greatly discounted prices. You may call 657-3889 during the week for further information on the warehouse from David, Rick or Misty.



Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/Rick Heers
The youth group from First Presbyterian Church in Delray Beach, brings their heart and souls with them to help bring about change in living conditions for some Immokalee residents. The group who really "stands firm on their work," is made up of nine young ladies who under the direction of their youth sponsor, Dave Schubert completed a flooring job inside a mobile home. Great job on the floor ladies! Thank you for your hard work.

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Farm worker, 1/20/12-6/30/12, Flatwoods Harvesting, Fel-da, FL. 13 temp jobs. Operate machinery to harvest crops. Drive truck or tractor to transport materials/supplies/products. Make adjustments/minor repairs to machinery. Class A CDL, Clean MVR, 3 mo exp req'd. \$9.54/hr, 3/4 work guarantee, tools/equip/housing provided, trans & subsistence exp reimbursed. Apply at Florida Works, 239.658.3300. Job #FL9638158.

NOTICE

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

Need a few more bucks to purchase something deer? Pick up some extra bucks when you sell your used items in the classifieds.

Some 800 and 900 telephone numbers may require an extra charge, as well as long distance toll costs. We will do our best to alert our reader of these charges in the ads, but occasionally we may not be aware of the charges. Therefore, if you call a number out of your area, use caution.

Get a quick response to any item you may be selling with a classified ad.

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

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

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

FOR RENT

Rentals

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

FOR RENT

Rentals

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Apartments

Apartments

IMMOKALEE CORAL PINES

Apts. 601 to 613 Nassau St., 2BR, Central A/C, heat, carpet, verticals, laundry on premises.

Convenient location in quiet residential area.

\$600 includes water/sewer/trash
No Application Fee.

**Apply at 601 Nassau St. #4
Immokalee or
Call 239-694-1951**

Grab a bargain from your neighbor's garage, attic, basement or closet in today's classifieds.

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

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

No wonder newspaper readers are more popular!



Apartments

LOOKING FOR AFFORDABLE RENT? Come see Immokalee's Newest Affordable Housing Community. Pay no more than 30% of your households adjusted monthly income for rent and utilities. ESPERANZA PLACE, affordable 3Br/2Ba Apartments, Handicap unit available Energy efficient appliances, washer/dryer hook ups, spacious floor plans, community center on site with computer lab for resident use and classes. Free access to Carl Kuehner Community Center educational and social programs. Must be farm or grove labor employed Call Rental Office at 657-2009 Mon-Fri, 8:00AM-5:00PM 2693 Marianna Way, #308 (TDD 1-800-955-8771) Equal Housing Opportunity

Find it faster. Sell it sooner in the classifieds

Condos/Townhouses Rent

TRAFFORD PINE ESTATES INC.

• 3 BR & 2 BR

CBS Construction All include Stove, Refrig., Air, Ceiling Fans, Util. Rm. w/W&D Hookup, Sound Barrier Between Apt./Twnhs. Free Trash Pickup, Free Lawn Service. Pets Allowed w/Deposit. Walk to Store.

NEW Management Privately Owned
Call (239)867-4265

Houses - Rent

\$99 Move In Special

Recently remodeled 3 bdrm/2bath home. Open floor plan with 2 car attached garage. Master bdrm Suite with large master bath, ceramic tile throughout. Washer/dryer hookups. Screen lanai. Rental Rate \$600 per month, Income limits apply.

For info call 657-2009.

Equal Housing Opportunity

The classifieds are the most successful salesperson in town.

Farm Worker Village invites you to come home. Available now 1, 2, 3 & 4 bedroom rental homes, starting as low as \$425 per month. You may qualify for Rental assistance. Please Call us at: 239-657-3649 or stop by at 1800 Farm Worker Way.

Real Estate

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Hunting Property

Retired professional and Ft. Myers resident interested in securing a few acres to hunt wild turkey in March, 2012. Willing to rent/lease land by day, week, season, or year. Also would be interested in hunting boar and deer. Call (239) 849-3369; or blcumming@yahoo.com

Love the earth Recycle your used items by selling them in the classifieds.

Mobile Homes

For more listings, go to www.newszap.com

Mobile Home Sale

BANK REPO'S Starting at \$15,000 Mobile Home Angels 561-721-2230

FOR SALE: 3 BR, 2 BA, Good condition. Set up in mobile home park. Nice neighborhood. \$17,000 (239)823-1254

Large 3br, 2bath doublewide located on 2.5 acres on Case Road. Ready to move in. Overnight financing available with your good credit and reasonable down payment. Call Larry 863-675-8888

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

READING A NEWSPAPER...

leads you to the best products and services.



Reading a newspaper leads you to the best products and services.

No wonder newspaper readers earn more money!



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For more listings,
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Public Notice

Public Notice

COLLIER COUNTY, FLORIDA

**Reprogramming of HUD Funds
Citizen Participation
Notice**

Collier County is proposing an amendment to its FY 2011-2012 Action Plan. This amendment will reprogram a total of \$208,223 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds & \$47,845 of Home Investment Partnership Program (HOME) funds into other CDBG public service activities to benefit low and moderate income citizens of Collier County. The FY 2011-2012 HUD Action Plan for this project was approved by the Board of County Commissioners on 07/26/2011 (Item 10H).

CDBG funds became available as a result of an FY 2011-2012 CDBG public service project (David Lawrence Center - Crossroads Expansion Project in the amount of \$208,223) that was terminated for convenience prior to the start of the project. The proposed reprogramming will fund a new public service project that will benefit victims of domestic abuse through the Shelter for Abused Women and Children's (SAWCC) Legal Services Program. This program assists victims of domestic violence with legal services to include: restraining orders, child support orders, and visitation/custody orders. A total of \$91,122 CDBG funds will be used for the SAWCC program.

The reprogram will also allow staff to move a planned Home Investment Partnership Program (HOME) funded project to utilize CDBG funding. This shift from one funding to another allows for a more efficient use of federal funding. The program is The Housing Development Corporation of Southwest Florida's (HDCSWFL) Homebuyer Education and Credit Counseling in the amount of \$47,845. The program is designed to teach budgeting skills, provide information regarding home purchase requirements, and assist low/moderate income citizens to understand and improve their credit scores.

Once these two reprogramming processes are complete, \$69,256 will be left in CDBG eligible project reserves and \$47,845 will remain unencumbered in HOME funds. Uses for both will be determined at a later date.

Public Comment Period:

There will be a public comment period from February 24, 2012 thru March 25, 2012 regarding the proposed use of reprogrammed CDBG funds. During this period, citizens may send their comments regarding this matter to the Department of Housing, Human, and Veteran Services, ATTN: Margo Castorena, 3339 Tamiami Trail East, Suite 211, Naples, FL 34112. The County will respond to all written comments in writing, within 15 days of receipt.

Final Action:

This action will be on the agenda for the April 10, 2012 regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners. If you have any public comments and require special aid or services as addressed in the Americans with Disabilities Act or require someone to translate or sign, please contact the HIVS office at (239) 252-4663, no later than two (2) days prior to the Public Hearing date. For additional information, please contact Margo Castorena at (239) 252-2912 or margocastorena@colliergov.net. 410609 1B 2/23/2012

Collier crime up slightly in 2011

**Sheriff Rambosk:
Proactive crime-fighting,
community participation
more important than ever**

The year-end Collier County crime numbers show a 4.8 percent increase over 2010. While this is down slightly from the 2011 mid-year report of a 5.9 percent increase, Sheriff Kevin Rambosk is encouraging more proactive anti-crime efforts and stimulating more community involvement to grow partnerships to maintain a safe Collier County.

There were 6,206 Part 1 crimes reported in 2011. That number is up by 282, or 4.8 percent, from the 5,924 crimes reported in 2010. The statistics represent the categories of homicide, sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, and motor vehicle theft.

The numbers, which the Collier County Sheriff's Office has submitted to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, represent crimes in unincorporated Collier County and Everglades City.

"No increase in crime is acceptable to me or to our community," Sheriff Rambosk said. "There are three elements at the root of all crime: ability, desire and opportunity. We can't control ability and desire, but we can control opportunity."

Since the release of the mid-year numbers, CCSO has launched a new proactive crime-fighting initiative called Data-Driven Approach to Crime and Traffic Safety, or DDACTS. DDACTS integrates location-based crime and traffic crash data to determine the most effective methods for deploying resources. The agency has also increased awareness efforts to help members of the community understand the critical role they play in keeping Collier County safe.

Sheriff Rambosk said the community's focus on securing or removing valuables from their automobiles has significantly reduced the opportunity for crime and that is reflected in the 11.1 percent decrease in larcenies from motor vehicles in 2011.

"I want our residents to know that they have done a great job in helping to keep their vehicles secure and I am now asking them to apply those same security measures to their homes and businesses to help eliminate the opportunity for criminals to strike."

Those measures include locking doors and windows and activating alarm systems if they are available and joining or forming a Neighborhood Watch group or Community Safety Team.

Sheriff Rambosk said factors such as increased prescription drug abuse, the ongoing negative economy and crimes of opportunity affected the 2011 crime numbers. The community also followed the national crime trend of increased thefts of lawn equipment,

catalytic converters and copper.

The increase in burglaries can be attributed in part to the fact that long-vacant homes are now seeing new owners.

"We as a community have been dealing with the ramifications of vacant homes for several years now," Sheriff Rambosk said. "As these homes are now beginning to change hands, people are discovering that at some point in time a burglary has occurred."

The overall number of violent crimes in unincorporated Collier County and Everglades City decreased by 2.1 percent in 2011 when compared to 2010.

Homicides dropped by the greatest percentage, showing a 10 percent reduction from 10 in 2010 to nine in 2011. Aggravated assaults decreased from 662 to 628, for a 5.1 percent drop. Two categories of violent crimes went up. Sexual assaults increased from 110 in 2010 to 111 in 2011, and robberies went up from 195 to 208.

Here are some of the ways citizens can help deputies drive crime down:

- * Lock your car and keep valuables out of view
- * Call 239.252.0700 to schedule a home or business security survey by a CCSO Crime Prevention specialist
- * Report unusual activity to law enforcement
- * Start or join a Neighborhood Watch program
- * Mentor a child
- * Be alert and aware of your surroundings
- * Join one of CCSO's Community Safety Teams to help address code enforcement and other problems at the neighborhood level
- * Protect personal information like your Social Security number, computer passwords and banking information.
- * When online, don't chat with strangers or respond to their e-mails.

Business workshop hosted tonight

Want to learn how to want to save money on business expenses? Is your business eligible to apply for:

Tax Credits for new jobs created? Sales tax reimbursements on new or used equipment purchases? Building material purchased? Façade grant? Immokalee

Community Redevelopment Agency, 1320 15TH Street North, will host a business workshop this evening, Thursday, Feb. 23, from 6-8 p.m. 239-867-4121

Don't miss this opportunity! For more information and reservations please call:

Immokalee CRA 239-867-4121

NOTE: Spanish & Creole translator available during workshop.

BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY

AUCTION

**Time for a New Car?
Check out this auction on
March 5, 2012 at 9am**

KEITH'S TOWING

925 E. Delaware Ave. • Immokalee, FL
(239) 657-5741

Pocket Rocket

VIN#SQ240406093

ROOFING

Metal Roofs Seamless Gutters
Re-Roofs Soffit & Fascia
Roof Repairs Free Estimates

Bryant Construction



and Roofing, Inc.

Lic# CCC037019 Office (863)675-7045
981 Cowboy Circle Fax (863)612-1158



Submitted photo/Bernardo Barnhart

Chamber Member of the Month

Immokalee Chamber Member of the Month! Lozano's, thank you for your dedication to the Immokalee Community, the Immokalee Chamber of Commerce appreciates all you do. Pictured from left: Chamber President Bernardo Barnhart, Sandra Gonzalez and Laura Lozano.

Immokalee

IMMOKALEE BIZ

Business Development Center

"The best thing about the future is that it comes one day at a time." ~ Abraham Lincoln

One day at a time, the Immokalee Business Development Center (IBDC) is changing the business and economic future of Immokalee.

The IBDC facilitates the growth and development of businesses in the community. This new business development center is a no-cost program that provides existing and emerging businesses with technical assistance and an array of business resources. The staff provides personalized services both onsite (at the business location) and offsite (the IBDC office).

"Our goal is to be as helpful as possible to new and energetic entrepreneurs," explained Penny Philippi, Executive Director of the Immokalee CRA. "To be truly helpful we have to take our resources to the new business owners," she said. "Meet them where they need help the most. We have to break down the walls and barriers that tend to confine and restrict entrepreneurial efforts and allow the new businesses to flourish on their own terms."

The Immokalee Business Development Center started as a bullet point on the strategic plan of the Collier County Immokalee Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA). Almost one year later, the

IBDC staff, Manager Marie Capita and her assistant Rosemary Dillon, has created and/or expanded 10 businesses in Immokalee, graduated two classes from its Entrepreneur School, and has trained more than 140 individuals in workshops. Thanks to the CRA and partners like SCORE, SBDC at FGCU, Florida Community Bank, BB&T, Empowerment Alliance, Bank of America, The Immokalee Chamber of Commerce, RCMA, Wells Fargo Bank and ITECH, the IBDC has been able to augment the resources and services. Suncoast Teachers Federal Credit Union donated ten (10) computers to the IBDC for the computer lab. On January 20th, the

Immokalee Business Development Center, signed January 20 a partnership agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration, formally qualifying the IBDC as an official link in Southwest Florida to the federal agency. The partnership will also increase joint training and outreach services within the two organizations.



Business:
Cynthia's Cleaning Company
Owner: Cynthia Clinton
Address: P.O. Box 2562
1243 Madison Court
Immokalee FL 34142
Phone: 239-465-7022
E-Mail:



igivehimpraise61@yahoo.com

WebSite: Under Construction

Type of Business/Services: Commercial & Residential Cleaning

Slogan/Tagline: "We just want to keep it clean".

What make Cynthia's Cleaning Company unique? "Always willing to go the extra mile with a smile!"

Home REPAIRS & REMODELING

Business: Manuel Padilla, Inc.
Owner: Manuel Padilla
Address: 710 Winston Road, Immokalee FL
Phone: 239-872-6657
E-Mail: GMPadilla@aol.com

Type of Business/Services: Commercial and residential remodeling and general contracting services.

"Building Homes, Building Dreams, Building the Future"

What make Manuel Padilla Inc. unique? "Our pledge is to establish lasting relationships with our customers by exceeding their expectations and gaining trust through exceptional performance."



Business:
Divine Inspiration
Administrative Services
Owner:



Barbara Ann Thompson
Address: P.O. Box 937
509 Stokes Ave., Immokalee FL
Phone: 239-687-8146

E-Mail: barbarat618@yahoo.com

Type of Business/Services: Business start up and administrative operations services including EIN, corporations, bookkeeping services, 501c3, tax preparation and counseling.
Slogan/Tagline: "Doing Business with Excellence and Integrity"



Business:
Kids In Motion Academy of the Arts, Inc.
Owner: Annette Anderson
Assistant: David Anderson
Address: 517 Stokes Ave., Immokalee FL
Phone: 239-657-1509

E-Mail: adanderson59@yahoo.com

Type of Business/Services: Providing a safe and secure environment that offers care to children 0-5 years, in which every activity is matched to coincide with all areas of children's development.

We meet the local needs for child care services within a 25 mile radius with flexible hours to meet the work schedule of the parents on a full and part time basis. Offering multiple child discounts.

What make Kids in Motion Academy of the Arts, Inc. unique? **We believe the child's edu-**

cation and development extend beyond the classroom and that community influences children. To that end, we support and encourage parent participation in positive community activities in which children can reach their full potential.

Sigurani
fitness & dance

Business: Sigurani Fitness and Dance LLC
Owner: Letticia Ramos
Address: RCMA Charter School – 3rd Floor
123 N. 4th Street, Immokalee FL 34142
Phone: 239-503-0564

E-Mail: lettisigurani@gmail.com
WebSite: www.lettisigurani.com/fitness
Type of Business/Services: Kids dance, group fitness, CPR Certification training

Slogan/Tagline: "Creating a Better YOU".
What make Sigurani Fitness and Dance unique? There is so much talent in Immokalee and not every young person gets to express their creative side. My kids dance program allows them to do just that at a very reasonable fee.

There are few options for group fitness in Immokalee and I have chosen to expand those options with my various group fitness classes.

Your Complete Party Planner

Business: DC Events
Owner: Danny Campos
Address: 824 Flower Lane, Immokalee FL
Phone: 239-503-4336
E-Mail: dboig9@gmail.com

Type of Business/Services: Event/party planning.

DC Events removes your stress of planning by handling matters such as budgeting, selecting and reserving the event site, and acquiring permits. DC Events can even develop a theme or motif for the event, arranging for speakers and alternate speakers, coordinating location support (such as electricity and other utilities), arranging decor, tables, chairs, tents, event support and security, catering, and cleanup.

What make DC Events, Inc. unique? **One of a kind in Immokalee with personalized event planning.**

Business:
Airboats & Alligators
Lake Trafford Marina
Owner: Ski Olesky
Address:
6001 Lake Trafford Marina,
Immokalee FL
Phone: 239-657-2401
E-Mail:
skiolesky@hotmail.com
WebSite:

www.laketrafford.com
Type of Business/Services:
Tourism/Marina Services
IBDC is working with Ski Olesky on a multimedia promotion/marketing plan.

Business: Vecona, Inc.
Owner: Julio Rodriguez
and Esther Fernandez
Type of Business/services:
Food Production/manufacturing

What makes Vecona, Inc. unique? **Vecona will manufacture 100 % natural vegetable pastes and oil preserves whereby all unnatural ingredients will be eliminated from the manufacturing process. Our products will be recognized for the uniqueness, freshness, and quality of the ingredients.**

