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Bikes make their way to local riders

600th bike gets new
owner courtesy Sani-
bel Bike Club

By Patty Brant
Immokalee Bulletin

It's amazing what a few simple parts, assembled the right way and in good working order, can mean. Just two wheels, a chain, pedals, handlebars and a seat - bicycle provides most kids with their first taste of freedom. It's also a mode of transportation that can allow adults a cheap and reliable way to get to work or go to the store.

The concept is one that mem-

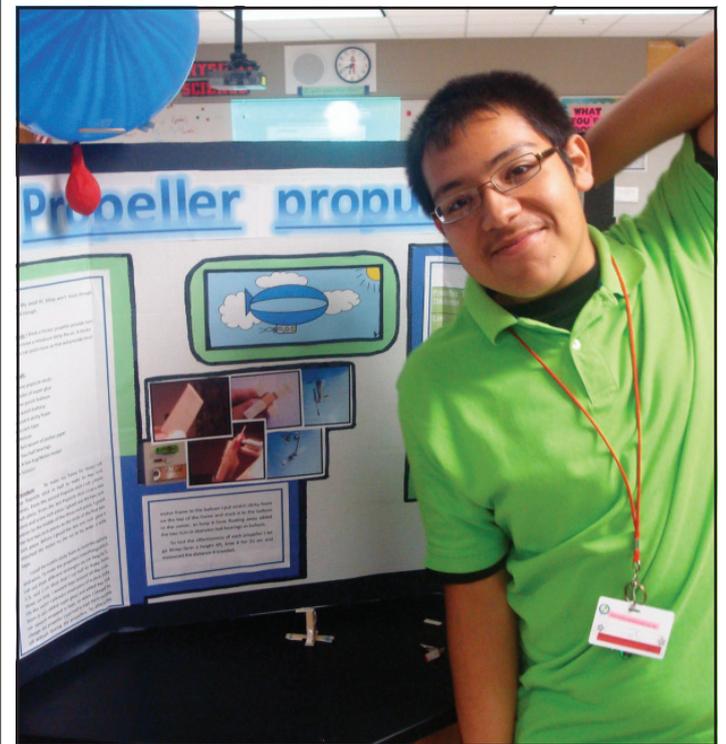


Immokalee Bulletin/Patty Brant
**A little girl and a new bike be-
come fast friends.**

See BIKES— Page 2



Immokalee Bulletin/Patty Brant
**Patti Sousa looks on as Manny Touron unloads a three-wheel-
er that will be a enjoyed by someone in Immokalee. The an-
nual "Bike Run" brought 100 refurbished bikes to local riders
including 83 adult bikes and 17 kid bikes.**



Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/CCDS

First Place Winner

IHS 10th grade student, Silvestre Gallegos is the first place winner in the very first Science Fair held at Immokalee High School. His award winning project dealt with Propeller shape effect on propulsion. See the story on Page 2. More photos on Page 5.

State-wide mitigation meeting set for Immokalee

The Florida SERT and Florida's Foundation in cooperation with I HOPE are sponsoring an informational meeting for all home owners in the Immokalee area to show how you can save money on home insurance and preserve your home and its contents when the next disaster like Hurricane Wilma strikes our area.

The meeting will be held on

Thursday, March 22, at the Fellowship Hall of First Baptist Church, located at 1411 Lake Trafford Road. The meeting will be held in the fellowship hall which is the back (gymnasium wing) of the church, not in the sanctuary.

Come out and join us and win a door prize. The meeting will run

See SERT — Page 2

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BIKES

Continued From Page 1

bers of the Sanibel Bike Club has taken to heart. With some 270 members, mainly island residents, the club has made providing refurbished bicycles to their neighbors in Immokalee their perpetual cause. The Sanibel club gave away its 600th bike Friday, March 9.

That day the group delivered two trailers loaded with bikes to the RCMA Community School for distribution. One hundred reconditioned bicycles - 83 adult bikes, 17 children, seven jogging strollers and one three-wheeler 11 trail bikes - were snatched up almost as fast as they could be unloaded. In addition, the group brought 39 new and used bicycle helmets.

This delivery was the result of four months of labor by the Sanibel riders. A group meets every Tuesday afternoon at the island's Congregational church, which has donated the space on its ground level where the used bikes are stored and worked on.

Project Coordinator and club board member Patti Sousa said they collect bikes from all over the island for distribution to Immokalee residents. She said last year they refurbished and donated 130 bikes - 40 just last December. With this shipment the group distributed its 600th bike. It is their fifth year for the project, which Patti said began with just a suggestion by Fr. O'Conner at Guadalupe Catholic Church who had a friend on Sanibel.

Patti added that, in addition to reconditioning the donated bikes, members also collect money to support the project. This year they received money from the Kiwanis and Rotary Clubs for the first time.

The group gets a very big assist from Billy's Rentals on Sanibel. Owner Billy Kirkland donated all the trail bikes. He and his employees also do much of the reconditioning.

The club makes good use of all the bikes it collects, using parts from those in bad shape to make the better ones whole. Billy also sells them tires and parts at cost.

Billy knows first-hand what a project like this can mean for people. When he was a kid he was on the receiving end of projects like this. Now, he's just glad to be able to give back.

Island residents drop off their unwanted bikes, but members like Patti's husband, George, also pick up donated bikes from

around the island. Patti said the logistics of getting the donated bikes to the church, refurbishing them or getting them to Billy for more involved repairs can become quite involved.

Manny Touron ably coordinated the unloading and distribution of bicycles. The bikes go to local non-profits including Guadalupe Social Services, Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church, Farmworker Association of Florida, Immokalee Middle School Migrant Center, Soccer Pit Cobras Youth Soccer Club and RCMA's Community School. **IMS plant operator Angel Gamez and Ray Buitron of maintenance picked up a load of bikes to be distributed at the school.**

Adult recipients quietly accepted their new mode of transportation - a godsend that will make their lives a lot easier. Younger ones beamed. Two of the girls who received bikes, Araceli Tema and Christine Velasquez, both 12, plan to ride their new bikes to the park and "around." They were looking forward to racing - to see who is the fastest bike rider.

Patti Sousa said this is the fifth year the cycle club has distributed used bikes and is also the first year the group supplied bikes to low income island residents through a non-profit called FISH.

She noted that the group has twice as many bikes still on the island waiting to be refurbished as were delivered on Friday.

At the Community School, Manny fashioned organization from the chaos of the delivery coming together with hopeful new bike owners. Many bikes went to middle school students, the joggers went to the Rolason Infant Center for families. No one got a bike without a ticket, provided before the event.

Patti's husband George Sousa said this is the 15th year of the club, "a good social group" that gets avid cyclists together. They often take cycling trips around the area.

Even with as many bikes as these folks have already matched up with those in need, George said he doesn't see an end for this project. Bikes don't last forever and "there's always a need," he noted.

He also envisions an education program to go along with the donations, including safety brochures for new bike owners.

George, Patti and their fellow cyclists keep working around the year to bring this special gift to local residents. It never gets old. "We just love to see their faces," he said.



Immokalee Bulletin/Patty Brant
Manny Touron, left, coordinates with Sanibel Bike Club members George and Patti Sousa.

SERT

Continued From Page 1

from 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m. It is free to all! You can show up that day, or register ahead of time at www.FloridasFoundation.org or call 1-800-825-3786.

I HOPE is in the process of applying for a

grant that will help low income home owners pay the cost of the work that needs to be done. The I HOPE Distribution Center will also be open this Saturday from 8:30-11:15 a.m. to serve the needs of the community. A recent shipment of brand new carpet is available at \$5 per square yard, along with our other household products including tile, a/c filters, windows and aisles of household repair items.

Immokalee High School holds first science fair

iPods are made by Apple, but can you charge them with an apple? An Immokalee High School (IHS) student got the chance to explore that question in preparation for the school's very first science fair, which culminated recently with a final project exhibit and award presentation. Students from IHS's Science Club and a handful of students in the Exceptional Student Education (ESE) Program at the Immokalee Technical Center (ITECH) participated in the fair.

Science project topics ranged from moon crater formation, to magnetic racing, the effects of gravity, among many others. The potato launcher and tie dye experiment were the day's top crowd pleasers. After review of all the projects, the judging panel chose the

top four winners.

1st Place - Silvestre Gallegos (10th grade, Immokalee High School)

"Propeller shape effect on propulsion"
2nd Place - Jose Hernandez (11th grade, Immokalee High School)

"Solar heat vs. electric heat"
3rd Place - Willie Smith (11th grade, Immokalee High School)

"Charging an iPod with an apple"
4th Place - Juan Canuto (9th grade, Immokalee Technical Center)

"What keeps food fresh longer?"
To learn more, please contact IHS Science teacher Linda Day at 239-377-1800.

See Page 5 for more winner photos.

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Mailing Address: P.O. Box 518 • LaBelle, FL 33975
Physical Address: 22 Ft. Thompson Ave.
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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.

Letters to the Editor

The Undocumented

On Sunday, March 4, David Plaza wrote an editorial in the Fort Myers News-Press, titled "Immigration Reform" that deserves a response.

Before giving my response, I want to say that I agree with his statement that the immigrant community is fearful and distrustful of the local authority.

When the local sheriff joins the federal posse in the hunt for the undocumented, he becomes a vigilante.

What is not stated in Mr. Plaza's article, is the emotional and scholastic toll that it takes on the American children of those workers, when they see the deputy at their school.

Also, Mr. Plaza's article does not reveal the additional burden these children suffer when a parent is deported. The breaking up of a family leads to poverty, anxiety, depression and sometimes divorce.

I see the short term suffering, but no one is looking at the long term consequences of these actions.

I am not so concerned that some individuals, like Collier County Sheriff, Kevin Rambosk, wants to continue apprehending the undocumented under 287 (g). Yours and my concern should be with the apparent higher ups, xenophobic and poltroons with the broken moral compass that goes along with this purification of our society for unmentioned reasons.

One day the scales of justice will be in the hands of these young Americans, sons and daughters of undocumented workers, and

what will you say to them if you turn your head now?

**Juan Puerto, M.D.
Immokalee**

New company - new problems?

I attended the energy plant presentation by the Growth Design Corporation at the Immokalee Chamber of Commerce breakfast (Wednesday, March 7). Growth Design Corps. targets minority communities like Immokalee to create air pollution factories by burning landscaping waste, solid and liquid organics from agricultural consumer products such as waste oils, plastic, rubber, construction and demolition materials. This would never be built in the urban Naples area.

The pollution created by Growth Design Corps plant will destroy the pristine air quality of Immokalee. Growth Design Corps has no experience in building or running energy plants. This pollution will cause chronic health problems such as respiratory disease for young children and the elderly, cancer from the poisonous chemical burned from the garbage, water and soil pollution from the smoke pollution residue.

Republican Commissioner Jim Coletta wants to bring this garbage incinerator plant to Immokalee. This shows how out of touch he has become over the years - typical of the Collier Republican politicians trying to exploit the minorities of Immokalee, wanting

to burn garbage in a rural area away from the urban area of Naples.

As a Democratic candidate for commissioner, district 5, I will do everything possible to stop this from coming to Immokalee.

**John Lundin
Immokalee**

Immokalee's Harvest Festival - 2012

The Immokalee Chamber of Commerce with Florida Community Bank, NA. Harvesting the Past, the Present and the Future of Immokalee. April 12, Harvest Festival Queen Competition - 7 p.m., Immokalee High School Auditorium, 701 Immokalee Drive, Admission \$5 (Kids 6 and under FREE);

April 14, Harvest Festival Parade, 11:30 a.m., Ninth and Main Streets. The Harvest Festival features - Wild Hog BBQ with Immokalee Salad - Ethnic Food Vendors - Live Entertainment all day - Lots of Family games, kids tents with arts and crafts, unique arts and crafts vendors, antique car judging, farm workers olympis, photo op stations, live 4-H demonstration, and much more. Free admission parking \$5 per car. Partial proceeds benefit the Immokalee Chamber of Commerce Scholarship Funds for graduating Seniors from IHS. For information contact the Immokalee Chamber of Commerce at 239-657-3237 or eccoc@comcast.net. At the Immokalee Airport, 165, Airpark Boulevard, Immokalee.

Weather Forecast

Weather forecast for Collier County from the National Weather Service

Local Forecast

Thursday: Patchy fog before 9 a.m. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high near 86. Calm wind becoming east between 7 and 10 mph.

Thursday night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 57. East wind around 6 mph becoming calm.

Extended Forecast

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near

86. East wind between 6 and 10 mph.

Friday night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 57. East wind between 5 and 8 mph becoming calm.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 87.

Saturday night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 58.

Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 85.

Sunday night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 59.

Monday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 85.

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CenturyLink offers Lifeline service to customers who meet eligibility requirements. The federal Lifeline program is undergoing some changes in 2012, but customers may be eligible if they participate in certain federal or state assistance programs or have a household annual gross income at or below 135% of the federal poverty level. Lifeline is available for only one wireline or wireless telephone per household. Lifeline is not transferrable and documentation of eligibility is required to enroll. Qualifying residents of American Indian and Alaskan Native tribal lands may be eligible for additional discounts.

Lifeline eligible subscribers may also qualify for reliable home high-speed Internet service up to 1.5Mbps for \$9.95* per month for the first 12 months of service. Further details are available at centurylink.com/internetbasics.

If you live in a CenturyLink service area, please call 1-800-201-4099 or visit centurylink.com/lifeline with questions or to request an application for the Lifeline program.

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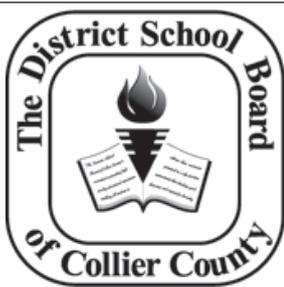
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Students First

'Fly into higher education'

By Joe Landon
Collier County District Schools



Last Saturday's big FLY-IN CRUISE-IN doings at the Naples Airport reminded me of the need to share some info with you about our two state-of-the-art post-secondary education centers. Lorenzo Walker Institute of Technology (LWIT) put on the airport event as a fundraiser. What it made me realize, though, was that while you know us for our elementary, middle, and high schools, it's possible that you may not know as much as you'd like about all of the career training that's going on at the Immokalee Technical Center (iTECH) in Immokalee and at LWIT in East Naples. Both offer a ton of certificate programs that prepare adult students for careers, not jobs. And in a down economy like ours is today, lots of folks are basically forced to "retool" – to learn new skills which will prepare them for high-paying career opportunities.

The mission of iTECH is to "provide rigorous and relevant real-world educational experiences using both traditional and distance learning models to qualify students for employment and career advancement." Over at iTECH today, the first-ever Heavy Equipment Group will be wrapping up course work in June and many of its students already have pretty good employment leads thanks to internships last summer. There's a Machining Pre-Training

tap next month and iTECH is finalizing plans to offer a Mechanical Plan Reading Class for current Arthrex employees. The extensive list of certificate programs at iTECH includes everything from Accounting Operations, Applied Cybersecurity, and Certified Nursing Assistant, to Drafting, Multimedia Design Technology, Practical Nursing and a whole lot

in between. Learn more at www.itech.edu or simply call 239-658-7080.

The LWIT mission statement: "Through the study of science, math, and technology, our school empowers each student to dream, explore, and achieve." As of late, LWIT is about the business of adding a new Digital Video Production career major, enhancing the Computer and Information Technology career major by adding Web Design and Apps components, beefing up the Business Technologies career major, and expanding the Aviation program to include ground school. They're creating a partnership with Edison State College that will yield three potential Associate Degree programs. Students would start at LWIT and finish at Edison. Certificate programs at LWIT range from Automotive Service Tech, Business Education, and Criminal Justice, to Dental Assisting, Medical Assisting, Teacher Ed and a bunch more. Learn more at www.lwit.edu or by calling 239-377-0900.

While we're barely scratching the surface here, I'm sure you get the idea and I hope you'll check out the web sites to see what iTECH or LWIT can do for you or someone you know.

Highlands Elementary to host Leadership Day



On Wednesday, March 21, the Immokalee community is invited to Leadership (After School) Day at Highlands Elementary School from 3:15-5:15. The Miracle Plus after school programs, funded by 21st Century Community Learning

Center grants and the Naples Children and Education Foundation, are found in all Immokalee schools. Serving about 1100 students, Miracle Place provides students with a safe after school environment which supports learning and provides enrichment. Miracle Place allows students to begin to discover their futures by finding their unique leadership qualities.

Miracle students have been learning about personal leadership through Stephen Covey's book *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People* and Sean Covey's *The 7 Habits of Happy Kids*. The boys and girls are eager to share their student leadership of Miracle Place with the Immokalee community.

Anyone in the community can participate. Come visit the 7 Habits Fair or student-led

businesses or the student news press - just a few of the activities that will be highlighted at the 1st Miracle Plus Leadership Day.

For additional information please contact Jamie Scott: Team Leader in Immokalee: jscott@sfwdb.org or 239-658-3300, ext. 16733.

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Edison State College to host Fourth Annual GreenFest Expo

Event set for March 24 promises more exhibits with better ways to live in a "Greener World"

Being green is easier than you think. And you can learn all about it during the Fourth Annual GreenFest Expo, hosted by Edison State College Collier Campus. Admission and parking are free and open to the public. The GreenFest Expo is from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, March 24, on the Collier Campus at 7007 Lely Cultural Parkway in Naples.

The event brings together dozens of businesses and organizations to share innovative products and services that are healthy, resource conserving, and good for the environment. Exhibits will include alternative transportation, alternative energy sources, efficient insulation, nontoxic household products, fresh and natural foods, vegetarian food samples, and yard and garden techniques.

In addition to the exhibitors, the Green-

Fest Expo will feature artists, live music, children's activities, food, natural products and more!

"GreenFest is a great way to learn more about conserving our natural resources. It is amazing that even the littlest things can have such a positive impact on our environment," said Dr. Robert R. Jones, interim President, Edison State College Collier Campus. "We are also celebrating our college's 50th anniversary this year, and GreenFest is our way of marking a historical milestone, yet looking to the future."

Sponsors this year are: Edison State College, WSGL Mix 104.7 FM, WGUF 98.9 FM and SWFL Naturally. For more information about the GreenFest Expo, visit: http://www.edison.edu/collier/environmental/edison_greenfest.php.

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

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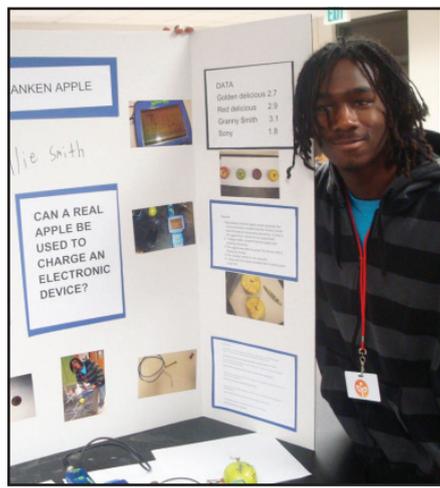
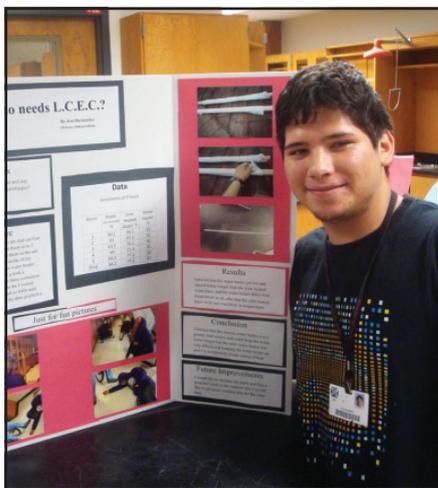
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Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/CCDS

Science Fair Winners

IHS held its first ever Science Fair highlighting future scientists for their achievements including second place winner (top, left) Jose Hernandez, 11th grade, solar vs electric heat. Third place winner, (top, right) Willie Smith, 11th grade, for his Charging his iPod with an apple and in fourth place, Juan Canuto, a ninth grade student, presented, "What keeps food fresh longer?"

Middle school students head to D.C.

Six students from Immokalee Middle School (IMS) and Village Oaks Elementary School (VOE) have been selected to participate in Florida Gulf Coast University's (FGCU) Close-Up Middle School Summer Program in Washington, D.C. The students will be traveling to our nation's capital the week of June 10-14, to experience government "close up" and learn about their own roles as citizens in the United States.

- Immokalee Middle School
- Sherlande Auguste (7th grade)
- Amos Francois (8th grade)
- Village Oaks Elementary School
- Alfredo Martinez (6th grade)
- Kervens Michel (6th grade)

- Julie Salinas (6th grade)
- Barbara St. Fleur (6th grade)

The six students chosen from Collier County Public Schools are a part of the group of 20 selected to participate in FGCU's Close-Up middle school program this year. These students belong to either their school's College Reach Out Program (CROP) or Scholars Program, and were selected based on academics and citizenship as demonstrated through a written essay on "Issues Facing Students and Parents in America."

To learn more, please contact either Immokalee Middle School at 377-4200 or Village Oaks Elementary at 377-8600.



Immokalee Bulletin/Patty Brant

Helping with the bikes

Twelve-year-old Eldo Figueroa helped unload the bikes. The annual bicycle giveaway brought 100 bikes including 83 adult and 17 for kids from Sanibel Bike Club members. The club gave away its 600th bike on March 9 providing great pleasure and even freedom for someone living in the Immokalee Community.

Two Immokalee teachers awarded Golden Apple honors

On March 5, two local teachers, both from Lorenzo Walker Technical High School in Immokalee received surprise visits in their classrooms. Darlene R. Crete and Eileen Schoenknecht were selected along with four other county teachers as Golden Apple Teachers.

Representatives from Suncoast Schools Federal Credit Union, presenting sponsor of Golden Apple, were joined by Education Foundation board members, sponsors, and volunteers to surprise the teachers in their classrooms.

The 22nd Annual Golden Apple Celebration of Teachers presented by Suncoast for Kids Foundation will be held on April 11 hosted by Waldorf Astoria in Naples. Additional support is provided by the Mary Ingram Fund of the Columbus Foundation, Naples Daily News and WINK-TV.

The new Golden Apple Celebration of Teachers is not only getting a fresh new look, but it is utilizing media resource to tell the story of teaching. Documentary-style video vignettes will be produced that will follow the teachers in their schools with their students and colleagues.

The videos will premiere on April 11 at the celebration event and will provide an inside look at what great teachers and most importantly, how teaching and learning impacts the future of our children. This



Eileen Schoenknecht



Darlene R. Crete

community-wide event premiere will be a special, family-friendly evening highlighting and celebrating teaching for \$10 and additional preferred seating packages. For information, visit www.GetOnTheBusCollier.org/GA.

The Golden Apple teachers, Golden Apple Teachers of Distinction and the Collier County Public Schools' Teachers of the Year will be honored at the celebration on April 11, along with the 2012 Heart of the Apple Award recipients, Herb and Ann Rowe. The Heart of the Apple award recognizes individuals in the community who have made a significant collective impact on education.

Herb and Ann Rowe have given thousands of hours of their time and financial support for the work of the Education Foundation.

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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.

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The classified ads

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Apartments

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 Convenient location in quiet residential area.
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Apply at 601 Nassau St. #4 Immokalee or Call 239-694-1951

Houses - Rent

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

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Business & Service Directory

AUCTION

Time for a new car? Check out this auction on **March 26, 2012 at 9am**
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National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day

National Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day

National Week of Prayer for the Healing of AIDS

- Women have been affected by HIV/AIDS since the beginning of the epidemic, an impact that has grown over time. Of the more than 1.1 million Americans living with HIV/AIDS today, more than 1 in 4 (29%) are women.
- The rate of AIDS diagnosis for Native Americans and Alaska Natives has been higher than that of whites since 1995 and life expectancy for Native Americans and Alaska Natives diagnosed with HIV/AIDS is shorter than any other ethnicity. The rate (per

100,000 persons) of HIV/AIDS diagnosis for American Indians and Alaska Natives was 10.6, compared with 72.8 for African Americans, 28.5 for Hispanics, 9.0 for whites, and 7.6 for Asians and Pacific Islanders.

•The National Week of Prayer for the Healing of AIDS is the coming together of all people of faith to unite with purpose, compassion and hope. Every Church, Mosque, Synagogue, Temple and Home is invited to join in prayer, education, advocacy and service for the healing of AIDS in the United States and the World. " www. NWPHA.org "

On March, CollierCounty will respond to the impact of HIV and AIDS on our communities with the observance of National Women and Girl HIV/AIDS Awareness Day (NWGHAAD), National Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day (NNHAAD) & National Week

of Prayer for the Healing of AIDS (NWPHA). NWGHAAD, NNHAAD & NWPHA are nationwide mobilization efforts designed to encourage peoples across the U.S. to get educated, get tested and get involved with HIV/AIDS. For this reason, the Collier County Health Department and its community partners are proud to sponsor the following events celebrating National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day, National Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day and National Week of Prayer for the Healing of AIDS:

- March 12
 FREE HIV Testing: Marion E. Fether Medical Center
- FREE Rapid HIV Testing: Collier County Health Dept.- Immokalee
8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

FWC offers hunter safety course in Collier County

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) will host a free hunter safety course on March 17, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. and March 18 from 8 a.m. to noon.

Attendance on both days is required for certification. Participants must successfully complete the online portion of the course prior to attending and bring the final Web report to the FWC course on March 17. It does not have to be notarized.

Students will learn about hunting laws,

safe gun handling and hunter ethics/responsibility, among other topics, before taking the final test. The course also includes live-firing instruction on a shooting range.

Classes both days will be held at the North Naples Fire District, 1885 Veterans Park Drive, Naples.

Participants can sign up at: MyFWC.com/HunterSafety or by calling the FWC's South Region Office at 561-625-5122. A link to the online part of the course and a statewide schedule of hunter safety classes are avail-

able at MyFWC.com/HunterSafety.

Anyone born on or after June 1, 1975, must pass an approved hunter safety course before purchasing a Florida hunting license. Parents or legal guardians must accompany children under 16 years of age to all classes. To participate in live-fire exercises, children under 18 years old must present a parental release form signed by a parent or legal guardian.

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IWSD announces early Friday office closure

IWSD Administration Offices, at 1020 Sanitation Road, will be closed on Friday, March 16, at noon, due to work being done in the parking lot and drive through. Our offices will reopen on Monday, March 19, during normal operating hours.

Public Meetings

The Library Advisory Board will meet Wednesday, **March 21**, at 10 a.m. in the Headquarters Library located at 2385 Orange Blossom Drive, Naples.

The Collier County Tourist Development Council will meet Friday, **March 16**, at 9 a.m. in the Board of County Commissioners Chambers, third floor, Collier County Government Center, 3299 Tamiami Trail East, Naples.

The Collier County Code Enforcement Board will meet Thursday **March 22**, at 9 a.m. at the Board of County Commissioners chambers, Building F located at 3299 Tamiami Trail East, Naples.



Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/Rick Heers
Volunteers from the University of Tennessee arrived with their sleeves rolled up ready to lend a hand. The 13 students spent the better part of a week working on a number of Habitat for Humanity homes being built in the Immokalee community.

Volunteer groups put quality time to local projects

By Rick Heers

Special to the Okeechobee News

This week I HOPE and several other agencies have been supported by volunteer groups that have come to spend the week working on a variety of projects. A Presbyterian group of 13 students and their sponsor have arrived from the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga and are spending a good part of the week working on projects the I HOPE has provided in partnership with Habitat for Humanity. This group, along with several others on spring break, is working both in East Naples and Immokalee. This group of fine young people, along with a large group from Arcadia College in Philadelphia are spending the better part of the week working in and around Immokalee. Some of the students are spending their time working with the Guadalupe Soup Kitchen. Rather



Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/Rick Heers
A beautiful new community is in the works thanks to a partnership with Habitat for Humanity and IHOPE.

than spending their time at the beach, these students annually visit areas where they can lend a helping hand. In previous years groups from UT-C have worked in New Orleans helping rebuild after Katrina.

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Submitted photo/Immokalee Chamber of Commerce

New member

Mr. Joel Salazar, left, is welcomed by Chamber President Bernardo Barnhart as the newest member of the Immokalee chamber of Commerce. Mr. Salazar is also participating with the Chamber in its Harvest Festival in which he will be providing the "Immokalee Salad" for the event. He is also a proud sponsor of this year's event and has been named the parade grand marshal for the Harvest Festival 2012.

only our name is changing . . .



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