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Local area considered for energy project

By **Patty Brant**
Immokalee Bulletin

Immokalee is drawing a considerable attention as a location with a lot of industrial potential. Recently, a company called Growth Design Corporation made clear its interest in Immokalee as one of five possible sites for an organic agriculture-renewable energy project.

What that means is that the chosen site would refashion waste into recycled materials or

energy, such as methane gas or electricity.

Shelly Burgess, Sr. VP of Corporate Communications for Growth Design, said there are "many opportunities" for recycling and her company tailors integrated technologies to the specific type of "waste" available - organic, construction, demolition or plastics.

Say a farm operation supplies agricultural waste; those "ingredi-

See **ENERGY** — Page 2



Special to the Immokalee Bulletin

Chamber Appreciation

The Immokalee Chamber of Commerce would like to thank Collier Health services for its support and partnership. We appreciate everything they do for the community of Immokalee. Pictured from left: Bernardo Barnhart, President of The Immokalee Chamber of Commerce, and Richard B. Akin, President and CEO of Collier Health Services.



Special to the Immokalee Bulletin

The 2012 Harvest Fest Parade Grand Marshal, Joel Salazar will be front and center as the festivities begin with his ride down Immokalee's Main Street.

Upcoming Harvest Fest Grand Marshal selected

2012 Immokalee's Harvest Festival committee has selected its Grand Parade Marshal. The festival's headliner, Joel Salazar was born in the State of Jalisco, Mexico. He and his wife of 21 years, San Juana (aka) Janie have enjoyed living in Immokalee since 1985. Joel is very active in our community. He is very involved with all of the Immokalee Schools and our Chartered RCMA Community School.

Joel comes from a large family with six brothers and four sisters.

He and his wife have eight children including, Adriana, Joel, Christina, Felipe, Angel, Vicente, and a set of twins Sammy and Samantha.

Joel is the President of Del Campo Fresh and The Immokalee Produce Center. He and his family are members of Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Immokalee.

Hats are OFF to "Joel Salazar" as our Official 2012' Harvest Festival Grand Parade Marshal.



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ENERGY

Continued From Page 1

ents" may possibly be converted to fertilizer, which would be packaged for transport or trucked off in bulk.

Some waste materials may be used to create energy either to be used at the site, lowering costs, or sold to electricity providers.

What is fed into a particular biodigester will determine what the resulting material will be. The resulting "feedstock," or raw materials for manufacturing, is then used by the facility or sold.

Because Growth Design uses modular technologies, it can start an operation on a small scale, then add more modular units as the site becomes more successful.

Immokalee is one of five possible sites being considered. Others are at Oregon City, Oregon, Seward, Nebraska, Mt. Valley, Iowa and Columbus, Ohio. The possible output of

each site would depend partially on whether it's a rural or urban setting.

Traditionally, only one product or feedstock results from a process, but with this project, each "recipe" determines what comes out and its end use.

Immokalee is an attractive site for this project for several reasons. First, tremendous amounts of waste materials are produced and not used at this time. CRA Executive Director Penny Phillippi points out that Immokalee's ready workforce is another positive point, along with its ample available, relatively cheap land.

If Immokalee is chosen for this facility, the company expects some 200-300 jobs to be created eventually. The first year of operation some 100-125 new jobs would be available, according to Ms. Burgess. And not just minimum wage jobs, she emphasizes.

Growth Design CEO Byron Tweeten is from Iowa, the home base for Growth Design and the location of another prospective site, but he is also a part-time Naples resi-

dent. He has some 30 years in the business of "resource solutions," according to the company's Web site. The site also indicates that Growth Design is a company with a mission to assist communities looking for economic development, such as Immokalee, as it finds good investments for its clients.

A consulting firm, the company looks at its client base and tries to find business opportunities for them. Much of their client base are not-for-profit, educational, religious and/or social service organizations. At this time Growth Design has some 500 organizations as clients worldwide.

According to Ms. Burgess, this current project has been in the works for three years.

The decision on where the facility will be located is being determined by the need for ample waste streams and available infrastructure. Working with economic development is also important as is the availability of grants and financial options, Ms. Burgess said.

Once a site is chosen, a specific and "cohesive business plan for that specific environment" will be outlined, Ms. Burgess commented.

For Growth Design, resource maintenance and better environmental management are essential to their business ethic. She said the company has many technology models that can be matched to a site that will make good business sense and be profitable.

Possible waste streams that this project could tap into include landscaping waste, solid and liquid organics from agricultural and consumer products, waste oils, plastic, rubber and construction and demolition materials.

According to Growth Design Corporation, the initiative would be based on a public-private partnership between their company, Collier County government, local agencies and private investors.

See letter from CEO Tweeten elsewhere in this issue.

'Balloons Over Paradise' adds to Harvest Fest excitement

Immokalee Today

Special to the Immokalee Bulletin

Hot air will finally be put to exciting, colorful and awe-inspiring use on April 14 and 15, when the Balloons Over Paradise Festival launches from the Immokalee Regional Airport!

Sponsored by the Seminole Immokalee Casino in conjunction with Immokalee Harvest Fest, an event of the Immokalee Chamber of Commerce, the celebration of magi

cal, colorful flight will feature more than 30 custom hot air balloons, tethered balloon rides, live music by award-winning performers, culinary treats, children's activities, art and much more.

Country music star John Anderson will headline a long list of entertainers which will also include Kathy Kosins and her Ladies of Cool, the Southwest Florida Big Band, the Jazz Scholars, Gene Ferrari, JJ McCoy, the Nouveaux Honkies and Drum

'n Strings.

Dawn Patrol will kick off each day of the event at 6 a.m. with a balloon glow lighting to a classical music score by Drum 'n Strings, followed by the mass ascension of more than thirty balloons.

Saturday's activities will include feature the Harvest Festival Parade, crowning of the Harvest Queen with an afternoon sets by John Anderson and JJ McCoy, demonstrations by agility dogs, a local artisan village, a children's village and a musical education tent. The day will end with a balloon glow at sundown.

Sunday's entertainment will include Gene Ferrari singing hits from the American Standards Song Book and award-winning singer Kathy Kosins will headline the festival's finale.

On Thursday, April 13, from 7 a.m. to noon, school groups will enjoy a day of education with balloon demonstrations. To RSVP for April 13, interested schools can contact Jenn Thomas at 1-800-218-0007.

State Senator Richter's 'new' district edges closer to Immokalee

By Steve Hart

Immokalee Today

Special to the Immokalee Bulletin

One of Southwest Florida's – and Immokalee's – favorite Florida lawmakers has a newly redrawn district that – almost – includes Immokalee for the first time.

Florida State Senator Garrett Richter, R-Naples, had his state senate district redrawn yet again because the Florida Supreme Court ruled unconstitutional the "new" districts drawn in February by the Florida Legislature.

In making its ruling, the supreme court cited Richter's Southwest Florida districts as among those across the Sunshine State that failed to meet constitutional muster, even describing its physical shape on the map as resembling "an upside down alligator."

In response, the Florida Senate's redistricting committee release new maps last



Sen. Richter (R)

Saturday and in the new maps, Sen. Richter's district is greatly compressed to include a large part of Bonita Springs and reach inland almost to Immokalee. In fact, the "new" new district map includes the southern one-third of Lake Trafford in Richter's district, the Big Corkscrew community and plenty of agricultural land southwest of Immokalee.

Although it's never actually been in his district, most Immokaleans look to Richter as their de facto state senator and know he listens when Immokalee has concerns and interests in the Florida Legislature.

The actual state senate district in which Immokalee is included is a large and sprawling district that runs from the Keys to Hendry and Desoto counties. It will be represented by a new state senator when the 2012 session of the Florida Legislature rolls around because its current representative, Sen. Larcenia Bullard, D-Miami, is retiring due to term limits.

The redrawn and amended "new" Senate district maps will still need to earn the approval of the Florida Supreme Court.

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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.

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- 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

Re: Undocumented

In response to the editorial last week titled "The Undocumented" I would like to add some comments from one who has lived and worked in Immokalee for the past 23 years, helping and ministering to our people—both citizens and undocumented.

I respect Dr. Puerto as a physician, but strongly disagree with his statement about "the emotional and scholastic toll that it takes on the American children of those workers, when they see the deputy at their school."

I served for thirteen years with the Collier County Public School system, twelve as a principal at Lake Trafford Elementary, Highlands Elementary, and Immokalee Middle School, and one of the good things the school has going for them is the Youth Resource Deputies that cost the schools nothing for their presence. School deputies do absolutely nothing to cause fear or apprehension in children's—documented or undocumented—minds. They can often be seen helping children and families as they arrive at school, and speaking to entire assemblies of children or individual classes offering programs like D.A.R.E., and the Junior Deputy program. Many of their programs promote a positive environment by taking them to the fair, and hosting clubs that build boats, taking them fishing, and being a part of school assemblies. They can often be seen sitting with the children, eating their lunch with them, laughing and having a good time. Never once in my tenure with the school system did these deputies bring fear, but rather an understanding of and appreciation for competent law enforcement officers... something they may not see in their home countries. Never, to my knowledge, has a school deputy done any investigation into the documentation of children or their families. The only ones who might have reason to fear are those who have caused a disturbance or broken the law, and have been called by a school official for assistance. Even in many of these cases, I've seen deputies handle circumstances with graciousness and end up making a good situation out of a bad one.

In my humble estimation, school resource deputies (YRD's) are one great way we have in our county to let children know that we do have law enforcement officials that are truly their friends who are there to help not harm them.

**Rick Heers
Immokalee**

Growth Design answers challenge

March 19, 2012

Editor Immokalee Bulletin:

The Immokalee Bulletin published a letter from John Lundin, a candidate for county commissioner, in its March 15, 2012 edition. The letter was critical of a recent presentation made by Growth Design Corporation to the Immokalee Chamber of Commerce regarding a potential organic agriculture and renewable energy project being considered

by the company for the Immokalee area. The letter contained several inaccuracies that we believe need to be addressed for the public record.

In relation to the renewable energy technologies being considered for the project, Growth Design Corporation has used a rigorous selection process based upon the ability of these technologies to be non-polluting and able to meet both federal and state environmental standards. We are actually in agreement with Mr. Lundin that energy technologies that burn garbage and release a variety of pollutants into the air should not be allowed in communities.

However, the renewable energy technologies we are proposing represent state-of-art systems that are environmentally neutral and have been designed to meet the toughest environmental standards for operations. Mr. Lundin is welcome to contact the renewable energy technologies vendors we work with to confirm the above statement.

Mr. Lundin also stated in his letter that our company is targeting minority communities for these projects. Again, we are actually in agreement with Mr. Lundin in that we are targeting communities – communities where economic development and job creation are priorities. The minority we are targeting in Immokalee are individuals and families who are looking for decent wage, high skill jobs.

We look forward to a continuing dialogue with the residents of Immokalee in order to clear up any misunderstandings about the project, and to incorporate community concerns into our business planning process.

**Byron L. Tweeten
Chair and Chief Executive Officer
Growth Design Corporation**

In Appreciation

The family of the late Valecia Jackson Rice wish to convey our sincere thanks for the love and kindness you have shared with us during Valecia's illness and our great loss.

Your many messages of support, which we were able to share with Valecia, meant so much to her.

Perhaps you sent a sympathy card, flowers, donated your services or just thought of us. Whatever you did to console their hearts, the family thank you so much whatever the part.

Love all whom you hold dear.
Precious is the time you share.
Do not wait for tomorrow.
For tomorrow may not be...
Sincerely,
**Sharon Tims
On behalf of the
Jackson Rice Family**

Local Weather

The Weather forecast for Collier County from the National Weather Service

Local Forecast

Thursday: A 20 percent chance of showers after 2pm. Mostly sunny, with a high near 84. East wind between 7 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Thursday night: A 10 percent chance of showers before 8pm. Partly cloudy, with a low around 61. East wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Extended Forecast

Friday: A 20 percent chance of showers. Mostly sunny, with a high near 84. East wind between 3 and 10 mph.

Friday night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 63. East wind between 3 and 8 mph.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 84. Light east wind.

Saturday night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 61.

Sunday: A 20 percent chance of showers. Mostly sunny, with a high near 85.

Sunday night: A 10 percent chance of showers. Partly cloudy, with a low around 62.

Monday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 85.

Community News

Learn to run a better business

Insurance Basics for Small Business Owners – 3/22/12 6-8 p.m.

Business Plan Writing Workshop – six sessions begin on April 5, 5:30-7 p.m.

Women & Minority Owned Business Certification – 4/21/12 10 a.m.

Mastering QuickBooks – 10 hour course – April 28th & May 5th

Procuring Government Contracts – 5/26/12

Business Plan Writing - Key to Success is in the Plan!

Class begins Thursday, April 5, 5:30–7 p.m.

Pre-Registration Required, 1320 N. 15th Street, Immokalee. 239-867-4121. RosemaryDillon@Immokalee.Biz

Phone Discounts Available to CenturyLink Customers

The Florida Public Service Commission designated CenturyLink as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier within its service area for universal service purposes. CenturyLink's basic local service rates for residential voice lines are \$18.80 per month and business services are \$26.50 to \$31.00 per month. Specific rates will be provided upon request.

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.

*CenturyLink Internet Basics Program – Residential customers only who qualify based on meeting income level or program participation eligibility requirements, and requires remaining eligible for the entire offer period. First bill will include charges for the first full month of service billed in advance, prorated charges for service from the date of installation to bill date, and one-time charges and fees described above. Qualifying customers may keep this program for a maximum of 60 months after service activation provided customer still qualifies during that time. Listed High-Speed Internet rate of \$9.95/mo. applies for first 12 months of service (after which the rate reverts to \$14.95/mo. for the next 48 months of service), and requires a 12-month term agreement. Customer must either lease a modem/router from CenturyLink for an additional monthly charge or purchase a modem/router from CenturyLink for a one-time charge, and a one-time High-Speed Internet activation fee applies. A one-time professional installation charge (if selected by customer) and a one-time shipping and handling fee applies to customer's modem/router. General – Services not available everywhere. CenturyLink may change or cancel services or substitute similar services at its sole discretion without notice. Offer, plans, and stated rates are subject to change and may vary by service area. Deposit may be required. Additional restrictions apply. **Terms and Conditions** – All products and services listed are governed by tariffs, terms of service, or terms and conditions posted at centurylink.com. **Taxes, Fees, and Surcharges** – Applicable taxes, fees, and surcharges include a carrier Universal Service charge, carrier cost recovery surcharges, state and local fees that vary by area and certain in-state surcharges. Cost recovery fees are not taxes or government-required charges for use. Taxes, fees, and surcharges apply based on standard monthly, not promotional, rates.



Referendum town hall meeting scheduled

Election Day is still seven and a half months away, but it's a good time to take a first look at an important item the District School Board of Collier County has placed on the November ballot. Superintendent Dr. Kamela Patton, who conducted a series of six Town Hall Meetings earlier this school year, will host a Referendum Town Hall Meeting beginning at 6 p.m., Tuesday, March 27, in the School Board Meeting Room of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Administrative Center (5775 Osceola Trail, behind Barron Collier High School).

The purpose of this Town Hall Meeting is to share information regarding the renewal of the Tax-Neutral Referendum, which was originally approved by 79% of the voters in November 2008. The current referendum expires in the 2012-2013 school year, so the District is seeking renewal to maintain stability in the operating budget during continued years of reduced State funding. This referendum authorizes the District to increase the operating fund millage by up to one-quarter of a mill, while the District decreases the

capital millage by the same amount. It is therefore cost-neutral, meaning there is no additional millage or cost to taxpayers.

A question-and-answer period is planned for the meeting. Questions will be accepted the evening of the meeting, but persons wishing to may submit a question in advance by visiting www.collierschools.com. Click on the "Ask the Superintendent" link under "Community Input Requested" on the home page or send your question directly to question@collierschools.com.

Our seasonal residents are especially encouraged to attend to receive this important referendum information prior to heading north for the summer. "It's all about the kids," says Dr. Patton. Please join us to learn more on how you can help us continue to enhance student achievement and strive for excellence in education.

For more information about the Town Hall Meeting, call the Communications & Community Engagement department at 239-377-0180, or send an e-mail to info@collierschools.com.

Registration for summer classes open at Edison

Make the most of your summer by earning college credit. Registration for Summer 2012 classes at Edison State College begins Wednesday, March 21.

Register as soon as possible because classes fill up quickly.

For more information about Summer registration visit www.edison.edu/academics/schedule.

To receive additional information about programs of study, campus locations and other information visit edison.edu/requestinfo.

For media inquiries contact Francesca Donlan 239-433-6917 or email at fdonlan@edison.edu



Special to the Immokalee Bulletin

Regional winner

Lake Trafford Elementary Mercedes Salinas a student of Immokalee took first place in the Regional Science Fair held in Naples. She earned \$75, ribbon and certificate for her themed project - "Will micro-waved seeds grow?"

Students First

Celebrate reading - 'Write on!'

By Joe Landon
Collier County District Schools



A young Immokalee student recently enjoyed what you might call an opportunity of a lifetime. Maricela Trejo, a fourth grader at Village Oaks Elementary School, was one of six Collier County Public Schools elementary students to win a very special essay writing contest. Doing so earned the six the right to have breakfast with a very kid-famous author, Jeff Kinney, responsible for writing the best-selling Diary of a Wimpy Kid series of books, a hit 20th Century Fox movie bearing the same name, and the movie Rodrick Rules.

Maricela and the five other students were winners in the Celebration of Reading student writing contest. It's held each year to support the Family Literacy Initiative launched several years ago by former Florida Governor Jeb Bush and his mother and father, former President George H.W. Bush and Barbara Bush. The students, their moms, dads, or guardians, their teacher and school principal were invited to attend the Celebration of Reading Children's Breakfast, now in its twelfth year, at the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort in Bonita Springs. The big event was hosted by author Jeff Kinney and Florida's First

Lady Ann Scott. Now this year's writing contest took a page out of Kinney's latest best-seller, Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Cabin Fever, but the contest put a little spin on it. In the book, the main character shares his adventures as he is snowed in for the holiday. While the words "snow" and "Florida" don't usually make

it into a sentence together, Florida thunder storms can wreak havoc from time to time. Students were asked to write a funny short story with simple illustrations or a comic strip based on a "storm watch" theme. The contest was open to all students in grades four through seven in our five county region, and again, we are proud to tell you that Maricela Trejo's entry was picked as one of the five best in Collier County. And here's what she wrote:

"One day it was raining food. After the storm, cows were turning red, pink, blue, and purple. At the zoo, animals were dancing and talking. Then I went to get something to eat and the food was talking! He said, 'What are you looking at?' Then aliens came and they did the moon walk. Then people were acting like cats and dogs. After that I ran home and went to bed. The next day, everything was normal. The next time it rains food I'm staying inside." By Maricela Trejo.

Nice job, Maricela! Hope it doesn't rain food anytime soon but if it does, I'm staying inside, too!

2012-13 school calendar available

The 2012-2013 academic school calendar will begin on August 20, 2012, for all students enrolled in Collier County Public Schools. This school calendar can be found by visiting www.collierschools.com/calendar.asp

As you may recall, the District School Board of Collier County approved two calendars at their January 10, 2012 Regular School Board Meeting, pending the outcome of Sen. Bill Montford's (D-Tallahassee) bill, which would allow school districts to begin school earlier than the current two weeks before Labor Day.

The District has been informed that this bill did not pass. Therefore, the Board-approved calendar with the August 20th start date will be used.

If you have questions, please contact the Communications and Community Engagement Department at 239-77-0180.

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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.

Teacher nominations sought for character education award

Teachers in Lee, Collier, and Charlotte Counties are eligible for nominations

Elementary, middle, and high school teacher nominations are being sought for the annual Character Education Champion Teacher Award to be presented by the Uncommon Friends Foundation. Teachers in public, private, and charter schools in Lee, Charlotte, and Collier counties are eligible to be nominated—either by themselves or co-workers. The deadline for nominations is Friday, April 20.

Awards will be presented to the 2012 Champion Teachers during the Uncommon Evening dinner on Thursday, June 7, at Harborside Event Center, Fort Myers. The award recognizes outstanding educators who incorporate Lessons Learned from the Uncommon Friends to teach character education. These educators inspire their students to adopt the characteristics of the five Uncommon Friends, Thomas Edison, Henry Ford, Harvey Firestone, Dr. Alexis Carrel, and Charles Lindbergh—intellectual giants who helped shape the 20th Century, and incorporate them into their lives.

Nominated individuals must have par-

ticipated in an Uncommon Friends curriculum training workshop, have used lessons from the Uncommon Friends Character Education curriculum, exhibit characteristics of the Uncommon Friends in their personal and professional life, and have the endorsement of a school administrator.

Criteria and the nomination form are available on the foundation's web site, www.uncommonfriends.org. The nomination form and a letter of support from the nominee's supervising administrator are to be sent to Dr. Vivian Posey, via email at vposey@mail.barry.edu by the April 20 deadline. Additional information about the nomination process and the award are available by contacting the Uncommon Friends Foundation, 239-337-9505.

The Uncommon Friends Foundation, established in 1993, is a character education foundation whose mission is to preserve the legacy of the five Uncommon Friends whose lives significantly impacted the local and world community, and to promote character education and business ethics in the leaders of tomorrow.

Additional information about the Uncommon Friends Foundation or the character education award may be obtained by contacting the foundation at 239-337-9505, or www.uncommonfriends.org.

Faith-based leadership meets with CCSO

By Rick Heers
Special to the Immokalee Bulletin

Over 20 members of the Collier County Sheriff's Office and church pastors and lay leadership met together recently to begin a dialog that should lead to greater cooperation between them in an effort to help Immokalee take a stronger stand against criminal activity in the community.

Great discussion revolved around such important information as drugs in our community, establishing neighborhood watches, gangs and the possibility of establishing a community advisory committee that would meet on a fairly regular basis with Sheriff's Office deputies to



Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/Rick Heers
Local church pastors met with CCSO to discuss cooperation between the two groups in making Immokalee a safer community by staging strong presence against drugs and crime.

maintain better communication within the community. For further information, or to volunteer to serve on the advisory committee, please contact Sergeant Marcus Carter at 657-6168.

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Employment

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- Diagnoses and performs repairs, maintenance and inspections on heavy machinery.
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Employment

Seminole Tribe of Florida Big Cypress Reservation

MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR

Experienced Maintenance Staff Supervisor. 4 yrs. exp. Must be able to work weekends & holidays. Must possess FL DL. Subject to background check.

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Business Opportunities

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.

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.

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

Buying a car? Look in the classifieds. Selling a car? Look in the classifieds.

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

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

CITRUS HARVESTING MANAGER

Position Responsibilities:

- Responsible for all harvesting operations for Southern Gardens Citrus Groves.
- Responsible for the scheduling and organization of Southern Gardens Groves harvesting process.
- Creates and implements an annual harvesting budget.
- Negotiates harvesting rates.
- Ensures the implementation of the safety programs and compliance with MSPA in the harvesting operations.
- Develops and implements a good forecasting and fruit quality testing program.
- Oversees accurate record keeping of crop yield and payroll.
- Creates an annual crop estimate.
- Actively involved in recruiting process for both H2A and domestic workers.
- Recruits in-house crewleaders and Hauling Contractors.
- Maintains a good equipment maintenance program on all harvesting equipment.

Position Requirements:

- A Bachelor's degree is preferred.
- Three to four years of experience is preferred.
- Harvesting equipment knowledge.
- Familiar with remote computerized time keeping systems.
- Computer skills - SAP, Word, Excel
- Knowledgeable of all H2A program regulations and requirements
- Bilingual preferred

Southern Gardens is both a citrus grower and major supplier of 100% pure Florida not-from - concentrate orange juice to the private label industry and major brands. Position provides an excellent benefits package that includes health, dental, vision, life insurance, 401-K, and potential annual bonus. Qualified local candidates send resumes to: Fax 863-902-4315, E-mail to: dmelton@southerngardens.com
EOE

UNITED STATES SUGAR CORPORATION

MACHINIST

~ Full Time Perm ~

JOB RESPONSIBILITIES:

Sets up, calibrates and operates machining equipment including manual engine lathes, shapers, jig boxes, brakes, grinders, drill presses, milling machines, and heavy duty presses to assemble and or fabricate parts and complex assemblies.

JOB REQUIREMENTS:

- 3 + years conventional machining experience.
- Ability to read and interpret specification manuals, blueprints, templates and layouts.
- Ability to read caliper's, micrometers and gauges.
- Ability to grind tool bits.
- Ability to work shifts and overtime as necessary.

Email: Jdooley@ussugar.com
Apply online at: www.ussugar.com

UNITED STATES SUGAR CORPORATION

TEMP MECHANIC WELDER

Safely fabricate, install, inspect, maintain, troubleshoot and repair conveyors, hydraulic systems, gear boxes, pumps, turbines, steel structures, chutes, pipelines, valves, vessels, pressure vessels.

Utilize miscellaneous metal working equipment and processes such as arc welding, oxygen/acetylene, MIG, TIG and plasma methods to perform welding functions. Pass 6G Welding Test.

Jdooley@ussugar.com
OR apply online at www.ussugar.com

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needed for local apartment complex to operate office and oversee maintenance.

Resume and references required.

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Reading a newspaper helps you plan your time wisely.

No wonder newspaper readers enjoy life more!



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

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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

Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE
Collier Co. Housing Authority will be accepting sealed bids on the following vehicles. Please submit a separate bid per vehicle.
(1) 1997 Ford Escort
(1) 2003 Ford Taurus
As Is condition, you may inspect vehicles at 1800 Farm Worker Way. Sealed bids accepted until March 30th at 5 p.m.
412615 IB 3/22/2012

Public Notice

RCMA School Board Meeting Notice For Immokalee Community School
The RCMA School Board Meeting will take place on Monday, Mar. 26, 2012 at the Tech, 508 N. 9th St. in Immokalee, FL 34142. The School Board meeting will begin at 2:00 PM and is open to the public. Questions or concerns, please call Maria Jimenez at (239) 289-7995. 411960 IB 3/22/2012

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

Public Notice

Public Notice

NOTICE OF SUBMISSION
TO ALL THE CITIZENS OF COLLIER, HARDEE, HENDRY, HILLSBOROUGH AND MONROE COUNTIES, FLORIDA:
The State of Florida has submitted to the United States Department of Justice, for preclearance as provided by Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act, a plan to reapportion and redistrict 120 single member Representative districts for the election of members of the Florida Legislature and a plan to redistrict the 27 single member districts for the election of members of the Florida Congressional delegation.
You are hereby notified that copies of said submission is on file at the House Redistricting Committee office, Room 400, House Office Building, 402 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399, and at the Senate Reapportionment Committee office, Room 103, Senate Office Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399, where the same may be inspected during regular business hours. The submission may also be viewed on the Internet at <http://www.floridarestricting.org> or <http://www.fisenate.gov/redistricting>.
Any person desiring to make comments concerning said plans may direct the same to Mr. T. Christian Herren, Jr., Chief, Voting Section, Civil Rights Division, United States Department of Justice, Room 7254-NWB, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20530, telephone number (800) 253-3931. Comments may also be emailed to vote1973c@usdoj.gov, with "Comment" in the subject line.
412499 CN/IB 3/22/2012

Business & Service Directory

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SERT Mitigation meeting set for today

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 from 10-11:30 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. This is an informational meeting for ALL homeowners! I HOPE is in the process of applying for a grant that

will help low income homeowners pay the cost of the work that needs to be done. The grant can cover work on roofs, shutters, windows, doors, even a/c units. It is very important for families to have someone attending Thursday's meeting so they can receive all the important information on how to save money on your insurance and, if you qualify, receive help from the grants.

Zone 4 Closure begins tomorrow

Off-road travel restricted
Beginning at 12:01 a.m. Friday, March 23, the Zone 4 airboat access within Big Cypress National Preserve will be closed due to low water conditions.
This will begin the 60 day recreational off-road vehicle (ORV) closure for this management unit within the Preserve. Pending water levels, this unit will re-open to access by airboats on Tuesday, May 22.
All other management units within the Preserve that allow for wheeled ORV access remain open through Sunday, June 3. On Monday, June 4, the regularly scheduled 60 day ORV closure for these units will begin with ORV access being re-opened on Friday, August 3.
The Recreational Off-Road Vehicle Management Plan calls for a 60 seasonal closure to allow a period free from resource pressures related to ORV use.
The ORV closure within Big Cypress National Preserve was first instituted in 2002.
Landowners, and their guests, that hold special use permits to access private properties within the Preserve will retain continued access to property along approved routes.
Zone 4 of the Stairsteps Unit of the Preserve allows for access via airboats only. The Bear Island, Turner River and Corn Dance Units, and Zones 2 and 3 of the Stairsteps Unit provide for access by specified, wheeled ORVs.

Church News

Ave Maria announces Marian Eucharistic Conference

All are invited to the beautiful campus of Ave Maria University, 5050 Ave Maria Blvd., Ave Maria, for the Very first Marian Eucharistic Conference, "Mary, Mother of the Eucharist" May 18-20. This dynamic weekend will include many opportunities for you to celebrate your faith as well as hear such great speakers as- EWTN's Steve Ray, Roy Schoeman (author of Salvation Belongs to the Jews), Sisters of Mary Mother of the Eucharist (seen on the Oprah program), Fr. Dennis Cooney (Pastor of St. Raphael Church in Lehigh Acres, FL) and more with music by Martin Doman.
The cost is \$90 and includes the registration fee, lodging and meals. Register by May 1 by visiting: www.avemaria.edu/NewsEvents/Conferences/MarianConference or contact Peggy Stinnet at (239) 348-4725, email peggy.stinnet@avemaria.edu for more information.

Edison profs earn national award

Two professors at Edison State College have been named winners of the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) Award. The two winners are Dr. Jay Koepke, an anatomy and physiology professor at the Collier Campus, and Christy Smith, a mathematics professor at the Charlotte Campus.
"It is especially gratifying when our professors are recognized on a national level for their dedication to their profession and the students they teach," said J. Dudley Goodlette, Interim District President. "This award is very meaningful because it is the result of peer and student nominations."
Edison State College faculty, student and staff nominate professors for this award. Nominations are based on a professor's teaching and learning practices that encourage student achievement. The nominations are then sent to NISOD. Winners are honored in May during NISOD's International Conference on Teaching and Leadership Excellence.
"Dr. Koepke is well-respected on our campus by his peers, administration, staff and most of all, our students," said Dr. Robert R. Jones, interim President, Collier Campus. "We are very proud that he has earned this honor. His dedication and enthusiasm ultimately benefits our students."
"Professor Smith brings a unique approach to teaching a subject that can be especially challenging for

students," said Dr. Patricia Land, President, Charlotte Campus. "She knows how to connect the principles of mathematics to real-world applications in a way that students can understand."

Community Events

Democrats to meet
The Democratic Club of Immokalee will meet on Tuesday, March 27, at 6:45 p.m. at Rib City, 621 North 15th Street, Immokalee. (239) 657-4003.

Groundbreaking for new IWSD Treatment Plant set

You are cordially invited to attend the Groundbreaking Ceremony for the Immokalee Water & Sewer District Wastewater Treatment Plant and Forcemain Extension. This project is funded by USDA Rural Development. Jonathan Adelstein, USDA Rural Utilities Administrator will be the guest of honor along with state and local dignitaries on Tuesday, April 3, at 11 a.m. Immokalee Water & Sewer District, 1020 Sanitation Road, Immokalee. Refreshments provided following ceremony. RSVP by March 27, 239-658-3630 or E-mail normaramirez@iw-sd.com

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.
Shop here first! The classified ads

Movie night features 'The Everglades'

Do you remember Constable Lincoln Vail whizzing around on an airboat to catch the baddies in the 1960s TV series "The Everglades"? You have a chance to see him again when the Everglades Society for Historic Preservation presents two episodes on Friday, March 23, at 6 p.m. in the Jinkins Fellowship Hall at the Community Church on the circle in Everglades City.

The producer was Budd Schulberg who also made the full-length film "Wind Across the Everglades" which ESHP showed in January. The nature photography in that was marvelous.

Everyone is welcome to "Movie Night" where you can also enjoy free popcorn and soda. For more information, see www.evergladshistorical.org. To reserve your places, email ESHP@hotmail.com or phone Marya at 239-695-2905.



Courtesy Florida State Archives, Photographic Collection, www.floridamemory.com

The 1960s program, "The Everglades" will be reborn on Friday, March 23 during a Movie Night presentation at the Jinkins Fellowship Hall in Everglades City at the Community Church on the circle in Everglades City.

Last chance for Coastal Cruise

The final Coastal Cruise to historic Fakahatchee Island will take place on Sunday, March 25, at 3 p.m. from Everglades National Park. This is the last in a series of four cruises hosted this winter by Friends of Fakahatchee. Previous voyages to the island were enjoyed by over 70 people.

A chartered boat takes participants to the island where they climb the Calusa shell mound to the pioneer cemetery. A volunteer

naturalist points out rare plants, some not seen on the mainland. On the return trip, there is a chance to see dolphins cavorting in the wake and birds roosting for the evening.

The Coastal Cruise costs \$75 per person and can be booked online at www.orchid-swamp.org (click on Events). For information, phone Marya at 239-695-2905.

County Spelling Bee set for next week

Nearly 50 Collier County middle school students are spending some time with their dictionaries this week as they prepare for the 2012 Collier County Spelling Bee. The event is set to begin at 7 p.m. on Monday, March 26 in the School Board Meeting Room of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Administrative Center (5775 Osceola Trail, behind Barron Collier High School). This year's Spelling Bee "Pronouncer" will be NBC-2 TV news anchor Lindsay Logue.

The participants made it to this county-wide competition by winning their respective school's Spelling Bee. The winner of the Collier County Spelling Bee will ad-



vance to the 2012 Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C., May 30 and 31, courtesy of event-sponsor Naples Daily News.

The Collier County Spelling Bee will be televised LIVE on The Education Channel, Comcast cable 99, beginning at 7 p.m., on Monday evening. This local Spelling Bee telecast will also be replayed several times on The Education Channel. Visit: www.collierschools.com/comm/tvschedule.asp for the weekly television schedule.

To learn more about the Collier County Spelling Bee, call the Communications and Community Engagement Department at 239-377-0180, or send an e-mail to info@collierschools.com.



Pitching In

This is just a portion of the group (above) from Arcadia University along with I HOPE volunteer and staff who came to donate and volunteer their time in coming to Immokalee during their Spring Break to help with much needed repairs and remodeling of local homes.

Getting the job done is what it is all about with helping hands pitching in to build a wall frame in a local home.



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