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Immokalee Foundation honors grads

Excitement was in the air as friends, family members, school officials, board members and staff recently gathered at Ave Maria University for The Immokalee Foundation's Graduation Ceremony and Celebration to recognize the accomplishments of 58 high school students and 20 post-secondary students as they graduated from the various programs of The Immokalee Foundation, including Take Stock in Children, Career Development, Immokalee Readers and College Success.

Career Development had 26 high school students graduat-

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Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/TIF

Graduation Day

Immokalee Foundation graduates from high school to college celebrated in the limelight of their graduation day. Many of the college graduates will be heading to post graduate schools while high school graduates will be just beginning their journey towards higher education. See more photos and more on this story on Page 2 and Page 5.

Charity keeps 'Hands Up' to make a difference

By Patty Brant
Immokalee Bulletin

It seems the difficult times never stop. Every time one thing goes right, something else goes wrong. The same holds true for individuals, families, businesses and nonprofits.

For three years Jay Lawrence has been keeping his charity, Hands Up, afloat as best he can using the limited resources available - resources that are being stretched further almost daily.

Part of the Hands Up charity is the Stingray football team. Although the deal for the Stingrays to play at Immokalee High School stadium fell through, the football

dream in Immokalee never dies and that door has not closed completely, Jay said.

Proceeds from the team go toward Hands Up, along with other donations.

The group provides equipment and supplies not covered by insur-

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Immokalee Bulletin/
Patty Brant
"Hands Up"
Founder, Jay Lawrence



Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/William Trevino

End of the Season

Immokalee Little Leaguers celebrated with trophies in hand recently including the Ranger-Minors girls softball team with their coach, Leon Gonzalez. Teams enjoyed an end of the season party where trophies and recognition of volunteer plaques were handed to parents and volunteers. See plenty more photos on Page 8.



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HANDS

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ance, Medicare or Medicaid. for disabled individuals who cannot afford these necessities. Often, they are the means by which they can live a fulfilling life.

When requests for help are received through the group's Web site, Hands Up volunteers comb through them, looking for the most dire needs.

The 501 c 3 group services Southwest Florida including Collier, Hendry, Glades and Lee counties.

Himself wheelchair-bound since a traffic accident in 1996, Jay is not one to give up on a dream. When he got his prognosis after his crash - he'd never walk again - he raised his right arm to indicate that he wasn't going to take the doctor's decision.

In 2007, he said he took a part time sales position with the Florida Stingrays in Fort Myers. After only four months he was promoted to VP of Operations.

Today he has an active and fulfilling life with the Storm, Hands Up, a wife and

daughter. That wheelchair doesn't seem to slow him down at all.

He is bringing that same energy and can-do attitude that he applied to his physical setbacks to his charity.

Jay knows first hand what having a prosthesis or a wheelchair means to those in need. He understands how hard it is to get these things into the hands of the people who need them. Often they don't have any idea where to go.

The charity is personal for Jay. In fact, he said he has a "garage full of stuff" - equipment that can be just exactly what someone needs to be able to live their life more comfortably; to do what they need to do on a daily basis.

His dream is to expand nationally and allow others to start their own chapter. He believes this will be a great opportunity for other disabled people, and especially wants to include disabled veterans.

Jay is using his experience with the football world and his work in the private sector to help support his real passion, Hands Up and the work it does for the disabled.

To learn more about Hands Up, go to: <http://www.handsupcharity.org/>

Legal Aid offers help in immigration deferred action

On June 15, President Barack Obama announced the Department of Homeland Security's decision to grant deferred action to certain undocumented youth living in the United States. If applicants are approved for deferred action, they can qualify for employment authorization and then social security and a drivers license.

His decision affects undocumented youth who were brought to the United States as children before age 16 and who have resided for at least five years as of June 15, 2012 and were living in the United States on June 15, 2012. Applicants need to be at least 15 and not more than 30 years old.

These applicants must show they have graduated from high school, or are enrolled in school, or have a general education development certificate (GED), or have an honorable discharge from the Coast Guard or Armed Forces of the United States. To be eli-

gible they must not have a felony conviction or a conviction for a major misdemeanor offense or multiple misdemeanor offenses. They cannot pose a threat to national security or public safety.

Legal Aid Service of Collier County is ready to help eligible Collier residents file their immigration deferred action applications. To receive assistance, call 657-7442 or 775-4555. As a non profit it does not charge for its services. Citizenship and Immigration Service will likely announce when it will begin to receive deferred action applications and what will be necessary. People planning to file can start now to gather evidence of their eligibility such as birth certificates, time in the U.S., enrollment in school, and certificates or diplomas.

TIF GRADS

Continued From Page 1

ing. Among them was Aaron Daniels, who will attend Edison State College to become a dental hygienist. Daniels said he is grateful for the opportunities TIF has provided to him. "The organization has done so much for me. It has opened my eyes to a new world."

His fellow graduates agree. Daniel Guzman-Ramos credits TIF for teaching him to seek and create opportunities. "They helped me stay connected and through them, I was able to build a strong resume that allowed me to get accepted to five universities," he said. Last summer, he attended George Washington University for a six-week program, and now he will pursue his environmental engineering degree at University of South Florida, with plans to eventually transfer to Yale University.

Guzman was also the proud recipient of the prestigious Gates Millennium Scholarship. Each year, the Gates Millennium Scholars Program, funded by a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, selects 1,000 talented students to receive a good-through-graduation scholarship to use at any college or university of their choice.

High school graduate Marcos Gijon-Diaz grew up around agriculture, so it's no surprise that he wants to make it a career. He plans to attend Edison State College and pursue a degree in business management and agribusiness. "I want to start a ranch with my family," he said. "It's always been my dad's dream, so I want to stick around and help make it a reality."

Gijon-Diaz said that through TIF, he not only learned about the importance of education, but also the importance of character through leadership trips and more. "Being a part of the foundation has helped me get out of the shy shell I was in."

Maria Mendoza, Florida Gulf Coast University graduate, was the evening's student speaker. Noting that she came from a small town in Mexico and a small family with limited funds, Mendoza said The Immokalee Foundation was there for her every step of the way. She graduated with a 4.0 grade point average and a bachelor's degree in nursing. "TIF has been an incredible resource throughout my college career. They have not only helped me financially, but

made me comfortable being a leader."

Cecilia Estrada, Florida Gulf Coast University graduate, said the foundation not only gave her the opportunity to seek higher education, but TIF's programs manager, Nancy Omonte, was especially helpful. "She has been an amazing resource and served as a mentor to me and others," she said. "I've gone to her with big things and she has a very calm sense about her that makes you feel better and want to persevere."

Jose Mendieta, University of Central Florida graduate, began Take Stock in Children as a middle school student. Now, as a college graduate with a degree in business administration, he acknowledged the organization for providing him with opportunities he may not have had otherwise. "The program has put less stress on my parents and opened doors for me," he said. "It helped me narrow my choice of schools by taking us on college tours and while in college, Ms. Omonte always checked up on me and made sure I was doing okay. I didn't want to let her down."

Chairman of TIF Don Gunther said, "The life skills these kids have learned from their experiences and opportunities that TIF has provided will help carry them on their 'Pathway to Success.'" He was especially proud of the students' accomplishments and in a heartfelt welcome to the crowd, he encouraged them to "listen to your heart and do things that make a difference in life."

His advice to all of the students about to start their new journey was to, "Work harder and sleep less than anybody else."

The Immokalee Foundation has a range of programs that focus on building pathways to success through college and career development, mentoring and tutoring, and opportunities for broadening experiences and life skills development. To learn more about volunteering as a mentor or for additional information, call 239-430-9122 or visit www.immokaleefoundation.org.

High School TIF Graduates

Evangelina Alvarado, Take Stock in Children, Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, Criminal Justice

Kelley Anzualda, Take Stock in Children, Bethune-Cookman University, Nursing

Jovenise Benjamin, Immokalee Readers, Southeastern University, Pre-Med/Missionary

Nancy Bravo-Perez, Career Development, Army, Information Tech Specialist

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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
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- 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

Rebuttal to Editorial Letter in Naples Daily News

Dear Brent Batten:

I am the Executive Director of Immokalee Chamber of Commerce, and I am writing to express my backing for Mr. Pete Salazar and my utter frustration with Commissioner Hiller. Not only do I work with the Chamber but I also hold a seat on the Board of the Immokalee CRA and EZDA.

I cannot believe that a person on the County Commission would stand in the way or even question someone on bathrooms let alone the other Commissioner Henning putting his thought of the day on fire extinguishers. These are the same two that are giving problems with the Immokalee Master Plan. I know Hiller's stand for at least she thinks she knows it all but Henning should stay out of questioning anything with Immokalee since he does not have the guts to vote because he may profit from it. Thank Goodness, the true commissioners voted and Henning came to his senses.

Mr. Pete Salazar, I am truly sorry that we have certain individuals for whatever reason would like to see people in Immokalee fail and continue to keep Immokalee down. Keep your head up and walk with pride as you have friends here.

Sincerely,

Daniel Rosario
Executive Director
The Immokalee Chamber of Commerce, Inc.

Regarding 'Hiller's fight'

After reading the article on page 5a of the Sunday, June 17, Naples Daily News, on "Hiller's fight," I could not enjoy Father's Day, and I am a 72 year old grandfather. In 2002, I completed a 35 year career in top management of Redevelopment and Housing agencies, spanning three states (Va. Ind. Fl, two cities in each), after Tampa, I came to Collier County in 1986 to complete my service. I am still providing these services "AT NO PAY," since NAFTA and its affects on our community.

Let me explain...If we could produce everything we want, need or desire in Collier County, we could forget the rest of the world. If not, we must be able to communicate with and produce something the rest of the world needs, so we can swap for what we need. Prior to NAFTA in 1990, between November and March, 80 percent of the vegetables eaten in America, came from Collier County, grown and picked my small local farmers, who would lease a square mile of land from the large land owners, paying the lease off in June. Tomatoes cost between \$.39 and \$1.79 a pound prior to Xmas freeze

of 1989, when we paid over \$3.50 per pound. Even with the cheap labor and relaxed standards in foreign countries, tomatoes were not come down below \$2 per pound?

We need new industry in our community. Do you know that our "Pete Salazar" has several approved patents and a international distribution. He will hate me for this cause he a little shy... But He is a combination of Ben Franklin, Thomas Edison and Henry Ford, with the same levels of education as them. Are these the kind of business leaders we need today? That's a "NO BRAINER." Please explain this to Commissioner Hiller.

If, Ms. Hiller is concerned about money, then please explain the following to her. Every private landowner must pay taxes on their land. If they are in the business of growing veggies and or medical herbs... do they need fire services, police services, libraries or parks and recreation? NO, they want only \$.37 in services for every \$1 they pay in taxes and industry only wants \$.75 in services, while we residential want \$1.25 for every \$1 we pay in taxes.

PLEASE let Immokalee become the industrial hub of Southwest Florida by passing our new master plan and letting develop land codes consistent with tourist zone and a industrial hub.

Thank you very much,
Fred N. Thomas Jr.

p.s. I am presently on the following: CAC of the MPO, Immokalee Water and Sewer Dist., Board of the Immokalee C of C. Was on the Planning Comm., the Big Cypress Basin Bd. Past Pres. Fl. Assoc.of Housing and Redevelopment Offials And the Indiana Chapter of the National Assoc. of Housing and Redevelopment Officials

Immigration policy change

Thanks to President Obama, for changing our immigration policy of "fear" in Immokalee.

Effective immediately, undocumented immigrants who were brought here as children by their parents, can request relief from deportation and will be allowed to apply for work permits and establish a path to citizenship. Immokalee is majority hispanic. President Obama needs your support for his re-election this November 6.

I urge the Collier County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) to cease traffic checkpoints in Immokalee and to immediately comply with this new law and remove the threat of deportation for "Dreamers" in Immokalee.

John Lundin
Candidate for County Commissioner, District 5, Democrat

League of Women Voters candidate forum to be broadcast

On Monday, June 25, at 5:30 p.m., the first 2012 League of Women Voters sponsored Candidate Forum will take place. The forum will be broadcast on Channel 97, the County Government Comcast channel. The public is invited to attend the forum live at the Board of County Commission Chambers, in the administration building at 3301 Tamiami Trail East.

The candidates running for the contested Constitutional offices will participate. The Property Appraiser race (Abe Skinner, Kevin Lilly) will be at 5:30, Clerk of Court race (Dwight Brock, John Barlow) at 6:30, Tax Collector race (Larry Ray, Steve Wagner) at 7:15 and Sheriff race (Kevin Rambosk, Victor Ortino) at 8 p.m.

All registered voters, regardless of their party affiliation or no party affiliation, may vote in the Aug. 14, primary for Property Appraiser, Clerk of Court and Tax Collector. The candidate who wins the primary will be elected, and there will be no further vote in November. Only registered Republicans may vote in the primary election for Sheriff; this is a closed primary and the winner of each party's primary election will face off in the November election.

The second 2012 League of Women Voters sponsored Candidate Forum will take place on Wednesday, June 27. Beginning at 5:30 p.m., the candidates in the three contested Commissioner districts will participate: District 1: Donna Fiala, Steve Cosgrove; District 3: Tom Henning, Bill McDaniel; District 5: Jim Coletta, Tim Nance.

The Aug. 14, primaries for District 1 and District 5 Commissioners are closed primaries. Only registered Republicans residing in District 1 or District 5 may vote in this primary election for District 1 or District 5 Commissioner, respectively. The winners of these two primary elections will face candidates from other parties in November. The primary election for District 3 Commissioner is an open primary. All registered voters who reside in District 3, regardless of their party affiliation or no party affiliation, may vote in the August 14 primary for District 3 Commissioner. The candidate who wins the primary will be elected, and there will be no further vote in November.

Weather Forecast

Thursday: A 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 88. South wind between 7 and 10 mph

Thursday night: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 71. South wind between 3 and 7 mph.

Extended Forecast

Friday: A 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly sunny, with a high near 88. East wind around 7 mph becoming south.

Friday night: A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 70. South wind around 7 mph.

Saturday: A 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly sunny, with a high near 86. South wind between 3 and 7 mph.

Saturday night: A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 71.

Sunday: A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly sunny, with a high near 89.

Sunday night: A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 68.

Monday: A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly sunny, with a high near 85.

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Immokalee Foundation partners to build pathways to success

Grant is one of nearly 900 to be awarded through the inaugural Darden Restaurant Community Grant Program

The Immokalee Foundation, a nonprofit organization devoted to fostering a brighter future for the children of Immokalee, recently announced it has been selected to receive a \$1,000 grant as part of the inaugural Restaurant Community Grant Program from the Darden Foundation, the charitable arm of Darden Restaurants Inc. The Restaurant Community Grant Program is a local grants program intended to help support nonprofit organizations in the hundreds of communities Darden and its restaurant brands serve. The donation will be used to enhance TIF's Career Development program that emphasizes leadership, skills development and community service to prepare high school students for postsecondary training and employment success.

Restaurants within the Darden family – Red Lobster, Olive Garden, LongHorn Steakhouse, The Capital Grille, Bahama Breeze, Seasons 52 and Eddie V's – are helping to

award more than \$1.7 million in local grants to nearly 900 exceptional nonprofit organizations nationwide. Nonprofits receiving grants support one of Darden's three key focus areas: access to postsecondary education, preservation of natural resources and hunger.

"The Darden Grant helps us empower the children of Immokalee so they can achieve their dreams," said Liz Allbritten, executive director of The Immokalee Foundation. "TIF's Career Development program is life changing in building pathways to success for our kids."

"Each grant is not just a check – it is an opportunity to make an impact, from providing essential supplies to food banks in Oregon, to mentoring students in Phoenix and supporting environmental education in New England," said Drew Madsen, president and chief operating officer of Darden Restaurants Inc. "Our service philosophy extends far beyond the walls of our restaurants. These grants bring that philosophy to life by helping to develop a better future for

those we serve, one community at a time."

Darden Restaurants Inc., (NYSE: DRI), the world's largest full-service restaurant company, owns and operates more than 1,900 restaurants that generate over \$7.5 billion in annual sales. Headquartered in Orlando, and employing 180,000 people, Darden is recognized for a culture that rewards caring for and responding to people. In 2012, Darden was named to the FORTUNE "100 Best Companies to Work For" list for the second year in a row and is the only full-service restaurant company to ever appear on the list. The brands – Red Lobster, Olive Garden, LongHorn Steakhouse, The Capital Grille, Bahama Breeze, Seasons 52 and Eddie V's – reflect the rich diversity of those who dine at the restaurants. The restaurant brands are built on deep insights into what their guests want. For more information, visit www.darden.com.

The Darden Restaurants Inc. Foundation is the charitable arm of Darden Restaurants Inc. The Foundation's mission is to maintain a spirit of volunteerism and philanthropy as

defining characteristics of Darden Restaurants. Since 1995, the Darden Foundation has awarded more than \$60 million in grants. Total giving in fiscal year 2012 amounted to \$7.8 million, 20 percent of which is represented by the Restaurant Community Grants Program. The Darden Foundation carries out its mission by focusing philanthropic efforts and resources on the following program areas: Access to Postsecondary Education, Preservation of Natural Resources and Good Neighbor Grants. For more information about the Darden Foundation, visit www.darden.com/commitment/community.asp.

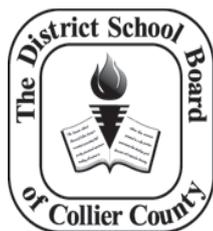
The Immokalee Foundation has a range of programs that focus on building pathways to success through college and career development, mentoring and tutoring, and opportunities for broadening experiences and life skills development. To learn more about volunteering as a mentor or for additional information, call 239-430-9122 or visit www.immokaleefoundation.org.

Students First

So long is not goodbye

By Joe Landon

Collier County District Schools



So we told you last week that the average loss of knowledge for a student is 18 percent (some say 22 percent) during the summer break and maybe as much 30 percent for English Language Learners. And, last week we shared ways you can help keep learning alive for your child. With the help of Beth Thompson, Chief Instructional Officer, we told you about the multitude of online reading resources found on the "Parents" pages at www.collierschools.com, and she suggested having them practice their letter sounds and sight words and stressed that you read to your son or daughter daily, especially the young ones. "It's also important to make sure they read to you. They should have books they want to read in their little hands." But the same "books that interest them" advice applies for the older kids, too. Good idea to work on math over the summer as well. Beth Thompson suggests, "The younger kids can end up forgetting math facts, but you'll want to find creative and interesting ways

to work on them. Rather than flash cards, use a regular deck of cards to play games. You can do addition, subtraction, division, and multiplication." There's a bunch of math resources online in the "Parents" area at www.collierschools.com. Beth Thompson's personal words of wisdom: "I try to make every day

a learning experience, even at the grocery store. There are all kinds of opportunities there to learn math: adding up, counting, and looking at ratios. And there are lots of reading opportunities – reading labels, greeting cards, and signs." Same holds true for cooking, or riding in the car; math and reading can really come into play here as well. Thompson says that "as parents and grandparents, we're limited only by our imagination when it comes to keeping learning alive for our kids." Let your imagination go where it may!

This is our last Students First column of the 2011-2012 school year. As we reminded you last week, the new school year – 2012-2013 – begins on Monday, August 20. Our weekly columns will resume in early August, a couple of weeks before the new year begins. So long for now, I hope you have a wonderful summer! See you this fall!

Immokalee Lions Club to host Spanish BINGO fundraiser

The Immokalee Lions Club would like to invite the community of Immokalee to participate in a Fundraiser. Spanish Bingo (Loteria). Our first event will be held on June 24, Sunday at 2 p.m. there will be a total of 30 games played and you will be able to win cash and prizes. The Bingo's will be held at Kemps Plaza, suite #10, follow the signs. All proceeds will go towards the eyescreenings that are held in Immokalee four times a year. It all about giving back to the community. There will be Hot Dogs, Nachos, Frito Pies, Sodas and different snacks for sale. Please come out and join us for a good cause. If you have any questions feel free to give us a call at the number provided.

William R. Trevino Jr. 239-324-3075; William B. Trevino III 239-324-3072; Adan Labra 239-229-9196; Rigoberto Mendoza 239-357-2235.

Vacation Bible School

Baptist Church to host Vacation Bible School



Glendale Baptist Church, 1205 W. Main St. Immokalee, is having Vacation Bible School on June 18-22, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. For more information call 229-254-0073.

Club VBS to open

Space Quest - John 14:6, Jesus: The Way, the Truth, the Life! Join us for Fun, Water Play, Games and Refreshments! Students Kindergarten-Sixth Grade are invited to come to Iglesia Bautista De Jesucristo, 214 N. 2nd St. for Fun Day-June 23, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and Classes-June 24-28, 6-8 p.m.

Esta Fuera De Este Mundo Con Club VBS! Space Quest, Juan 14:6
Jesus: El Camino, la Verdad, y la Vida!

Vengan a disfrutar de juegos, refrescos, y juegos en agua!

Invitados: niños de Kinder-sexto grado
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Día de Diversion-June 23, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Clases-June 24-28, 6-8 p.m.



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TIF GRADS

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Adriana Carranza, Career Development, Michigan State University, Pre-Med/Pediatric Intensive Care

Mercedes Castro, Career Development, Tampa Art Institute, Photo/Media

Violeta Cervantes, Take Stock in Children, University of South Florida, Medicine

Benissa Chery, Immokalee Readers, Edison State College, Biology-Pre-Med

Veronique Chevery, Immokalee Readers, Santa Fe Community College, Social Work

Alan Cruz, IR/Career Development, Florida Gulf Coast University, Business

Aaron Daniels, Career Development, Edison State College, Dental Hygienist

Amanda DelaRosa, Career Development, Edison State College Gisset Diaz, Take Stock in Children, Robert Morris University, International Business

Marcos Gijon-Diaz, Career Development, Edison State College, Business Management/Agribusiness

Ruth Estrada, Take Stock in Children, University of South Florida, Nursing

Jose Frias, Take Stock in Children, Santa Fe Community College, Criminology

Dylan Gallegos, Career Development, Edison State College, Business

Edith Gomez, Take Stock in Children, Florida Gulf Coast University, Business

Marcos Gonzalez, Career Development, University of South Florida, Civil Engineer

Crystal Guadarrama, Take Stock in Children, Florida International University, Criminal Justice

Rolando Gutierrez, Career Development, Santa Fe Community, History

Daniel Guzman, Career Development, University South Florida, Environmental Engineer

Christina Harding, Take Stock in Children, Valencia Community College, Social Work

Augustin Hernandez, Career Development, Santa Fe Community, Law

Angelica Jean, Take Stock in Children, Florida International University, Nursing

Linda Jean-Pierre, Take Stock in Children, Florida State University, Biology/Business Marketing

Doug Kendall, Career Development, University of Florida, Pre-Med/Chemical Engineering

Tyler Lane, Career Development, Immokalee Technical Center, Multi-Media

Adriana Lara, Take Stock in Children, University of West Florida, Criminal Justice

Edgar Ledezma, Career Development, Employed

Youline Lima, Immokalee Readers, University of West Florida, Business

Maria Lopez, Career Development, Immokalee Technical Center, Registered Nurse

Julie Madrigal, Career Development, Edison State College, Nursing

George Maravilla, Jr., Take Stock in Children, University of South Florida

Oscar Martinez, Take Stock in Children, Santa Fe Community College, Criminal Justice

Erica Martinez, Career Development, University of North Florida, Nutrition

Richard Martinez, Career Development, Santa Fe Community, Engineer

Adalberto Mejia, Career Development, Immokalee Technical Center

Ruby Mendez, Take Stock in Children, University of Florida, Nursing

Marie Nelson, Career Development, Edison State College, Nursing

Luis Parra, Take Stock in Children, Florida State University, Medicine

Francisca Parra, Career Development, University of Florida, Pre-Med-Plastic Surgeon

Janita Perez, Take Stock in Children, Tallahassee Community College, Web Design

Erby Pierre, Take Stock in Children, Florida Gulf Coast University, Paramedics

Bianca Plata, Take Stock in Children, Valencia Community College, Business Management/Criminal Justice

Ramiro Reyes, Career Development, Michigan State University

Raquel Rios, Immokalee Readers, Edison State College, Nurse/RN

Gloria Rivera, Immokalee Readers, Edison State College, Education

Leticia Robles, Career Development, Air Force, Pre-Med-Physical Therapist

Alexia Sanchez, Career Development, Edison State College

Juan Raul Sandoval, Immokalee Readers, Florida Gulf Coast University, Criminal Justice

Diana Sanon, Immokalee Readers, University of West Florida, Social Work/Lawyer

Ingride Shackelton, Immokalee Readers, Edison State College, Investigator

Angelica Torres, Career Development, Edison State College Shelika Trevino, Take Stock in Children, iTECH, Hair Design

Mariela Vega, Take Stock in Children, Birmingham Southern College, Medical/Surgeon

Martha Vilcin, Career Development, Edison State College, Physical Therapist

Sophia Zetina, Immokalee Readers, Florida Gulf Coast University, Education

Post-Secondary TIF Graduates

Tomas Baltazar, College Success, Florida Gulf Coast University, Marketing & Human Resource Management, Bachelors

Milca Bellegarde, College Success, Florida State University, Communication Sciences & Disorders, Bachelor of Science

Oscar Chavez, College Success, University of Tampa, History, Bachelor of Arts

Kristen Dimas, College Success, Florida State University, Biological Sciences, Bachelor of Science

Cecelia Estrada, College Success, Florida Gulf Coast University, Social Work, Bachelors

Israel Estrada, Career Development, Immokalee Technical Center, Multimedia Design

Claudenet Exceus, College Success, University of Florida, Sports Management, Bachelors of Science

Brittany Gonzalez, College Success, Florida Gulf Coast University, Communication Public Relations, Bachelors of Arts

Aaron Henry, College Success, University of Wisconsin- Madison, Business, Bachelors

Elisa Huapilla, College Success, Florida State University, English Education, Bachelors

Amblin Jean, College Success, University of Central Florida, English, Bachelors of Arts

Emmanuela Lebrun, College Success, University of Florida, Women Studies, Bachelor of Arts

Britney Matthews, College Success, University of Iowa, Economics, Bachelors of Arts



Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/TIF Hogar Martinez with Oscar Martinez, Immokalee Foundation students, celebrate graduation from the program during the recent graduation ceremony. Oscar Martinez will attend Santa Fe Community College and study Criminal Justice.

Jose Mendieta, College Success, University of Central Florida, Business Administration, Bachelors of Science

Maria Mendoza, College Success, Florida Gulf Coast University, Nursing, Bachelors of Science

Yesenia Meza, College Success, Heritage Institute, X-Ray Technician, Certification

Miguel Morales, College Success, University of North Western Ohio, Agricultural

Equipment Deisel Technology Certification

Martin Navarro, College Success, George T. Baker Aviation School, Aircraft Maintenance Technician Certification

Nancy Sanchez, College Success, Florida Gulf Coast University, Social Work, Bachelor of Social Work

Tiffany Taylor, Career Development, Immokalee Technical Center, Multimedia Design.

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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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National Pollinator Week encourages everyone to 'Bee' good to pollinators

Learn what you can do to help the birds and the bees (the bats, butterflies and beetles too!)

As part of National Pollinator Week, from June 18-24, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and its partners will host public events across the country designed to highlight the crucial importance of pollinators like bats, birds, bees, butterflies, and other insects to wildlife, plants and people. Most of all, Pollinator Week seeks to draw attention to the fact that some pollinator species are in trouble and need our help.

"Without pollinators, life on Earth would be scarcely recognizable. We depend on these amazing insects and animals for the clothes we wear, the houses we live in and the food we eat," said Fish and Wildlife Service Director Dan Ashe. "Every American should be concerned about alarming declines in our nation's pollinators, but fortunately everyone can pitch in to help them."

Pollinators are essential to agriculture and forestry, pollinating more than 150 different kinds of fruits, vegetables and nuts that provide a third of the nation's food and beverages. In the United States alone, pollinators enable people to produce about \$20 billion worth of products every year. In addition, more than 75 percent of flowering plants are animal pollinated. These plants provide habitat, food, and shelter for many species of wildlife.

Most plants need pollinators to reproduce, and use nectar to attract them. Animals visit flowers in search of food and sometimes even mates, shelter and nest-building materials. Some animals, such as many bees, intentionally collect pollen, while others, such as many butterflies and birds, move pollen incidentally because the pollen sticks on their body while they are collecting nectar from the flowers. All of these animals are considered pollinators.

A study of the status of pollinators in North America by the National Academy of Sciences found that populations of honey bees (which are not native to North America) and some wild pollinators are declining. Declines in pollinators may be a result of habitat loss and degradation, and disease (introduced parasites and pathogens).

The celebration of National Pollinator Week began in 2007 with Senate Resolution 580 and a proclamation from the Secretary of Agriculture. This recognition has grown each year since, with Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar and a majority of the nation's governors joining Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack in issuing their own proclamations this year.

The Service and its partners will celebrate National Pollinator Week with educational awareness events and conservation proj-

ects. To find a Pollinator Week Event near you, visit:

http://pollinator.org/npw_events.htm

You can help pollinators by:

- Reducing your impact. Reduce your pesticide use, increase green spaces, and reduce your carbon footprint. Pollution and climate change affect pollinators, too!
- Planting for pollinators. Create pollinator-friendly habitat with native flowering plants that supply pollinators with nectar, pollen, and homes.
- Telling a friend. Educate your neighbors, schools, and community groups about the importance of pollinators. Host a dinner, a pollinated food cook-off or other event and invite your friends.

For additional information on pollinators and what you can do to help them, visit <http://www.fws.gov/pollinators>. You can also download a free ecoregional guide online at www.pollinator.org that will help you determine the kinds of pollinator-friendly plants you can plant in your area.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals, and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov. Connect with our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/usfws, follow our tweets at www.twitter.com/usfws, watch our YouTube Channel at <http://www.youtube.com/usfws> and download photos from our Flickr page at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/usfws>

National HIV Testing Day

Take The Test, Take Control

June 27, marks the 19th annual observance of National HIV Testing Day (NHTD), which reminds all Americans that HIV testing is an important step in the prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that everyone between the ages of 14 and 64 take an HIV test at least once a year. The decision to take the test is the first step in taking responsibility for your health and the health of others with whom you may be intimately involved.

An estimated 52,000 Americans each year are newly infected with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. Approximately 8 percent of those new infections occur in Florida. New CDC data indicates that there are now over 1.7 million Americans living with HIV,

Healthcare network gets Trinity grants

The Healthcare Network of Southwest Florida, formerly CHS Healthcare, has received two grants from Trinity-By-The-Cove Episcopal Church - The Archangel Fund for Collier County Charities. Healthcare Network received \$10,000 for the Sister Veronica Fund and an additional grant of \$10,000 for the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile® program.

The Sister Veronica Fund is a resource of last resort for low income, uninsured patients. The money from this fund is used only to pay for urgently needed prescription medications, dental care, or eye exams.

The Ronald McDonald Care Mobile is a mobile dental/medical unit for children in need. Use of this state-of-the-art vehicle is provided by Ronald McDonald House Charities® while staffing and services are the responsibility of the Healthcare Network of Southwest Florida. The Trinity grant will be used to purchase an intraoral camera and printer for parental education and will provide funds for screenings and dental treatments onboard the Care Mobile.

Healthcare Network of Southwest Florida is very grateful for this generous support for our mission from Trinity-By-The-Cove Episcopal Church - The Archangel Fund for Collier County Charities. The Healthcare Network is a nonprofit 501c3 healthcare organization. For more information on Healthcare Network and its locations, visit: www.healthcareswfl.org. To contact the Healthcare Network of Southwest Florida Foundation, call Connie Dillon at 239-658-3111.

and at least 25 percent of those do not know that they are HIV-positive.

In Collier County, we have over 1,500 reported cases of HIV/AIDS; our number of new cases for the past 5 years has been an average of 50 a year. Whether we realize it or not, HIV/AIDS is in our neighborhoods, and it affects all of us here in Collier County.

For information on times and places, please contact the following: Collier County Health Dept.- Naples: 3339 East Tamiami Trail, Government Center Building H; Call 239-252-8593. Planned Parenthood of Collier County 1425 Creech Road, Naples. Call 239-262 8923 ext 322. Marion E. Fether Medical Center: 1454 Madison Ave W, Immokalee; Call 239-658-3000. Collier County Health Dept.- Immokalee: 419 1st Street, Immokalee; Call 239-252-7300.

Immokalee Little League celebrates season's end

We the Immokalee Board of Directors would proudly like to present our Little League teams to our community. Wishing them to continue good sportsmanship and camaraderie, not forgetting education and sportsmanship run hand in hand. We are very proud of our little ones and hopefully someday we will be able to read about them in the Big Leagues or Majors. We would also like to thank again our sponsors, parents, volunteers, friends and relatives who show up at the games to cheer for our little ones.

The Immokalee Little League is seeking volunteers to serve on the Board. We are

also needing Umpires and training is free. Submit your application. If you are interested, feel free to contact any Board Member at the numbers provided. If you want to be a part of something BIG, submit your nomination for the year of 2013.

For more information, please call any one of our coaches: Juan Garcia Jr. 239-634-2407, Josh Rincon 239-229-8972, Hector Ramos 239-564-9645, Corinna Garcia 239-462-8705, William Trevino III 239-324-3072, William Trevino Jr. 239-324-3075, Lisa Garcia 239-503-0922.



Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/William Trevino
Immokalee Little League Minors Pirates team receive their trophies in recognition of their hard fought season assisted by the team coaches Eddie Saucedo-Erik Martinez.



Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/William Trevino
Immokalee Little League Braves Majors team celebrates their season's end with trophies and an end of the season barbecue. Coaches, William Trevino (not pictured) and Teo Alviar were recognized for their assistance throughout the season

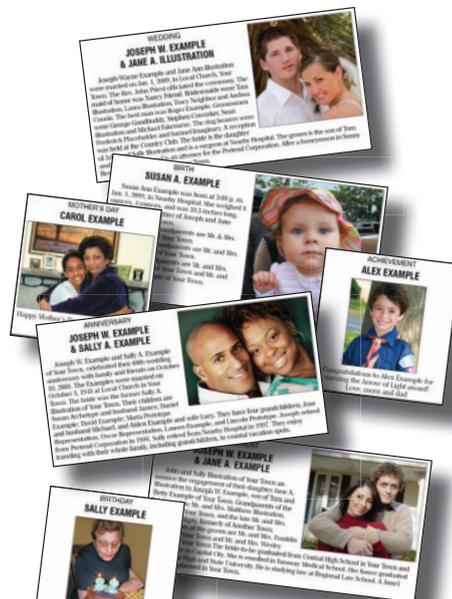


Special to the Immokalee Bulletin/William Trevino
Immokalee Little League Rays Majors team with their coaches, Juan Aviles and Juan Ramirez. The team celebrated playing a great season receiving their trophies and will be playing in the upcoming playoffs games.

Engaged? Just married? Golden anniversary?
Birthday? Holiday? New baby?
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