

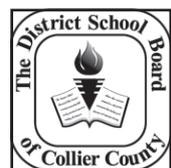
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how to contact the newspaper.

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Immokalee Bulletin/Patty Brant

Announcing holiday splendor

Immokalee will be watched over by 40 holiday angels this Christmas season, thanks to the efforts of CRA MSTU Planning Manager Jeff Nagle. He received word recently that the plan was approved by the Department of Transportation. The expense will be shared by the MSTU, CRA and casino. The beautiful lighted angels will hang from every other blue light pole on Main Street, interspersed with lighted garland. Watch for these heavenly guardians to go up around Thanksgiving. On November 14 the public is invited to attend a special meeting for the grand unveiling of tentative plans for the First Street Plaza and will have a chance to offer suggestions and ideas to be incorporated into the plaza's final design. The meeting will take place at 5-7 p.m. at the Immokalee Community Park, 321 North First Street. The Immokalee Community Redevelopment District Advisory Committee will meet earlier that day.

Immokalee connection to Hendry mystery?

Saturday morning, November 10, Hendry County Sheriffs' Office received a report of a burned vehicle on County Road 835. When emergency personnel arrived on scene they found a 4-door sedan that was badly burned and smoldering. Upon further examination a body was found inside the vehicle burned.

Hendry County Investigators were called to the scene along with the State Fire Marshal's office. At this time Investigators are attempting to locate the vehicle's owner, and are currently unable to identify the victim found inside. Although

See Mystery — Page 2

Kindergartners, airport: Instant love

by Patty Brant
Immokalee Bulletin

Kids and airplanes mean instant excitement.

That's how it was November 9 when kindergartners from Highlands Elementary discovered Immokalee Regional Airport for the first time. The annual Community Field Trip put kids in the cockpit and showed many of them a slice of life they'd never experienced before.

Collier County Airport Authority Executive Director Chris Curry was on hand for the event. He said he wants to start exposing kids to aviation early on all county airports, a prospect he said was en-

dorsed by Collier County Schools.

The kids were enthusiastic as Collier County Mosquito Control employees showed off two helicopters and a Skyvan aircraft and explained how they are used.

The kids were mesmerized as the 70-foot Seminole Indian Casino hot air balloon came to life before them. Anyone who wanted it got the chance to hop in the basket and pull the lever, that fills the balloon with hot air. The students learned that the first-ever hot air balloon flight was in 1782. Balloon Group Sales manager Jenny Thomas said there will be 48 bal-



Immokalee Bulletin/Patty Brant

Six-year-old Rosalinda Figueroa's face reflects her excitement as she's lowered out of a Mosquito Control helicopter.

See Airport — Page 2

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Big Cypress announces 2012 Swamp Heritage Festival

Big Cypress National Preserve is excited to announce the 2012 Swamp Heritage Festival.

This annual family-friendly event shines a spotlight upon the people with a deep connection to the Big Cypress Swamp, whose rugged strength and pioneering spirit contributed to the shaping of today's unique and diverse culture.

Through living history demonstrations, informative presentations, and exhibits everyone can learn what daily life was like in such a remote, and at times, inhospitable place.

These unique chapters in American his-

tory add to the rich and colorful tableau that comprises our shared past and present.

The festival will take place Saturday, December 1, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Big Cypress Swamp Welcome Center, 33000 Tamiami Trail East, Ochopee.

For more information, and an agenda of speakers and exhibitors, visit the event page at - www.nps.gov/bicy/swampheritagefestival.

Special thanks to the South Florida National Parks Trust - www.southfloridaparks.org - for their generous support for the festival.

Mystery

Continued From Page 1

to identify the victim found inside. Although the tag on the vehicle was registered to an address in Immokalee, investigators feel it may not be the proper tag for the vehicle.

Hendry County Investigators are continuing to follow up on leads as they come in.

They are awaiting autopsy results in an effort to identify the victim and the cause of death, and other test results from evidence

found at the scene.

At this time Investigators have not yet made a determination as to whether this is a homicide, suicide or accident.

If anyone has any information leading the identification of the victim in this case, you are asked to contact the Hendry County Sheriff's Office at 863-805-5000 or 863-674-5600.



Immokalee Bulletin/Patty Brant

Carlos Cardenas and his son Brandon had a special day at Immokalee Airport. Carlos said he volunteers at his children's schools as often as he can. Brandon's feeling about the field trip: "it's more fun with Dad."



Bulletin

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The Caloosa Belle 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 help our community become a better place to live and work, through our dedication to conscientious journalism.
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- To report the news with honesty, accuracy, purposeful neutrality, fairness, objectivity, fearlessness and compassion.
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- 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.

Airport

Continued From Page 1

loons at next year's Balloons Over Immokalee as well as kites, dogs and other special treats.

David Randall had a DVM Cessna 182 on display; George "Jake" Jacob had two gyrocopters; and Clem Ondreck displayed a Debonair. The airport display included vital equipment such as tractors, a runway cleaning Bobcat, jet A fuel tank and two runway closure devices.

For good measure, Immokalee Regional Raceway added two dragsters (okay, so maybe they can't fly, but they sure look like they could!)

Adrian Salinas, Mosquito Control Public Information Officer helped the children into the agency's helicopter where they could get the feel of being a real pilot, giving them a personal experience - a moment to remember. He said he himself still remembers that first exposure to aviation as a child when he was on a family vacation and enjoys providing that experience to other kids.

"It's special," he said with a smile.

At this yearly event with HES, which began in 2005, kindergartners become acquainted with airport operation and experts

explain their jobs and the work their aircraft do for the community.

During the morning, 120 students were introduced to the world of flight through 45-minute tours.

Airport Manager Tom Vergo said Immokalee Regional Airport handles 36,500 operations per year (take offs and landings). It employs three maintenance workers, an administrative coordinator and the airport manager. Situated on 1,400 acres, the airport was a World War II training facility and still retains its original runway. Currently, the county is seeking a grant to refurbish and reconstruct that runway. Typically, these grants are split three ways, Mr. Vergo said, with the FAA supplying 90 percent of the funding, and FDOT and the county each kicking in five percent.

Their bright eyes and excited smiles said it all as the little ones took it all in.

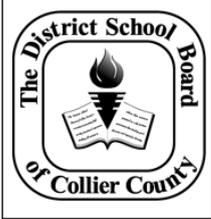
Comments like "It was like a video game - cool!" "Awesome!" and "Super fun!" popped up everywhere.

And next year another group of kindergartners will have their chance to begin to "discover their wings."

Students First

by Maribel De Armas

Think back to your high school days. Mine weren't too long ago (just a little over a decade), but we'll probably share a similar mental picture as we recall memories of a time-honored tradition – Homecoming. I remember the colorful and wacky week-long



Spirit Days leading up to the long-awaited Homecoming football game and formal dance showcasing the school's elected royalty. At times, the Homecoming King and Queen, and their royal court, are based on high school recognition, but at Immokalee High School this year, it was definitely all about heart. This year, a young man who never thought he would be called royalty was crowned Homecoming King.

And that student is Immokalee High senior Julio Loya – a highly decorated Special Olympics athlete, a waterboy for the school's varsity football team, and an all-around pretty wonderful guy. Julio is a kind young man who is not only an example for fellow classmates in his exceptional education class, but really for the entire school. So much so, that one of his fellow royal running mates dropped his homecoming king bid to support Julio's candidacy – even to the extent of asking for his votes to be rolled over to Julio. Other royal can-

didates were also heard asking students to vote for Julio instead of themselves. In the end, during halftime of last Friday's football game, Julio was cheered on by a supportive crowd students, school staff, and the Immokalee community, as the white crown was placed on his head and he donned his red sash. Julio was one happy guy and one of many happy Immokalee High Indians.

And speaking of Immokalee High Indians, the school's athletics are really picking up steam as the varsity football team become District 5A-12 champs and head to the playoff games. Plus, the Boys Cross Country team became regional champs and the Girls Cross Country team placed fourth in the regional finals – both teams heading to the state championships on Saturday. Best of luck to the Indians!

If you're looking for something fun to do just before the weekend, you're in luck because Eden Park Elementary School has just the ticket. On Friday evening (November 16) from 5 to 7 p.m., the school is hosting their annual Fall Festival and it's open to the entire Immokalee community. There's no cost to get in, but you'll need to purchase tickets for the food and entertainment booths. It's sure to be fun for the whole family with a photo booth, sack race, bounce house, cake walk, face painting stand, and so much more. And I hear there will even be a dunk tank. Definitely a good time for all!

Partnership with schools put iPads into the hands of area students

With new technology introduced every day and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) education a top priority, Collier County Public Schools (CCPS) is proud to announce an exciting partnership that will benefit students as they prepare for their futures.

As part of the district's "Teach Me in My World" initiative, Arthrex, Inc. generously donated iPad technology that is now being used in STEM-related classrooms at a total of ten schools, including all CCPS high schools, Everglades City School, and Beacon High School. The announcement is being made official by CCPS Superintendent, Dr. Kamela Patton.

During a visit to Golden Gate High School (GGH), Dr. Patton and representatives from Arthrex spent some time with students in Biology and Earth & Space Science classrooms.

They saw, first-hand, how teachers are integrating the iPads into their lessons to enhance student learning, and how students are thankful that this technology is a part of their academic life.

"It's rewarding to see the students' en-

gagement with this exciting technology and we commend Collier County Public Schools for integrating this tremendous program in the STEM-related classroom environment so seamlessly and expeditiously," said Lisa Gardiner, Arthrex spokeswoman.

Dr. Patton sincerely thanks Arthrex for helping the district reach kids in their own digital world. "We are very thankful that partners like Arthrex listen to a thought — a dream — and then help make it a reality for our kids. We are so very grateful for this donation because it will enhance the education of our kids and who knows where they'll end up — hopefully right back here in Collier, some with Arthrex and some teaching for us."

To learn more, contact the Communications and Community Engagement Department at 377-0180 or via email at: communications@collierschools.com.

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Public Meetings

Hispanic Affairs Advisory Board meeting

Thursday, Nov. 15, 6 p.m.

Notice is hereby given that the Hispanic Affairs Advisory Board will meet Thursday, November 15, at 6:00 p.m. in the Board of County Commissioners chambers, third floor, Collier County Government Center, 3299 Tamiami Trail East, Naples.

In regard to the public meeting:

- Law Enforcement Presentation by Manny Gonzalez

All interested parties are invited to attend, and to register to speak and to submit their objections, if any, in writing, to the board/committee prior to the meeting if applicable. All registered public speakers will be limited to three minutes unless permission for additional time is granted by the chairman.

Collier County Ordinance No. 2004-05 requires that all lobbyists shall, before engaging in any lobbying activities (including, but not limited to, addressing the Board of County Commissioners, an advisory board or quasi-judicial board), register with the Clerk to the Board at the Board Minutes and Records Department.

Anyone who requires an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication, or other reasonable accommodations in order to participate in this proceeding, should contact the Collier County Facilities Management Department located at 3335 Tamiami Trail East, Naples, Florida 34112, or 239-252-8380 as soon as possible, but no later than 48 hours before the scheduled event. Such reasonable accommodations will be provided at no cost to the individual.

For more information, call Marlene Serano at (239) 252-2487.

Community Briefs

Christmas Around the World

Christmas Around the World event will be held on Saturday, December 8, at the Immokalee Sports Complex. We will be selling presale tickets for the entrance fee. Presale tickets are 6 tickets for \$5. We will charge \$1 per person at the gate. Children under 6 yrs. will be FREE.

Got an extra jacket?

As temperatures continue to drop in SW Florida, St. Matthew's House has launched a drive to collect blankets, coats, jackets and

sweatshirts for the homeless and at-risk in the community. The organization reports that it's most in need of warm men's clothing as well as jackets/coats for the homeless and at-risk school aged children of Immokalee. St. Matthew's House is partnering with area schools who have already identified children in need.

Donations can be made at St. Matthew's House main office 2001 Airport Road S., Naples. For more information call 239-774-0500.

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Submitted photo/David Dawson

Halloween fun

Store Director David Dawson, right, with Maria Aragus, Jesus Hernandez and Esmeralda Arevalo handing out candy on behalf of Suncoast Schools Federal Credit Union.

*Filled With Our Gratitude
at Thanksgiving*



At this season of reflection, our hearts are full, as we count our many blessings including the friendship of people like you! We hope you enjoy a marvelous and meaningful celebration with the ones you love, and we look forward to serving you again, soon!

The Immokalee Bulletin will be closed on Thursday and Friday, November 22 and 23
The paper will be on the street, Wednesday, November 21

But in order to do this we have to move up our deadlines:
Display ads are due by 5pm on Thursday, November 15
Classified ads & legal ads are due by noon Friday, November 16
Obituaries will be taken up to 2 p.m. on Monday, November 19

Soccer Pit Cobras U13 and U14 are on the move

by Manny Touron

Soccer Pit Cobras U13 and U14 boys played home games the weekend of November 3 at the Immokalee Sports Complex. The doubleheader started with the U14s facing Lehigh Lightning. The boys played an outstanding game in where they controlled the middle of the field and scored when they had the opportunities. Goalkeeper Alexis Carbajal made two outstanding stops to preserve the shutout.

Kensly Jn Baptiste put on incredible offensive display as he scored four of the team's five goals, the other goal coming from Agalando Charles. Game outcome Cobras 5 Lehigh 0

Overall, all the players can be credited with a solid win. The boys will be back at the Sports Complex this Saturday at noon when

they face Braden River.

U13 boys tie Strikers

The U13 boys faced the Lee County Strikers in the second game of the day and came out with a 3-3 tie. This game saw a battle of two good teams going back and forth. The Cobras opened the score when Lupito Guzman placed the ball into the left corner of the net for a 1-0 score. After a goal from the Strikers, Lupito came back to put the Cobras ahead 2-1. Strikers tied the game again. Anthony Marroquin put the Cobras ahead one more time with his goal only to see the Strikers tie the game for the third time. The entire team played well.

U14 in first place

U14 move into first place in The USA

League South Division with a 9-1 victory over Braden River this past weekend at the Sports Complex. The boys will be in Sara-

sota this weekend. The U12 Boys will be playing Cape Coral at home at the Sports Complex at noon.



Submitted photo Manny Touron

The Soccer Pit Cobras U13 and U14 team and coaches.



Submitted photo/Christie Betancourt

Go Seminoles!

The Immokalee Seminoles Pop Warner League would like to congratulate the Immokalee Sr. Midgets team for making it to the playoffs. The Sr. Midget team went 6-2 this year. Special thanks to Head Coach Scotty Gadsen (left of picture), Assistant Coach, Ben DeJesus (not pictured) and Benjamin Garcia (center) and Team Mom Maria Marciano (right of picture).



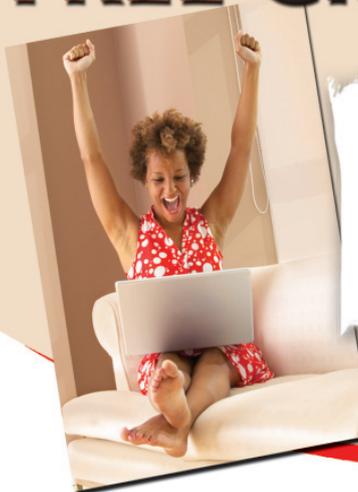
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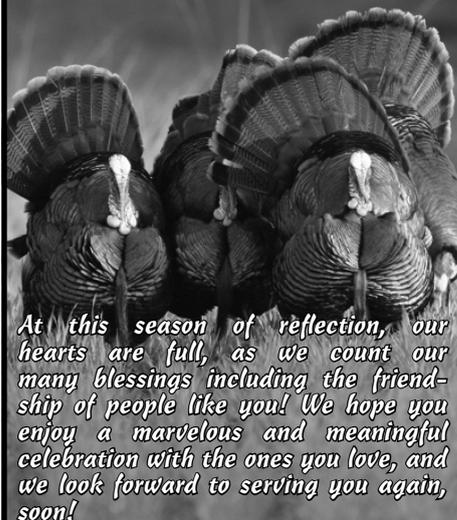
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Special Notice

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Gospel Celebration Inspirational Highlights

by Vickie Carr

IMMOKALEE – With worshipful and flowing praise dancers, soloists, an ambience environment and multicultural attendees, the atmosphere was set for an afternoon of inspirational gospel celebration. “Gospel music is an integral part of the fabric of our community and we’re excited to host the first Gospel Celebration targeted at inspiring our spiritual leaders and individuals through music,” said Vicki Carr, Community Liaison. “We’re committed to giving back to those we serve and this is just one of the many ways Front Porch is deeply rooted in the community.”

Held Sunday, Nov. 4, the afternoon featured a powerful display of inspiration with opening prayer led by Vierdieu Clement, praise and worship by Ultimate Praise of Lehigh Acres, uprising youth performances by praise dancers from the Haitian-Free Methodist ministry and Azariah Howard, and solo by E’Fennadi Anderson all of Immokalee.

Special recognition of pastors was presented by showcasing them down the runway individually announced by Marlene. A delicious meal was prepared and served by energetic volunteers. While the afternoon was well-rounded with soulful praise and worship, a special solo was performed by Susie, followed by LifeSwitch of Naples and ended with powerful songs and electrifying words of inspiration by Paul Lodato of WRXY, Christian Television Network.

Special honor is given to each and every ministry and individual that was represented, Rommy Torrico, Pastor Dorothy Washington of House of Prayer for the use of their sanctuary and last but not least, the entire Front Porch board of directors.

For more information on the Gospel Celebration or wish to become part of next year’s planning committee, call 239.658.1300 or 239.503.7733.



Submitted photo/Rick Heers

These young ladies are doing a beautiful interpretive dance from the Haitian Free Methodist Church.

Collier County marching bands receive high ratings

Collier County Public Schools is proud of its seven high school marching bands as they all received high ratings at Saturday’s Florida Bandmasters Association District 18 Music Performance Assessment (MPA). Held at Gulf Coast High School (GCH), this was the first time a Collier County school ever hosted this event.

Participating bands performed a show between 7-10 minutes, and were rated against a standard in the categories of Music, Marching and Maneuvering, General Effect, and Auxiliary. A Superior (S) is the highest rating, followed by Excellent (E), and Good (G). Following are the final overall ratings for CCPS bands:

- Barron Collier High School – Superior (straight S in all categories)
- Golden Gate High School – Superior

(straight S in all categories)

- Gulf Coast High School – Superior (straight S in all categories)
- Immokalee High School – Excellent
- Lely High School – Excellent
- Naples High School – Superior (straight S in all categories)
- Palmetto Ridge High School – Superior (straight S in all categories)

While Immokalee and Lely high schools received an Excellent overall rating, they both received Superiors in the categories of Marching and Maneuvering, General Effect, and Auxiliary. Congratulations to all the student performers and band directors!

To learn more, please contact GCH Band Director Steve DeLadurantey at 377-1690 or email at deladust@collierschools.com.



submitted photo/Bernardo Barnhardt

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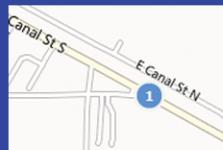
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