



Bulletin

Serving Immokalee, Ave Maria and Eastern Collier County

Vol. 45 No. 45

Thursday, November 22, 2012



Happy Thanksgiving

Rick Heers Award

One by One Leadership Foundation has a few free reservations available for its first-ever Community Service Award Banquet to honor Rick and Judy Heers for their 25 years of service to the Immokalee Community.

The free banquet (five-course dinner provided) is scheduled for Friday evening, November 30 from 6:30-9:00 p.m. at the iTECH. Members of their family will be present along with scores of other guests.

Special music will be provided by their daughter, Mrs. Becca Perez. In order to make reservations, you must either call John Lawson, Executive Director of One by One at 239.248.5857 or email him at Lawsonjohn@earthlink.net, and confirm how many guest will be attending with you.

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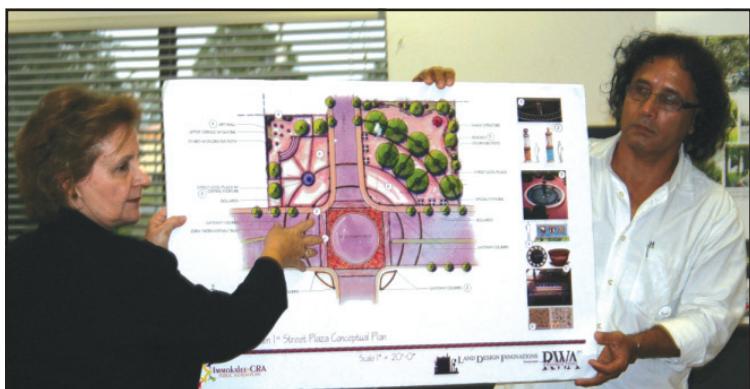
munity Park on 1st Street North on November 14, 2012 to meet with the artist and architect who are assisting in developing the style and design of the new plaza being planned through the CRA ledersh

Its executive director, Penny Phillipi. Artist Renzos Aviles and architect David Corban led most of the lively discussion with the community members.

The advertised meeting was held in order to give the community added input to the layout and design of the project that will be located at the northwest intersection of Main Street (CR 29) and First Street.

Discussion centered around the colors, the design and the components of the plaza that would reflect the character of our Latin American/Central and South American/Caribbean citizenry of our community.

Important to those in attendance were the colors, and brick-work with a center large fountain



Submitted photo/Rick Heers

Immokalee CRA Executive Director Penny Phillipi assists artist Renzos Aviles in revealing plans for the first downtown community plaza.

From eggplant to education: Principal for a day

by Patty Brant
Immokalee Bulletin

Education is for everybody and it involves everybody.

For instance, at first glance grocery stores and elementary schools don't seem to have that much in common. But, as members of the same community, essentially they have the same goals.

Winn-Dixie depends on Immokalee residents for its success through its customers and as employees.

Students are in the beginning phase of becoming good citizens, family members and employees.

So for the new store director of Winn-Dixie, David Dawson, to reach out to Highlands Elementary in the Principal for a Day program isn't as incongruous as it may seem.

This Collier County School Board program reaches out to community leaders as hands-on partners in education.

Highlands Principal Valerie Wenrich spent last Thursday showing her school to Mr. Dawson, giving him an inside view of how Highlands is preparing youngsters for the future - both theirs and Immokalee's.

Mr. Dawson accepted the transfer to the Immokalee store just about four months ago. Since that time he's already stirred things up in the community. "You're all the buzz," Ms. Wenrich told him. Innovative and quick to get involved in the community,

Mr. Dawson said he has been in the grocery business for 17 years, starting at just 16 and has business experience going back to age 12, working in his father's pet shop. He has recently come on the board of directors at the Immokalee Chamber of Commerce and is eager to help grow its current 60 members to the

See Principal — Page 2



Immokalee Bulletin/Patty Brant
Highlands Elementary Principal for a Day Dave Dawson of Winn-Dixie and Principal Wenrich sits with sixth grade team members Brenda Day, Christine Foreman as Adam Fleenor presents test results and the team discusses how their teaching methods could be adjusted to improve them.

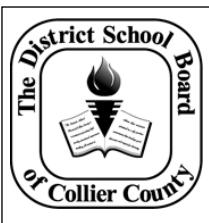
BLACK FRIDAY SALES EVENT
ENDS NOVEMBER 30



Students First

By Joe Landon

Here we are giving thanks on this Thanksgiving Day. As we reflect on what's really important in life – the many things we should be thankful for – from where I sit in the district's Communications & Community Engagement Department, I find there is so much to give thanks for:



- The voters of Collier County: Thank you for your overwhelming approval of our Referendum on General Election Day. Our students thank you for thinking of them when voting.

- Our Immokalee students attending our high school, middle school, five elementary schools and iTECH: We are grateful for your thirst for knowledge and desire to learn, and for giving all of us who work in our schools and district offices much joy and a reason for being.

- Our students' parents/guardians and families: Without your support our schools wouldn't be able to do what they do. Thanks for being there for your children – our students.

- Our teachers: You definitely put students first! Thank you for your daily commitment to giving your all to your students as you heed the call to serve in the noblest profession.

- All school and district staff: The support that you provide to our schools and our students is absolutely essential to the learning that's taking place in the classroom each day.

- Our principals and leadership teams: You truly have the best interest of our students at heart.

- Our school volunteers: We very much appreciate the gift of the time you give to our students and schools in so many ways. You are part of our team!

- Our School Board Members: We appreciate the direction you provide as policymakers and members of the district's governance team along with our Superintendent.

- Our Superintendent: Thanks, Dr. Patton, for your energy, passion, and wisdom. Thanks for all of the enhancements you have brought our way in the year and a half you have been here.

- The Immokalee Bulletin: Thanks for providing this wonderful communications opportunity.

- You: Thanks for reading our Students First columns each week as you show an interest in learning more about what's taking place in your schools and your school district.

Letter to the Editor

The Numbers Count

Collier County sheriff, Kevin Rambosk deems the 287g agreement that he signed with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (I.C.E.) three years ago, a success. This agreement was to primarily arrest and deport undocumented criminals from our area, but is this actually happening?

In defining the success of the program, the sheriff only points out that the program has led to the deportation of many undocumented criminals without giving specific numbers. The sheriff and his surrogates

have not said what percent of the undocumented that have been deported as a result of 287g are actually criminals.

Many of us in the community suspect that up to 80% of the over 2,000 undocumented that have been deported are not criminals. If this is true, the 287g agreement has not been adhered to. If the sheriff cannot provide these figures perhaps I.C.E. will be able to do so, since they also signed the 287g agreement that is supposed to primarily deport undocumented criminals.

Juan Puerto, M.D.

Football benefit, bball coming up

Turkey Hoops

For the second year, basketball is added to the Thanksgiving weekend list of things to do as locals gather to play a little friendly basketball.

The 2nd Annual Turkey Hoops basketball game hosted by the Greater Immokalee Front Porch will tip-off on Saturday, Nov. 24, at 7:15 p.m., at the "Gym" located at Immokalee Sports Complex, 505 Escambia Street. Doors open at 6 p.m.

All co-ed players from 1970–1996 are welcome.

For additional information or to sign-up for a team, contact Wilson "Toot" Riley at 239.867.1394 or Sylvester Williams at 239.324.1497.

Principal

Continued From Page 1

target of 150.

"I want people to want to shop at Winn Dixie." He said the Immokalee store is the only main grocery chain in Immokalee and is the #1 store in the district in gross money. He added that he is striving for a family, community atmosphere at the store.

Coming to Immokalee was a huge change for him, Mr. Dawson said, although he was born and raised in Florida, but that hasn't stopped him from jumping right in. He's already becoming known for his community outreach in events like the Halloween Trunk or Treat, a scavenger hunt for students and Highland's Fall Festival.

He said he's also planning to start WIC training for the community to teach families how to make the most of the program. He has a real affinity for children, it was apparent as he went about the school, talking to teachers and interacting with students.

"I love being involved with kids. I love the smiles," he said, with a big grin of his own. He added that being Principal for a Day, being with kids, "helps me learn to be softer dealing with managers and employees, especially the younger ones." He's also looking for ways to have educational events like science and math days at the store.

Highlands Principal Valerie Wenrich applauds Mr. Dawson's efforts to support education at his store. She feels that "out of building" experiences are good for kids, expanding their view of the world and themselves.

She said experience outside their normal life, makes students better able to see their

own role in the world.

It may also provide time for some of them to just be kids. Many kids are forced by circumstance to take on adult responsibilities. They are their parents' translators and help them navigate their strange new home in innumerable ways. Sometimes, they just need time to be kids.

Ms. Wenrich has been principal at Highlands Elementary for one year and has been in education for 19 years. She also finds it beneficial to look for unorthodox ways of teaching and connecting with students. She was even willing to man the dunk tank at the Fall Festival. Seeing your principal half-drowned makes her more approachable to adults as well as little ones.

As a Title 1 school, Highlands continuously seeks to improve. Everything is a work in progress, with teachers willing to respond to the information uncovered by this ongoing examination, which focuses on finding the best way to get the subject matter to each child.

Teacher committees sift through results from testing gleaned from Collier County School District tests, discussing the possible reasons behind the data - exactly what and how the students are learning; if they did not learn, they look for the reasons why and deduce how the subject matter can better be taught.

Teachers are ready to reinforce regular lessons and change plans as it becomes necessary. They're ready to see the flaws in their methods and adjust them to make the most of their skills.

Bulletin

Serving Immokalee, Ave Maria and Eastern Collier County

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The Immokalee Bulletin welcomes submissions from its readers. Opinions, calendar items, story ideas and photographs are welcome. Call **(239) 657-6000** to reach our newsroom. The deadline for all news items is 11 a.m. on Monday prior to the following Thursday's publication.

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Our Purpose...

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.

We Pledge...

- To operate this newspaper as a public trust
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- 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.

General Election results officially certified

Collier County, FL-November 16, 2012: The Collier County Canvassing Board met today and certified the official results of the November 6, 2012 General Election. At this point, all absentee and provisional ballots cast in Collier County have been reviewed by the Canvassing Board. The results include ballots cast in person during early voting and Election Day, as well as valid absentee and provisional ballots.

Of the 180,560 eligible Collier County voters, 150,346 or 83.27 percent participated in the General Election by casting their ballot.

- Ballots Cast - Total: 150,346
- Ballots Cast - Absentee: 48,646
- Ballots Cast - Early Voting: 52,290
- Ballots Cast - Election Day: 49,089
- Ballots Cast - Provisional: 321

Ave Maria event to feature school performances

NAPLES, FL., -- November 13, 2012-- Ave Maria Development announces this year's line-up at the annual Celebration of Lights event to be held on Friday, November 30 from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Performances will include the Immokalee High School Marching Band, Barron Collier High School Drum Line, Palmetto Ridge High School Jazz Band and Orchestra, Cypress Palm Middle School Choir, Estates Elementary Choir, and Rhodora J. Donahue Academy Choir, among others. The evening will kick-off with a parade at 6:00 pm followed by a variety of performances in the Town Center.

Back again by popular demand—an outdoor ice skating garden for kids of all ages! Complimentary skates will be available. After a spin on the ice, stroll through the Town Center to enjoy festive food and drinks including a wine bar and hot chocolate and shopping at the local boutiques. Outdoor fun continues all night long at the mechanical snowboard simulator and inflatable Twister, bounce house, rock wall, and snow globe photos with Santa Claus. With starry

In compliance with the Florida law, the Collier County Canvassing Board will conduct a manual audit of election results at the Supervisor of Elections office on Wednesday, November 21, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. The manual audit is open for public observation.

The audit requires that the Canvassing Board randomly select one contest and one precinct to be manually audited. At its meeting today the Board randomly selected the following race and precinct: Seat 2 Heritage Greens CDD, Precinct 310.

State officials will officially certify Florida's statewide results on November 20th.

For more information, visit www.Coller-Votes.com or contact the Supervisor of Elections office at (239) 252-8450.

winter skies above, guests can dance to a local deejay, listen to local youth choirs and jazz bands, and enjoy an old-fashioned holiday gathering. This event is free and open to the public.

The Town of Ave Maria has been designed as a hometown for the 21st century, a place where residents of different generations and backgrounds can find all they need to live life to the fullest – schools, shopping, employment opportunities, recreational facilities, and more.

In addition, the presence of Ave Maria University offers educational and cultural experiences unlike any other in the area. At its build out, it will include 11,000 residences in its 4,000 acres. Ave Maria is located at the intersection of Oil Well and Camp Keais Roads in Eastern Collier County. The main entrance, on Oil Well just west of Camp Keais, leads to the Town Center.

For more information, please visit www.avemaria.com or call 239-352-3903.

Normal public use resumes for Everglades area WMAs

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) has rescinded previously issued executive orders that established special restrictions on portions of the Everglades and Francis S. Taylor, Holey Land and Rotenberger Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs).

The order, which takes effect immediately, once again permits normal public access to these WMAs, which lie in Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach counties.

For updated closure and reopening information, you may visit MyFWC.com/DisasterPlan and click on "Open/Closed Status of FWC Offices and FWC-managed Areas."

If you have additional questions, please call the FWC's South Regional Office at 561-625-5122.

Regulations specific to the wildlife management areas can be viewed at MyFWC.com/Hunting.

Pace invites you to 'fore' for a cause

Fort Myers, Fla. (Nov. 15, 2012) – PACE Center for Girls of Lee County will host a Holiday Golf Classic on Friday, Dec. 7, from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. to benefit the organization's capital campaign for a new building.

Presented by The Martel Agency and Patricia Bell, the tournament will take place at Riverbend Golf & County Club, an executive par three course, at 6270 River Club Court in North Fort Myers.

Registration begins at 1 p.m. with a shotgun start at 2 p.m. Sponsorship opportunities start at \$600 and individual golfers can play for \$75.

"This is a fun tournament for those who just want to have fun on the green," shares Christin Collins, PACE board member, "It's best ball, so non-golfers are welcome. Glorified miniature golf is what we are going for here."

An after-party will begin at 5:30 p.m. at Southern Waters located at 16400 Williams Road in North Fort Myers with BBQ catered by Reuben's Catering, live music by The Killa-watts, dancing and silent auction. Dinner only registration is available for \$35.

To sign-up or learn more visit www.pacecenter.org/lee or call or Melissa Cofta

at (239) 425-2366 ext. 25.

PACE Center for Girls is dedicated to providing girls and young women an opportunity for a better future through education, counseling, training and advocacy. PACE Lee is funded by the Department of Juvenile Justice, The School District of Lee County, Lee County Human Services, United Way of Lee County, grants and corporate and private donations. For more information about PACE, visit www.pacecenter.org/lee.



Annual Snowfest coming up Dec. 1

On Saturday, Dec. 1, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Collier County Parks and Recreation will host Snowfest, celebrating 27 years of fun in the snow.

What started in 1985 with just five tons of snow and a few hundred people, Snowfest is now Collier County's largest community event, attracting over 15,000 people to play in 100 tons of snow.

No matter what the "real" weather is snow will be in Collier County's forecast for Saturday, December 1. Activities include toboggan snow hills, ice-skating rink, Santa's workshop, festive foods, and a full-scale carnival.

Come to Golden Gate Community Park, 3300 Santa Barbara Boulevard. Gate Admission: \$2 per person; children three and un-

der free. Parking: Calusa Park Elementary, 4600 Santa Barbara Boulevard, Berkshire Commons at Radio Road & Santa Barbara Boulevard.

Free shuttles to the event will be available. For more information visit www.snowfestnaples.com, or call (239) 252-4000.

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Edison State first provider for new dental hygienist course

It's a first for Florida, and for the Southwest Florida region. Edison State College is the first to offer "Local Anesthesia for the Dental Hygienist" continuing education course. Recent legislative changes now allow dental hygienists to be certified to administer anesthesia to patients.

Classes begin November 30, 2012 and continue through January 5, 2013. Tuition is \$1500. For more information call (239) 433-6963 or email: celee@edison.edu.

This course is designed through 30-hours of online study and 30-hours of clinical preparation for licensed dental hygienists to administer local anesthesia.

EC opens Spring registration

Registration for Spring 2013 classes at Edison State College has opened to the general public.

There are three Spring terms offered:

- Full Spring Semester classes begin January 9, 2013
- Spring A Semester classes begin January 9, 2013

Edison State offers only state approved Nurse Remedial Program

Program available on Naples and Fort Myers campuses

November 19, 2012 – SOUTHWEST FLORIDA – Edison State College is the only state-approved program in Southwest Florida to offer this State-required Nurse Remedial course. This is an intensive program of 96 hours of didactic and clinical experiences designed for the Registered Nurse and LPN reentering the work force and the Graduate Nurse in need of remediation.

Classes are held on Saturdays and clinical hours are scheduled on weekends. The 2013 Classes begin January 19th on the Collier Campus and on February 2nd on the Lee Campus.

The curriculum includes a comprehensive review of anatomy, psychology, pathophysiology, pharmacology, the nursing process and current trends in nursing. Emphasis is placed on the National Patient Safety Goals and how these goals improve the delivery of safe patient care. Lectures, home studies, skills lab and acute hospital clinical experiences are all provided in a relaxed atmosphere to promote learning.

Edison State College has partnered with local hospital facilities to ensure the best possible learning experience in the clinical environments. All 96 required clinical hours are prescheduled and provide clinical experience in medical, surgical, obstetric, pediatric, geriatric nursing and psychiatric nursing.

This program provides theoretical instruction and clinical application in personal, family, and community health concepts;

The clinical component of the course is structured into two parts: an 18-hour on-site clinical component at the College and 12-hours of observing a Florida licensed dentist administer local anesthetic in a private practice setting.

Upon completion of the 60-hour course, the dental hygienist seeking a certificate to administer local anesthesia must apply to the Department of Health, remit an application fee, and submit verification of successful completion of a 60 hour course (30-hour didactic and 30-hour clinical) in the administration of local anesthesia.

- Spring B Semester classes begin March 12, 2013

For more information about registering for classes please visit www.edison.edu/future.

To request more information about classes at Edison State College, visit www.edison.edu/requestinfo.

Worldwide water purification is now a Rotary priority

by Richard Rice

Kenn Visser, Englewood Rotarian, explained the Water One mobile purification process and project to local Rotarians at our weekly meeting on November 14. "We feel that Water One has possibly come up with the life-saving solutions for treating contaminated water, Visser said. Ensuring clean drinking water is a growing global crisis, and it's getting worse every day, with more than one billion people on our planet lacking access to fresh drinking water, and almost half of them are children," he added.

Bringing safe, clean drinking water to people's homes and to victims of disaster, in short, to anywhere it is needed around the world, is the key for reversing the endless cycle of misery that affects so many, should be of importance to all who have a good supply of drinking water available to them on a daily basis, Visser said. And, that is precisely the mission of Water One.

"As a Water One Company, bringing clean water to the world is what Water Solutions is all about. We have been in a leader in water treatment, developing and designing systems that make water from any source right for every use, and have been doing it since

1969," Visser said. "We are capable of purifying up to 2,520 gallons of water per day with this system, and that amounts to just pennies per gallon," added Visser.

Rotary's involvement came about shortly after the earth-quake in Haiti during talks with then District Governor, Don Thomas. Don saw the demonstration and expressed a desire to see what could be done for this devastated country.

"We took the issue to company officials, who came back and said, 'We will donate one Self Contained Mobile Water Purification System to your relief effort.'" District 6960 said they liked the idea and wanted to continue the effort, but only on a sustaining commitment, and has been able to provide two additional systems, and is now working on the third. (The first portable machine was installed in a orphanage in Haiti.)

"Thus far we've received commitments for \$5,000 of the \$7,500 necessary to fund a portable machine like the one we have on display here," Visser said. They asked the Immokalee Rotary Club to consider assisting with the remaining \$2,500, or at least a portion of it." They thanked the club for the opportunity to present their case, and stated that they believe the Immokalee club will want to join them in this effort of clean water for everyone.

For more information please contact their office at (239) 425-6100 or visit their website: <http://www.wateroneinc.com/mps.php>

Clean water is one of the six areas of focus that Rotary International has listed for local clubs to get involved in throughout the world. It includes: 1) Peace and conflict prevention/resolution, 2) Disease prevention and treatment, 3) Water and sanitation, 4) Maternal and child health, 5) Basic education and literacy, and 6) Economic and community development.

The Rotary Club of Immokalee meets at the i-Tech Center at 508 North 9th Street, each Wednesday at 12:15 pm.

For more information, please visit the Immokalee Rotary Club website: <http://immokaleerotary.org/>

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Hunger Relief Campaign asks community to help those in need

With one out of five children in America not knowing when they will eat their next meal, Winn-Dixie Stores, Inc. has launched the Winn-Dixie Hunger Relief program in all stores during the holiday season until Dec. 25. Winn-Dixie is asking its customers to help make a difference in one of two ways:

- By generously donating any amount they choose at the point of checkout through easy-to-use tear pads/scan sheets found at the register

- By purchasing specially-marked Winn-Dixie brand products, including water, coffee, diapers and condiments, whose manufacturers have generously donated to this program

All dollars raised by tear pads/scan sheets will go directly to local Feeding America-affiliated food banks, including the Harry Chapin Food Bank, which in turn will provide nutritious, fresh foods to people struggling with hunger. For every dollar donated, Winn-Dixie customers will help neighbors in need.

Among others, the Harry Chapin Food Bank of Southwest Florida in Fort Myers will benefit from community donations.

Winn-Dixie and the Harry Chapin Food Bank are also asking customers to further the cause by helping spread the word through social media. Twitter users are encouraged to follow @WinnDixie and use the hash tag #Tweet2Eat when they donate in stores or share the cause with their followers. Follow Winn-Dixie on Facebook and Twitter for the latest news on donation efforts and updates.

About Harry Chapin Food Bank of Southwest Florida

The Harry Chapin Food Bank solicits, collects and stores quality food for distribution to families in need through a network of 160 nonprofit agencies in Lee, Collier, Hendry, Charlotte and Glades counties that provide food to more than 30,000 people monthly. Over 1 million pounds of food are distributed by the Harry Chapin Food Bank monthly. For every dollar donated, about \$6 in food value goes back to the community. In the past fiscal year, the Harry Chapin Food Bank distributed more than 15 million pounds of food and other grocery items valued at more than \$24.9 million. This is roughly the equivalent of 12.5 million meals to people in need.

About Winn-Dixie

Winn-Dixie is a subsidiary of BI-LO Holding, which is the ninth-largest traditional supermarket chain in the United States. Under the banner names of BI-LO and Winn-Dixie, the company employs 63,000 team members who serve customers in 689 grocery stores and 483 in-store pharmacies throughout the eight southeastern states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee. BI-LO and Winn-Dixie are well-known and well-respected regional brands with deep heritages, strong neighborhood ties, proud histories of giving back, talented and loyal team members, and strong commitments to providing the best possible quality and value to customers. For more information, please visit www.bi-lo.com and www.winn-dixie.com.

Career Corner

Job Fair Tips

by Matt Kindermann

I have recently been on the employer side of two job fairs and several interviews, and I know the job fair is a routine topic in this column but, there are a lot of preparation that goes into attending one to ensure you make a positive lasting impression.

First, unlike a traditional interview where the employer has reviewed your application and knows you are qualified for the position, a job fair is like a reverse application process, and it is all about personality.

Many employers have similar complaints about candidates; they dress provocatively, or too relaxed, they overdo the cologne or perfume, they do not look them in the eye and they ramble during simple questions.

You should wear business casual clothes, slacks and a nice shirt for both men and women will suffice, without showing any cleavage or too much skin.

Keep jewelry to a two piece minimum, and keep the scents to a low roar. No one



Matthew Kindermann

should smell you, either good or bad!

Approach the employer with a smile and firm handshake while looking them in the eye and introducing yourself with your name and a brief background.

Tell them you are interested in their company and ask what their open positions are. Relate anything that interests you to your own background. Do not ask what they have for you, this is about what you have to offer them.

While standing in lines, do not appear bored or impatient. They can see you minding and will make a mental note of how personable you appear, so that when you make it to their table they already have an impression about you.

Employers want to know you will engage their customers in a friendly and professional manner and you should conduct yourself at a job fair as if you were already working the floor for them.

For more tips, see Connie at the LaBelle office and she will give you a job fair tip sheet.

Southwest Florida Works is the regional state workforce board for Hendry, Glades, Charlotte, Lee and Collier counties. For job search assistance or employer support, speak with an employment representative nearest you by going to www.swflworks.org and click on "Locations."



Submitted photo

First Assembly Ministries Hunger Challenge Outreach

Saturday, November 17, was a joyful and giving day for the college students of First Assembly Ministries of Immokalee and Ft Myers First Assembly. Both ministries teamed up together to raise funds for turkeys and also received many donations of all sorts of food for the boxes that were delivered to over 20 families in the community. There were also boxes of food along with turkeys that were given out at First Assembly Ministries of Immokalee. We would like to extend a grateful heart and thank you to the following for their support and donations: B & L Hardware, Raynors Seafood, Publix of Ave Maria, Lipman Produce, Judy Ramirez, First Assembly Ministries of Immokalee, First Assembly of Ft Myers and others who contributed. All in the name of Jesus!

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"Big Boned BBQ" Named Grand Champion at Pig in Paradise

IMMOKALEE, Fla. – Seminole Casino Immokalee proved to be a barbecue heaven after the weekend-long second annual "Pigs in Paradise" National Championship BBQ Festival. Food fanatics had a chance to feast on world class barbecue and pick which ribber pleased their taste buds the most. When it was all said and done and over 1,600 votes were cast, Big Boned BBQ, of Knoxville, Tenn., was crowned People's Choice winner.

"Our 2nd annual 'Pigs in Paradise' has been a huge success with more than 18,000 people enjoying the weekend-long festivities," said Jim Gibson, director of marketing at Seminole Casino Immokalee. "As the entertainment center of Southwest Florida, Seminole Casino is proud to bring world class cookers and another fantastic event to the Paradise Coast."

Though every participant in the "Pigs in Paradise" was renowned for their tasty barbecue favorites, it was Porky 'N Beans who walked away with the most accolades during the weekend with best pulled pork, while finishing second in the categories of best sauce, best brisket and best ribs. Johnson's Bar-B-Que and Blazin' Broncos BBQ Team finished with three awards, while Big Boned BBQ finished the weekend with two.

The celebrity cook-off held on Friday partnered local media personalities with famous barbecue chefs. Each team fired up their grills, lathered on the sauce and gave it their all, but it was Leslie Lopez of 105.5 The Beat, paired with Johnson's Bar-B-Que who won guests over and walked away celebrity cook-off winner.

Music fans danced all weekend long as "Pigs in Paradise" hosted great live entertainment from beginning to end. The Devonshires got the crowd moving Friday night with classic '60s and '70s hits. On Saturday, South Florida native JJ McCoy gave the crowd a country fried performance to remember, followed up by The Chase Rice Band and Grammy-nominated artist Joe Nichols.

The weekend was capped with festival patrons getting their last bites of world class barbecue, while enjoying a one-of-a-kind motorcycle show. Motorcycle fans gazed

at stunning custom bikes and were treated to performances by Uproot Hootenanny, an Irish folk-inspired cover band; The Nouveaux Honkies, blues, country and R&B duo; and country legend The Charlie Daniels Band to round out a weekend of food, fun and entertainment.

About Seminole Casino Immokalee

Open 24/7, 365 days a year, Seminole Casino Immokalee is Southwest Florida's premier gaming destination, with 1,200 slots, including Tarzan, Betty Boop and The Hangover. The 75,000-square-foot plus casino offers 34 live tables games, including Blackjack, Mini-Baccarat, Pai Gow, Let It Ride, Three Card Poker, Texas Hold 'em Bonus Poker, Blackjack Switch and Spanish 21. Seminole Casino Immokalee participates in the Seminole Players Club Wild Card Rewards Program whereby players earn and redeem points at all Seminole Casinos in Florida. Dining options include 1st Street Deli, Southwest Florida's only authentic New York-style delicatessen. This award-winning restaurant is open 24 hours. The EE-TO-LEET-KE ("The Camp") Grill serves up its signature authentic Seminole fry bread and made-from-scratch favorites. The Zig Zag lounge, home of the Zig Zag Girlz, is "where the party never ends" with nightly live entertainment and no last call. TVs throughout the Zig Zag bar air sporting events and other entertainment. A 10,000-square-foot Event Pavilion seating up to 800 guests is for large entertainment events, such as concerts, weddings, banquets, company outings and privately-held dances. The casino has 1,800 parking spaces. Located at 506 South 1 Street in Immokalee, Seminole Casino Immokalee is easily accessible to all of Southwest Florida via I-75, and Southwest Florida International Airport is only a 45-minute drive from the casino. Located between Miami and Naples, north of Alligator Alley on Highway 846, it's five blocks south of Highway 29. Approximately 30 minutes from Naples and Fort Myers, the casino is a 90-minute drive from Miami and Fort Lauderdale. For more information, call toll-free (800) 218-0007 or visit www.seminoleimmokaleecasino.com or www.facebook.com/seminoleimmokalee.

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The weekend was capped with festival patrons getting their last bites of world class barbecue, while enjoying a one-of-a-kind motorcycle show. Motorcycle fans gazed

Scholarship available for local women

Naples: Are you a woman in need of financial assistance for college tuition? Greater Naples AAUW Charitable Foundation, Inc. is now accepting applications for local scholarship candidates. Tuition scholarships are awarded to eligible women seeking an associate or a baccalaureate degree.

The Candidate eligibility requirements are:

- Women 21 years of age or older
- Currently accepted or enrolled in a program of study at an accredited college or university
- Resident of Collier or Southern Lee County
- Demonstrated need for financial assistance

- A satisfactory academic record
- Previous Recipients May Apply

An application (.pdf format) is attached. Additionally, students may access our website - www.aauwgnb.org for more information and also download an application in (.pdf format).

All Application Information Will Be Kept Strictly Confidential.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: February 18, 2013. Recipients will be notified no later than March 19, 2013

For additional information, please contact: Rose DiBiasi, Chair, Greater Naples AAUW Local Scholarship Committee

Phone: 239-254-1371 or email: rosed7172@gmail.com

This holiday season, ask Publix to join us at the Fair Food table...

The holiday season is upon us, which means it's time again to gather around the table with loved ones to celebrate another year of life together, of new beginnings and old friends, of triumphs and of the challenges ahead.

The holiday table unites us, and reminds us that -- no matter how high, or low, our day to day lives may take us -- in the end, we always make our way back to those whom we love the most, and when we are with them, the world feels right.

Love is the essence of the holidays. Love for our parents and their parents, love for our children and their children. Love for our friends, and love for all men and women with whom we share this fragile world. The holiday table reminds us that, in the end, we are all family, and that we can only truly enjoy the bounties that life gives us if we all enjoy them together, as one.

No one knows this better than Publix. Its holiday commercials (right) are a tour de force in touching that place deep inside each of us that loves not just our families and friends, but our fellow man, too, re-

gardless of the divisions that may separate us in our daily lives. Publix commercials never fail to remind us just how much we have to be thankful for, and how powerful an emotion our love can truly be.

But love without goodwill is an empty emotion. And, sadly, the holiday season has become an annual reminder that Publix -- a company founded by a man, George Jenkins, who famously said the words "Don't let making a profit stand in the way of doing the right thing" -- is a company that has lost its way. Like any family, the families who own and run Publix gather around their holiday tables and reflect on their joys and struggles. For the families who run Publix, among those joys, year after year, are soaring profits. Yet they inexplicably continue to turn their backs on the farmworkers who make those profits possible.

Check out the CIW website for the powerful new video, A Tale of Two Thanksgivings, and an accompanying online petition to send a holiday message from the Fair Food nation to Publix!

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