

## Pedestrian killed

A 55-year-old Immokalee woman died after being struck by a vehicle on W. Delaware Ave.

According to the Florida Highway Patrol report, Marie Francois was headed north attempting to cross W. Delaware Ave. and walked directly into the path of a 2000 Ford F-150 driven by Jean Mary Estime, 60,

also of Immokalee.

Ms. Francois was transported to Physicians Regional Medical Center on Pine Ridge Road where she was pronounced deceased at 10:15 p.m.

The driver left the scene and returned a short time later on foot.

The accident occurred Saturday, April 27, at 9:15 p.m.

## CRA has vacancy

The Immokalee Community Redevelopment Agency has a couple of vacancies on our Advisory Board.

The Immokalee Enterprise Zone Development Agency, also serving as the Immokalee Community Redevelopment Agency, has two vacancies for terms expiring on April 4, 2014, and three vacancies for terms expiring on April 4, 2017.

Each vacancy represents business, nonprofits, financial entities and residents within the nominated area.

This thirteen-member committee was created to induce private investment into distressed areas to create economic opportunities and sustainable economic development for designated areas.

Terms are four years.

If you are interested, please follow link below and apply for a board vacancy. <http://www.colliergov.net/index.aspx?page=1629>.

For information about the Immokalee CRA please go to [www.ImmokaleeToday.com](http://www.ImmokaleeToday.com) or call 239-867-4121 ext. 5.



Submitted photos/Jerri Lynn Merritt

## Little Mr. and Miss Tomato

Picture 1 Miss Florida US International Alayna Jones crowns Little Miss Tomato Saidee Rincon

Picture 2 : The Little Mr. & Miss Tomato winners with their parents and Miss Florida US International Alayna Jones ... Little Mr. Tomato Abraham Romero, Little Miss Tomato Saidee Rincon, Breyana Howard & Kiara Howard.



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## Greater access to healthcare for rural areas

See Page 2 for information about how to contact the newspaper.

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Tallahassee, Florida – Representative Matt Hudson, District 80, is proud to announce last week's unanimous passage of House Bill 1093 – Volunteer Health Services, in both the Florida House and Senate.

"I believe that this bill will go a long way towards creating greater access to care in rural and underserved areas in my District

and throughout the great state of Florida. Additionally, this bill recognizes and supports the volunteerism of dedicated Floridians as they donate their time and talents so uninsured and low-income families can access free care," said Representative Matt Hudson.

House Bill 1093 builds upon Florida's Volunteer Health Services Program's many years of

success:

- 12,000 health care professionals and 10,000 other staff members have participated

- 400,000 free patient visits a year for uninsured and low-income families

- \$223 million in free care has been provided to patients in need (FY 2011)

"With the unanimous passage

of House Bill 1093, the number of free patient visits is expected to grow upwards of 600,000 a year – making a real difference in many rural and underserved communities. House Bill 1093 makes it easier for physicians to provide free care to the uninsured, serve more patients, and make it easier for retired physicians to give back," said Representative Matt Hudson.

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# David Lawrence Center named family friendly business by NAFC

Naples, FL – The David Lawrence Center, Collier County's only comprehensive, not-for-profit mental health and substance abuse treatment facility serving children, adults and families, is pleased to announce that for the 12th consecutive year, the Center has earned the Family Friendly Workplace certification from the Naples Alliance for Children (NAFC).

The NAFC Family Friendly Business Initiative encourages and recognizes employers who have workplace policies and programs that assist employees to take an active part in raising their children and helping them balance work and family lives so they can do their best in both areas. Businesses who receive this honor have met the NAFC Family Friendly Workplace criteria.

NAFC Board President Myra Shapiro said, "David Lawrence Center earned the designation once again because their policies and benefits help their employees balance the needs of their families with the demands of their jobs."

Bonnie Fredeen, David Lawrence Center Chief Operating Officer, states, "We are

honored to once again be named a Family Friendly Workplace.

"With more than 250 employees, we understand the impact having a Family Friendly Workplace can have on attracting and retaining the best employees, increasing productivity, increasing employee morale, reducing turnover, absenteeism and tardiness, and reducing health costs related to stress. Our family policies and benefits are designed to create a work environment that meets the expanding and challenging role of the working parent."

## About Naples Alliance for Children

Naples Alliance for Children is a private, nonprofit 501(C)3 volunteer organization that advocates for the rights, needs, care, safety and education of infants, children, youth, and families.

The NAFC mission is to take a leadership role in advocating for the improvement of the quality of life for Collier County, Florida's children, youth and their families.

## Students First

by Maribel De Armas

It was with an enthusiastic squeal of excitement that one of Immokalee's very own teachers reacted to the news that she was selected as one of six Champions For Learning 2013 Golden Apple Recipients.

That teacher is Eden Park Elementary School (EPE) kindergarten teacher Judy Ramirez and that squeal of surprise is right in line with her cheery personality.

Judy began her teaching career two and a half years ago and it all started at EPE where she just fell in love with the students.

In Judy's words: "They are just really special and I knew that I wanted to be at a place where I could really make a difference, and I believe Eden Park has become that place. I just love it."

On March 5, Champions For Learning (previously known as The Education Foundation), EPE and District administrators, and representatives from Suncoast Schools Federal Credit Union made a surprise visit to Judy's classroom to present her with the shiny Golden Apple award.

Surrounded by her students, Judy just couldn't keep the smile off her face. We've since had a chance to catch up with Judy – along with the other five Golden Apple Recipients – for one-on-one interviews on The Education Channel's District Digest TV show.

Joe Landon, Collier County Public Schools' Executive Director of Communications and Community Engagement, had the pleasure of speaking with Judy and here is some of what she shared.

Joe: The "Prize Patrol" came around and walked into your classroom, and you screamed and screamed and screamed. You're a screamer.

Judy: Yes, I did. I was shocked, and I still am. I've been asked, "Oh, did you

know they were going to come in?" and I'm like, "no, there's no way I could have faked a reaction like that." It was just amazing.

Joe: Why teaching, Judy?

Judy: Well, when I grew up, I grew up in a very strict environment, well, a really strict school [in New York City]. It was a great school, but I just used to be really afraid to go to school. And, at a young age I just felt like if I ever had my own class that I really wanted to make it a fun and engaging place where kids really want to go to school.

Joe: Describe a typical day [in your classroom].

Judy: A typical day in my class involves a lot of dancing, a lot of singing and movement, chants...I make up chants with my kids just to help them learn.

So there's a lot going on, but it's all fun and my kids think it's just a big adventure, which is great.

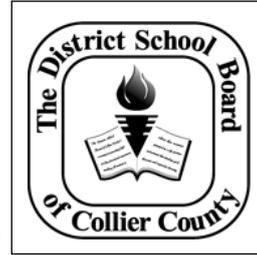
Joe: How do you feel about representing the 3,200 teachers in the Collier County Public Schools system as a Golden Apple Recipient?

Judy: It's such an honor because I feel that Collier County has amazing, fantastic teachers, and to be among the six that won...there are days that I still cannot believe it because it's such an immense honor...I just feel really honored and proud to be representing, not just my school and the community of Immokalee, but to represent the teachers in the county.

You can catch Judy's entire interview on this Special Golden Apple Edition of District Digest, which is currently airing on The Education Channel (Comcast cable 99) each evening at 6:00 p.m. until Sunday, May 12th.

The six Golden Apple Recipients, along with Teachers of Distinction and Teachers of the Year, will be honored on May 10 at the Champions For Learning 23rd Annual Golden Apple Celebration of Teachers Dinner.

We once again congratulate all of these outstanding teachers and thank them for making a difference.



# Bulletin

Serving Immokalee, Ave Maria and Eastern Collier County

## To Reach Us

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Website: www.newszap.com/immokalee

## To Submit News

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.  
E-Mail: [ibnews@newszap.com](mailto:ibnews@newszap.com)

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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
- To help our community become a better place to live and work, through our dedication to conscientious journalism.
- To provide the information citizens need to make their own intelligent decisions about public issues.
- To report the news with honesty, accuracy, purposeful neutrality, fairness, objectivity, fearlessness and compassion.
- To use our opinion pages to facilitate community debate, not to dominate it with our own opinions.
- To disclose our own conflicts of interest or potential conflicts to our readers.
- To correct our errors and to give each correction the prominence it deserves.
- To provide a right to reply to those we write about.
- To treat people with courtesy, respect and compassion.

## Common Core state standards drawn into focus

Parents, teachers and community members are invited to attend an information session focused on the Common Core State Standards to be held at 6 p.m. on Monday, May 6.

The event will be held in the School Board Meeting Room of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Administrative Center (5775 Osceola Trail behind Barron Collier High School).

Come learn more about the Common Core State Standards from guest speaker Mary Jane Tappen, Deputy Chancellor for Curriculum, Instruction, and Student Services at the Florida Department of Education in this 90 minute session.

Find out how teaching, learning, and test-

ing is going to change for all of our students in Florida.

The school district is asking that you RSVP by visiting the district website at [www.collierschools.com](http://www.collierschools.com).

There is a Countdown to Common Core button located in the "What's New" area of the home page and there is a link to the Common Core State Standards website on the RSVP page.

To learn more please contact the Communications & Community Engagement Department via email at [communications@collierschools.com](mailto:communications@collierschools.com) or by phone at 239-377-0180.

## Community Briefs

### Bake sale planned

Allen Chapel AME church invites you to its bake sale Friday, May 3, in front of Sun-coast Schools Federal Credit Union 3-6 p.m.

### Revival

May 2-4 at 7 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday at Allen Chapel A.M.E. Church, 208 S. Third Street. Rev. Lori Snell Pastor, prophetess and teacher Annie Knight will be the revivalist. come for the powerful deliverance and prophetic ministry of Power Walking with Jesus.

### Apply to iTECH free

Get started with Fall Enrollment at iTECH. Schedule your TABE testing appointment now for the week of May 6 through May 10. Limited space available. Act now. Save \$30. Testing times: Monday-Friday 9 a.m. and 12 p.m.; Monday and Wednesday 6 p.m. only; Monday-Thursday 2:30 p.m.

Download the TABE Study Guide at <http://www.itech.edu>. Study for the TABE! Call iTECH for more information at 377-9900.

### Breastfeeding mothers group

Learn about the many benefits of breastfeeding, get advice and tips, speak with breastfeeding peer counselors Myda and Noemi, meet and share experiences with other breastfeeding mothers. Pregnant women welcome.

Come to the Collier County Department of Health Room 133 every Tuesday from 10-11:30 a.m. For additional information call 239-252-7347 or 239-252-7312.

### Apply for Sun Life grants

Sun Life Financial is accepting Sun Life Rising Star Award grant applications from nonprofit organizations in the South Florida area that advocate for youth from under-served communities.

Sun Life will award four winning organizations with a \$50,000 grant, who will each nominate an exemplary student to receive a \$5,000 Sun Life Rising Star scholarship towards financing a college education.

The Sun Life Rising Star Awards program, now in its fourth year, provides financial resources to students and nonprofit organizations in large urban school districts that are

committed to encouraging under-served youth to continue their education as a means to achieve life-long financial wellness. The Sun Life Rising Star Awards program is the educational cornerstone program of the Miami Dolphins Foundation. organizations which have 501(c) (3) tax-exempt status, promote skills that directly translate to educational success in high school to students under the age of 21 and are aligned with a secondary or post-secondary educational institution.

Applications are due by June 7, and are available now at [sunliferisingstar.com](http://sunliferisingstar.com)

Keith Gainsboro, elevate, 617-895-7905, [kgainsboro@elevatecom.com](mailto:kgainsboro@elevatecom.com).

### AMU plans conference

All are invited to the 2nd Annual Marian Eucharistic Conference at Ave Maria University "Do Whatever He Tells You" May 10-12, 2013. Speakers include; Fr. Michael Gaitley, Fr. Larry Richards, Jesse Romero, Vinny Flynn, Annie Karto and Dr. Mary Healy with a special concert by Croatia singer Tacji. The cost per person is \$150 basic dorm or \$180 premium room and includes conference fee and meals. Call (239) 348-4724, email: [conferences@avemaria.edu](mailto:conferences@avemaria.edu) or visit [www.avemaria.edu](http://www.avemaria.edu) and look under news and events for more conference information.

### Summer Programs

Providers of Immokalee youth programs are planning an expanded summer program through GPS, a youth initiative of the Naples Children & Education Foundation. GPS is looking for highly qualified teachers, artists and coaches who enjoy working with students and would like to share their special talents and skills during the summer. If you are interested in applying, résumés should be sent to Jamie Scott by email at [jscott@sfwdb.org](mailto:jscott@sfwdb.org) or mail to 750 South 5th Street, Immokalee, Florida 34142. Résumés should include areas of expertise and fees, if applicable. Note that all applicants are required to complete a background screening prior to beginning work.

GPS programs offer a diversity of opportunities for Immokalee youth in out-of-school-time settings. The new collaboration seeks to improve educational outcomes and provide students tools for life-long success. GPS Summer 2013 is the result of planning

by Miracle/Southwest Florida Workforce Development Board, RCMA, Parks and Recreation, Guadalupe Center, Immokalee Foundation, Boys and Girls Club of Collier County, RCMA and Immokalee Housing and Family Services. Enrollment information will be available in May.

### Nance office in Immokalee

Collier Commissioner Tim Nance opened his new office in the Immokalee Government Center, 106 South First Street. Regular office hours for Nance at the government center will be established soon.

### Prevent foreclosure

The Foreclosure Prevention and Advocacy Project will provide to income-eligible clients free legal advice and counsel or representation as deemed appropriate, in the areas of: bank, homeowner and condo association foreclosure defense; deficiency judgments; pre-foreclosure issues; and tax liens.

Staff is available Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-4

p.m. Appointments are also available by calling 239-775-4024 or visiting the office at 4124 Tamiami Trail East, Naples 34112.

Eligible clients will be accepted on a first come, first served basis and will be seen according to the urgency of their legal needs.

Eligibility criteria; Collier County resident; home is the applicant's homestead residence (investment properties are ineligible); low to moderate income individuals or families.

Documents required: picture identification; proof of any and all household income including but not limited to any public benefits being received and/or child support payment, employment, unemployment compensation. Social Security, etc; a copy of the foreclosure summons, complaint and other court documents and/or; notice from our service, mortgage company, association or property appraiser.

Eligibility is subject to the above, however additional criteria may apply once the case is reviewed.

The project runs through June 20, 2013.



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## County Meetings

### CRA meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Immokalee CRA/EZDA Advisory Boards will hold a public meeting on Wednesday, May 15, 2013 at 8:30 a.m. at Southwest Florida Works conference room located at 750 South 5th Street, Immokalee, FL, 34142.

In regard to the public meeting:

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 Christie Betancourt at (239) 867-4121.

## Register for summer camp

Camp Collier offers a fun, lively environment where children can play, connect, and discover. Each week is a different theme. Children have the opportunity to attend weekly or for the entire summer. Campers will take nature walks, play games, make arts and crafts, participate in different sports, host guests from the community, as well as take weekly swimming and field trips.

Camp Collier is offered Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., between June 10 and August 9 (no camp on July 4).

The cost is \$85 per week. There is a discount for the full nine weeks; \$66 per week payable in four payments of \$15

each. There is also a ten percent discount for siblings; \$60 per week payable in four payments of \$135 each.

Before and After Camp is available from 7:15 a.m. to 9 a.m., and from 5 p.m. and 6 p.m., at a cost of \$15 per week.

Camp Collier offers Elementary School Day Camp for children in grades K-5 (must be five years of age by June 1), and Middle School Day Camp for children in grades 6-8. Immokalee Community Park, Phone: (239)657-4449. For more information contact Collier County Parks & Recreation at 239-252-4000 or visit [www.collierparks.com](http://www.collierparks.com).

## Free service for cancer patients

American Cancer Society @ Vitas Healthcare, 550 New Market Road E, Immokalee

Resource Centers are available free of charge to anyone who has a need. Centers provide access to the Society's cancer information, donated items such as wigs, breast prostheses, bras and turbans as well as information about programs and on the community resources.

The Immokalee center will be open from 10 a.m. till noon:

March 18, 26

April 3, 11, 19, 23, 29

May 7, 13, 22, 30

June 7, 12, 18, 27

For more information call 1-800-227-2345.

## 2013 Zone 4 airboat access closure

The Zone 4 airboat access within Big Cypress National Preserve is closed due to low water conditions.

This will begin the 60-day recreational off-road vehicle (ORV) closure for this management unit within the Preserve. Pending water levels, this unit will re-open to access by airboats on Friday, June 7.

All other management units within the Preserve that allow for wheeled ORV access remain open through Sunday, June 2.

On Monday, June 3 the regularly scheduled 60-day ORV closure for these units will begin with ORV access being re-opened on Friday, August 2.

The Recreational Off-Road Vehicle Management Plan calls for a 60-day sea-

sonal closure to allow a period free from resource pressures related to ORV use. The ORV closure within Big Cypress National Preserve was first instituted in 2002.

Landowners, and their guests, that hold special use permits to access private properties within the Preserve will retain continued access to property along approved routes.

Zone 4 of the Stairsteps Unit of the Preserve allows for access via airboats only. The Bear Island, Turner River and Corn Dance Units, and Zones 2 and 3 of the Stairsteps Unit provide for access by specified, wheeled ORVs.

For information on other closures go to - <http://www.nps.gov/bicy/planyourvisit/closures.htm>



Submitted photo

## National Fair Housing Month

Miguel Villarreal, vice president and area sales manager for residential mortgage at Fifth Third Bank, recently accepted the proclamation designating April 2013 as "National Fair Housing Month" in Collier County. The proclamation was sponsored by Commissioner Coyle. Villarreal was chosen by the Collier County Commissioners because of his dedication to serving the low-to-middle-income communities through the Affordable Housing Program.

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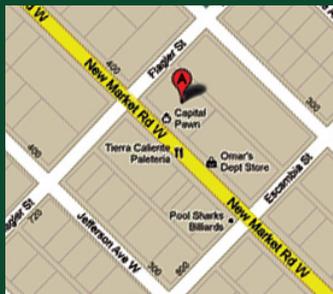
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Applications are available at the main office located at 1020 Sanitation Road, Immokalee, FL 34142.

Deadline for applications is May 10, 2013.

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# Collier Health

## Focus is on the '5': Do you consume adequate fruits and veggies?

### Give Me 5!

Collier: Next time you sit down for a meal, take a look at the composition of your plate. Did you know that 1/2 of your plate should be made-up of fruits and vegetables?

This strategy can help you attain and maintain a healthy weight because fruits and vegetables are naturally low in calories and contain fiber which will help you feel full longer.

In addition, eating at least 5 fruits and vegetables a day helps reduce risk of high blood pressure, stroke, heart disease, Type 2 diabetes and some cancers.

If you're not consuming this recommendation, you're not alone! A study, by "Scientific American", found just 11% of Americans consume 5 fruits and vegetables daily. Are you ready to take the challenge to give yourself 5 a day? Try incorporating the following tips:

- Add a serving of fruit or vegetables to every meal or snack.
- Try a banana, berries or dried fruit on your cereal or yogurt.
- Add spinach, tomatoes or cucumbers to your sandwich.
- Order vegetable soup or eat baby carrots instead of chips with your sandwich.
- Eat more salads rich with leafy greens and vegetables.
- Add zucchini and peppers to your tomato sauce.
- Mix broccoli or peas into your rice or pasta dishes.
- For snacks, enjoy apples, pears, citrus or raw vegetables with low fat dip.
- Make fruit and vegetables easy to access and convenient to grab.
- Make it a personal or family goal to try a new vegetable or fruit every week.

Researchers at the Human Nutrition Research Center on Aging at Tufts University

measured various fruits and vegetables for their antioxidant capacity.

Antioxidants are special compounds that protect against oxidation, or cellular damage caused by free radicals.

A diet high in antioxidants can help protect against many chronic diseases. Familiar antioxidants include vitamin E, vitamin C and beta carotene. According to the Tufts study, here are the top performers in each category:

Fruits: 1. prunes. 2. raisins. 3. blueberries. 4. blackberries. 5. strawberries. 6. raspberries. 7. plums. 8. oranges. 9. red grapes. 10. cherries.

Vegetables: 1. kale. 2. spinach. 3. brussels sprouts. 4. alfalfa sprouts. 5. broccoli flowers. 6. beets. 7. red bell peppers. 8. onions. 9. corn. 10. eggplant.

(Note, all plant products contain antioxidants and although the ones listed above are especially loaded, eating a wide variety of fruits and vegetables is ideal).

Remember to fill half of your plate with fruits and vegetables and begin your "Give Me 5 Fruits & Vegetables" challenge today! To track your progress, go to [www.95210.org/Collier](http://www.95210.org/Collier).

"5", or the recommendation to get 5 fruits and vegetables daily, is part of the "9-5-2-1-0 BFF, Let's Go!" campaign recommended by physicians, dietitians, nurses, health educators, fitness experts and other healthcare practitioners in partnership with the Safe & Healthy Children's Coalition of Collier County.

Each week, a different number will be highlighted as the Coalition reaches out to educate the community about this important public health message.

For more information, go to [www.95210.org/Collier](http://www.95210.org/Collier).

**Deb Millsap, M.Ed., R.D., LD/N**  
*Director of Nutrition & Health Education & PIO*  
**Collier County Health Department**

# Beautification can begin

(Naples, Fla.) – A joint participation agreement between Collier County and the Florida Department of Transportation, approved Tuesday, April 23 by the Board of County of Commissioners, will permit the Immokalee Road and I-75 corridor beautification project to move forward.

The project will aid Collier County in meeting the requirements adopted on April 22, 2003 for interchanges, retention ponds, and arterial and collector roads in the Collier County Landscape Beautification Master plan. Commissioner Tom Henning, District 3, assisted in procuring \$400,000 of Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) enhancement funds to pay for the beautification project.

"Our goal has been to improve and add landscaping for traffic calming and to beautify the areas within and surrounding the Immokalee Road and I-75 interchange, because it is our gateway to North Naples and Immokalee," said Commissioner Henning, District 3.

Landscaping will be added to improve community character. According to national traffic studies, landscaping assists in reducing traffic speeds by five to 10 percent, which will be an added benefit for this busy roadway.

Growth Management Division planners and consultants are now designing the detailed landscape plans for the project. Once approved by FDOT, the project will be competitively bid. Staff estimates the project will

break ground by the end of the year and will be completed by the spring of 2014.

### IWSD report now available

The availability of the 2012 Quality on Tap Report has been mailed to customers, showing the results of water quality monitoring for January-December 2012.

Additional copies are available at the Immokalee Chamber of Commerce, 1390 N. 15th St. STE 200, Immokalee Branch Library at 417 North 1st St, Lake Trafford Marina at 6001 Lake Trafford Rd, and in the IWSD office at 1020 Sanitation Rd, Immokalee. They are also available for download from our website: ([www.iw-sd.com](http://www.iw-sd.com)) in both English and Spanish.

La disponibilidad de La Calidad de 2012 en Informe de Grifo ha enviado a todos nuestros clientes.

Este informe muestra los resultados de nuestra encuesta de calidad de agua para el período de Enero al Diciembre de 2012.

Mas copias están disponibles en la Immokalee Chamber of Commerce, 1390 N 15th St. Ste 200, en la Biblioteca de Immokalee, en 417 1a Calle del Norte, Lago Trafford Marina en 6001 Lago Camino de Trafford, y en la oficina IWSD en 1020 Sanitation Rd, Immokalee y para descarga desde nuestra página Web: ([www.iw-sd.com](http://www.iw-sd.com)) en Inglés y Español.

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## Boy Scouts speak at Rotary

by **Richard Rice**

James Giles, Boy Scout Representative, and our good friend and former commissioner, Jim Coletta, spoke to Rotarians on April 17, about the need for support to the Boy Scout and Cub Scout programs for the local area.

Coletta said they had a great reception at the Guadeloupe School, with seventy plus youngsters signing up for Cub Scouts. "This is a great number, but a difficult one," Coletta said. "We have enthusiasm with a couple of teachers really interested in becoming a part of our program, but it's totally impossible for them to be able to work with seventy or more young people... we need more volunteers, especially if other schools join our effort. I'm sure a good number of you are very familiar with these scouting programs, but I want James to give you a few more details about what it entails.

Those of you who have ever been involved, no matter at what level, know that Scouting builds more than campfires, James said. It builds character. True, exploring the great outdoors has always been a key part of Scouting and perhaps the most visible one. But for nearly 100 years, the Boy Scouts of America has existed to provide a program to develop strong, well rounded citizens from the youth of this country. That objective hasn't changed. As a result, Scouting has evolved to become the largest and most inclusive youth organization in the world dedicated to develop-

ing the character, citizenship and personal fitness of its members.

Through organized, age appropriate activities, Scouting provides skill-development opportunities every male child might not otherwise find at home, school or through other extra-curricular programs, including leadership team building and conflict resolution.

Scouting also builds character by developing confidence and self-reliance through positive role models as the child matures.

Scouting builds values, James said. The twelve traits that make up The Scout Law read like every parent's wish list for their children. Along with the motto of "Be Prepared" and The Scout Slogan "Do a Good Turn Daily" Scouting sets expectations of cooperation, respect and goodwill, all success factors in helping build lifelong personal and family values.

Scouting builds families as well, James said. Parental involvement is one of the strengths that makes Scouting unique. Currently, there is one registered adult volunteer for every three Boy Scouts. Rotarians will appreciate getting more involved at different times and levels because I think you can easily tie Scouting to your Objects of Rotary as well as your Four Way Test. When you look at what these two mean to your organization, and what Scouting does for the young men of the community, were all striving for the same thing, to make our community a better place.

## Teacher thanks Rotary

by **Richard Rice**

On April 24, 2013 Dr. Lorraine Berak, of Central Michigan University, thanked Rotarians for the hospitality shown to her and the students she accompanied during their three week teaching tour in Immokalee schools. She especially wanted to express the students appreciation and thanks to Ski Olesky for providing them with an exceptional learning experience during their air boat tour of Lake Trafford, as she presented Ski with a framed picture and some gifts from the students.

Without a doubt, every one of the students said the tour was one of the most memorable, rewarding, and educational experiences of their entire trip, Dr. Berak said. They had been told 'you'll see more alligators on Lake Trafford than anywhere else in Florida' and they all were amazed at the total number they saw. "What they told us was certainly true,' one of the students remarked.

The students made up a picture notebook of their experiences while in Immokalee, which Dr. Berak first showed Ski, before presenting it to Rotary President Rice as a token of their appreciation.

This was the second time students from Central Michigan did student teaching in Immokalee, and like last year, at least three students have expressed a desire to return next fall as full-time teachers in the Immokalee school system, following their graduation in May. We'll gladly welcome them back.



Submitted photo/Richard Rice  
Lorraine Berak and Edward "Ski" Olesky.



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