

*Around the World*

## Holiday parade, gala news

Christmas Around the World Parade and Gala will start on December 14, 2013 at 5:30 p.m. on the corner of Carver and Main Street. The applications for the Parade can be picked up at our local Chamber Office-now!

The Snow Gala Entrance Fee will be \$1.00 per person who are 36 inches and taller. Please call Parks and Recreations for your vendor information (Leonor@239-657-1951).

This year our Christmas committee will be sponsoring a "Best Dressed Theme Costume" for any person who would like to strut down our "Red Carpet" at our Snow Gala Event.

First Prize winner . \$100.00  
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Third. Prize winner . \$25.00  
Just get off your floats and come on over to the Snow Gala where the Red Carpet will be displayed and make sure you are ready to strut your costume down our Run

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

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## Local students plan to 'Give Back'

by **Patty Brant**  
Immokalee Bulletin

Immokalee folks know a little about food production.

That's exactly the starting point

for a group of young students interested in building a future for themselves and also for this community. They're calling their project, Give Back to Immokalee.

Last week a group of 1x1 Founda-

tion members, their supporters and these young people from the Give Back Initiative came together to show their appreciation to State Farm for a grant that will be a huge boost to the students and

their plan.

Using the Meals of Hope project as a base, these students are looking toward creating new food products and possibly businesses and jobs to broaden Immokalee's economic base for themselves and for others.

It's an astonishing venture. Already the students have found that, for the Meals of Hope, 1,000 kids are needed to pack 5,000 meals. They have already taken part in packing some 350,000 meals. The idea surfaced last March after the students participated in the Meals of Hope Bowl in Naples. Inspired by the experience, the students set about looking for ways to improve the process and asked 1x1 Leadership for guidance. Rotary Secretary Dick Hailer wrote the grant.

1x1 Leadership Foundation leader Reid Carpenter has been chairman of the group for eight years. He said Immokalee has the only rural Leadership Foundation in the country. He said there are amazing possibilities using the powerful leverage of love not known by many kids.

In addition to feeding those in need, this evolving program has the potential to provide hands-on experience to the young people in areas like marketing and finance.

A number of local leaders were on hand for the appreciation luncheon for State Farm: Bernardo Barnhardt of the chamber, "a poster child for success for kids" and Marie Capita of IMBIZZ, whose entrepreneurial skills are essential to this project and Cheryle Thomas, a 17-year nutritionist with the schools, who will make sure the students' product is good for people and healthy.

Ave Maria University's mentoring program is a big part of this initiative as well, with its mentoring



Immokalee Bulletin/Patty Brant

## Committed to community

**Jose Soto, Jared Padgett, Thom Gray, D'Ernest Johnson, Elizabeth Martinez and Angela Cruz.**

## IFAS Center to be 'repurposed'

by **Patty Brant**  
Caloosa Belle

Local agriculture representatives are raising some concerns about the recent decision by University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS) to "repurpose" the IFAS Research Center in Immokalee as a demonstration center.

Located on 320 acres on SR 29 outside of Immokalee, the IFAS Center in Immokalee opened in 1986 to provide research for agriculturalists in a five-county area - Collier, Charlotte, Glades, Hendry and Lee counties.

A demonstration center uses

applied research and works with the ag community.

The Immokalee site will still do "active, relevant work," Ruth Borger, Assistant VP for IFAS Communications, said.

An advisory committee will be named to formulate the center's new focus.

Made up of local ag interests, the board will offer an opportunity for local leaders to carve out a definitive role for this center.

Faculty will be transferred to other research and education centers. Staff at the Immokalee facility will be allotted time to complete current projects, ending operation

as a Research and Education Center on September 1, 2014. This will also allow staff and faculty time to find other employment and relocate if necessary.

County Agent Gene McAvoy noted that, over the years, the extension office and growers have conducted many activities there.

He pointed out that an advisory committee will be appointed to meet with administration and mold the center's new role, but he did say he felt the extension service may need to take on some managerial responsibility for dem-

See IFAS — Page 2

See Committed — Page 2

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# Children's March

The Shelter for Abused Women & Children announces the nonprofit domestic violence center's 2013 National Domestic Violence Awareness Month Campaign:

Monday, October 28, Children's Fair, 3 p.m. Peace March: Immokalee Peace March & Children's Fair hosted by The Shelter's Immokalee Outreach Office at the Immokalee Sports Complex, 505 Escambia Street. Games, talent show, health fair, food and entertainment, start at 3 p.m. and is followed by the police-escorted March on Main Street. For more information, call 239.657.5700.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month evolved from the first Day of Unity observed in October of 1981 by the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence. This expanded to a week of activities on local, state and national levels.

The first Domestic Violence Awareness Month was observed in October 1987 with the first Domestic Violence Awareness Month Commemorative Legislation being passed by the U.S. Congress in 1989. This legislation has passed every year since. For information on The Shelter's 2013 National Domestic Violence Awareness Month Campaign and the life-transforming programs and services, please call 239.775.3862, or visit [www.naplesshelter.org](http://www.naplesshelter.org)

## Committed

Continued From Page 1

project with Immokalee High School.

I.H.S. junior Elizabeth Martinez said she wants to give to "give back hope." "It's always a blessing to give back - and far better to give than receive. She learned this one Christmas with her family, seeing the difficulties and poor conditions one family endured. Her older sister Alejandra earned a full scholarship to Arcadia U, in Pennsylvania. She was in the 1x1 youth group that came up with the idea for this project.

D'Ernest Johnson, IHS senior and one of the top football players said he wants to be a part of this project so he can give back to Immokalee because "Immokalee showed me how to love."

Angela Cruz is also an IHS senior and an athlete. Her older brother is also in the group and is studying at FGCU now. Angela said she wants to be a part of the people who care about the community.

State Farm's Jared Padgett is a member of the company's young man youth advisory board. He was a top leader in 4-H head in the state and is guiding this State Farm project for youth. He was on hand to present an \$84,000 grant check from State Farm for this Immokalee project. This donation is part of a \$5 million company project to help drive youth initiative. He said the Immokalee program stood out for the project. Jose Soto of Florida State Farm said the youth advisory board began in 2006 to empower youth to create projects and make a difference.

## IFAS

Continued From Page 1

onstration trials.

He said he is familiar with several of the IFAS extension and demonstration centers and has some concerns about future funding.

Mr. McAvoy said that the IFAS Center in Immokalee has always been important to the area's \$2 billion agriculture industry.

Citrus is huge. Vegetables are huge. Livestock is huge," he commented, adding that "research is essential to keeping our competitive edge."

He voiced concerns over the change to the program, noting that research is the only thing that sets American agriculture apart any more.

"We don't have cheap labor any more. We don't have cheap land any more. Research is all we have left to keep that edge."

The model has always been that IFAS research comes up with the information on local ag issues, which it then passed on by way of the extension to the growers. Mr. McAvoy is keeping an open mind, but said that it's hard to see how another model could be as effective.

The Gulf Citrus Growers Association President Wayne Simmons has similar concerns.

The announcement came as a surprise to area growers, catching them off guard. "I thought we would have been involved more" in such a decision, Mr. Simmons said. He noted that recently the center's research staff has dwindled to six of its original 12 or so. Still, he recognizes that "we all must be efficient."

He said the outcome remains "up in the air," but said that agricultural folks are open to seeing what happens.

Mr. Simmons pointed out that the IFAS center has always provided important local research geared to local Southwest Florida growing conditions.

"I hope we don't lose the interaction with research," he said.

He said they've been assured that the relationship between research and growers will continue.

He hopes representatives of all major local commodities from the area will be included in planning the future of the center, he added.

The change may save some costs, but is mainly an effort to consolidate duplicated programs, according to Ms. Borger. She said it's an attempt to become more effective with money, personnel and equipment.

The IFAS Center in Immokalee as approximately 70 employees on site: seven are faculty members, the rest are graduate students and staff.

It's focus has been on citrus, vegetable, horticulture, entomology, soil and water science and plant pathology research, as well as extension programs.

Duplication of services with Lake Alfred, Gulf Coast and Indian River Research and Education Centers is cited as the reason for the change.

The UF/IFAS aim is to evaluate programming to "best serve southwest Florida interests."

The ultimate role the Immokalee cen-

ter will play has yet to be determined. Ms. Borger explained that details still need to be worked out.

Ms. Borger called the move a reclassifying of the site as a demonstration center. A research and education center has faculty in residence as well as county agents.

In the end, she said, the change will probably not even be noticed by the public.

"We understand the huge impact on the community," Ms. Borger said, "the goal is to minimize that impact."

The institute hopes to enhance its service to the agriculture community. "We exist to help agriculture growers," she commented and promised, "we will not abandon that."

The advisory committee is to be chaired by the UF/IFAS District Extension Director Charles Vavina and Director of Operations UF/IFAS Hastings Partnership Scott Taylor.

Agricultural and community stakeholders will be appointed to create a new vision for the site. This advisory committee is to be chosen this fall, with its recommendations due in the early Spring of 2014.

John Arthington, director of the Range Cattle and Research Center in Ona will preside over the center during the transition.

In a letter from UF/IFAS officials state:

"At a demonstration site we utilize multiple means to engage clientele in ways that help them learn about the latest varieties, methods, strategies and technologies that positively affect profitability and sustainability.

It is clear from our existing demonstration sites (Hastings and Live Oak) that what makes this process effective is the collaborative spirit and approach that is adopted . . . As the future plans for the operation are developed we will have a better idea of the complete personnel requirements."

## Gala

Continued From Page 1

Way.

To sign up in advance, call or email the Chamber Office with your name and contact numbers.

If additional information is needed, call Cherryle Thomas (239-657-0080) or email [cherryle@FNTJr@aol.com](mailto:cherryle@FNTJr@aol.com) or [ecoc@comcast.net](mailto:ecoc@comcast.net), ASAP about the parade. Call Leonor (239-657-1951) about being a vendor at the Snow Gala.

Parade: 5:30 p.m. (across from The Immokalee Seminole Casino) The Gala starts at 5 p.m. at our local swimming pool and ends at 10 p.m.

Theme: "Rolling Out the Red Carpet at Christmas for your Best Hollywood Movie".

All float entries must be displayed on your float - the year the movie was made/produced (this is part of your judging scores).

Pictures with Santa start at \$5.00 (4x6) per person in all our elementary Schools

We have lots of exciting ideas but need your support and participation. Come be a part of one of the most exciting Immokalee events of the year. Volunteers are always welcome



# Bulletin

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### 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.  
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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.

### We Pledge...

- To operate this newspaper as a public trust
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- 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.

# Community Briefs

## Spaghetti dinners for sale

Immokalee Chamber President Bernardo Barnhart and his assistant-Mariela Romero have been very busy with their change of career positions and new location, they are now ready to get back into the saddle with our monthly community spaghetti dinners for the sole purpose of fundraising for Immokalee Chamber of Commerce Scholarship Funds. We need your community support.

The Immokalee Chamber of Commerce will be selling spaghetti dinners for \$10 per plate on September 27, at our local Chamber Office, 1390 North 15th Street. The spaghetti dinner will be prepared by the first place winner of our Chamber of Commerce Meatball Cook-off. The menu: Home made spaghetti with meatballs and sauce, Famous Immokalee Salad, hot garlic bread, pineapple-upside cake. If you purchase five dinners or more, we will deliver! Tickets go on sale now! Serving 11 a.m.-2 p.m. on September 27. This fundraiser will benefit IHS Athletic Department.

Please call Cherryle Thomas 239-657-0080 or the Chamber Office @239-657-3237 to reserve your dinner ticket.

## Wellnes Day

Immokalee Wellness Day, Saturday, October 12, will offer free screenings for diabetes (blood and eye), free blood pressure checks, free flu shots for eligible adults and free mental health screenings for children.

Come for the free screenings and to learn about other Immokalee resources including: job retraining programs, family food and fitness, after school programs, counseling services and many others.

It all happens at the Florida Department of Health - Collier County, 419 N. First Street, Immokalee from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, October 12.

## Public invited to iGeneration board meeting

The public is invited to the Board Meeting for iGeneration Empowerment of Collier at Immokalee. Board meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. Community members, current students' families and families who are considering advancing the education of their students

are welcome. There is open enrollment for all Immokalee transfer or new students. iGeneration Empowerment Academy of Collier at Immokalee: 1411 Lake Trafford Road (corner of 29 & Lake Trafford Road, next to the First Baptist Church).

For more information call Synthia LaFontaine, Campus Director, at 239-658-0690.

## Attention, 2nd Infantry Division Veterans

The Florida Branch of the Second Indianhead Division Association will have its annual reunion in Titusville, Florida on October 18-20, 2013 at the Best Western Space Shuttle Inn. All veterans of the 2nd Infantry Divisions are invited. For more information, call the branch secretary-treasurer, Donald Calnan, at (561) 742-5379 or send an email to 2ida.mail@charter.net.

## SR 29 meeting planned

The SR 29 Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting was held on Monday, September 16. The project team received many excellent comments and questions from the SAC members. In our ongoing coordination efforts with the community, we are compiling information that the SAC requested and will have another SAC meeting later this fall. After this meeting, the project team will make presentations to County staff, to the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Board and their committees, and to the Immokalee Community Redevelopment Advisory (CRA) Committee. Therefore, we are rescheduling the proposed October 17 public meeting to early 2014. We will notify you in the near future of the new public meeting date.

## iTECH class open

Machining class, 1500 hours, Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-2:15 p.m. Class begins on or around December 2, 2013 at the Immokalee Technical Center, 508 North 9th Street,

(239) 377-9900. Program supported by: Arthrex, US Sugar, Haynes Corporation, Shaw Development. For more information about our graduation rates, costs and other important information, please visit our website at [http://www.itech.edu/gainful\\_employment.html](http://www.itech.edu/gainful_employment.html)

## After school Nutrition Program

The Southwest Florida Workforce Development Board, Inc. announces the sponsorship of the Afterschool Nutrition Program, a subcomponent of the Child Care Food Program. This program is designed primarily to provide nutritious snacks and suppers to children in afterschool programs. Snacks and suppers are available at no separate charge to the children at the sites listed below: iGeneration Charter School 1411 Lake Trafford Rd, Immokalee, FL

Community Center 321 North 1st Street, Immokalee, FL

Sports Complex 505 Escambia St, Immokalee, FL

## Running Club Comes to Immokalee

The Gulf Coast Runners Youth Team is creating a running branch in Immokalee. The GCR youth team is open to all young runners 7-17. Most of our members are in elementary or middle school. We train for both fitness and competition year round. Runners have to learn skills such as self-discipline, motivation, and setting and achieving goals. The GCR youth team wants to give every young athlete who has the desire to run, the opportunity to run. If you are interested in joining the running club- there are practices are twice a week, Monday and Wednesday, located at the Immokalee High

School Track at 5:00pm. There is no cost to join-get involved! If you have any questions Hugo Gijon (239) 273-3171.

## Parks and Rec's new web site

Collier County Parks and Recreation recently launched its mobile web site.

Access [www.collierparks.com](http://www.collierparks.com) on your smart phone or tablet to view the mobile device-friendly site. Add the Collier County Parks and Recreation icon to your home screen to access quickly the information you need to enjoy all the recreational amenities offered by Collier County Parks and Recreation. For more information, contact Parks and Recreation Administration at (239) 252-4000.

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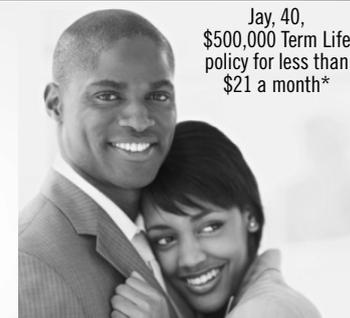
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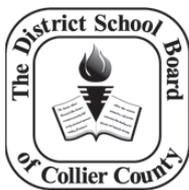
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Come see for yourself!

# Students First

by Maribel De Armas

It's always so rewarding to witness a community coming together to learn what's going on in our children's education world. And coming together is certainly what happened at the Superintendent's Town Hall Meeting held at the Immokalee Technical Center (iTECH) last Thursday.



Nearly 200 parents and community members gathered in the school's conference center to hear from our Superintendent, Dr. Kamela Patton.

The whole presentation was helpful," said one guest. "I was very impressed," said another. Dr. Patton took the time to share updates on current initiatives happening within the school district, new testing and graduation requirements, information about the new high school entrepreneurial course being offered, and workforce education, among many other topics.

One parent said, "I liked hearing about all of the opportunities there are for kids who want to continue their education beyond graduation." A very positive comment, as Dr. Patton talked about the evening's host location, iTECH, and all of the many programs and financial assistance they have to offer. My favorite comment

- "I did not know what STEM [science, technology, engineering, and math] was or that with BYOD [bring your own device], the device does not have to be on a data plan."

Why is that my favorite? The reason for holding the Superintendent's Town Hall Meetings is to inform our community of things like STEM and BYOD.

If we were able to impart some new knowledge to just one person in the room, or maybe the nearly 200 there, then I call the evening a wonderful success.

And on the topic of success, I want to make sure I take a moment this week to highlight some wonderful news coming out of Immokalee High School. Senior Jerald "JC" Jackson has been selected as an Under Armor All-American football player. Jerald is a currently a 4-star player, ranked in the top 10 at his position in Florida and 11th overall for all positions.

You all may recall that last year, then-senior Mackensie Alexander was chosen as an Army All-American, so this is a second-in-a-row kind of accomplishment for the Immokalee High School Indians.

JC will be honored for this great accomplishment today (October 3) at the school. I know that the Immokalee community, along with the IHS Indians, are proud of this honor, but I think we can ALL say a resounding "Congratulations" to JC! Make sure to give him a pat on the back if you see him around town.

# I.H.S. Drumbeat



It gives me great pleasure to announce another great accomplishment for one of the members of the Immokalee High School family.

Senior Jerald "JC" Jackson, a 4 star player who is ranked in the top 10 at his position in the state and 11th overall regardless of position has been selected as an Under Armor All-American.

The presentation for this outstanding accomplishment will take place at Immokalee High School Thursday, October 3, at 11:30 during lunch.

This is the second year in a row that someone from Immokalee has been chosen as an All American. In 2012 Mackensie Alexander was chosen by Army to be a part of their All American game.

This accomplishment may seem like an individual one, but that could not be farther from the truth.

Things like this can only happen when there is support from family and the community.

With that being said, the Indians of Immokalee High as well as the entire community of Immokalee would like to congratulate J.C. on his selection the Under armor All American team 2014.

## Celebrate My Drive

Celebrate My Drive, powered by State Farm, is a chance for Immokalee High School to win a grant of \$100,000 or \$25,000 and even a concert from Grammy Award winner Kelly Clarkson.

Are you committed to safe driving? Celebrate My Drive brings together the entire community to help recognize and encourage teens who know the positives of safe choices behind the wheel.

Immokalee High School is registered, so be sure to make your daily safe driving commitment the week of October 18-26. The more commitments made on behalf of IHS, the better our chances of winning. C'mon, let's go visit celebratemydrive.com!

## Game Time

The Indians defeated Gulf Coast last Friday, 35-14. They will take on the Titans this Friday, October 4, without D'Ernest Johnson who will have to sit out a one-game suspension.

### ANNOUNCING

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# Salud Immokalee program takes aim at obesity

by Kaydee Tuff and Ron Hartung

No sooner had the ink dried on Dr. Javier Rosado's study of obesity in Immokalee than he transformed from academic observer into anti-obesity coach.

In his paper last March in the American Journal of Preventive Medicine, the Florida State University College of Medicine assistant professor and psychologist at Healthcare Network of Southwest Florida concluded: "Interventions are needed that address both childhood obesity and parent weight status among Latino migrant farmworkers."

He didn't wait for someone else to provide those interventions. For Rosado, clinical training director for psychology at the FSU College of Medicine's Health Education Site, the people of this migrant-rich community are not just research subjects; they're his neighbors.

With the support of the FSU College of Medicine, University of Florida IFAS-Extension Family Nutrition Program, and Immokalee Arts in Health, Rosado assembled a team of medical personnel, nutrition educators, a soccer coach and a Zumba instructor to create "Salud Immokalee," a year-long multi-disciplinary program designed to help youngsters and their parents make healthy lifestyle choices.

The concept of managed healthcare is the core mission of the Healthcare Network, which provides primary medical and dental care to over 45,000 patients annually at 13

locations throughout Collier County. More recently, the Network expanded its behavioral health services through a partnership with FSU.

Unlike Little League or ballet lessons, Salud Immokalee includes an educational component on the dangers of obesity and the benefits of a healthy lifestyle. The program targeted 30 Healthcare Network pediatric patients ages 6-11 with a body mass index (BMI) at or above the 95th% percentile. Most of these children have high cholesterol, high blood pressure and are already at risk for developing diabetes. Without intervention, they face a lifetime of poor health.

To be effective, the program had to take root in the home. In his study, Rosado surveyed each parent's understanding of obesity and found that initially, most were not overly concerned about their child's weight, thinking they would outgrow the problem.

He said culture can also influence parental perceptions of weight.

"In the Latino culture, mothers have a preference for plumper children, associate thinness with poor health, and may fail to perceive their children as overweight," he said.

Many parents did not connect chronic health concerns, such as asthma, to obesity. Once made aware of the consequences, the majority of the parents agreed to adjust diet and increase physical activity, not only for the overweight child, but the entire family.

"What we want to do is change behavior," said Rosado. "Research shows us that it takes at least 12 months of consistent contact to really make an impact. Once these kids know how to take control of their health and weight, with the support of their parents, they'll be empowered to live healthier lives."

To encourage healthier behavior, the children and their parents received 18 weeks of classroom instruction and hands-on learning built around three essential elements: nutrition, physical activity and behavior.

According to UF IFAS Extension nutrition educator Suzanne Fundingsland, the key to classroom success was to present the information not as a "diet" but as a way of life for the family.

She said the typical road blocks to healthy eating for migrant families include lack of knowledge about how food affects health, lack of adequate kitchen equipment and facilities to prepare and store fresh foods and lack of transportation to shop on a regular basis.

Despite the challenges, participants were eager to put their classroom knowledge to work.

"One mom talked about how she was changing the way she made her tortillas – without fat – and her family was okay with it, which surprised her," said Fundingsland. "Another mom was going to start substituting whole wheat flour in her tortillas."

Salud Immokalee participants recently celebrated 'graduation night.' While parents

got reminders about diet and exercise, children reviewed the food groups and yelled out examples of foods labeled Go ("carrots!"), Slow ("pancakes!") and Whoa ("fatty, salty chips!").

Soon half of them were out back chasing soccer balls and half were in a heart-pounding Zumba exercise class, where the energy level was all "go" and no "whoa."

At evening's end, each child received a certificate, pretzels, fruit and a jump rope. Each parent received a promise that Rosado and his team will keep tabs on them and their children through next spring, taking vital signs and inquiring about successes and challenges.

Research among migrant farm workers is rare, and Rosado says he is thrilled by this opportunity.

"That is why community-based research is so powerful," he said. "You don't have to wait years to put findings into action."

Beyond the health benefits, what pleased Rosado most was that during the program, parents discovered each other.

"It's an immigrant community," he said. "A lot of people come on their own. They don't have extended family members. They don't know many people. They end up isolated in their homes."

Now they have a support group. And hope.

Ron Hartung is the assistant director of communications at FSU College of Medicine, <http://med.fsu.edu>. Kaydee Tuff is communications coordinator for the Healthcare Network of Southwest Florida, [www.healthcareswfl.org](http://www.healthcareswfl.org)



Submitted photos/Colin Hackley/FSU College of Medicine

Once parents are made aware of the health problems created by obesity they agree to adjust their diet and increase the families physical activity.

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# Financial wellness, job search: eBus coming to Immokalee

Naples, Fla. (Sept. 30, 2013) — From Oct. 3 to 18, Fifth Third Bank's Financial Empowerment Mobile – or eBus – will visit nonprofit organizations throughout South Florida to offer free job search assistance through a partnership with NextJob, a nationwide firm focused on full employment in America. Financial advice, like budget and credit counseling, will also be provided by Fifth Third employees at all eBus stops.

During each event, visitors can access the Job Seeker's Toolkit, NextJob's proprietary job search and training software.

The program is available to all Fifth Third customers who bank online, and eBus event guests who want to find a job or take the next step in their career path. This web-based, multi-media program teaches how to:

- Create an effective resume, compelling cover letters and a detailed marketing plan
- Network and find the hidden job market
- Train and prepare for interviews
- Assess career direction and transferable skills
- Develop a personal brand

• Learn latest techniques to use social media effectively

Once enrolled in the program, users can continue to use the toolkit on any computer with Internet access.

"Offering job search assistance is a welcome addition to the eBus," said Jadira Hoptry, vice president of community and economic development for Fifth Third Bank (South Florida). "For many of our eBus visitors, getting a job – or finding a better job – is a priority, and a key to their achieving their financial goals."

The first eBus began its tour in 2004. Since that time, the number of cities it visited has increased each year, and more than 100,000 people have boarded the bus to gain access to financial education and services.

During this visit, the eBus will stop at nine locations in South Florida:

In Immokalee, the eBus will arrive Saturday, Oct 12, 10 a.m.–1 p.m. at the Collier County Health Department, 419 N. 1st St.

## About Fifth Third Bank's Commitment to Financial Empowerment

Fifth Third Bank's commitment to financial empowerment spans multiple genera-

tions, with programming designed to help people at every stage of life make smart financial decisions. Signature programming includes Young Bankers Club as well as sponsorship of the American Bankers Association's Teach Children to Save program and Dave Ramsey's Foundations in Personal Finance high school curriculum. Fifth Third Bank also offers multiple programs for adult financial empowerment, including the NextJob reemployment program for mortgage borrowers and the Job Seeker's Toolkit for online customers, and its Fifth Third Financial Empowerment Mobile. For more information, visit [www.53.com/financial-empowerment](http://www.53.com/financial-empowerment).

## About NextJob

Headquartered in Bend, Oregon, NextJob is a nationwide firm focused on full employment in America. Founded on the Golden Rule, its mission is to provide creative reemployment solutions for employers, lenders, government and others to help job seekers land jobs and avoid the many impacts of unemployment. NextJob's service provides high quality, one-on-one job coaching and multimedia online learning that is highly effective, affordable and accountable. To learn more, visit [www.nextjob.com](http://www.nextjob.com).

## About Fifth Third Bank

Fifth Third Bancorp is a diversified financial services company headquartered in Cincinnati, Ohio. The Company has \$121 billion in assets and operates 18 affiliates with 1,326 full-service Banking Centers, including 104 Bank Mart® locations open seven days a week inside select grocery stores and 2,433 ATMs in Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, Florida, Tennessee, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Missouri, Georgia and North Carolina. Fifth Third operates four main businesses: Commercial Banking, Branch Banking, Consumer Lending, and Investment Advisors. Fifth Third also has a 28% interest in Vantiv Holding, LLC. Fifth Third is among the largest money managers in the Midwest and, as of March 31, 2013, had \$318 billion in assets under care, of which it managed \$27 billion for individuals, corporations and not-for-profit organizations. Investor information and press releases can be viewed at [www.53.com](http://www.53.com). Fifth Third's common stock is traded on the Nasdaq® National Global Select Market under the symbol "FITB." Fifth Third Bank was established in 1858. Member FDIC.

## Lipman Family Foundation awards grant to Family Literacy Academy

The Immokalee based Lipman Family Foundation shows support for family literacy by awarding \$10,000 to the Collier County Housing Authority's Family Literacy Academy of Immokalee.

While donations are made to a variety of nonprofit organizations, the Lipman Family Foundation takes particular interest in youth education. In the past two years alone, the Foundation has donated more than \$150,000 to educational and life-bettering causes.

Recently, in partnership with Pacific Tomato Growers, Lipman distributed 1,400 backpacks full of school supplies to Immokalee children.

The Family Literacy Academy of Immokalee, managed by Jump Start, provides full service family literacy to Immokalee families with children age birth to five. Classes include preschool instruction and educational play for children 0 to 5 as well as classes in English as a second language, reading and parenting for parents.

The Family Literacy Academy of Immokalee is structured to involve the family as a whole, thereby making long-term intergenerational change in order to secure a healthy quality of life for children thus breaking the cycle of illiteracy.

## It's Harvest Time! Collier Family Farms Celebrates with Farm Fall Fest

AVE MARIA, FL., -- Collier Family Farms announces its season grand re-opening and Farm Fall Fest on Saturday, October 19th from 10:00am to 4:00pm at its farm stand location in Ave Maria, Florida. The event is free and open to the public with special event activities including grass maze, pumpkin picking and painting, homemade ice cream, farm games, and pony petting and photos. Locally grown, organic produce and citrus will also be for sale at the farm stand.

"Our grand re-opening for the fall season coincides with the offering of our 2013-14 CSA memberships," states Lara Collier. "We offer several ways to buy the best, locally grown organic produce— through weekly delivery in a CSA membership at several locations from Bonita Springs to Naples, at our farm location in Ave Maria, or at one of

our Naples farmer market booths." More information on CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) memberships and farmer market booth locations can be found on [www.collierfamilyfarms.com](http://www.collierfamilyfarms.com). A \$25 discount is offered for new Classic CSA memberships purchased before November 1st.

### ABOUT COLLIER FAMILY FARMS

Collier Family Farms is located on 45 gross acres in eastern Collier County, within the development of Ave Maria. With a focus on organic, locally-grown, produce and citrus, Collier Family Farms offers a variety of fruits and vegetables for sale. Collier Family Farms is located at 5321 Ave Maria Boulevard in Ave Maria, Florida 34142. For more information, please visit [www.collierfamilyfarms.com](http://www.collierfamilyfarms.com) and their Facebook page, or call 239-398-4157.

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# First touchdown makes a lasting impression

On Saturday, September 28, Frankie Galindo was invited to play his very first game of Jr. Pee Wee Football on Joseph Boney's Immokalee Pop Warner team. The young man is a student at Eden Park Elementary and is in Mrs. Tello's fifth grade class. He attends fifth grade with Coach Boney's son, Joseph Boney, Jr.

A football player's first game, first touchdown is a thrill never to be forgotten. This,

however, was an even bigger event in this young man's life, touching everyone there.

Frankie is wheelchair bound and it was his first opportunity to be on the field and actively participate in a game he loves.

Coach Boney said, "I am the head coach of the team. I've seen this young man around football and he loves it. My other coaches and some of the players felt it would be nice to have him on our sideline, but I wanted to

take it a step further. The head coach Johnny Jackson from the visiting team, the Clewiston Cougars, and I decided to have Frankie be a captain during the opening kick-off, then have him score the first touchdown of the game! I hope all the football spectators on Saturday know this is why Popwarner has youth programs, to teach kids life lessons not only football lessons."

Everyone stood up and cheered as Frankie carried the football with the players from both teams running with him and cheering him on all the way to his very first touchdown!

It is something that will be remembered for a very, very long time - not just by Frankie but by everyone who was there to witness it and cheer him on.



Submitted photo

Joseph Boney's Immokalee Pop Warner team and cheerleaders.



Submitted photo

Frankie Galindo being cheered on by the team.



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