



Bulletin

Serving Immokalee, Ave Maria and Eastern Collier County

Vol. 46 No. 49

Thursday, December 5, 2013

Christmas events



Celebration of Lights

Date: Dec 6, 2013
Time: 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.
Please join us for our Celebration of Lights at Immokalee Community Park, 321 N. 1st St. We will be having music, crafts, treats and more!

Breakfast with Santa

This event will have you celebrating the Holidays with decorating cookies, sweet treats, crafts, face painting and Santa pictures!
Date: Dec 7, 2013
Time: 9 a.m.-11 a.m.
Cost: \$2.00

Free (GPS) Super Sports Saturdays

Basketball: Saturday- December 7 and 14
Time: 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
Ages: 4th - 8th Grade Only!
Parents will have to come into the office Located at 321 N. 1st St., to fill out a registration form.

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

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Free Speech Free Ads



Submitted photo

Barbara Vincent signs her contract with Take Stock in Children

Immokalee students inducted into Take Stock in Children program

NAPLES, Fla. (Nov. 21, 2013) – Lives were changed earlier this month when 29 Immokalee High School students took a pledge in the next step to fulfilling their post-secondary educational goals.

The students were inducted into The Immokalee Foundation's Take Stock in Children scholarship and mentoring program at a dinner ceremony held at Ave Maria University.

The students pledged to attend classes and maintain a 2.5 grade point average, be a positive role model, remain drug and crime free, be a community volunteer, meet with their TIF mentor and attend TSIC workshops and events. The Immokalee Foundation supports and operates the Take Stock in Children program in Immokalee. The foundation currently supports more than 170 students enrolled in post-secondary education, many which are TSIC alumnae.

Don Gunther, TIF chairman, personally welcomed all the new inductees. "As an inductee of

TIF's Take Stock in Children program, each student has been given a unique opportunity filled with life-changing experiences." TIF's first step is to match each student with a volunteer mentor who will assist along the journey to urge, guide and motivate their mentee. The students will also receive one-on-one attention from TIF staff members who will provide a college and career success plan.

Attending this year's induction ceremony was Madeline Pumariega, president and chief executive officer of Miami-based Take Stock in Children, "Together with The Immokalee Foundation, Take Stock in Children is empowering the children of Immokalee to navigate a successful pathway to academic success and positive personal growth."

Delivering the keynote address was TSIC's student speaker Amalio Montez. The Gates Millennium Scholarship recipient, Florida Gulf Coast

See Take Stock — Page 2

Let's go 'Around the World'

This year's 2013 Christmas Around the World Parade and Gala is all fired-up for another Christmas event.

Please mark your calendars:
Date of Event December 14, 2013

Time of Events: Parade starts at 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.

The THEME of this year's 2013 Parade and Gala Event...Christmas around the World is celebrating "Rolling Out the Red Carpet at Christmas for your Best Hollywood Movie."

A requirement for all float entries: You must display on your float the year the movie theme was Made/Produced as part of your judging scores.

Gate entrance fee for the Snow Gala-\$1 per person for anyone over 36 inches.

Pictures with Santa start at \$5.00(4 x 6) per person in all our elementary schools. We need the community support and participation.

For more information, please contact Cherryle Thomas at 239-657-0080.

Best Dressed

We need your Best Dressed Costume in our contest!

The Immokalee Chamber of Commerce is hosting its 21st-Christmas around the World Parade and Snow Gala on December 14, 2013.

See Around Page 2

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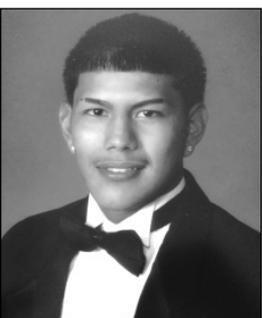
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Community support helps bring peace to grieving family

From the bottom of our heart, we would like to take the time and thank everyone, especially our friends and family who took the



Jerry Ruiz

time to be by our side during this very difficult time my family had to endure. This was a situation that my family could have never imagined, but thanks to everybody's support, our family has and will continue to move forward in loving memory of Jerry. He was truly a very special person in the hearts of our family and in the community. We are completely grateful and overwhelmed by all the lives Jerry has influenced. Once again, we cannot stress how grateful our family is by the many people who took the time to support our family.

We would like to give a special thank you to the two very special 7 and 8 year old children who gave up all of their savings to help our family. In addition to that, a special thank you to all of the school, staff, teachers, administrators and students who came together for Jerry, Jacob and Joseph.

May God Bless everyone for your support,

prayers, and time devoted to our family!

Isabelle Cruz and Family

Desde el fondo de nuestro corazón, nos gustaría tomar el tiempo y agradecer a todos, especialmente a nuestros amigos y familiares que se tomaron el tiempo para estar a nuestro lado en estos momentos tan difíciles que mi familia tuvo que enfrentar. Es una situación que la familia nunca se imaginaba, pero gracias a todo el apoyo, nuestra familia seguirá luchando para salir adelante en memoria de Jerry.

Estamos totalmente agradecidos y verdaderamente sorprendidos por todas las vidas que Jerry influyó. En realidad fue una persona muy especial en el corazón de nuestra familia y la comunidad. Una vez más, no podemos expresar cómo estamos de agradecido por todo el apoyo y ayuda que ha recibido nuestra familia.

Nos gustaría dar un agradecimiento especial a los dos niños de 7 y 8 años de edad que renunciaron totalmente sus ahorros para ayudar a nuestra familia. Además de eso, un agradecimiento especial a todos los de la escuela, personal, maestros, administradores y estudiantes que se reunieron por Jerry, Jacob y José.

Que Dios los bendiga a todos por su apoyos, oraciones, y tiempo.

Isabelle Cruz y Familia

Students First

by Maribel DeArmas

I hope you all enjoyed your Thanksgiving holiday with family and friends.

With a little over two weeks until Winter Break, our schools are in the midst of one of the busier times of the school year.

Students are getting ready for end-of-semester exams, musical performances, athletic competitions and holiday service projects.

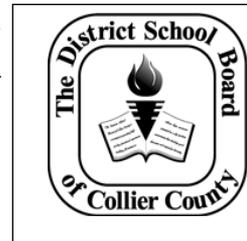
On the topic of athletics, I want to congratulate the Immokalee High School football team for their success this football season.

The team's passion and hard work prevailed even through some very difficult times.

Now, while the varsity football team didn't quite make it to the State Championship this year, the school's Unified Special Olympic Flag Football team is headed to the State Flag Football Invitational next week.

This is only the second year for Unified Flag Football in Florida. The Immokalee Indians also qualified last year and came in fourth place overall.

This year's spot at the State Invitation was clinched back in November when the



Immokalee team came out victorious after a 2-1 win against their opponent at the area tournament in Venice, Florida.

It was during that tournament that team member Johnny Garza scored his first touchdown ever!

Playing against a team in a higher division, the game was in its last minute when Johnny received a hand-off from the quarterback.

Then with pride, determination, and a little compassion from the other team, he ran down the sideline and scored.

I was told that the crowd erupted in cheering "Johnny, Johnny, Johnny"... giving this young man a moment he will never forget.

So, now the Indians, including two Special Olympic cheerleaders, are headed to Clermont, Florida, and they have gold medals in their sights.

Some 264 Special Olympic athletes from across the state will participate in this Flag Football Invitational.

The team sends out a special thanks to members of the IHS Key Club and Ms. Chesterson's fifth period class for their help scrimmaging with the team. And another special thanks to Laces of Love for outfitting the team in much needed cleats.

We wish the IHS team the best of luck and no matter the outcome, know that you are awesome for getting this far. Go Indians!

Take Stock

Continued From Page 1

University graduate and future dentist inspired students with his story of being the first in his family to graduate high school and attend college. "I remember being in the eighth grade and attending my induction ceremony; I remember the excitement of knowing I would be earning a scholarship. It was a sense of hope."

Montez added, "To the inductees, you can consider yourself one step closer to your dreams. You may not know what your ultimate dream is, but you do recognize that

it is possible."

The Immokalee Foundation has a range of programs that focus on building pathways to success through college and post-secondary training, mentoring and tutoring, and opportunities for broadening experiences, life skills development and economic independence.

To learn more about TIF, volunteering as a mentor or for additional information, call 239-430-9122 or visit www.immokaleefoundation.org.

Around

Continued From Page 1

We have lots of exciting things going on at our Snow Gala this year, We are also hosting a "Best Dressed Theme Costume Contest" to walk the Red Carpet Runway at our Snow Gala immediately after the parade is over on December 14, 2013.

Since all of our Float entries always dress to their current theme, we would like for all schools to enter our contest.

We need your application as soon as you can get it to us.

Please fill out this application for a cash prize (First Place-\$100. Second Place- \$50, Third Place- \$25) for the Best Dressed

Theme Walker on our Red Carpet. This Contest will be judged!

Please include the name of the person; describe their costume with permission from parent/school.

Send in your applications to the Immokalee Chamber of Commerce ASAP. If additional information is needed, please call: Cherryle Thomas at 239-657-0080 or the Chamber Office (239-657-3237)

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To Reach Us

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Physical Address: 22 Ft. Thompson Ave.
Phone: (239) 657-6000 • Fax: (863) 675-1449
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

To Place a Display Ad

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The deadline for all advertising is 4 p.m. on Friday for the following Thursday's publication
E-mail: cbadsales@newszap.com

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Staff

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Our Purpose...

The Immokalee Bulletin is published by Independent Newspapers of Florida. Independent is owned by a unique trust that enables this newspaper to pursue a mission of journalistic service to the citizens of the community. Since no dividends are paid, the company is able to thrive on profit margins below industry standards. All after-tax surpluses are reinvested in Independent's mission of journalistic service, commitment to the ideals of the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, and support of the community's deliberation of public issues.

We Pledge...

- To operate this newspaper as a public trust
- 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.

FWMD expands recreation at water-cleaning wetland

West Palm Beach, FL — In a continuing effort to increase access to public lands, the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) has opened Stormwater Treatment Area 5/6 (STA-5/6) in Hendry County to the public for expanded recreation. Visitors to the wetland will arrive to a new parking area and trailhead with restrooms and an educational kiosk and a picnic shelter farther into the site.

The vast wetland that cleans Everglades-bound water is already popular with bird watchers and hunters during organized activities with District partners such as the Hendry-Glades Audubon Society. Now, large portions of the approximately 16,000-acre area will be open to the general public for activities such as hiking, biking and wildlife viewing.

"A remarkable diversity of birds has already made this water quality facility a renowned recreational area," said SFWMD Executive Director Blake Guillory. "Increasing access provides new opportunities for the public to enjoy South Florida's unique slice of nature."

Outdoor enthusiasts can walk or ride bicycles along levees in the STA, framed by an array of wading birds, alligators and aquatic life. Existing features at the site include a boardwalk built for disabled veterans and residents.

"This is something that has been needed for years, and to see it come together is wonderful," said Hendry County Commission Chairman Karson Turner, who also serves on the SFWMD Water Resources Advisory Commission (WRAC). "Now, not only will the thousands of visitors we have come to this area be able to experience STA-5/6 in a more comfortable manner, but it will allow our local population to become more acquainted with this area and experience this facility in a more tangible way."

The District has steadily increased access to the site south of Clewiston, with the first organized bird-watching program beginning in 2005 with a partnership with the Hendry-Glades Audubon Society.

To date, Audubon volunteers, in coordination with the District, have hosted more than 6,700 bird watchers and photographers

from across the globe on 183 individual tours at the site.

Since 2002, the District's partners at the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission have led a series of organized waterfowl and alligator hunts at this wetland.

New Hours of Operation

- Sunrise to sunset on Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday.

- The area will be closed to the general public on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday for wetland management purposes.

- The area will be closed on Sundays starting the Sunday before Thanksgiving until the first Sunday in February to allow for hunting activities.

Throughout South Florida, the District provides recreational access to its public lands while continuing to manage them to support environmental restoration, water supply, water quality and flood control missions.

At present, the District owns approximately 621,000 acres of land that are open to the public.

Many of these properties are in their natural state or have enhancements such as picnic tables, informational kiosks, primitive campsites and hiking trails.

For more information on recreational opportunities throughout the District's 16-county region, visit www.sfwmd.gov/recreation.

About the South Florida Water Management District

The South Florida Water Management District is a regional, governmental agency that oversees the water resources in the southern half of the state – 16 counties from Orlando to the Keys. It is the oldest and largest of the state's five water management districts.

The agency mission is to manage and protect water resources of the region by balancing and improving water quality, flood control, natural systems and water supply. A key initiative is cleanup and restoration of the Everglades.

Celebration of Lights at Ave Maria Friday

NAPLES, FL., -- Celebrate the season at Ave Maria's outdoor winter wonderland during the annual Celebration of Lights event.

This free event is open to the public and will be held on Friday, December 6, from 5-9 p.m. in the Town Center in Ave Maria, Immokalee's neighbor.

Back by popular demand— an outdoor ice skating garden! After a spin on the ice, stroll through the Town Center to enjoy festive food and drinks including a wine bar and hot chocolate.

A holiday parade will march through the Town Center circle at 6 p.m. including Barron Collier High School Marching Band, Ave Maria University athletes and cheerleaders, community floats, dancers, and Santa Claus.

Stage performances will be staggered throughout the evening and include local youth and school organizations such as Estates Elementary, Ave Maria Dance Academy, Donahue Academy Choir, Casa de Bambini, Hot Flashz, and many more local schools.

New this year will be a \$5 Winterland Wristband giving kids unlimited access to the giant inflatable obstacle course and

snowboard, rock climbing wall, and face and balloon art. Take a souvenir snow globe photo with Santa, and feast on treats of the season.

With starry winter skies above, guests will surely enjoy an old-fashioned holiday gathering. Last year's event drew over 3,000 people and more are expected to attend this year.

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.

SALVADOR LOYA, SR.



December 1, 1917 - December 7, 2003

Apa, we can't believe it's been ten years
Since you were called away
So much has happened in that time
We miss you more each day

First Mom left to prepare our home
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And now Juan has gone home, too.

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Apply for school choice or out-of-zone soon

Parents – if you are seeking to have your student attend a school other than the one he or she is zoned for, it's time for you to submit a Collier County Public Schools Out-of-Zone or School Choice request. Parents of students who are currently in either program must reapply. Approval is based on space available at each school, and school bus service is not available in either case.

For priority consideration, Out-of-Zone applications must be submitted between December 15 and January 15.

What is Out-of-Zone?

Per Board Policy 5120, the assignment of a child to a school (not to include an exceptional student program assignment) in a geographic area other than the school normally designated, is referred to as an "Out-of-Zone" school assignment. Out-of-Zone assignments are based on need, such as after-school care, work schedules, high school attendance at a specific career academy, or hardship. Parents submitting an Out-of-Zone application must provide supporting documentation. Approvals are based on space available at each grade level and at the school requesting.

For priority consideration, School Choice applications must be submitted any time during January.

What is School Choice?

Per Board Policy 5120.01, School Choice provides the parents/guardians the opportunity to choose a school other than the school to which their students are zoned. Reasons are unnecessary when applying for School Choice. Approvals are based on space available at each grade level and at the school requesting.

You may apply for either application online at <http://www.collierschools.com/parents/zoninginfo.asp>.

For further questions or to submit documents:

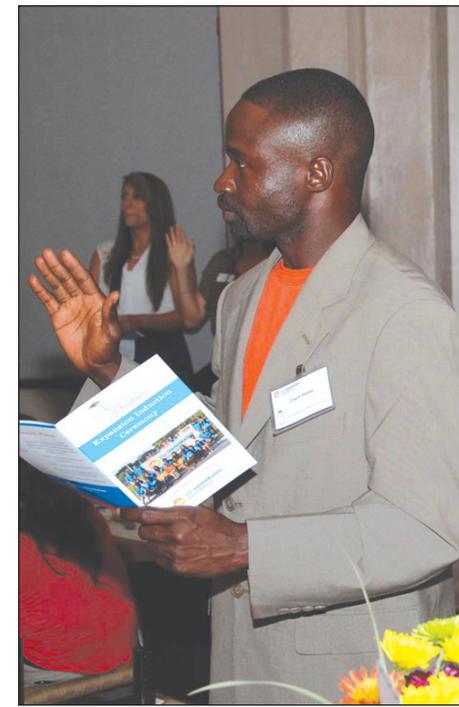
Email: zoninginfo@collierschools.com

Phone: 239-377-0540 • FAX: 239-377-

0506

Mail: Lisa Roa/Student Relations at 5775

Osceola Trail, Naples, FL, 34109.



Submitted photos

Take Stock in Children

Twenty-nine Immokalee High School students took a Take Stock in Children pledge in the next step to fulfilling their post-secondary educational goals. They were inducted into The Immokalee Foundation's Take Stock in Children scholarship and mentoring program recently.

TOP LEFT: TIF Chairman Don Gunther, center, with mentors Massaad and Isabella Eghari TIF TSIC mentors.

TOP RIGHT: TIC TSIC scholarship student Amalio Montez.

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New full moon tran tours launched by Friends of Fakahatchee

Thanks to the new Full Moon Ghost Rider Tram Tours, park visitors can now see the magnificent Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park in a new light--the illumination of a full moon. The new "Ghost Rider" tram, named in honor of the famous Ghost Orchid found in the park, is operated by the Friends of Fakahatchee. The Fakahatchee is home to more orchid species than any other place on the North American continent. The Preserve is also a haven for diverse wildlife and migratory birds.

Only three Full Moon tours will be offered this season: Thursday, January 16; Friday, February 14; and Saturday, March 15. All tours start as the sun is setting, prime time for spotting some of the mammal residents of the Strand as well as birds settling in for the evening. A naturalist will lead each tour to point out interesting features of the park.

"The 24-passenger tram is high and dry and will provide an excellent platform for

viewing park features illuminated by the full moon," says naturalist Glen Stacell. "City-dwellers will be amazed at how their vision changes as their eyes adapt to the moonlight."

The tram is wheelchair accessible and some seats face backwards.

The Full Moon tours leave from the ranger station at 137 Coastline Drive, Copeland, off Janes Scenic Drive. Please arrive early as the tram leaves promptly according to the following schedule:

Thursday, January 16 – Depart at 4:45 p.m., return 7:00 p.m.

Friday, February 14 – Depart at 5:00 p.m., return 7:15 p.m.

Saturday, March 15 – Depart at 6:00 p.m., return 8:15 p.m.

Reservations for the Full Moon tours are \$25 per person and can be made by visiting www.orchidswamp.org



Submitted photo/Glen Stacell

A wood stork is illuminated by the light of a full moon.

Collier County adopts the following new regulations

New Breeder Rules

As of November 1, 2013, anyone selling puppies or kittens in Collier County must be registered with Collier County Domestic Animal Services (DAS) as a breeder.

New regulations approved by the Board of County Commissioners in September place certain requirements on dog and cat breeders to protect both the animals and consumers. DAS wants to help responsible breeders become familiar with and follow the new rules.

IMMOKALEE COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CRA)

IMMOKALEE LIGHTING AND BEAUTIFICATION

MUNICIPAL SERVICE TAXING UNIT (MSTU)

IMMOKALEE ENTERPRISE ZONE DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (EZDA)

Notice is hereby given that two or more members of the Immokalee CRA/EZDA & MSTU Advisory Boards may attend a Women's Networking Luncheon hosted by the Immokalee CRA on Thursday, December 5, at noon at iTech Center conference room located at 508 North 9th Street, Immokalee, Fla.

About the public meeting:

All interested parties are invited to at-

tend, 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 Bencourt at (239) 867-0025.

Help needed for widow, son

Mike Sammons of Covenant Tomato in Felda Florida passed away on Sunday, November 17, 2013 of a brain aneurism. Mike is survived by his wife Jennifer and son Lucas, who has autism. There is a fund established at First Bank of Clewiston for donations. The account is set up in the name of Jennifer Sammons and is titled The Mike Sammons Fund.

All donations will go directly to his family. All will be greatly appreciated as this tragedy was unexpected. Donations can be made at any First Bank Branch and can be handled with a simple phone call. Thank you in advance.

Community Brief

Commissioner Nance office open

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.

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AVE CHILDREN'S THEATER IS HOLDING AUDITIONS FOR THE AWARD-WINNING, BROADWAY MUSICAL, HONK Jr.! Auditions will be held at 7pm on 10/22 for ages 10-18 and at 6pm on 10/25 for ages 6-9 at Ave Maria Dance Academy.

NOTE: Auditions are open to registered members ONLY. To register your child and get audition scripts and info go to: www.avechildrenstheater.com. October classes will focus on tips & techniques to prepare actors to give their best audition! A PARENT MUST ACCOMPANY ACTORS FOR AUDITIONS.



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This position requires the efficient completion of a wide range of diversified administrative and office support activities for the citrus groves management team. Duties include, but are not limited to, data entry, filing, organizing, creating and maintaining reports, photocopying, faxing, and coordinating meetings/conferences, etc.

Computer skills and knowledge of relevant software programs such as Excel, Word, PowerPoint, Outlook, and SAP are required. Independent judgment is required to plan, prioritize, and organize a diversified workload.

A valid Florida Drivers License is required. Must be able to type a minimum of 30 words per minute. One to two years of similar work experience is preferred. An Associate's degree is preferred. Bilingual English/Spanish is preferred.

Southern Gardens is both a citrus grower and major supplier of 100% pure Florida not-from concentrate orange juice to the private label industry and major brands. Position provides an excellent benefits package that includes health, dental, vision, life insurance, and others.

Qualified local candidates send resumes to:
Fax 863-902-4315 or E-mail dmelton@southerngardens.com
EOE

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Email: Jdooley@ussugar.com

Apply online at www.ussugar.com

Employment Part Time

GUADALUPE CENTER ADULT TUTOR

The Guadalupe Center is currently seeking candidates to fill elementary age tutoring positions. Selected candidate will provide academic support to children in grades K-2. Part time position, Monday through Friday afternoons.

Minimum Requirements: High school diploma or GED, CDA/DCF 45 hour training preferred. Experience working with school age children preferred.

To apply send resume to: hr@guadalupecenter.org or pick up employment application at 509 Hope Circle.

EOE/DFWP

Financial

Business Opportunities

NOTICE

Independent Newspapers will never accept any advertisement that is illegal or considered fraudulent. In all cases of questionable value, such as promises of guaranteed income from work-at-home programs - if it sounds too good to be true, chances are that it is. If you have questions or doubts about any ad on these pages, we advise that before responding or sending money ahead of time, you check with the Better Business Bureau at 772-878-2010 for previous complaints.

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Community Briefs

Free eye exams

The Lions Club will offer free eye tests for adults and children Sunday, December 8, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at the iTECH center. Registration closes at 1:30 p.m. that day. The iTECH Center is located at 508 ~ 9TH Street. They will screen for glaucoma, cataracts, macular degeneration; also for diabetes and blood pressure. Free eye glasses.

The event is in partnership with the Florida Department of Health - Collier County,

Friendship Health clinic, Edison College School of Nursing and Bonita Springs Lions Eye Clinic.

Want to make a difference?

Become a VITA volunteer! You can help a family get back the money they have earned and become more financially stable. VITA is a program offered through the United Way that helps low to moderate income persons by providing free tax preparation assistance.

We are looking for volunteers to better serve our clients. No experience is necessary and volunteers are provided free training online. Flexible hours are available January through mid April. Taxes will be prepared at many locations in Lee, Hendry, Glades, Collier and Charlotte counties. For more information email Amy Singer at amy@unitedwaylee.org or 239.433.2000 ext. 229.

Win two round trip passes

The Family Literacy Academy of Immokalee is raffling off two passes donated by South-

west Airlines, through the Florida Literacy Coalition. The passes are good through May 31, 2014 and may be extended for a fee and there are no blackout dates!

The drawing will be December 4 at the ICC breakfast. Tickets are donations of \$5 each or 5 for \$20 or a book of 12 for \$50. To buy your tickets contact either Dee at 239.370.3630 or Donna at 484.908.2186. Make checks payable to CCHA Land, Inc.

VPK

If you live in Florida and your child turns 4 years of age by September 1, Your child is eligible to participate in Florida's free Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) education program. For more information please call (239) 252-4449.

iTECH class open

Machining class, 1500 hours, Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-2:15 p.m. 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

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.

Community Center 321 North 1st Street, Immokalee.

Sports Complex 505 Escambia St, Immokalee.

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 web site

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

Access 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.

Public Notice Public Notice Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE Funds Available Request for Project Applications Disaster Recovery Initiative and Disaster Enhancement Funds

Collier County Housing, Human and Veteran Services (HHVS) announcing a Disaster Recovery Initiative and Disaster Recovery Enhancement Funds (DRI/DREF) supplemental funding cycle. HHVS has identified approximately \$1,800,000 from unspent or reprogrammed funds.

The application period will begin on Friday, December 6, 2013 and will continue through 3:00 pm, Friday, January 20, 2014. The application is available on the HHVS website at www.colliergov.net under the HHVS Main page link and paper copies of the application may also be obtained at 3339 Tamiami Trail East, Suite 211, Naples, FL 34112.

DRI/DREF is state funding from U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) disaster relief funding through the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO). Funds available are for long term recovery and mitigation in communities affected by federally declared natural disasters that occurred during 2005 (Hurricane Wilma) and 2008 (Tropical storms Fay, Ike and Gustav).

Projects identified to utilize DRI/DREF funds must meet one or more of the three national HUD objectives:

- Benefits low- and moderate-income persons or households who earn at or below 80% of the median income
- Aids in the prevention or elimination of slum or blight
- Qualifies as a certified urgent need

The following types of projects are consistent with program requirements:

- Public Assistance (infrastructure/public facilities - repairs and improvements to streets, water/sewer systems, drainage facilities)
- Business (commercial revitalization - repairs/improvements to building in commercial/business areas and related activities)
- Housing (rehabilitation, replacement, temporary/permanent relocation floodplain housing acquisition and household relocation)

Projects awarded funding will have nine (9) months to complete the activities.

Technical assistance will be available for those that wish to attend one or both of the following meetings:

- December 17, 2013 - 3:00 to 5:00 pm - Immokalee Library, 417 N. First Street, Immokalee OR
- January 9, 2014 - 3:00 to 5:00 pm - Golden Gate Library, 2432 Lucerne Road, Naples

If you are unable to attend either meeting you may contact HHVS at any time during the application period before Friday, January 10, 2014 for one-on-one technical assistance. Any questions and answers from the technical assistance meetings and/or the individual meetings or contacts will be made sent to interested persons no later than December 20, 2013.

Collier County is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Collier County complies with the Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C 3600, et seq) and Collier County Fair Housing Ordinance 92.9.

Organizations seeking information, technical assistance with the grant application process or for any other questions may contact Ely Soto McKuen at (239) 252-2664 or email at ElyMcKuen@Colliergov.net.

AVISO PÚBLICO Fondos Disponibles Solicitud de Aplicaciones de Proyectos Iniciativa de Fondos para Recuperación y Mejoramiento de Desastres

El Departamento de Vivienda, Servicios Humanos y Veteranos (HHVS) del Condado de Collier anuncia una iniciativa de los programas de del Programa de Mejoramiento y Recuperación de Desastres (DRI/DREF). Este departamento anuncia el ciclo de financiamiento suplementario. HHVS ha identificado aproximadamente \$1,800,000 de los fondos no utilizados o reprogramados.

El plazo de la solicitud se iniciará el Viernes, 06 de diciembre 2013 y continuará hasta las 3:00 pm, Viernes, 20 de enero 2014. La aplicación está disponible en el sitio web HHVS en www.colliergov.net bajo el vínculo a HHVS, copias de la aplicación también se pueden obtener en el 3339 Tamiami Trail East, Suite 211, Naples, FL 34112.

DRI / DREF son fondos estatales del Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano (HUD) del Programa de Desarrollo de la Comunidad (CDBG). Estos fondos son financiados para el alivio de desastres a través del Departamento de Oportunidad Económica del Estado de Florida (DEO) EE.UU. Los fondos disponibles son para la recuperación a largo plazo y la mitigación en las comunidades afectadas por desastres naturales declarados federalmente que ocurrieron durante el año 2005 (el huracán Wilma) y 2008 (tormentas tropicales Fay, Ike y Gustav).

Los proyectos identificados para utilizar los fondos de DRI/DREF deben cumplir con uno o más de los tres objetivos nacionales de HUD:

- Beneficia a personas de bajos y moderados ingresos, o a los hogares que ganan igual o menos de 80 % de los ingresos medianos.
- Ayuda en la prevención o eliminación de áreas insalubres o deterioradas.
- Califica como una necesidad urgente certificada.

Los siguientes tipos de proyectos son consistentes con los requisitos del programa :

- Asistencia Pública (infraestructura/instalaciones públicas-reparaciones y mejoramiento de calles, sistemas de agua/ alcantarillado e instalaciones de drenaje).
- Negocios (revitalización comercial - reparaciones / mejoras a los edificios de las zonas comerciales/empresariales y actividades relacionadas).
- Vivienda (rehabilitación, remplazo, reubicación permanente o temporal; la adquisición de vivienda en áreas de inundación y la reubicación de los hogares).

Los proyectos premiados con la financiación, tendrán nueve (9) meses para completar los proyectos.

Habrás asistencia técnica disponible para todos que deseen asistir a una, o a ambas de las siguientes reuniones:

- 17 de diciembre 2013 - 3:00-17:00 - Immokalee Library, 417 N. First Street, Immokalee
- 09 de enero 2014 - 3:00-17:00 - Golden Gate Library, 2432 Lucerne Road, Naples

Si no puede asistir a las reuniones, se puede poner en contacto con HHVS en cualquier momento durante el periodo de aplicación (antes de Viernes, 10 de enero 2014) para asistencia técnica de persona a persona. Todas las preguntas y respuestas de las reuniones de asistencia técnica y/o las reuniones o contactos individuales serán enviados a las personas interesadas antes del 20 de diciembre de 2013.

El Condado de Collier es un Empleador de Igualdad de Oportunidades. El Condado de Collier cumple con la Ley de Vivienda Justa (42 USC 3600, et seq.) y Ordenanza 92.9 del Condado de Collier Sobre Vivienda Justa.

Por favor llame a Ely Soto McKuen al (239) 252-2664, o comuníquese al correo electrónico ElyMcKuen@Colliergov.net para asistencia técnica o preguntas con respecto al proceso de solicitud del programa. 437576 1B 12/5/2013

Business & Service Directory

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The ACA Training presented by SBA South Florida District Office

Are you a small business owner with questions about how the Affordable Care Act affects you and your employees? SBA South Florida District Office has THREE training opportunities to help you understand the new law and its impact on small business owners. Two seminars, one in Miami and one in Tampa, and a webinar are offered at no-cost to explain the law and answer your questions.

RSVP for one of the events below by simply clicking on the link:

SEMINAR: Affordable Care Act and Your Business, Tuesday, DEC. 3, 1-2 p.m. EST, 100 South Biscayne Blvd., 7th Floor, Miami, FL, 33131, USA

WEBINAR: Affordable Care Act and Your Business, Monday, DEC. 9, 2-3 p.m. EST.

SEMINAR: What Small Owners Need to Know About Affordable Care Act, Tuesday, DEC. 10. 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at SBA South Florida Tampa Office, 501 E. Kennedy Blvd, Suite 1280, Tampa, FL, 33602.

Information regarding the Affordable Care Act Law and how it affects small business owners, as well as other webinars presented by SBA and Small Business Majority can be found online at: www.sba.gov/healthcare.

Rev. Snell honored with award

Last weekend in Orlando at the lovely Rosen Plaza Hotel, Rev. Lori Snell, who has served as the senior pastor of Allen Chapel A.M.E Church of Immokalee (208 S. 3rd St) for the past four years, was honored by the Eleventh Episcopal District of the African Methodist Episcopal Church's Women In Ministry (W.I.M), for rendering outstanding ministry in the town of Immokalee.

Rev. Snell was completely shocked to be one of the first recipients of this prestigious award. This award was bestowed upon her by the W.I.M's Episcopal president, The Reverend Bettye Watson, at the Eleventh Episcopal District W.I.M's Inaugural Awards Reception, which was attended by the presiding prelate of the Eleventh Episcopal District, Bishop Adam J. Richardson, Jr. and his wife, the Episcopal Supervisor of the Women's Missionary Society of the Eleventh Episcopal District, Dr. Connie S. Richardson as well as, presiding elders, pastors, well wishers and other W.I.M members.

From each of the six Conferences (Florida, Central, South, West Coast, East and the Bahamas) that are a part of the Eleventh Episcopal District, which includes the entire state of Florida and the Bahamas Islands (400+ churches), two female pastors/ministers were chosen for their dedication to the work of the ministry.

The W.I.M decided that they would choose seasoned pastors/ministers, those who had years of experience in the ministry and doing outstanding work and neophyte



Submitted photo
Rev. Lori Snell proudly displays her rendering outstanding ministry award.

pastors/ministers, those who had only a few years of experience in ministry and doing outstanding work. Rev. Snell, who pastors in the South Conference, received the neophyte award.

The Rev. Bettye Watson and Presiding Elder Elizabeth Yates, remarked that Rev. Snell doesn't do ministry like a neophyte pastor, but like a veteran. Rev. Watson, when hand-

ing the Certificate of Accomplishment to Rev. Snell, commented, "She has got to be one of the hardest working pastors in the Eleventh Episcopal District."

Rev. Snell serves as the president of the South Immokalee Ministerial Alliance (S.I.M.A) as well as, the evangelism coordinator and assistant secretary for the Central District. With her leadership, Allen Chapel, a small membership church, has reached out to the community, annually, by hosting back-to-school giveaways, Thanksgiving turkeys and food giveaways, Christmas personal care and household cleaning items giveaways, Teacher Appreciation Breakfasts and gift cards giveaways for four of the schools in Immokalee as well as, Free Fall Fun Festivals for children ages 3-12.

Last year, they covered Immokalee with love on Valentine's Day, by camping out at different locations over the town and giving unsuspecting people gift cards to various restaurants in the community, gifts and bags of chocolate candy.

Rev. Snell has a heart for missions and a Godly compassion for people, which is why she was also honored in October in Miami at the 123rd session of the South Annual Conference by the South Conference Women's Missionary Society for outstanding missions work in Immokalee. She doesn't just see herself as Allen Chapel's pastor, but she sees herself as the community's pastor. She loves Immokalee and counts it a real blessing to be able to serve here.

Elementaries

crossing 'finish line'

On your mark, get set, go! Students from Golden Gate (GGE), Golden Terrace (GTE), Highlands (HLE), Mike Davis (MDE), and Shadowlawn (SLE) elementary schools are about to run the last mile of their "Whole Foods Market - Kids on the Go" program.

WHAT: "Whole Foods Market - Kids on the Go" Final Mile Run

WHEN: Monday, December 2nd
 TIME: 6:00 p.m.

WHERE: Golden Gate High School track (2925 Titan Way)

This final ceremony race will feature nearly 500 students reaching their 26.2 mile goal - something they've been working on for the last thirteen weeks. Since "Kids on the Go" began in the spring of 2012, more than 920 students have successfully completed this marathon program. The event will also feature all 500 students singing the "95210 Let's Go!" song, composed by Lely Elementary School music teacher Craig Greusel. All participating students will receive a medal as they cross the finish line.

To learn more, please contact Safe & Healthy Children's Coalition Executive Director Paula DiGrigoli at 537-3436.



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