

Grad rates increase

While we will not be happy until all of our students graduate, we are pleased with the improvement shown in the Collier County Public Schools high school graduation rate released today by the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE).

The district graduation rate increased from 78 percent, as reported in fiscal year 2012, to 81 percent, as reported for fiscal year 2013. The district rate of 81 percent compares to the State of Florida rate which is 76 percent.

Graduation rates for six of our nine high schools increased as well. The biggest increases were noted at Immokalee High School, with the rate going from 80 percent to 87 percent, and Lely High School, where the rate rose from 84 percent to 90 percent.

In fiscal year 2012, the State of Florida began calculating the graduation rate by excluding special diplomas and GED-based diplomas, including only what are called standard diplomas. This rate is re-

See **Graduation** — Page 2

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

newszap.com
Free Speech Free Ads



8 16510 00023 8

the **dream big** sales event



DRIVE A NEW 2014 EXPLORER FOR ONLY \$249 PER MONTH*

36 month lease with approved credit through Ford Credit. \$3739 plus tax, title, & license due at signing. Includes first month payment, \$0 security deposit, acquisition fee, & capitalized cost reduction.

*Stock #14T65. 20 cent per mile over 10500 per year. Includes \$1500 RCL Bonus Cash. See dealer for details. More to choose from with similar savings. Image is for illustration purposes only. Offer ends 12/31/13



Highway 29 South LaBelle
863-675-1686
www.langfordford.com



Submitted photos/Adam Herrera

Immokalee celebrates the Season

The Christmas around the World Parade and Gala committee would like to thank the entire community of Immokalee, including all schools, churches, all our VIP's, all organizations, Seminole Casino of Immokalee, Salazar Machinery & Co., our local Sheriff Officers, Aplusfotos, Parks and Recreation Staff and the Immokalee Chamber of Commerce for supporting and participating in our beautiful Parade and Gala. on December 14, 2013. Don't forget our outstanding community leaders Grand Parade Marshal Jaime Weisinger and Co-Parade Marshal Jim Coletta. This year's Parade and Gala Theme "Rolling' Out the Red Carpet for your Favorite Hollywood Theme" was extremely visual throughout the entire Parade and Gala. This was the

See **Celebration** — Page 2



Submitted photo/Kelly Stevenson-Crews

Young champions

The Immokalee High School Unified Special Olympics Flag Football team defeated their final opponent from Marion County in a hard fought battle to win the Gold Medal in division two!!!! Special thanks to Pricilla and the cheerleaders for sending our team off to state! The athletes represented Immokalee greatly throughout the entire tourney and received many compliments about their teamwork and positive attitudes! Go Indians!

Special Services at First Baptist

First Baptist Church of Immokalee-1411 Lake Trafford Road-announces the following special services scheduled for the month of December:

- Sunday, December 22, 2013-10:45 A.M. & 6:30 P.M.-Buddy Raulerson, guest preacher
- Tuesday, December 24, 2013-8:00-9:00 P.M. Christmas Eve Service-Carols, Candles and Communion
- Sunday, December 29, 2013-10:45 A.M. & 6:30 P.M.-Rev. Hilario Perez, guest preacher

The public is invited and welcome to any and all of these services. Members of the community are also extended an invitation to attend Sunday school classes from 9:30-10:30 each Sunday morning.

One charged in marina burglary

A former employee of the Lake Trafford Marina is in custody in connection with the burglary and theft that took place September 26 of this year at the marina.

Collier County deputies arrested Christine Johnson, 44, of Immokalee on December 10 and charged her with burglary of an unoccupied dwelling unarmed. She is accused of stealing over \$100,000.

According to the arrest report, Johnson had previously lived in a trailer on marina property. In addition to working at the marina, she cleaned Mr. Olesky's apartment located at the marina.

According to the report, about a week before the burglary took place, Johnson and Mr. Olesky had a disagreement that ended in her being fired.

During the months since the burglary, authorities had received a number of Crime Stopper and in-person reports stating that Johnson had been heard talking about committing the burglary.

On December 6, an eye witness came forward, telling law enforcement that Johnson had said she had been treated badly by Mr. Olesky and wanted help in burglarizing his home and stealing his money to "teach him a lesson." Johnson was to split the money with this witness. The pair actually drove to the marina once after closing hours when Johnson knew Mr. Olesky was not home. However, there was a man fishing on the dock near the dwelling so the plan was aborted.

The next day the witness reportedly saw Johnson and another accomplice with boxes of papers marked Lake Trafford Marina and cash wrapped in bank wrappers. The accomplice complained about hurting his shoulder breaking down the door to Mr. Olesky's apartment. Money from the burglary was reportedly used to buy jewelry in Miami.

Celebration

Continued From Page 1

best Parade and Gala ever! This year Judges relied heavily on the "creativity" of each float entry.

Winners of the 2013 Christmas Float Competition for the Non-Profit Entries are: First Place Float Winner: Immokalee Community School (RCMA); Second Place float Winner: Collier County 4-H Program; Third Place Float Winner: Immokalee High School;

Best All Around Float Winner Lake Trafford Elementary School.

Commercial Entries: First Place Float Winner was Lipman's Produce Inc.; Honorable mentions: went to Eden Park El-

ementary, Pinecrest Elementary, Village Oaks Elementary, Highland Elementary and Immokalee Middle School and our IHS Band and ROTC staff.

We have three winners for our Best Dressed Hollywood Theme Costume.

The Christmas committee members and the President of our local Chamber (Bernardo Barnhart) extend our Thank You's to everyone participating in "Christmas around the World Parade and Gala."

Thanks again for your loyal support of this Event.

Cherryle Thomas, Event Chair

Thank You

The Ramirez and Martinez families would like to convey their sincere thanks for all the very kind expressions of sympathy received on the recent loss of their dear wife, mother, daughter and sister, Diana.

We especially want to acknowledge the Collier County Sheriff's Department, Raynor's family and Immokalee Community

for thoughtful donations and support during this sad time.

We would also like to thank all who attended the funeral which took place at the Guadalupe Catholic Church. Our heartfelt thanks to you all.

The Ramirez and Martinez Families

Students First

by Maribel De Armas

While the warmer weather around here may not be quite as indicative of the holiday season as some of us would hope, the jolly days of the season are right around the corner.

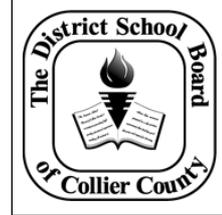
This means Winter Break is upon us and our students will be out of school starting on Monday, December 23, all the way

through Tuesday, January 7. For some families, the holiday season – this time when kids are on vacation from school – can prove to be a little bit extra challenging when it comes to putting food on the table. But it is the goodwill of people during this season of giving that can make things a bit better...a bit merrier.

Many of our schools within the District have been working hard to bring a bit of holiday joy to families and individuals in need. From collecting canned goods for the Salvation Army to visiting nursing homes to hosting toy drives, and everything in between, students take pride in giving back to the community.

One great example, among the many, is Gulf Coast High School's (GCH) Adopt-a-Family program which started back in 1990. This year, the program will benefit 54 families from the Immokalee area and within the GCH community.

Immokalee Middle School is also giving back this holiday season, specifically to



benefit the Immokalee Friendship House. The school's Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) has been collecting canned goods and other items, and the Junior BETA Club will host a bake sale to raise funds to purchase gifts for the children spending the holidays at the Friendship House. And there are so many other offerings of goodwill that just won't fit in the few words I share with you here, but there is one more that I want to make sure to include.

This one comes from a local organization called Meals of Hope and benefits the families of some of our neediest students across the county during the time off from school – all the way through January 7.

Meals of Hope offers free meals at locations throughout our county. In Immokalee, that location is Habitat for Humanity located at 640 North Ninth Street, and they'll be open Monday through Friday, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. (they will be closed on December 24th, December 25, and January 1). The meals available include fortified macaroni and cheese, fortified beans and rice casserole, and fortified soy chicken vegetable and rice dinners.

Again, the meals are completely free. If you need help, stop by this Meals of Hope site during an open time.

And if you don't need assistance, please pass the word along to someone who might need it.

May you all have a safe and joyous holiday season with family and friends, and I hope you ring in the New Year with happiness! We'll catch back up the second week of 2014.

Graduation

Continued From Page 1

ferred to as the Federal Graduation Rate so as to comply with the Federal No Child Left Behind legislation.

The graduation rate for the district's at-risk students has spiked from 52 percent to 66 percent when comparing fiscal year 2012 to fiscal year 2013. The at-risk rate takes into account students who received levels 1 and 2 in both FCAT Reading and Math when they were in 8th grade. Graduation rates for at-risk students at each of

our high schools increased dramatically as well with Lely High School leading the way showing an increase of 19 percent (65 percent to 84 percent), Palmetto Ridge with an increase of 15% (60 percent to 75 percent), and Gulf Coast and Immokalee High School increased by 13 percent (69 percent to 82 percent and 68 percent to 81 percent, respectively). The state's graduation rate for at-risk students increased from 50 percent to 52 percent.

The graduation rates for the district, the state, and individual high schools, released December 11, are embedded in this news release along with a memo from Dr. Kameela Patton, Superintendent, to Collier School Board members.

Published by



Bulletin
Serving Immokalee Since 1969

To Reach Us
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 518 • LaBelle, FL 33975
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

Phone: (239) 657-6000
The deadline for all advertising is 4 p.m. on Friday for the following Thursday's publication
E-mail: cbadsales@newszap.com

Billing Department

E-mail: billteam@newszap.com

To Place a Classified Ad

Call 1-877-353-2424 or to place it from home go to www.newszap.com

For Subscriptions

Phone: 1-800-282-8586
Visit newszap.com or email readerservices@newszap.com.



Staff

News Editor: Patty Brant
Advertising Services Coordinator: Dale Conyers
Advertising Services: Barbara Calfee
Publisher: Tom Byrd
Executive Editor: Katrina Elskan

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.

Community Briefs

Early dismissal December 20

A Collier County Public Schools' early dismissal day for the 2013-2014 school year is set for Friday (December 20). The early dismissal time for elementary, middle, and high school students is three hours earlier than the dismissal time on other days.

The early dismissal day is for the purpose of school improvement inservice for all staff, especially as they work in designing challenging and engaging lessons for our students. The district hopes that this advance notice will allow for after-school child care arrangements to be made.

To view the entire 2013-2014 school calendar, including the remaining scheduled early dismissal days, visit the district's Web site (www.collierschools.com) and click on "Calendars" under the "Quick Links" heading on the left side of the home page.

Apply now for school choice or out-of-zone

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

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.

Enjoy night excursions to Fakahatchee

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 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

Photo excursions

The Friends of Fakahatchee and noted Naples photographer Dennis Goodman have teamed up to offer a new series of "photo excursions" into Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park. Each unique excursion is limited to 12 participants and combines Dennis' extensive photographic knowledge with the expertise of Park Ranger Mike Owen. Excursions will be offered the second Wednesday of each month from January 2014 through April. The programs are designed for seasoned photographers who want to improve their skills.

"We'll be photographing the best this amazing preserve has to offer," says Dennis. "Park Ranger Mike Owen will guide us to the park's best sites each month, and I'll be working hard to improve everyone's photographic technique."

The excursion schedule for 2014 is as fol-

lows:

January 8 -- Orchids and plants of the Fakahatchee, 8 am to 10 am. Take a swamp walk into the Fakahatchee to photograph rare plants and orchids.

February 12 -- Fakahatchee Landscapes and Swamps, 8 am to 10 am. Mike Owen will lead group to restricted park areas to capture unique landscapes.

March 12 -- 8 am to 10 am -- Wildflower and macrophotography, 8 m to 10 am. Capture the beauty of Fakahatchee's flowers, butterflies and insects.

April 9 -- Capturing Fakahatchee Sunsets, 6 pm to 8 pm. This evening program will teach participants how to translate sunsets into striking photographs.

The fee for each excursion is \$115, payable in advance at dennisgoodmanphotography.com. Reservations may also be made by calling Dennis Goodman Photography at 239.825.4677. Each excursion will begin at the ranger station at 137 Coastline Drive, Copeland, FL. From I-75, take exit 80 and go south on SR 29 14 miles, turning right on Janes Scenic Drive.

Obituaries

R.T. Weeks

IMMOKALEE — R.T. Weeks passed away on Nov. 13, 2013.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on December 28, 2013 at the Richmond Avenue Baptist Church in Lehigh Acres.

FAMILY DENTAL CARE GROUP

K.S. Parmar D.D.S.

- Exams • Cleanings • X-Rays
- Crowns • Bridges
- Root Canals • Extractions
- Tooth Whitening & Fillings
- Complete & Partial Dentures
- Braces for Children & Adults

Tuesday from 4:30 to 7
Saturday from 10 to 3

6A, 1013 Main St • Immokalee
(In Kemp Plaza)
(239) 658-1220



LOWEST PRICE EVERYDAY!

RABIES - \$10 • PARVO - \$12
• Half Price Boarding •

Partners in the Way to Happiness Foundation and a Drug Free World. Free pamphlets available.

SHEWMAKER ANIMAL HOSPITAL
1095 N. State Rd. 29 • LaBelle • 863-675-2441

IMMOKALEE MOBILE UNIT CLINIC
Next to the McDonalds • Immokalee • 239-657-2266

CLEWISTON MOBILE UNIT CLINIC
at McDonalds • Clewiston • 863-675-2441

Disclaimer: The Patient and any other person responsible for payment has a right to refuse to pay, cancel payment or be reimbursed for payment for any other service, examination or treatment which is performed as a result of and within 72 hours of responding to the advertisement for the free discounted fee or reduced fee service, examination or treatment.

Paid Advertisement

WELCOME ANNOUNCEMENT



Higginbotham and Soud PA, CPAs is pleased to welcome Kyndel Murray and her family to the firm. Kyndel grew up in LaBelle and graduated from LaBelle High School in 2002. She and her husband, Adam, have two children, Lane and Kaelyn. She received her

bachelor's degree from Florida Gulf Coast University and her masters in accounting from Stetson University and passed the CPA exam in 2009. She also has seven years prior experience in public accounting. Join us in welcoming Kyndel to our firm as we continue to service our clients' tax and accounting needs.

Have it all... **Woodyard & Associates**



Investment Income

50% Occupied - NOI \$160,000

Relocate your business to the 30,000 SF flexspace at the Immokalee Tradeport Technology Park. 10 unit building has interior fire sprinklers, CBS construction, 3-phase electric, 100 AMP service, wide truck turns & loading areas, 83 parking spaces. Units have pre-wired security systems, impact resistant windows and HVAC. Strategically located near Immokalee Regional Airport & Ave Maria University. Easy access to State Road 29. **\$1,968,000**

Woodyard & Associates PH: (239) 425-6000
www.wa-cr.com
Licensed Real Estate Broker



Submitted photos/Adam Herrera

Christmas Around the World float winners

TOP: First place Immokalee Community School. All awards were presented by Cherry Thomas.

MIDDLE: Second Place 4-H.

RIGHT: Third Place Immokalee High School.

BELOW: The I.H.S. Cheerleaders' float depicted the movie, Elf.



Check out these new features:

- Daily Local News Updates
- New interactive and easy to navigate format
- Plus much, much more!

Come see for yourself!

florida.newszap.com

Action
Adventure
Fine Dining
Entertainment
Travel
Romance

And Lots
of Laughter!
Wishing You A
Newsworthy Season!

May your holiday season contain all the makings of lasting memories for you and your loved ones. We appreciate your readership and look forward to your continued support.

We also like to let you know about our
EARLY DEADLINES
Classifieds Thur 12/19 @4:00
Display ads Thur 12/19 @4 • Obits Friday 12/20 @2:00
Paper on the street Tuesday 12/24





Submitted photos/Adam Herrera

I.H.S. Drumbeat



I.H.S. to host first ever Jerry Ruiz Memorial Tournament

The Indians Wrestling Team, in collaboration with the Immokalee Indians Athletic Club, Inc. will be hosting the first ever Jerry Ruiz Memorial Tournament December 20 and 21 in the Immokalee High School Gym. Seventeen teams will join the Indians for this two day tournament. Wrestling will begin at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 20 and will begin at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 21. Door admission is \$5. The Immokalee Indians Athletic Club, Inc. will be providing an All You Can Eat Waffle Breakfast for \$5 Saturday morning beginning at 7:30 a.m. until 10 a.m.

As the major wrestling home event for the Indians Wrestling Team, the wrestlers felt it only befitting to rename the tournament in memory of their 2013 State Qualifier Jerry Ruiz. The Indians Wrestling Team has partnered with the Immokalee Indians Athletic Club, Inc. to have a percentage of the proceeds from the wrestling tournament be used to establish a scholarship fund in Jerry's memory. Come out and support YOUR Indians Wrestling Team!

Feeling the Christmas Spirit

TOP LEFT: First Bank of Clewiston President Miller Couse, District 5 County Commissioner Tim Nance, Bernardo Barnhardt and Co-Grand Marshal Jaime Weisinger, with young companion, got together for a little fun at the Christmas Around the World parade.

TOP RIGHT: Parades and kids were made for each other! The 2013 Christmas Around the World celebration was another big hit, attracting Immokalee's kids, grown ups, and even Santa!



FREE

Online Classified Ads!

400 Words + 4 Photos Online for 4 Weeks ABSOLUTELY FREE!

TO PLACE YOUR AD:

1. **VISIT** www.newszap.com
2. **CLICK** on "Classifieds"
3. **CREATE** your ad

- o First 400 words are FREE! Create your ad online 24/7 at www.newszap.com.
- o Post your ads in these Florida newspapers for as low as \$8.00 each: Okeechobee News, Caloosa Belle, Immokalee Bulletin, Clewiston News, Belle Glade Sun & The Glades County Democrat



www.newszap.com

Online Classifieds

florida.newszap.com Free Speech & Free Ads

Create Your Own Ads Online! Four weeks FREE ... It's Easy!

Submit Your Free Online Classified Ad Today at **FLORIDA.NEWSZAP.COM** - Click on Classifieds

Post your ads in any of these newspapers for as little as \$8 each:

Okeechobee News • Caloosa Belle • Clewiston News • Glades County Democrat • Immokalee Bulletin • The Sun



- Online for 4 weeks - 400 words + 4 photos
 - Absolutely FREE!
 - Post your ads in our papers for as little as \$8 each
- florida.newszap.com
click on classifieds

Employment

Employment Full Time

DRIVERS \$5000 Sign-n-Bonus! Great Pay! Consistent Freight, Great Miles on this Regional Account. Werner Enterprises 1-855-517-2488

Looking for a place to hang your hat? Look no further than the classifieds.

How do you find a job in today's competitive market? In the employment section of the classifieds

Need a few more bucks to purchase something deer? Pick up some extra bucks when you sell your used items in the classifeids.

HOUSE CLEANERS
Full time exp. house cleaners in Naples area. ASAP. Responsible, dependable and attention to detail. Need to be physically fit and very fast work. One group may do 4 to 5 houses per day. Only serious persons apply. Leave detailed message @ 239-353-0557.

Find it faster. Sell it sooner in the classifieds

One man's trash is another man's treasure. Turn your trash to treasure with an ad in the classifieds.

Time to clean out the attic, basement and/or garage? Advertise your yard sale in the classifieds and make your clean up a breeze!

Reading a newspaper helps you understand the world around you. No wonder newspaper readers are more successful people!

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.

Some 800 and 900 telephone numbers may require an extra charge, as well as long distance toll costs. We will do our best to alert our reader of these charges in the ads, but occasionally we may not be aware of the charges. Therefore, if you call a number out of your area, use caution.

Earn some extra cash. Sell your used items in the classifieds

Get a quick response to any item you may be selling with a classified ad.

FOR RENT Rentals

Apartments

ESPERANZA PLACE Affordable 2BR and 3BR Apartments,

Handicap Unit Available Energy efficient appliances, washer/dryer hook ups, spacious floor plans, community center on site with computer lab for resident use and classes. From access to Carl Kuehner Community Center educational and social programs. Must be farm or grove labor employed Pay no more than 30% of your households adjusted monthly income for rent and utilities.

Call Rental Office at 657-2009 Mon-Fri, 8:00AM-5:00PM 2693 Marianna Way, #308 (TDD 1-800-955-8771) Equal Housing Opportunity Provider & Employer



When doing those chores is doing you in, it's time to look for a helper in the classifieds.

Condos/Townhouses Rent

TRAFFORD PINE ESTATES INC.

3 BR & 2 BR

CBS Construction All include Stove, Refrig., Air, Ceiling Fans, Util. Rm. w/W&D Hookup, Sound Barrier Between Apt./Twnhs. Free Trash Pickup, Free Lawn Service. Pets Allowed w/ Deposit. Walk to Store.

NEW Management Privately Owned
Call (239)777-2788

Your next job could be in today's classifieds. Did you look for it?

Houses - Rent

Farm Worker Village

invites you to come home. Available now 1, 2, 3 & 4 bedroom rental homes, starting as low as \$425 per month. You may qualify for Rental assistance. Please Call us at: 239-657-3649 or stop by at 1800 Farm Worker Way.



Shop here first! The classified ads

Recreation

Campers/RVs

Wanted all Travel Trailers, Motor Homes and Fifth Wheels. Any Condition, Cash paid on the spot. Call 941-347-7171

Join all the people who say, "I sold it in the classifieds."

Business & Service Directory

AUCTION

Time for a new car? Check out this auction on December 30, 2013 at 9am

Keith's Towing
925 E. Delaware Ave. • Immokalee, FL
(239) 657-5741

1995 Dodge
JB3AM84J654028109

ROOFING

Metal Roofs Seamless Gutters
Re-Roofs Soffit & Fascia
Roof Repairs Free Estimates

Bryant Construction

and Roofing, Inc.

Lic#CCC1325950 Office: (863) 675-7045
1050 Commerce Dr. Suite B. Fax (863) 612-1158

Reading a newspaper helps you plan your time wisely.

No wonder newspaper readers enjoy life more!



Reading a newspaper helps you plan your time wisely.



No wonder newspaper readers enjoy life more!

Place your FREE CLASSIFIED AD ONLINE 24/7

Place Your Ad Online, From the Comfort of Your Home!

www.newszap.com & click on classifieds



Buying a car? Look in the classifieds. Selling a car? Look in the classifieds.

Grab a bargain from your neighbor's garage, attic, basement or closet in today's classifieds.

How fast can your car go? It can go even faster when you sell it in the classifieds.

Love the earth Recycle your used items by selling them in the classifieds.

IWSD: Armando Herrera Employee of the Year

It is with great pleasure that I introduce to you the Immokalee Water & Sewer District - 2013 Employee of the Year: Mr. Armando Herrera, Jr. Mr. Herrera earned the employee of the year because of his hard work and we are very proud to have him as the 2013 Employee of the Year.

Armando Herrera was hired in February 2007, to work in our Wastewater Collection Department, as a Service Tech I. In that position, he inspects, maintains and repairs wastewater collection equipment and systems, including lift stations, pumps, sewer lines, service connections, and manholes. He locates sewer lines, and inspects grease traps. He pulls pumps at the various lift stations, installs new sewer services, locates and unblocks sewer backups. He also performs maintenance of traffic functions in his

department.

Mr. Herrera attended a short school, and became certified as a Wastewater Collection Technician, "Class C" and was promoted to a Service Tech II on February 15, 2013. On June 7, 2013 he received his Wastewater Collection Technician, "Class B" and was promoted to a Service Tech III. During the year, he was also certified in Utility Maintenance, and was recertified in CPR and AED.

His supervisor, Hector Ramos says, "Thanks Armando, for going to school and working hard for Department 30 and the District!"

Armando won the Employee of the Year by achieving the highest number of Employee of the Month points during the year; 329.25 points from October 2012 through September 2013. In addition to his educa-

tional achievements, he also received points for not using vacation or sick time, and for being on time. During the last year Mr. Herrera received the Employee of the Month Award for February 2013 and June 2013.

In recognition of his outstanding achievements in being named 2013 EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR, Mr. Armando Herrera, Jr. received 8 hours off with pay, an Immokalee Water & Sewer District shirt, \$50 in Winn Dixie gift certificates and this award from the Immokalee Water & Sewer District, along with our congratulations and heartfelt appreciation for a job well done.



DoH expands online process

TALLAHASSEE - The Florida Department of Health (DOH) Division of Medical Quality Assurance (MQA) recently expanded its on-line license application capability to include the following professions:

- Pharmacist intern
- Consultant pharmacist
- Nuclear pharmacist
- Pharmacy technician in training
- Dentist
- Dental hygienist
- Dental radiographer
- Dental laboratory
- Dental teaching permits
- Dental residency permits
- Dental - health access dental
- Dental temporary certificate
- Athletic trainer
- Dietetics and nutrition
- Electrologist
- Electrolysis facility
- Acupuncturist
- Midwifery
- Emergency insect sting treatment

"We are pleased to expand our online application option to these additional professions," MQA Division Director Lucy Gee said. "The online application process furthers our operational goal to provide an efficient licensure process that meets statutory requirements, and our strategic objective to

decrease the average number of days to issue an initial license for a qualified applicant from 1.45 days to one day."

Applicants can access the Online Licensure Application by going to www.FLHealthSource.com and selecting "Apply for a License." After creating an account, applicants will have up to one year to complete the application. This online system also keeps applicants informed on the current status of their application, including any deficiencies.

The mission of the Florida Department of Health and Division of Medical Quality Assurance is to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts. Working in conjunction with 22 boards and six councils, MQA licenses and regulates seven types of facilities and over 200 license types in more than 40 health care professions. MQA evaluates the credentials of all applicants for licensure, issues licenses, analyzes and investigates complaints, inspects facilities, assists in prosecuting practice violations, combats unlicensed activity and provides credential and discipline history about licensees to the public. For additional information about MQA please visit <http://www.floridahealth.gov/licensing-and-regulation/index.html>.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Florida offer specialty license plate

Brandon, FL - Big Brothers Big Sisters Association of Florida (BBBSAF) announced today that the State of Florida has approved a specialty BBBSAF license plate for sale to all Florida tag owners.

1,000 vouchers must be purchased on or before June 1, 2015. Once the goal of 1,000 vouchers has been met, production of plates will begin. Vouchers for the new plates can now be purchased at local County Tax Collector's offices for \$25 plus county registration service fees.

For more information on the BBBS li-

cence plate program, or how you can be an inspiration to a child, visit www.bbbsflorida.org.

About Big Brothers Big Sisters Association of Florida: Organized in 1995, Big Brothers Big Sisters Association of Florida is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. Our statewide capacity-building initiatives assist to sustain and advance the 13 Big Brothers Big Sisters member agencies to provide children across Florida with long-term, nurturing, one-to-one mentoring relationships with caring adults to change the lives of our children for the better, forever.

HERE'S MY CARD

Keep the number of these locally owned businesses on hand for all of your service & shopping needs.

Put your card in this space for six weeks for **Only \$90!** Call us at 239-657-6000 or e-mail cbadsales@newszap.com for more info



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.**

Engaged? Just married? Golden anniversary? Birthday? Holiday? New baby? Share your news in print and online

Celebrations

fl.newszap.com/celebrations



For a modest charge, each package includes:

- A print announcement in the newspaper of your choice.
- An online listing at fl.newszap.com/celebrations.
- Online guestbook for friends and family to sign and view.
- Online photo gallery for up to 10 photos.
- Gift registry page
- Profile page

Submit your good news today at <http://fl.newszap.com/celebrations>



AND A LITTLE CHILD WILL LEAD THEM



THIS IS HOW
PEACE ON EARTH
WILL BEGIN

Experience The Hope of Christmas

First¹Bank

MEMBER F.D.I.C.

Since 1922

300 East Sugarland Highway (863) 983-8191

101 S. Berner Road, Clewiston (863) 983-3003

301 Highway 80 West, LaBelle (863) 675-4242

24704 US Highway 27, Moore Haven (863) 946-1515

11741 Palm Beach Blvd. Ft. Myers (239) 437-8191

Loan Production Offices

1300 North 15th Street, Suite 2 Immokalee (239) 658-0704

And soon in Belle Glade, 325 South Main Street

Member
FDIC



Lobby Hours: Monday - Thursday 9am - 4pm . Friday 9am - 6pm
Drive Thru Hours: Monday - Friday 8am - 6pm . Saturday 8am - 1pm

www.first1bank.com

*Celebrating
91+ Years
Of Continuous Service.*

