

Time to get your barbecue on!

Attention all you barbecuers! Are you looking for the BBQ title? Ready to whip out that secret sauce and one-of-a-kind technique? Here's your chance to shine.

The 2014 BBQ Cookoff will be Saturday, March 29, Sign up early: February \$150; March \$175. The Immokalee Chamber of Commerce will supply the ribs and chicken - you supply the talent.

Put it all on the line for the \$1,000 grand prize and beautiful first place trophy. Second prize is \$250 cash with trophy; third prize \$125 with trophy.

Pick up your application at the Chamber today, 1300 N. 15th Street, Suite 2, Immokalee. (Located inside the First Bank Loan Production Office.)

Contact Mariela Romero at 239-658-0704 or email mromero@first1bank.com.

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

newszap.com
Free Speech Free Ads



Taste of New York supports education

NAPLES, Fla. (Jan. 29, 2014) – The Guadalupe Center's signature event, Taste of New York, raised a grand total of \$760,000 to support educational programs for the children of Immokalee.

The evening gala, held Jan. 15 at The Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort, Naples, included a sold-out crowd of 430 guests bidding on exclusive auction items including celebrity lunches, behind-the-scenes tours, luxurious high-fashion jewelry, spa packages and more.

Bidding reached an all-time high during the live auction when professional auctioneer Laurien Hessels-Schroeder, previously with Christie's, introduced a pair of custom diamond earrings by designer William Boyajian of Port Royal Jewelers.

Receiving the single largest bid of the evening at \$26,000,



Submitted photos/Guadalupe Center
Guadalupe Center Tutor Corps students, Dulce Mendoza, Frankie Valentin, Breanna Galan, Tutor Corps College Coordinator Jody Foege, Daniel Martinez, Noel Reyez.

See Taste — Page 2

Harvest Festival Pageant recruiting contestants

Plans for Immokalee's Annual Harvest Festival are underway and the search is on for the next Miss Harvest Festival and Junior Miss Harvest Festival. If you or someone you know is a positive and talented local young lady with the desire to represent and influence their community, this is the perfect opportunity for you.

The pageant is open to girls ranging in age from 11-20. Girls ages 11-15 will compete for the Junior Miss Title and young ladies ages 16-20 will compete for the Miss Harvest Festival crown. Contestants will be judged in the categories of talent, evening

gown, modeling and on stage interview. The pageant is scheduled for the evening of Saturday, March 22, in the Immokalee High School auditorium. An informational meeting for all interested candidates will take place on Thursday, February 13, at 6 p.m. at First Bank (next to Burger King). Any young lady with added questions and/or requiring additional information is encouraged to stop by. Complete applications with all applicable rules are now available for pick up at First Bank and Mimi's Piñatas. Electronic copies may be emailed via a request at harvestpageant@gmail.com.



Submitted photo
2013 Miss Harvest Festival Maleighna Cade will be giving up her crown in just a few weeks. Will you be the next young lady to represent Immokalee?

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Submitted photo

Taste of New York Committee - Linda Macartney, Barbara Ledinsky, Caryl Corbett, Alice Arena (Chair), Pam Nicholas, Mary McCabe, Bunny Salisbury.

Taste

Continued From Page 1

“The Guardian” earrings were inspired by the devotion of the Guadalupe Center’s staff and supporters and feature three components: an owl, a child and the flight. The images represent a child safely tucked on the back of an owl, his guardian of support during his journey in life.

This year’s “Jump Up” of on-the-spot donations brought in more than \$100,000 to support Guadalupe Center’s Early Childhood Education program.

“The ECE program is the first step in breaking the cycle of poverty through education,” said Barbara Oppenheim, president of Guadalupe Center. “Because of our generous patrons and supporters, we’re able to provide more opportunities for a better future for our children of Immokalee.”

Taste of New York festivities also included a welcome reception for guests to meet high school students enrolled in Guadalupe Center’s Tutor Corps program and hear first-hand, personal stories about their challenges, hopes and dreams.

“There was so much positive energy and excitement in the room as guests heard the testimonials of students whose lives have been forever changed by their involvement in our programs,” said Brandon Dowdy, vice president of development for Guadalupe Center. “This past year, we celebrated 23 Tutor Corps graduates who are now en-

rolled in colleges around the country. We’re thankful to the many patrons who have helped make that possible.”

Guest speaker Dulce Mendoza, a Tutor Corps student, credited Guadalupe Center’s dedicated mentors and board members for encouraging her and helping to eliminate barriers.

“Students like Dulce are the real stars of the evening,” said Oppenheim. “To hear her struggles and see how far she has come really demonstrates the impact you can make on a child’s life by investing in their future.”

Taste of New York sponsors were Arthrex, Ametek, The David E. Meyer Trust, Dunwoody White & Landon, P.A., Gulfshore Life, London Bay Homes, Merrill Lynch Wealth Management Group, Naples Daily News and Sabadell Bank.

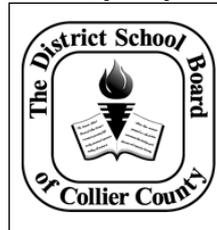
Guadalupe Center is dedicated to breaking the cycle of poverty. For more than 30 years, the nonprofit organization has been serving the children and families of Immokalee. Its innovative early childhood education, after-school tutoring, community mentoring and college scholarship programs have earned national recognition, including the top four star rating by Charity Navigator, America’s leading independent charity evaluator.

For more information, call 239-657-7711 or visit www.guadalupecenter.org.

Students First

by Maribel De Armas

You know what time of year it is? It’s the time of year when it seems that our student stars really start to shine – both in and out of the classroom. It’s also the time of year to put the spotlight on congratulating a certain group of talented students that make Immokalee and the entire school district proud year after year. In the words of Immokalee High School (IHS) principal Ken Fairbanks, “They did it again!” And by “they” we’re talking about the school’s long-time, award-winning BETA Club (Better Education Through Achievement) that brought



home a slew of wins from the 72nd Annual State of Florida BETA Club Convention held last month. Every year the convention revolves around a theme. This year, it was “Making History” and make history the BETA Club did, with its largest delegation ever to attend a convention – 96 members strong!

Working together, the Indians brought home State Championships in the Character Skit, Group Talent, Banner, Scrapbook and Philanthropy competitions. They also placed second in Campaign Skit and Service, and received additional honors in various individual competitions. With all of these wins, the Immokalee High BETA Club will now represent Florida in various categories at the National BETA Convention to be held in June in Richmond, Virginia. If you’re reading this and you or someone you know may be able to help support their trip to Richmond, please contact the school at 377-1800. I know the students would certainly appreci-

IWSD appointments announced

Governor Rick Scott has announced the appointment of Jack Johnson, Jr. and the re-appointments of Robert D. Halman and Fred Thomas, Jr. to the Immokalee Water and Sewer District.

Johnson, 60, of Immokalee, is a rancher and the president Jack and Ann’s Feed and Supply Inc. He succeeds Richard Rice and is appointed for a term beginning January 29, 2014, and ending October 1, 2017.

Halman, 61, of Immokalee, is the agri-

ate your generosity.

By the way, members of the IHS BETA Club will be recognized at Tuesday’s Regular School Board Meeting, to be held at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Administrative Center beginning at 4:00 p.m. You’ll not only see them get recognized, but hear them sing a patriotic song and perform their award-winning Character Skit. If you can’t make it to the meeting, tune in for the live broadcast on The Education Channel (Comcast cable 99) at 4 p.m. or streaming online at www.collierschools.com. You can also catch replays on February 15 and 16 at Noon.

And before I sign off today, there’s something else that happens this time of year. Just yesterday, eighteen Collier County Public Schools high school student-athletes had a very memorable day. These students participated in National Signing Day – making commitments to attend and play sports at top universities throughout the country. Six of those students hail from Immokalee High School. Congratulations to Jimmy Bayes (Football), Lionel Dela Cruz (Cross Country), Jerald J.C. Jackson (Football), D’Ernest Johnson (Football), Johnson Louigene (Football), and Anita Munoz (Cross Country).

IHS Activities Coordinator Tony Allen says, “These accomplishments may seem like individual ones, but that could not be farther from the truth. Things like this can only happen when there is support from family and the community, as well as dedication from coaches and teachers. The Immokalee High Indians, as well as the entire community of Immokalee, congratulate these individuals on their accomplishment of pursuing an education through athletics.” Couldn’t have said it better myself. Kudos to our BETAs and our student athletes!

culture extension agent for the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences. He is reappointed for a term beginning January 29, 2014, and ending October 1, 2016.

Thomas, 74, of Immokalee, is a former Executive Director of the Collier County Housing Authority. He is reappointed for a term beginning January 29, 2014, and ending October 1, 2017.

Published by

Immokalee Bulletin
Serving Immokalee Since 1969

To Reach Us

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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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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.

Apply for MicroEnterprise program

Naples- The Goodwill Southwest Florida MicroEnterprise Institute is seeking entrepreneurs for its Naples class, to be held at Barron Collier High School (5600 Cougar Drive, Naples) starting February 11.

The Goodwill Southwest Florida MicroEnterprise Institute is a training program to help emerging entrepreneurs start new ventures and grow small businesses. Graduates complete a 12-module business and management training course over six weeks and work with mentors who are successful businesspersons.

"The MicroEnterprise Institute of Goodwill SWFL Inc. recognizes that there exists in Collier County an unmet need to help aspiring entrepreneurs who are unemployed or under-employed and financially disadvantaged who want to start their own businesses," says MicroEnterprise Director Elliott Rittenhouse. "In addition, we have a micro-loan program that is designed to

help our graduates kick-start their new businesses and begin to build a legacy for their families."

Classes, which will be held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:00p.m. to 9:00p.m., will cover everything from accounting to marketing, insurance to funding. After the completion of the course, eligible participants may apply for a microloan collateral guarantee from Goodwill.

To apply visit www.goodwillswfl.org/microenterprise or call (239)995-2106 ext. 2219 for more information. The session is \$65.

The Goodwill Southwest Florida MicroEnterprise Institute is administrated by Goodwill Industries of Southwest Florida and is part of Goodwill's mission of providing life-changing opportunities to independence for those with disabilities and disadvantages. For more information about Goodwill Industries of Southwest Florida, visit www.goodwillswfl.org.

Community Briefs

Would you sponsor the DJ?

Immokalee Relay for Life is looking for a business partner, or individual, who would be interested in sponsoring the DJ for our March 14th event at the Immokalee Sports Complex. At this all night event, the DJ will be keeping us entertained with music, contest and game announcements, and important American Cancer Society information, all while touching our hearts as we remember the loved ones we have lost, those still fighting and helping us fight back. DJ Reyna would love to advertise for you at the event, by mentioning your business and providing contact information. Please contact Kelly Stevenson at StevenKe@collierschools.com or Ann Musselman at ann.musselman@cancer.org.

Prayer breakfast

On, Saturday, February 22, 2014 at 10 a.m. the ladies of Highways and Byways Ministries of Immokalee (John Bex, Pastor) and Allen Chapel A.M.E Church of Immokalee (Rev. Lori Snell, Pastor), will host their monthly, free prayer breakfast at Allen Chapel A.M.E Church, which is located at 208 S. 3rd Street. All are invited.

Also, this is a potluck style of eating, so please feel free to bring your favorite breakfast or brunch dish. If you cannot bring a dish, please don't let that stop you from attending. More than consuming natural food, this meeting is about feasting on the Word of God, and building sisterly bonds in the faith community. This meeting will be facilitated by Sis. Lee Lozano and Rev. Lori Snell.

Fishing tournament

The first Neal J Hull Fishing Tournament, benefitting His Vision Our Hands, will be held February 8 at Lake Trafford. Cash prizes: first place \$1,500; second place \$750; third place \$250; big bass \$250. Entry fee \$80 per boat (two man team).

Entries accepted until February 8. Register at the marina starting a 6 a.m. Shotgun start 7 a.m. weigh in at 3 p.m. Make checks payable to: His Vision Our Hands, P.O. Box 2007, LaBelle, FL 33975. www.hisvisionourhands.org. Find them on Facebook.

Tournament contact: Robbie Hull 239-217-2565 or Scott Wegscheid 863-673-4630.

Little Mr. and Miss Tomato

Vote for Little Mr. and Miss Tomato for the Harvest Festival. One penny equals one vote. Open for all children 0-5 years old. Winners will receive a grand prize. Pick up your applications at the Immokalee Chamber of Commerce office, 1300 N. 15th Street (inside the First Bank Loan Production Office), starting the first week of February.

Participants will collect votes up until the third week of March. All jars will need to be turned in by 5 p.m. Monday, March 17, in order to be eligible to enter the contest.

Winners will be announced on stage at the Harvest Festival Pageant to be held Saturday, March 22, at the I.H.S. auditorium at 7 p.m. Tickets on pre-sale are \$5 each or \$7 at the door. Contact Mariela Romero at mromero@first1bank.com or 239-658-0704 or 239-692-2178.

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HIV/AIDS:

Get Educated, Get Tested, Get Treated, Get Involved!

In Florida, for newly reported adult HIV Infection cases in 2013, the case rate among black men was 4 times higher than the rate among white men and the case rate among black women was 15 times higher than the rate among white women.

Among adults, one in every 40 black men and one in every 61 black women were living with HIV disease in 2012; compared to one in every 192 white men and one in every 1,092 white women.

In Collier, as of December 2013, 1,558 residents of Collier County have been diagnosed with HIV/AIDS, and 42 percent of these men, women, and children are Blacks.

The first week of February 2014, Collier County will respond to the impact of HIV and AIDS on our Black communities in observance of National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day (NBHAAD), a nationwide mobilization effort designed to encourage Black Americans across the US to get educated, get tested, get treated, and get involved with HIV/AIDS, as it continues to devastate Black communities.

For this reason, the Florida Department of Health-Collier County and its community

partners are proud to sponsor the following testing events to celebrate the National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day:

February 6 Free Rapid HIV Testing: Marion E. Fether Medical Center.- Immokalee

February 7 Free Rapid HIV Testing: Marion E. Fether Medical Center.- Immokalee 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

For more information about these events, please contact Nilda Proenza or Isidra Gomes at the Florida Department of Health in County Collier- Phone: (239) 252-2683

For Media and Press release, please contact Deb Millsap at (239) 252-8220. Sponsored by the following:

Florida Department of Health-Collier County: 3339 E. Tamiami Trail, Suite 151; Call (239) 252-8593.

Florida Department of Health-Collier County/Immokalee: 419 1st Street; Call (239) 252-7300.

Marion E. Fether Medical Center: 1454 Madison Ave W, Immokalee; Call (239) 658-3000.

Planned Parenthood of Collier County: 1425 Creech Road, Naples; Call (239) 262-8923/Ext-322.

COLLIER COUNTY MUSEUMS

NAPLES EVERGLADES IMMOKALEE NAPLES DEPOT MARCO ISLAND

EXHIBITION

Pahokee Prepares for War

Immokalee Pioneer Museum
1215 Roberts Ave., Immokalee

FEB. 3 - APRIL 30

This photographic exhibition examines a town at work and play as it faced the realities of World War II and provides a rare glimpse into the community at a pivotal moment in history.
Organized by HistoryMiami.

239-658-2466

FREE ADMISSION

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Six Indian athletes commit to Division 1 schools

Signing Day 2014 has arrived and the Indians of Immokalee will have a great deal to celebrate. This year's class will include six individuals who have put in a lot of hard work both on the field of play and in the classroom and who have been recognized on the state and national level for doing so.

All 6 of these individuals will sign a national letter of intent that will allow them to compete at the Division 1 level for the next 4 years. This group includes the following Immokalee High School students: Jimmy Bayes (Football), Lionel Della Cruz (Cross Country), Jerald J.C. Jackson (Football), D'Ernest Johnson (Football), Johnson Louiegene (Football), and Anita Munoz (Cross

Country). This event will take place in the auditorium at Immokalee High School on Wednesday February 5th at 8:00 a.m.

These accomplishments may seem like individual ones, but that could not be farther from the truth. Things like this can only happen when there is support from family and the community as well as dedication from their coaches and teachers. With that being said, the Indians of Immokalee High as well as the entire community of Immokalee would like to congratulate these six individuals on their accomplishment of pursuing an education through athletics.

Go Indians!

Foundation accepting scholarship applications for students

Collier County, FL (February 3, 2014)—The board of directors of the Foundation of Collier County Medical Society is currently accepting applications for the Foundation's first inaugural scholarship program. The scholarship offers awards to eligible Florida residents enrolled or accepted as students in a healthcare education program.

"We are excited about the opportunity to help groom future local medical professionals," says Dr. Rolando Rivera, Foundation board chair. "Supporting students in healthcare can have a direct impact on the quality and availability of medical care in our community, which benefits all of us."

To be eligible, applicants should demonstrate academic and community excel-

lence. Financial need may also be considered. Completed applications and at least two letters of recommendation must be submitted by March 31, 2014.

The scholarship application and requirements are available at www.ccmsfoundation.org, or may be obtained by calling the Medical Society, (239) 435-7727.

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The Foundation of Collier County Medical Society: Advocates for Community Health and Medical Education

The Foundation of Collier County Medical Society mission is to provide support and leadership to programs that address access to healthcare, promote health education and serve the community's public health needs. The Foundation is a 501(c)3 charitable organization launched by the Medical Society in 2012.

Big 'O' Birding Festival offers tours

South Florida's Lake Okeechobee region offers some outstanding wildlife-viewing opportunities, judging by the fact the Big "O" Birding Festival is celebrating its 13th year. The counties southwest of Florida's largest freshwater lake are known for their remarkable bird diversity and charismatic species like the snail kite and roseate spoonbill.

The festival agenda offers birders and other wildlife watchers rare opportunities to join tours on private ranches, as well as on Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) wildlife management areas and other public lands and attractions. There are dozens of different tours available during the four-day event.

"Because this festival is small and each bus tour is limited to 20 people, the small groups ensure outstanding wildlife viewing," said the FWC's Mark Kiser.

The Big "O" Birding Festival, March 9-13 in LaBelle and surrounding areas, is hosted by the Hendry County Tourism Development Council. Headlining the event is legendary birder Greg Miller, the featured keynote speaker and tour guide. Because space is limited for bus tours, register now. To see

what tours are available and to register, go to the festival's website: BigOBirdingFestival.com. The registration form lists all of the available tours.

To learn more about the Big "O" Birding Festival and other area opportunities, including lodging, go to BigOBirdingFestival.com.

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Submitted photo/W.B. Trevino IV

Immokalee Little Leaguers learned from some of their heroes, the Minnesota Twins.

Minnesota Twins come to Immokalee for a sports clinic

I would like to thank the Minnesota Twins for coming out this past Saturday February 1st, it was a great success. The group of ball players and Coaches came out to the Immokalee Little League field to provide a free clinic for our boys and girls from the ages of 4 to 18. Our kids were taught the basic fundamentals on learning how to pitch, field the ball, catch and hit. We had some of the finest role models come out and show our kids a thing or two on not only the basic skills but also to be a respectable young men or women. The clinic was a huge success and cannot wait for next year to bring the Minnesota Twins back out again. All the kids and some of the parents were given tickets to go watch the Minnesota Twins play at one of their spring training games. The kids were also given a calendar and all the players autographed the calendars. Look for the Immokalee Little League on Facebook, as well as on our own Immokalee Little League Website. www.eteams/immokaleelittleleague.com. If you have any questions about

Immokalee Little league, feel free to give me a call at the number provided. William Trevino - 239-324-3072 "Our kids today is our future tomorrow"

IMMOKALEE LITTLE LEAGUE

Immokalee Little League will be closing registrations on Friday, February 07, 2014. After the 7th, your child will be placed on a waiting list and the fee for registering late will go up. It is very important that when we begin registering, you register your child early so the child can be placed on a team and fitted correctly with the right size uniform. We are asked this question all the time, Why do we start so late in the season? well the answer is everyone waits till the last minute to register their child, so therefore our season always begins late. That is one of the main reasons why we have to register our children early. If you have any questions feel free to give me a call the number provided. William Trevino - 239-324-3072 "Our kids today, is our future tomorrow."

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Announcements

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Special Notice

D & K Harvesting and Gulf Citrus Harvesting & Hauling

Employees may pick up their 2012 W-2's at 890 Spratt Blvd LaBelle, FL Monday-Friday 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

H & R Farms, Inc of Immokalee

employees may pick up their 2013 W-2's at

B & C Bookkeeping

1255 N. 15th Street #4 Immokalee, FL 34142 Monday-Friday 9am to 5pm

Leal Harvesting & Hauling, Inc

employees may pick up their 2013 W-2's at

B & C Bookkeeping

1255 N. 15th Street #4 Immokalee, FL 34142 Monday-Friday 9am to 5pm



Employment

Employment Full Time



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US Sugar is seeking mechanics with experience on engines, transmissions, drive train, brakes, chassis and Hydraulic systems. Candidates with previous Railroad or Heavy Diesel experience are ideal. This position also requires Welding experience. Please apply if you can perform the following tasks.

Ability to perform work on engines, transmissions, drive train, brakes, chassis, hydraulic systems. Be able to inspect, troubleshoot, complete diagnostics, and repair these types of systems as they pertain to Railroad Track equipment and road equipment

- Repair and Weld Frogs
- Repair and Weld Switch Points
- Repair and Weld Rail (Field Weld)

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Apply online at www.ussugar.com

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Employment

Employment Full Time



RAILROAD MECHANIC WELDER

US Sugar is seeking mechanics with experience on engines, transmissions, drive train, brakes, chassis and Hydraulic systems. Candidates with previous Railroad or Heavy Diesel experience are ideal. This position also requires Welding experience. Please apply if you can perform the following tasks.

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Jdooley@ussugar.com OR
Apply online at www.ussugar.com

DRIVERS:

\$5,000 Sign-On Bonus!
Great Pay! Consistent Freight, Great Miles on this Regional Account.
Werner Enterprises:
1-855-517-2488

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

Employment Full Time

TEACHER/FLOATING TEACHER

The Guadalupe Center is seeking a Teacher /Floating Teacher that will provide a safe, nurturing environment in which developmentally appropriate practices are employed in a preschool setting. A floating teacher will rotate from classroom to classroom as needed to maintain ratios. These are full time positions with benefits.

Minimum Requirements:
* High School diploma /GED.
* CDA Equivalent or CDA preferred
* Willing to complete all state required licensing courses within mandated timelines.

Submit resumes to hr@guadalupecenter.org or apply at 509 Hope Circle, Immokalee, FL 34142 Questions can be directed to (239)657-7131. EOE/DFWP

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

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

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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. 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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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.

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



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Guns/Supplies

Gun & Knife Show
LaBelle Civic Center
481 W. Hippocoochee Ave SR 80W
LaBelle, FL
Sat, Feb. 08, 9-5
Sun, Feb. 09, 9-4
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Free Parking
CWP classes \$50.
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Tel: 239-223-3370
GunShowsFlorida.com
Buy Sell Trade



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TRAFFORD PINE ESTATES INC.

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All appliances & low deposit.

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Call (239)777-2788

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.

The classifieds are the most successful salesperson in town.



Real Estate

Houses - Sale

IMMOKALLE 3BR, 2 BA, 1400 sq. ft., C/Air & Heat, All appliances. Call Like new floors, air & roof. (239)634-5112

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RENTAL PROPERTY

23 UNITS

Owner Finance

Call (239)300-1221



Recreation

Campers/RVs

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



Public Notices

Public Notice

COFFO Board Meeting

Where: COFFO Immokalee Office
214 A South 1st Street
Immokalee, Florida 34142

When: Friday, February 21, 2014

Time: 10:30am
461317 IB 2/6/2014

READING A NEWSPAPER HELPS YOU GET INVOLVED IN THE COMMUNITY.



No wonder newspaper readers have more fun!

Act now to avoid flu tragedies

The Florida Department of Health Surgeon General, Dr. John Armstrong, has announced, according to a recent report released by the Trust for America's Health (<http://healthyamericans.org/report/112/>), Florida has the lowest flu immunization rate (34.1 percent), for individuals six months and older, in the nation.

"Tragically, in Collier County, one young person (between 20-25 years of age) has died and three individuals between the ages of 25 - 55 years of age have been hospitalized and required intensive care as a result of complications from the flu," reports Dr. Joan Colfer, Director of the Florida Department of Health in Collier County.

Centers for Disease Control data estimates 61 percent of the reported hospitalizations this season have been in people 18 to 64 years old. More commonly, most flu hospitalizations occur in people 65 and older. Usually 50-60 percent of flu hospitalizations occur in people 65 and older.

Unfortunately, younger adults - especially those who are otherwise healthy - are less likely to get vaccinated. Early estimates for this season as of mid-November were that among people 18-49 years, only 31 percent of people in that age group had been vaccinated. That is nearly 10 percent lower than the national average.

The severe flu outcomes seen in recent weeks in Collier County are a reminder that flu can be a very serious disease for anyone, including young, previously healthy adults. Dr. Colfer urges, "Please protect yourself from unnecessary illness and potential tragedy by getting your flu vaccine, now. It is not too late. Flu season tends to peak in mid-February, but since H1N1 appeared in 2009, we continue to see people coming down with the flu throughout the spring months."

Flu vaccine is available through some healthcare providers, at local pharmacies and through the health department. For individuals interested in obtaining vaccine through the Florida Department of Health in Collier County, it is available at the following locations:

For Pediatric Vaccine (Appointments not necessary and vaccine is free through age 18.)
 • Health Building, 3339 East Tamiami Trail, Naples (8-3 pm, Monday through Thursday; 252-6264 for information/ Flu Hotline #: 252-8212)

• Immokalee location: 419 North 1st Street, Immokalee (8-5 p.m., Monday through Thursday; 252-7300)

For Adult Vaccine (Appointments recommended, please call number below. Cost for adult vaccine is \$30, Individuals who have insurance that covers flu vaccine must bring insurance cards.)

• Health Building, 3339 East Tamiami Trail, Naples (8-4 p.m., Monday through Thursday; 252-8207 for information/ Flu Hotline #252-8212)

• Immokalee location: 419 North 1st Street, Immokalee (8-5 p.m., Monday through Thursday; 252-7300)

In addition to getting an annual flu vaccination, health officials also remind everyone it is important to wash hands frequently and sneeze or cough into our sleeve versus directly into your hands. It is also critical to stay home if you are ill and do not send ill children to day care or school.

Florida National Guard and Reservists eligible to apply for SBA Working Capital Loans

WASHINGTON— Small businesses that suffered economic losses when the owner or a key employee was called up to active duty are eligible to apply for a low interest loan of up to \$2 million from the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Small businesses can apply for a Military Reservist Economic Injury Disaster Loan (MREIDL) any time from the date of notice of expected call-up and ending one year after the date of discharge or release. The program was created to enable eligible small businesses to pay operating expenses it could have covered if the owner or key employee hadn't been called to active duty.

"The absence of just one employee whose expertise is critical to the success of the company can pose significant challenges for a small business," said SBA Acting Administrator Jeanne Hult.

"These Military Reservist Economic Injury Disaster Loans provide funds that will help these small businesses cover operating expenses. This way our brave men and women in uniform don't have to choose between serving their country and growing their businesses."

The MREIDL is a direct working capital loan, managed by SBA's Office of Disaster Assistance. The interest rate on these working capital loans is 4 percent, with terms up to a maximum of 30 years. In general, no collateral is required to secure an MREIDL of \$50,000 or less. The loan cannot be used to replace lost income or profits, refinance long-term debt or to expand the business.

"Many Florida small business owners also serve proudly in Florida's National Guard and military reserves. The Military Reservist Economic Injury Disaster Loan program will help those small business owners who deploy and who will need capital to keep their business running while they serve the nation," said SBA South Florida District Director Francisco "Pancho" Marrero. "According to the Florida Dept. of Military Affairs, about 1,000 Florida National Guard members served around the world last year."

Businesses can apply online at <http://go.usa.gov/BcuA>. To get an application by mail, or for other questions about the loan program, contact SBA's Disaster Assistance Customer Service Center at 800-659-2955 or by email at disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

In addition to the MREIDL program, the SBA supports veterans starting and growing their businesses through its 68 local SBA district offices, 15 Veterans Business Outreach Centers nationwide, its partnership with 63 Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs) with over 900 outreach locations, and 12,000 SCORE volunteers.

Each year SBA helps more than 200,000 veterans, service-disabled veterans and reservists. To learn more about additional opportunities for veterans available through the SBA, please visit the website at www.sba.gov/veterans.

Did you know that

Did you know that a school in Tennessee enforced a policy to combat sagging pants. Low-riding students would get "Urkeled" by teachers, where teachers pull up their pants for them, sometimes securing the pants with zip ties.

Business & Service Directory

AUCTION

Time for a new car? Check out this auction on February 17, 2014 at 9am

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(239) 657-5741

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'Ding' Darling announces photo contest for high schoolers

The deadline for the inaugural "Ding" Darling-Theodore Cross High School Photography Contest is March 14, 2014. It invites high school students in Lee, Collier, Charlotte, Glades, and Hendry counties to enter for prizes that include a Canon digital SLR camera package, chartered class trips to the refuge, and copies of *Waterbirds: Portraits and Anecdotes* from *Birding Adventures* by contest namesake, the late Theodore Cross.

Cross, who lived part-time on Sanibel Island and has family still living here, marched with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; advised the Johnson and Nixon administrations on anti-poverty programs; wrote the influential book *Black Capitalism*, among others; played a prominent role in President Obama's election; and created *Birders United* -- a birding Web site that ranked legislators according to their record of bird protection support.

Late in life, Cross decided to indulge his love for birds and photography and traveled the world to collect stunning portraits and stories to chronicle his adventures. He shot often at J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge on Sanibel Island, and a number of the images in his book reflect his love for the refuge. Cross published *Waterbirds* in 2009 at age 85; he passed away shortly after that in February 2010.

NPR's *All Things Considered* called Cross' collection of 179 images and countless anecdotes "spectacular." The *New York Times* described it as "part visual encyclopedia, part memoir."

"The Theodore Cross Family Charitable

Foundation has made possible this contest, which we hope will continue on an annual basis, with a generous grant to the 'Ding' Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge (DDWS)," said Birgie Vertesch, DDWS executive director. "We couldn't be more thrilled that they wanted their donation used in this way."

"We are so happy to be supporting a contest in my father's name, a contest that will get our youth involved with nature by looking at it -- as my father so loved doing -- through a camera lens," said daughter Amanda Cross.

Digital image entries can be shot from any outdoor venue. A writing component to the contest requires entrants grades 9 through 12 to submit a 100-word description of the "moment" captured and how it reflects what nature and wildlife mean to the photographer.

Entry rules and guidelines are listed below. Guidelines and prize information are also posted at www.dingdarlingsociety.org/photo-contests. Call DDWS at 239-472-1100 ext. 249 for more information.

All entries and personal information must be submitted in digital format to the email address of ddhsphotocontest@gmail.com. Submit your full name, high school, and an original photograph taken by you of nature and/or wildlife in the open outdoors. Include a title for the photograph and a written description (minimum 100 words) of the "moment" captured and how it reflects what nature and wildlife mean to you. Your

entry must comply with the following requirements:

- High School students attending schools in Lee, Collier, Hendry, and Charlotte (Florida) counties in grades 9 through 12 may enter the contest.

- Only digital images are accepted and may be taken with any camera, including smartphones.

- Images must be submitted in JPEG format and must have a resolution of at least 2000 x 1500 or 3 megapixels.

- The photograph must be taken of nature and/or wildlife in the open outdoors, which may include parks, refuges, backyards, and other open spaces.

- Filters, cropping, enhancements and boarders are permitted. However, adding any elements not existing in the original scene will not be allowed. Judges, at their discretion, will disqualify any photos that appear to be manipulated beyond these guidelines.

- Each participant may enter up to two (2) photos but is eligible to win only one award.

- Judging will be anonymous. Please do not put your name or anything that will identify you on your photograph.

- There are three judges: A refuge staff person, a professional photographer, and a member from one of the four county regions.

- Judging criteria:

- Technical excellence (sharpness, lighting, composition, exposure)



- Creativity
- Explanation of photograph (minimum of 100 words)

- All photos will become the property of the society. Photos may be used by the society in any way with appropriate credit.

As a non-profit 501(c)3 organization, DDWS works to support J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge's mission of conservation, wildlife and habitat protection, research, and public education through charitable donations and Refuge Nature Shop proceeds.

To support DDWS and the refuge with a tax-deductible gift, visit www.dingdarlingsociety.org or contact Birgie Vertesch at 239-292-0566 or director@dingdarlingsociety.org.



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