

## Seminole Casino celebrates 20 years throughout March

Seminole Casino Immokalee (SCI) is celebrating its 20th anniversary throughout the month of March.

After four renovations and two expansions, the once 1,500-seat bingo hall and poker room with 300 slot machines casino has grown into a 75,000-square-foot plus casino with 1,200 slots and more than 30 table games.

Owned and operated by the Seminole Tribe of Florida, SCI has generated millions in annual spending for goods and services since its inception in 1994.

Today, the casino employs more than 750 employees and is proud to be one of the largest employers in the city.

Always committed to its employees, the casino is appreciative of its 11 team members who have been a part of the SCI family since the beginning, and have paved the way for 20 years of accomplishment.

These members include Charlie Auders, Jim Robbins, Mary Alaniz, Kathleen Currier, Diana Rodriguez, Maria Salinas, Mary Alice Williams, Helen Davis, Juan

Sanchez, Sam Fuller and Carmen Molina.

SCI President Tony Alves said the casino looks forward to many more successful years.

"We are very proud to have achieved this milestone, as Seminole Casino Immokalee has grown over the years, continually improving the quality of service and the variety of entertainment options it provides to Southwest Florida," he said.

"We will continue to enhance our product and service in order to make our community proud."

As a thank you to the players who have made the casino what it is, SCI is giving back with its "Icing on the Cake" promotion.

Every Friday through Sunday in March (except March 29), from 1:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., one player will have a chance to select a cupcake, revealing their prize of \$2,020 cash or \$220 free play. Drawings are held every half-hour.

Also, in celebration, the casino is giving away a sporty SRT Dodge Viper on March 29.

There will be drawings every hour from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., with one lucky Viper winner and 11 winners of \$500 to \$1,000 cash. The more you play the more chances you have to win.

Still craving something sweet? Guests may enjoy complimentary cupcakes on the casino floor throughout the month.

Pair one of these delicious treats with a Partytini, SCI's drink of the month. This savory drink is made with whipped cream vodka.

See **Casino**—Page 2



Submitted photo/Pete Cade

## Harvest Festival Pageant is Saturday!

Mark your calendars, get out your cowboy hat and dust off those dancing boots! The Annual Harvest Festival Pageant is scheduled for this Saturday, March 22, in the Immokalee High School Auditorium. Sixteen young ladies are set to take the stage for the "Gone Country" themed pageant. Contestants will be judged in four categories: Modeling and Costume Creativity, Talent, Evening Gown and On-Stage Interview. Awards will also be presented for Miss Photogenic and Most Ad Sales. Special entertainment will be provided by the reigning Miss and Jr. Miss Harvest Festival Queens and the Swamp Cabbage Queen and Princess. Join us for a night filled with fabulous entertainment. Pageant start time is 6 p.m. Entry into the event is \$7. Children 6 and under will be admitted free. Front row from left: Michelle Mejia, Carica Astrel, Anita Herrera, Tra'Quavia Prince, Reigning Miss Harvest Festival Maleighna Cade, Reigning Jr. Miss Harvest Festival Jaylen Carroll, Gabby Delgado, Elizabeth Hamman, Diosili Salazar, Alma Mejia, Cristal Mejia. Back row: Alejandra Escobedo, Yoatzin Aguilar, Sarajine Rhau, Alexia Viduarri, Marie Rhau, Shirley Vilsaint, Taylor Clarke.

Submitted photo/Matthew Searles

## Relay brings in \$30,000 to fight cancer

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU to the community of Immokalee for helping to make Relay For Life 2014 a smashing success! Friday night 3/14/14 was the perfect setting at the Immokalee Sports Complex for this year's Relay event- complete with moderate temperatures, low humidity and a full moon to light the track. Following the 'Celebrating Birthdays' theme the circle of booths included vendors, clubs, service organizations and the Army. See more relay photos on page 5.



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

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# Casino

Continued From Page 1

As the casino prepares to wrap up its twentieth birthday, 99.3 FM's Miller and Moulton will be on-site broadcasting their show live.

The ESPN radio hosts will be at the casino on Thursday, March 27, from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

## About Seminole Casino Immokalee

Open 24/7, 365 days a year, Seminole Casino Immokalee is Southwest Florida's premier gaming destination, with 1,200 slots, including Tarzan, Price is Right and the Big Wheel. The 75,000-square-foot plus casino offers 34 live tables games, including Blackjack, Mini-Baccarat, Pai Gow, Let It Ride, Three Card Poker, Texas Hold 'em Bonus Poker, Blackjack Switch and Spanish 21. Seminole Casino Immokalee participates in the Seminole Players Club Wild Card Rewards Program whereby players earn and redeem points at all Seminole Casinos in Florida. Dining options include 1st Street Deli, Southwest Florida's only authentic New York-style delicatessen. This award-winning

restaurant is open 24 hours. The EE-TO-LEET-KE ("The Camp") Grill serves up its signature authentic Seminole fry bread and made-from-scratch favorites. The Zig Zag lounge, home of the Zig Zag Girlz, is "where the party never ends" with nightly live entertainment and no last call. TVs throughout the Zig Zag bar air sporting events and other entertainment. A 10,000-square-foot Event Pavilion seating up to 800 guests is for large entertainment events, such as concerts, weddings, banquets, company outings and privately-held dances. The casino has 1,800 parking spaces. Located at 506 South 1 Street in Immokalee, Seminole Casino Immokalee is easily accessible to all of Southwest Florida via I-75 and Southwest Florida International Airport is only a 45-minute drive from the casino. Located between Miami and Naples, north of Alligator Alley on Highway 846, it's five blocks south of Highway 29. Approximately 30 minutes from Naples and Fort Myers, the casino is a 90-minute drive from Miami and Fort Lauderdale. For more information, call toll-free (800) 218-0007 or visit [www.seminoleimmokaleecasino.com](http://www.seminoleimmokaleecasino.com) or [www.facebook.com/seminoleimmokalee](http://www.facebook.com/seminoleimmokalee).

# Annual Harvest Festival 2014

The 2014 Harvest Festival has "Gone Country!" so get your country on and get ready for a foot stompin' good time!

a.m.-7 p.m. Event is free, parking is \$3.00

Parade starts at 10:30 a.m. Line up begins at 9 a.m. at the corner of 9th & Main St.

## Queen Court Competition

Saturday, March 22, I.H.S Auditorium at 7 p.m. Pre sale tickets are \$5. Children under 6 years of age are free. Now accepting candidates ages 11-20 years of age. Contact Pete and Julie Cade at (239) 281-5418 (239) 628-6132 for more information.

## Little Mr. & Miss Tomato

Saturday, March 22, Crowning takes place during Queen Pageant. Winners take home crown & a GRAND Prize! Contestants are between the ages of 0-5 yrs old. Contact Mariela Romero (239) 658-0704 [mromero@first1bank.com](mailto:mromero@first1bank.com).

## Harvest Festival Event

Saturday, March 29, Airport Park from 10

## BBQ Cook Off Competition

Airport Park. Winners announced at 6 p.m. on stage. First place winners receive \$1,000 Grand Cash Prize with beautiful trophy, second and third place winners receive trophy and small cash prize.

Cost to enter competition: \$175. Chamber will provide all contestants with ribs & chicken.

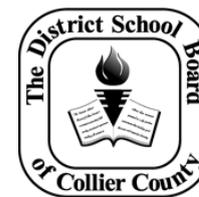
Now accepting applications for Parade, Vendors & BBQ contestants. Please contact Mariela Romero (239) 658-0704 [mromero@first1bank.com](mailto:mromero@first1bank.com) or Cherryle Thomas (239) 657-0080. [ecoc@comcast.net](mailto:ecoc@comcast.net).

Be a Harvest Festival Sponsor: Platinum \$4,500; Gold \$3,500; Silver \$2,500; Bronze \$1,500; Supporter \$500.

# Students First

## By Maribel De Armas

So, imagine you're ten or eleven years old and you hear that one of your favorite singers is coming to your school. That's exactly what happened to fourth and fifth graders at seven of our Collier County Public Schools elementary schools during the last two weeks, including Pinecrest and Highlands right here in Immokalee. The celebrity – Lizzie Sider, fifteen-year-old singer/songwriter who has made the Top 40 Country charts with her hit song "Butterfly." That's right...you read that right...she's fifteen years old and definitely looks the part as she does her school shows in black jeans, a butterfly t-shirt, and bright-colored sneakers. You see, Lizzie has been making stops at schools throughout Florida as a part of her Bully Prevention School Assembly Tour, sharing a powerful message with students – "nobody has the power to ruin your day." Lizzie's song "Butterfly," a big hit among our students, shares an inspiring story about overcoming life's obstacles, mistreatments, and misfortunes. I was fortunate to see one of Lizzie's performances last week and what an energetic and wonderful experience it was. During her bullying prevention presentations, Lizzie sings, dances, and gets the kids motivated, all while telling her personal story of overcoming bullying and asking kids to work together to prevent it from happening to others. I honestly think all of the students were inspired. When asked what they learned from Lizzie, one young fourth grader said that "bullying isn't really a good choice to make. Some people just do that because they could be jealous of you. Lizzie Sider taught us that no one has the power to ruin your day." Another student said, "I learned that bullying is not a good



thing to do because if you've ever been bullied, you know the pain and you never want to put anyone else through that." Seems like Lizzie's message definitely got through loud and clear. I had a chance to touch base with Lizzie just after one of her shows and she feels that she might just

be making a difference. In her words, "It's amazing to have the idea of making a difference and inspiring other kids and hopefully making a difference in their lives. You know, the response from this tour, I get messages and little butterflies from people who say I inspire them. Even some of the bullies, they apologized or said that they're not going to bully anymore because I inspired them. I just feel so fortunate to be doing what I'm doing." Thank you, Lizzie, for coming to Collier County and spreading your powerful message.

And before I close today, I want to take a moment to thank Comcast for helping our low-income families by providing them with affordable Internet service through the Internet Essentials program. Families who have yet to apply with Comcast for service have until March 25th to receive six months of free Internet access. Thereafter, the program provides broadband service for about \$10 per month along with an option to purchase an Internet-ready computer for less than \$150. Because of our emphasis on technology in our schools, it is important for our students to have connectivity at home. Comcast's support goes a long way toward making that connectivity possible. We also thank Comcast for ranking us first nationwide among school districts of our size in providing technology access.

# Get ready 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. 15h Street, Suite 2, Immokalee. (Located inside the First Bank Loan Production Office.)

Contact Mariela Romero at 239-658-0704 or email [mromero@first1bank.com](mailto:mromero@first1bank.com).

Published by

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

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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.

# What Happened to Ochopee?

Young Jeff Whichello grew up in Ochopee at the Golden Lion Motor Inn which his family owned and operated. It was the social center for this little village in the hinterland of the Everglades. In previous times, Ochopee had been a prosperous tomato-farming area.

You'll recognize the Golden Lion as you drive towards Miami on the Tamiami Trail (US-41). It is now the Big Cypress National Preserve headquarters.

Jeff tells in his memoirs how the Park

Service bought out the property owners in 1974 and how the community disintegrated.

You can see his illustrated presentation at the Museum of the Everglades on Thursday, March 27, at 5:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served by the Friends of the Museum before the talk and Jeff will sign his books later.

For information, phone (239) 695-0008 or see [www.evergladesmuseum.org](http://www.evergladesmuseum.org).

# Unified Planning Work Program Amendment and De-Obligation

The Collier Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) announces the opening of a 21-day public comment period for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2012/13 through FY 2013/14 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) to amend the scopes, tasks, and funding allocation. The UPWP is the bi-annual budgetary document for the MPO's operations and programs. As part of the MPO's Public Involvement Plan (PIP), the comment period for the UPWP Amendment starts on March 14 and will continue through April 4. The MPO Board will be asked to consider all the comments received before taking action on this planning document. The UPWP Amend-

ment will be submitted for approval in conjunction with the MPO Board's monthly meeting on April 11 at 10 a.m. in the Everglades City Hall, 102 Broadway Avenue East, Everglades City, Fla.

The Draft UPWP Amendment may be viewed at [www.colliermpo.net](http://www.colliermpo.net). Click on "Programs & Documents," then click on Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). The Draft UPWP Amendment is also on display at the customer service desks at Southwest Florida Works, 750 S. 5th Street, Immokalee and all Collier County Public Libraries

## Community Briefs

### 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 follows:

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](http://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.

# Applications to intern in Washington D.C. due March 31

Washington D.C. March 12, 2014 –Five migrant/seasonal farmworker college students will be selected to live and work in D.C. for an intensive eight week internship and professional mentoring program. The goal is to provide life altering experiences and networks to help students make the intellectual, cognitive, and emotional transition from agricultural life to that of a professional.

Instead of youth working in the fields harvesting fruits or vegetables in the sweltering summer heat, they will live with host families, be placed in positions from the Department of Agriculture or the National Education Association, to the Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs, or Farmworker Justice. They will all be overseen by the National Migrant and Seasonal Head Start Association.

The goal of Migrant Seasonal Head Start is to prepare children to enter school ready to learn. Born 49 years ago from a desire to remove as many obstacles to academic success as possible, President Johnson created Head Start in 1965, as part of his War on Poverty. In 2014, President Obama reaffirmed the value of Head Start by providing 8.8 billion dollars to extend Head Start opportunities for America's vulnerable children. This internship is a capstone to those investments.

"Every child needs a helping hand and a mentor. Professionally, we all had someone help us get where we are today," states Cleo Rodriguez, Jr., Executive Director of NMSHSA. "NMSHSA is proud to continue extend-

ing our hand to students from across our great nation. We hope our investment will impact the lives, goals, and dreams of our interns and in turn we hope these new professionals will impact the lives of countless other migrant and seasonal youth in years to come!"

The selected farmworker students must be former Migrant/Seasonal Head Start children (The Office of Head Start serves three divergent populations: Regional Head Start, Native American Head Start, and Migrant/Seasonal Head Start.), be enrolled in college, and come from a family that is, or has, worked the agricultural fields of America.

We recognize the many obstacles of being both a migrant/seasonal farmworker and a college student. Therefore, the youth we are targeting are those who will benefit the greatest from the structure and potential of this opportunity. Our paid internship offers: stipends, on-the-job training, networking opportunities, professional skills development, leadership development and personal/professional mentoring from consummate D.C. professionals, many of whom are also former farm workers.

Despite entering our third program year, we already count great success as donations and sponsorships have increased to double the possible number of interns, and previous participants have earned year long fellowships, and continued toward both master and PhD's.

2014 applications are available at [nmshsaonline.org](http://nmshsaonline.org) and are due no later than 5 pm EST on March 31, 2014.

## School Briefs

### Parent meeting scheduled in Immokalee

Collier County Public Schools wishes to inform parents and guardians of students attending the five Immokalee elementary schools of the consideration for moving sixth grade back to Immokalee Middle School beginning next school year.

The move would affect current fifth grade students attending Eden Park, Highlands,

Lake Trafford, Pincrest and Village Oaks Elementary Schools in Immokalee, but parents of students in any grade are invited to attend.

An Informational Parent Meeting will be held at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, April 1, 2014, in the Immokalee High School Auditorium (701 Immokalee Drive).

Spanish and Haitian Creole translators will be available to help parents needing their services.

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# Comment period reopened for backcountry access plan scoping

Acting Superintendent J. D. Lee has announced that Big Cypress National Preserve has reopened the public scoping period for a backcountry access plan and environmental impact statement (EIS) being prepared in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). The comment period will be open until May 11, 2014, in accordance with a related notice of intent published in yesterday's Federal Register. The purpose of the plan will be to provide off-road vehicle (ORV) secondary trails, non-motorized trails and a camping management approach that protects the Preserve's natural and cultural resources while providing for public enjoyment. The plan will also establish a permanent route for the Florida National Scenic Trail and other hiking opportunities. A scoping newsletter providing further details on the plan is available at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/projectHome.cfm?projectID=49334>.

You are invited to provide written input regarding backcountry access into the Preserve and the scope, issues and alternatives to be addressed in the plan and the environmental process. There will also be two public scoping meetings at which you will have the opportunity to ask questions and submit comments. The dates and locations of these meetings will be announced in the near future.

Following the completion of the scoping process, the process of developing draft alternatives for the backcountry access plan and EIS will begin. This stage will likely begin this spring. There will be opportunities to comment during the development of alternatives as well as during subsequent stages of the planning effort. Notifications will be sent out accordingly.

We welcome your initial written comments during the scoping period of this project. Please submit your comments online at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/projectHome.cfm?projectID=49334> or mail to Superintendent, Big Cypress National Preserve, 33100 Tamiami Trail East, Ochopee, FL 34141-1000.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

If you have questions, please contact Bob DeGross, 239-695-1107, [bob\\_degross@nps.gov](mailto:bob_degross@nps.gov).

# Cobras lose in regional tournament

All of the teams made a great run in the Region C Cup but the final outcome was not in our favor.

The U13 boys had an outstanding game but a heartbreaking loss in the seventh round of penalty kicks in the semifinal game ended their season. Congratulations to Coach Hernandez, Coach Barrera and the boys. They should be proud of their accomplishments for the 2013-14 season. We know this group of players is bound for great things in the future.

The U19 boys gave up an early goal in the semifinal game and could not recover, ending up losing 1-0. This game was a quest to

appear in the second consecutive Region C Finals for Coach Garza, who guided the boys to last year's State Regional Championship.

The U15 boys won their semifinal game 4-1 and moved to the Championship game on Sunday but also came up short, losing to San Carlos Scorpions 3-0. A goal with less than a minute in the first half changed the flow of the game and the boys were not able to recover. The boys had three chances in the first half but were not able to put the ball in the net.

Hats off to all three teams for a great season and an outstanding Regional Tournament.

# Youth basketball camp to be held

Community leaders gathered at the Rotary Club of Immokalee on Wednesday, March 5, to hear about plans for a youth basketball league for Immokalee Elementary and Middle school youth and plans for a three on three adult tournament planned for the next school year.

One by One Leadership Foundation convened the partners who will help host the Youth Basketball Camp on March 29 at Immokalee High School. Coordinating the event is Keion Williams. The Camp will be held from 9 a.m. until noon at the Immokalee High School Gym with special thanks to Immokalee High School basketball coach John Thomas who is hosting the event.

Offensive and defensive basic skills will

be practiced at five separate stations. Campers as appropriate will be introduced to the basics of basketball and development skills such as proper ball-handling, passing and shooting combined with the basic knowledge of the rules of the game and principles of teamwork and sportsmanship.

Prizes will be awarded at a free throw shoot-out contest. For more information on how to help sponsor league basketball for your school please contact Sinclair Williams, Program Director for One by One Leadership Foundation. To register please stop by the One by One office in Immokalee at 1390 North 15th Street Suite A, call 239-249-9970 or email Sinclair at [swill35173@aol.com](mailto:swill35173@aol.com). There is a \$10 entry fee.

## This week in the Park

### Indoor movie

In Door Movie Night! Movie: FROZEN at Immokalee Community Park March 21, 6:00-8:00 p.m. Friday Cost: \$5.

### Community Yard Sale

Out with the Old in with the New! Find yard sale bargains with the convenience of having all the sales in one location. If you are interested in reserving a spot to sell used items from your home. Please call (239) 252-4449 to reserve your spot today.

Saturday April 5, 8am-12pm \$10.00 per Space Pre Registration Required by Friday, April 4.

### Flag Football

April 8, 2014 - May 1, 6:00pm-7:00pm Tuesdays & Thursdays Cost: \$25.00, Ages: 4-14 years

Cheerleading April 8, 2013 - May 1, 2014 6:00pm-7:00pm Tuesdays & Thursdays Cost: \$25.00. Ages: 5 - 13 years

### FREE (GPS)

Super Sports Saturdays Volleyball : Saturday- 3/15/14, 10am-1pm, 3rd - 8th Grade Only!

Wrestling: Saturday- 3/22/14 - 3/29/14 10am-1pm, Ages: 3RD - 8th Grade Only!!

Swimming Activities: Saturday- 4/5/14 - 4/12/14 10am-1pm, Ages: 3rd - 8th Grade Only!!

## Community Briefs

### Apply to iTECH free

Save \$20 March 31-April 4. Get started with Fall Enrollment at iTECH. Schedule your TABE testing appointment now for the week of March 31-April 4. Limited space available - act now! Testing times: Monday-Thursday 8:15 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. 3 p.m. and Wednesday night 6 p.m. Download the TABE Study Guide @ <http://www.itech.edu>. Study for the TABE! Call iTECH for more information 377-9700.

### 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.

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

# Celebrations

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Submitted photo/Matthew Searles

## Relay brings in \$30,000 to fight cancer

### Team Casino

Top left: - Saralis Espinosa - Mejias, Finance, Nena Garcia, Finance, Delia Lambert, Finance, Matthew Searles, HR, Teo Alviar, HR (+ Daughter Cecilia Alviar).



### Team Judah

Bottom Left: Priscilla Guerrero, Marisela Arevalo, Melissa Tello and Krystal Turrubiardez.

### Just for fun

Right: The facepainting tent was popular with all the kids.



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- Post your ads in our papers for as little as \$8 each  
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## Announcements

Important Information: Please read your ad carefully the first day it appears. In case of an inadvertent error, please notify us prior to the deadline listed. We will not be responsible for more than 1 incorrect insertion, or for more than the extent of the ad rendered valueless by such errors. Advertiser assumes responsibility for all statements, names and content of an ad, and assumes responsibility for any claims against the INI USA. All advertising is subject to publisher's approval. The publisher reserves the right to accept or reject any or all copy, and to insert above the copy the word "advertisement". All ads accepted are subject to credit approval. All ads must conform to INI USA style and are restricted to their proper classifications. Some classified categories require advance payment. These classifications are denoted with an asterisk \*.

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### HUGE AUCTION:

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## Employment

### Employment Full Time

## Employment

### Employment Full Time



## STAFF ACCOUNTANT

### POSITION SUMMARY

Prepares income and balance sheet statements, consolidated statements, and various other accounting statements and reports. Analyzes financial reports and records, making recommendations relative to the accounting of reserves, assets, and expenditures as well as reviews and verifies the accuracy of journal entries and accounting classifications assigned to various records. Conducts special studies and develops or recommends accounting methods and procedures.

### QUALIFICATION/REQUIREMENTS:

Two to Three years of accounting experience preferred. Intermediate Microsoft Office skills. Good interpersonal skills. Understanding of company-wide budgets and forecasting processes. Knowledge in accounting software packages and programs.

### EDUCATION/EXPERIENCE:

Bachelor's degree in Accounting.

**Jdooley@ussugar.com**

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

## Employment Full Time

If you love driving but also enjoy being home then join our team and be home virtually every day. Monday thru Saturday. Work operating a T.T. 53' & straight truck reefer. Combination of local Immokalee and regional OTR. Salaried position plus quarterly incentive bonus. Benefits include paid vacation and Health Insurance. Class A CDL with minimum of 2 years recent Regional/OTR experience with clean record required.

Apply in person  
at 306 E Main Street,  
Immokalee

## 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.

## FOR RENT

## Rentals

### Apartments

#### ESPERANZA PLACE

Affordable 1BR Apartments, 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 household's 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)

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or stop by at  
1800 Farm Worker Way.

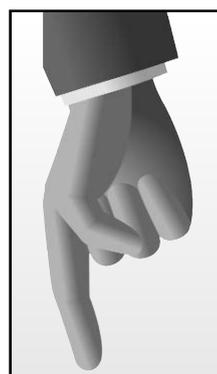


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## Business & Service Directory

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(239) 657-5741

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2FMZA5140WBD95786

## ROOFING

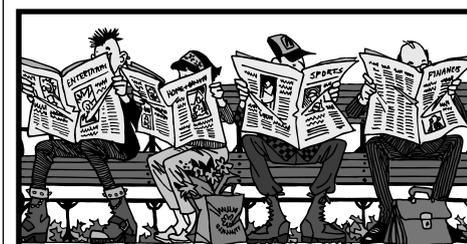
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# County Meetings

## Immokalee CRA and Enterprise Zone

Notice is hereby given that the Immokalee Community Redevelopment Agency & the Enterprise Zone Development Agency will hold a Public Meeting on Wednesday, March 19, at 8:30 a.m. at CareerSource Southwest Florida (formally known as Southwest Florida Works) conference room located at 750 South 5th Street, Immokalee, Fla.

About the public meeting:  
Two or more members of the Board of County Commissioners may be present and may participate at the meeting. The subject matter of this meeting may be an item for discussion and action at a future Board of County Commissioners meeting.

All interested parties are invited to attend and to register to speak. All registered public speakers will be limited to three minutes unless permission for additional time is granted by the chairman.

Collier County Ordinance No. 2004-05 requires that all lobbyists shall, before engaging in any lobbying activities (including, but not limited to, addressing the Board of County Commissioners, an advisory board or quasi-judicial board), register with the Clerk to the Board at the Board Minutes and Records Department.

Anyone who requires an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication, or other reasonable accommodations in order to participate in this proceeding, should contact the Collier County Facilities Management Department located at 3335 Tamiami Trail East, Naples, Florida 34112, or (239) 252-8380 as soon as possible, but no later than 48 hours before the scheduled event. Such reasonable accommodations will be

provided at no cost to the individual.  
For more information, call Christie Betancourt at (239) 867-0025.

## Immokalee Lighting and Beautification

Notice is hereby given that the Immokalee Lighting and Beautification MSTU will hold a Public Meeting on Wednesday, March 26, at 10 a.m. at CareerSource Southwest Florida (formally known as Southwest Florida Works) conference room located at 750 South 5th Street, Immokalee, Fla.

About the public meeting:  
Two or more members of the Board of County Commissioners may be present and may participate at the meeting. The subject matter of this meeting may be an item for discussion and action at a future Board of County Commissioners meeting.

All interested parties are invited to attend and to register to speak. All registered public speakers will be limited to three minutes unless permission for additional time is granted by the chairman.

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ment 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, James Sainvilus, Immokalee MSTU at (239) 867-0026

# 2014 Off-Road Vehicle Advisory Committee Meetings set

The 2014 Off-Road Vehicle Advisory Committee meetings for Big Cypress National Preserve will be held on Tuesdays, April 22 and October 7, from 3:30-8 p.m. The meetings will be held at the Big Cypress Swamp Welcome Center auditorium at 33000 Tamiami Trail East, Ochopee, FL 34141.

For more details about the committee meeting agendas and minutes go to <http://www.nps.gov/bicy/parkmgmt/orv-advisory-committee.htm>

Comments and requests may also be submitted in writing to:  
Big Cypress National Preserve  
33100 Tamiami Trail East  
Ochopee, FL 34141

Attn: Superintendent, Off-Road Vehicle Advisory Committee

The Off-Road Vehicle Advisory Committee was established pursuant to the Preserve's 2000 Recreational Off-Road Vehicle Management Plan and the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972, to examine issues and make recommendations regarding the management of Off-Road Vehicles within the Preserve.

The establishment of the committee fulfills the requirements of the Preserve's Off Road Vehicle Plan and is consistent with the National Park Service policy of civic engagement. The Committee is comprised of individuals representing a broad range of backgrounds, knowledge and skills.

# DLC introduces mental health first aid certification prevention program

NAPLES – The David Lawrence Center, Collier County's only comprehensive, not-for-profit mental health and substance abuse treatment facility serving children, adults and families, is pleased to announce the introduction of the Mental Health First Aid Certification Prevention Program for identifying warning signs in Youth and Adult populations.

David Lawrence Center has partnered with the Collier County Sheriff's Office and the National Alliance on Mental Illness to provide the nationally recognized program which acts as a unique and powerful vehicle for improved mental health literacy. Certified staff train participants to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental illness on a first-aid basis in either the child and adolescent or adult populations. Over two four-hour sessions, the program teaches participants how to help someone developing signs and symptoms of mental illness or an emotional crisis by introducing them to risk factors and warning signs, building understanding of their impact, overviewing common treatments and teaching how to safely de-escalate a crisis situation.

The program is designed for adult participants who can elect to take either the adult or youth certification program which

teaches how to offer initial help in a mental health crisis and connect persons to the appropriate professional, peer, social and self-help care.

David Lawrence Center CEO Scott Burgess states, "In the light of the nation's recognition that mental illness needs to be better understood and effectively treated, David Lawrence Center is proud to be at the forefront of bringing awareness and training to our community through Mental Health First Aid. Given 1 in 4 individuals will be directly impacted by mental illness in their lifetime, this Mental Health First Aid program will save, change and improve the lives of many."

Mental Health First Aid is open to the public, but can be tailored to support the type of aid provided by special interest groups. Some special interest groups include schools, businesses, child and adult care centers, health-care networks and public transit operations. Special interest groups can host closed sessions which can be scheduled to fit their availability at the location of their choice.

For registration information or to schedule a class for your special interest group, contact the David Lawrence Center Mental Health First Aid Coordinator at 239-354-1437 or via e-mail at [mhfirstaid@dlcmhc.com](mailto:mhfirstaid@dlcmhc.com).

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# CLASSIFIEDS

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Submitted photo

## Great trip

A big "Thank You!" from the Jump Start Family Literacy Academy to Jaime Weisinger, at Lipman Family Farms, Gary Nunez and bus driver, Israel, for providing transportation to the Naples Zoo on Thursday, March 6, 2014. Thirty-five Immokalee families enjoyed a fun filled day.

# SBA to Award Grants to Support R&D, Small Business Innovation

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) announced today that it will award grants to state and local economic development agencies, business development centers, colleges and universities to support programs for innovative, technology-driven small businesses under SBA's Federal and State Technology (FAST) partnership program. Applications for the grants are open now through April 11.

The FAST Program is designed to stimulate economic development among small, high technology businesses through federally-funded innovation and research and development programs like the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR). The project and budget periods are for a 12-month period.

"SBA has a highly connected, resource network in South Florida that provides counseling services to entrepreneurs and small businesses. This grant program can be a great resource for resource partners to broaden their reach to entrepreneurs and business owners in the research, development and technology sectors," said SBA South Florida District Director Francisco "Pancho" Marrero.

FAST may provide up to \$100,000 per award to pay for outreach and technical assistance to science and technology-driven small businesses. The program places particular emphasis on helping socially and economically disadvantaged firms compete in the SBA's SBIR and STTR programs.

FAST funding awardees must demonstrate in their proposals how they will help

support areas such as:

- small business research and development assistance,
- technology transfer from universities to small businesses,
- technological diffusion of innovation benefiting small businesses,
- proposal development and mentoring for small businesses applying for SBIR grants; and,
- commercializing technology developed through SBIR grants.

Proposals will be considered from all 50 states, the District of Columbia and U.S. territories. Only one proposal per state may be submitted. Proposals must be submitted to <http://www.grants.gov> by 11:59 p.m on April 11.

Proposals will be evaluated by a panel of SBIR program managers. The SBA, the Department of Defense and the National Science Foundation will jointly review the panel's recommendations and make awards based on proposal merit. The grant requires varying levels of matching funds from each participating state and territory.

Companies supported by the SBIR and STTR programs often generate some of the most important breakthroughs each year in the U.S. For example, about 25 percent of R&D Magazine's Top 100 Innovations come from SBIR-funded small businesses.

For more information about the SBIR and STTR programs, visit SBA's website at:

<http://www.sba.gov/about-sba-services/7050>.

## SR 29 Project Development & Environment Study Alternatives Public Workshop Scheduled for April 3, 2014

Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is studying SR 29 from Oil Well Road to SR 82 to find an alternative concept that would reduce truck traffic in downtown Immokalee, improve regional connections, improve emergency evacuation capabilities, support future population growth, improve safety, and enhance the economy. As part of the planning process, **FDOT is holding an Alternatives Public Workshop from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 3, 2014 at the Immokalee One-Stop Center, 750 South 5th Street, Immokalee, FL.** This public meeting allows the community the opportunity to express their views regarding the various alternatives.

The meeting is an informal open house. Project information, aerial photographs, and a video will be available for review, and the public may ask questions and discuss the project with FDOT representatives at the workshop. Written comments are encouraged. A formal public hearing will be held later in the PD&E study. For more project information, please contact Gwen G. Pipkin, Project Manager, at the Florida Department of Transportation by phone at (863) 519- 2375 or by email to [gwen.pipkin@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:gwen.pipkin@dot.state.fl.us).

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability or family status. Persons who require special accommodations under the American with Disabilities Act or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact Gwen G. Pipkin, Project Manager by phone at (863) 519-2375 or by email to [gwen.pipkin@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:gwen.pipkin@dot.state.fl.us) at least seven days prior to the workshop.

Si ou ta renmen resewva enfòmasyon sa-a an Kreyòl, tanpri kontakte Gerard Molière nan Depatman Transpòtasyon Eta Florid, nan (863) 519-2260.

## Carretera Estatal (SR) 29 Estudio de Desarrollo y Medio Ambiente Taller Público de Alternativas Programado para el 3 de abril del 2014

Carretera Estatal (SR) 29, desde Oil Well Road hasta la SR 82, para identificar un concepto que resulte en: la reducción del tráfico de camiones en el área central (downtown) de Immokalee, mejores conexiones regionales, mejor sistema para evacuaciones en caso de emergencias, apoyo para el futuro crecimiento de la población, mejor seguridad, y mejoras a la economía. Como parte de este proceso, **FDOT ha programado un Taller Público de Alternativas, de 5 p.m. a 7 p.m. el jueves, 3 de abril del 2014, en Immokalee One-Stop Center, 750 South 5th Street, Immokalee, FL.** Esta reunión pública brinda a la comunidad la oportunidad de expresar sus comentarios acerca de las distintas alternativas que se están considerando.

La reunión se realizará de manera informal (open house). Los detalles del proyecto, tanto como fotografías aéreas y un video, estarán disponibles para la revisión del público y los representantes del FDOT estarán presentes para contestar sus preguntas acerca del proyecto. Le animamos a presentar sus comentarios por escrito. Una audiencia pública formal se realizará posteriormente como parte del estudio de PD&E. Para obtener más información acerca del proyecto, por favor comuníquese con Marlon Bizerra, District Environmental Manager, Departamento de Transporte de la Florida, por teléfono: (863) 519-2250 o por correo electrónico: [marlon.bizerra@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:marlon.bizerra@dot.state.fl.us).

La participación del público se solicita, sin distinción de raza, color, origen nacional, edad, sexo, religión, discapacidad o estado familiar. Las personas discapacitadas que requieran asistencia especial bajo la Ley para Americanos con Discapacidades (ADA), o las personas que requieran servicios de traducción (gratuito), deberán comunicarse con Marlon Bizerra, District Environmental Manager, Departamento de Transporte de la Florida, por teléfono: (863) 519- 2250 o por correo electrónico: [marlon.bizerra@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:marlon.bizerra@dot.state.fl.us) al menos siete (7) días antes de la reunion.

Si ou ta renmen resewva enfòmasyon sa-a an Kreyòl, tanpri kontakte Gerard Molière nan Depatman Transpòtasyon Eta Florid, nan (863) 519-2260.