

IMMOKALEE BULLETIN

Serving Immokalee, Ave Maria and Eastern Collier County

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Thursday, July 03, 2014

Immokalee Foundation Take Stock in Children induction

NAPLES, Fla. (June 13, 2014) – Thirty middle and high school students were recently inducted by The Immokalee Foundation into Take Stock in Children, a scholarship and mentoring program that provides students with the promise of a four-year scholarship to a Florida state college, university or vocational school upon graduation.

The Immokalee Foundation, dedicated to providing sustained educational opportunities to Immokalee's youth, supports and operates the TSIC program in the north Collier County community. During the ceremony at Ave Maria University, the Immokalee middle and high school students, ranging from 7th to 10th grade, pledged to maintain good grades, stay drug and crime free, attend required workshops and events, meet weekly with their TIF mentor and volunteer in the community. Nicole Bruland, TIF's director of advancement and communications, said the pledge makes students accountable and teaches them to be responsible, "They have to do the work and in the end, they reap the benefits of their commitment – an opportunity to achieve their dreams by furthering their education."

The Immokalee Foundation currently has 125 TSIC students in middle and high school. Chairman of The Immokalee Foundation board, Joe Zednik, welcomed the newest inductees during his opening remarks and praised the students and their families, "Your hard work and dedication has paid off and brought you here to this moment in your life. We look forward to watching you all grow and succeed as you start your journey to becoming economically independent."

Scholarships for the incoming TSIC students were made

possible by generous donors who purchased scholarships at the 2013 Charity Classic Celebration Fund A Dream auction, a live bidding experience providing benefactors the unique chance to support the young people of Immokalee by giving directly to the children. One hundred percent of the funds raised during the Fund A Dream auction at the Charity Classic Celebration benefits TIF programs, and all contributions are 100 percent tax deductible.

Laury Garcia, a TSIC alumna and junior at Florida Gulf Coast University was the evening's keynote speaker. During an emotional speech, Garcia said TIF's Take Stock in Children program had changed her life, and she encouraged inductees to build strong relationships with their mentor and to be a good role model for their siblings.

"TIF relieved a lot of financial stress, helped me to be a better person and provided me with an opportunity to succeed," noted Garcia. "My goal is to open a nonprofit to help high school students go to school."

Seventh-grader Oton Estrada was excited to be welcomed into the TSIC program, "It will help me further my education for a better future and break the barriers that will stop me from accomplishing my goals." His father, Oton Estrada Sr., was equally happy, "This opportunity will help my son with school to become someone. I am very proud."

All of the students understood the impact the program can have on their future goals and aspirations.

For sophomore Carolina Perez, it means "the chance to make something better in my life." Seleste Aburto, a sev-



Submitted photo
Cesar Galvan signs The Immokalee Foundation Take Stock in Children pledge.

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HCI site to become training facility in the area

Brian and Michelle Jones, the owners of Blue Spoon, LLC and ALTAIR Training Solutions, Inc. are negotiating to purchase the Hendry Correctional facility from the State with plans to expand current business operations into Hendry County.

ALTAIR Training Solutions, Inc. is Service-Disabled Veteran Owned and Operated Business that opened in 2012. As a retired Sergeant Major with a special operations background, CEO Brian Jones founded ALTAIR to provide training solutions for military and government specialized teams. The CEO, leaders, and trainers at ALTAIR understand the importance of staying abreast of technology and creating innovative training packages.

The facility is in Hendry County, but is just east of Immokalee.

"We've been working on this project for several months with Gregg Gillman, President of Hendry County Economic Development Council and other key organizations in Hendry County, and are extremely pleased with the support we've received. This project will create over 150 jobs in the next 3-5 years and will have an extremely positive economic impact on Hendry County and Florida as a whole," said Brian Jones, owner of ALTAIR.

"On behalf of the GATES organization, we are extremely proud to be selected as the Construction Manager for this game changing project. To be associated with ALTAIR's leadership and mission, and have the opportunity to work with visionaries such as Brian and Michelle is both humbling and an honor..... Todd Gates, Chairman - GATES"

Director of Hendry County Economic Development Gregg Gillman is adamant that the key to the success of this project thus far has been the collaborative effort from the Hendry County Administration and Commissioners along with support from Representative Matt Hudson at the state level, working alongside the EDC. "These projects take a lot of stamina and the only way to create successful economic development projects is to remain committed through all the obstacles that naturally arise during the site selection process."

State legislators from around the area also recognize the possibilities.

Officials said they are very happy that the old Hendry Correctional Institution site will no lon-

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Masthead photo courtesy of Waddy Thompson
www.facebook.com/waddyphotos

Children

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enth-grade student, said, "I will be able to have a good future and to be successful." Sinancia Mervilus, also a tenth-grader, added, "It will give me the opportunities to fulfill my dreams of becoming a marine biologist."

The TSIC selection committee is made up of a small group of individuals that are passionate about the foundation and believe in the success of the students. The 2014 committee members included Linda Ayer, Joe Lee Gallegos, Dee Zednik and Louise Penta.

"This is such a good class with a lot of superstars," said Penta, who is also a TIF board member and mentor to four TSIC students. "I'm sure they will shine during the next few years."

The Immokalee Foundation provides a range of education programs that focus on building pathways to success through college and post-secondary preparation and support, mentoring and tutoring, opportunities for broadening experiences and life skills development leading to economic independence. To learn more about TIF, volunteering as a mentor or for additional information, call 239-430-9122 or visit www.immokaleefoundation.org.



Submitted photo

Oton Estrada, Maria Diego, Cleotilde Alvarado, Selesté Aburto Mungia, Katy Soto recite the Take Stock in Children pledge.

Training

Continued From Page 1

ger lie idle and will no longer be a symbol of negativity. It will be a center for job creation and training to support our military forces.

From State Representative Matt Hudson: I am very appreciative of the vision of the new owner and applaud their willingness to work with the local community and the State to make that vision become reality."

From Rep. Kathleen Passidomo: "I am pleased that the State has finalized the sale of four closed prisons, including the one in Hendry County, that will bring in more than \$27 million to the state's environmental land-buying program. The purchase of the Hendry site by Altair Training Solutions is especially pleasing as they have a track record of private sector productivity. I would like to thank Governor Scott, CFO Atwater, Attorney General Bondi, and Commissioner Putnam for approving this land deal unanimously."

Did you know?

The Fourth of July has been a federal holiday since 1941. Though that may seem like a long time for the country to wait to celebrate the independence it declared in 1776, the tradition of the Fourth of July, often referred to as Independence Day, dates back to the dawn of the American Revolution and the adoption of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. Since then, July 4th has been recognized as the dawn of American independence, and celebrations that included fireworks and parades can be traced back to the 18th century. On July 4, 1777, the city of Philadelphia, which would become the first capital of the United

RCMA receives Impact Award

NAPLES -- Redlands Christian Migrant Association received the annual Leadership Florida Impact Award this week for "transforming the future of its region."

RCMA was nominated by Leadership Florida member Courtney Curatolo of Naples. Curatolo told some 450 people attending the Leadership Florida annual meeting that RCMA "has impacted our local community and the entire state by implementing values of quality, opportunity, respect and compassion."

Leadership Florida is a 32-year-old organization that encourages statewide leadership by convening a new class of leaders each year for education and networking. It boasts some 800 alumni. Its Florida Impact Award goes to "a business or non-profit organization that has created a body of work whose impact is currently transforming the future of its region and can impact Florida as a whole."

Headquartered in Immokalee, RCMA operates 70 child-care centers and three charter schools for the rural poor in 21 Florida counties. It is one of the nation's leading providers of the Head Start early-education program for migrant farm-working families.

Accepting the award for RCMA was Mike Facundo, the agency's director of facilities, who grew up working the fields in Florida and Michigan with his parents. Facundo is a graduate of Leadership Collier, the local counterpart of Leadership Florida.

"What an honor to be recognized by an organization of leaders," Facundo said. "The migrant life is tough. RCMA extends compassion to the migrant families and education to the kids. It's great to know that Leadership Florida supports those causes."

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States of America, held the first annual commemoration of American independence, and exactly one year later George Washington ordered that all of his soldiers be offered double rations of rum to commemorate the anniversary. In 1781, Massachusetts was the first state to make July 4th an official state holiday, and the day was actually declared a federal holiday by the U.S. Congress in 1870. However, that declaration did not grant a paid holiday to federal employees. That benefit came in 1941, which is why that year is now recognized as the first year when the Fourth of July officially became a federal holiday.

FWC Commissioners receive Florida panther update

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) biologists provided an update at the agency's June Commission meeting in Fort Myers regarding Florida panther research and conservation programs.

Due to the success of panther-conservation efforts over the past 40 years, the panther population has grown significantly since the 1970s, when the panther was federally listed as Endangered.

Biologists have updated their "population range estimate" to reflect an increase to 100-180 adult panthers in Florida. Based on this estimate and habitat availability, panthers likely have reached their carrying capacity south of the Caloosahatchee River.

Historically, panthers ranged throughout

Florida and into seven other southeastern states. Today, most panthers are found south of the Caloosahatchee River in Florida. The FWC and partners such as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are preparing for the natural expansion of the increasing population.

Because large tracts of land are needed to sustain a healthy panther population, private landowners will be crucial to range expansion.

"Due to the expansive habitat needs of the Florida panther, the continued growth of their population presents a unique challenge to the FWC and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service," said FWC Commissioner Liesa Priddy. "As panther range expands, impacts on private landowners will continue to in-

crease."

With the increasing number of panthers, there also are increasing interactions and conflicts with people. The FWC and partner agencies currently are working with landowners to address the challenges they may face in having panthers on their lands.

"We know panthers can prey upon pets and livestock, and we strive to find solutions that work for people who experience these very real losses," said Thomas Eason, director of the FWC's Division of Habitat and Species Conservation.

People can help with panther research by reporting sightings at FloridaPantherNet.org. Reporting observations can help FWC biologists address panther conservation needs

by identifying the areas used by these large cats.

Florida residents can support panther conservation efforts by purchasing a Protect the Panther license plate, available at BuyAPlate.com. Fees from license plate sales are the primary funding source for the FWC's research and management of Florida panthers.

To report dead or injured panthers, call the FWC's Wildlife Alert Hotline at 888-404-FWCC (3922) or #FWC or *FWC on a cell phone.

For more information on Florida panthers go to FloridaPantherNet.org.

Road Watch

CR 846/Immokalee Road at I-75: Maintenance contract project: Landscape crews are installing trees in the median. Motorists should expect the inside turn lanes closed from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Saturday, June 28, weather permitting. Drivers should use caution while crews work in the roadway.

I-75/Alligator Alley Rest Area at mile marker 63: Construction project: Work continues to build two recreational access areas adjacent to the Big Cypress National Preserve backcountry trails, replace the existing rest area, build a new public safety center and water treatment plant, and upgrade the existing wastewater treatment plant. Crews continue paving throughout the project.

THE ENTIRE REST AREA IS CLOSED UNTIL PROJECT COMPLETION, ESTIMATED FALL 2014. ALL FACILITIES (including the picnic area, parking, restrooms or potable water) are unavailable. Entrance and exit ramps at mile marker 63 are open for motorists to turn around if needed. FDOT cautions motorists to remain clear of the construction zone and be aware of construction vehicles entering/exiting the roadways around the rest area. Signs are posted to advise motorists of this closure. The rest area at mile marker 34 is open.

Expected project completion is fall 2014. The design/build contractor is Stantec/Wright Construction Group.

US 41 at Pelican Marsh Boulevard: Construction project: Crews will be working at night/overnight to install a new signal head at US 41/Pelican Marsh Boulevard on Sunday, June 22 from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. The inside lane on northbound US 41 will be temporarily closed during this time. Work on this project includes installing pedestrian features and upgrades to meet current ADA standards, connecting existing sidewalks to ramps, installing signal back plates, and pavement markings. The contractor is completing punch list items. Motorists are advised to use caution and watch for construction workers in the construction zone. Project completion is expected in summer 2014. The contractor is Traffic Control De-

vices, Inc.

US 41 (Tamiami Trail East) Bridge over the Cocohatchee River: Maintenance contract project: Crews will performing routine bridge maintenance. Pedestrians can expect sidewalk closures on one side of the bridge. Pedestrians and motorists should use caution in this area.

SR 84 (Davis Boulevard) from Florida Club Circle to Falling Waters Boulevard: Construction project: Crews will be installing light pole bases, pull boxes and underground conduits along both sides of Davis Boulevard. Motorist should expect lane closures from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. to 6 a.m. for this work. Drivers are asked to use caution and expect delays. Motorists should expect construction equipment entering/exiting the roadway. The contractor expects work to be completed by summer 2014. Contractor is American Lighting and Signalization, Inc.

SR 84 (Davis Boulevard) from County Barn Road/Glen Eagle Boulevard to Whitten Drive: Maintenance permit project: Crews are finishing work to rehabilitate a pump station. Travel lanes and sidewalk are open. Expected completion is summer 2014.

Florida SouthWestern State College: New name, same mission

by Dr. Jeff Allbritten,
President, Florida SouthWestern State College

For more than 50 years, Edison State College has been an integral part of the Southwest Florida community. Beginning July 1, we are Florida SouthWestern State College (FSW). While our name is new, it's important for you to know that our mission, our vision and our dedication to the students, businesses and communities we serve remains the same. Simply stated, this is a name change, not a mission change.

In the past few years, we have been undergoing an evolution. In order to continue serving our students, we need to be sure that our academic offerings, and the manner in which we deliver them, are designed to meet the demands of today and tomorrow. We now have five schools that help us do that: the School of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences; the School of Business and Technology; the School of Education; the School of Health Professions; and the School of Pure and Applied Sciences.

We have impressive facilities to help our students prepare for their careers, including state-of-the-art nursing simulation labs, a dental hygiene clinic and crime scene investigation software and equipment, for

starters. Did you know that we are home to world-class arts icons: the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall, the Bob Rauschenberg Gallery and the Rush Gallery?

Many people may not recall that we were the first college to have athletics in this area. Starting in the fall 2015, the Buccaneers will return to competition with our softball and baseball teams. We just signed a 10-year lease with Lee County for the City of Palms Park in downtown Fort Myers.

When you look back on your college days, you're going to remember the friends you've made both in and out of the classroom. We continue to have strong academic offerings. Now, by having student clubs, intramural sports and now intercollegiate competition, this college offers the complete college experience.

Looking ahead, we will continue to evolve as FSW. We are working on offering international studies and experiences, and continuing to build key partnerships with area businesses and our sister institutions. This truly is an exciting time for everyone. Join us as FSW, and Go Bucs.

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The Immokalee Foundation hosts tennis program

NAPLES, Fla. (June 26, 2014) – The Immokalee Foundation recently hosted an after-school tennis program at Pelican Marsh as part of its mission to inspire the underserved youth of Immokalee through education.

The afternoon of tennis instruction was led by Jim Holt Sr., who also serves as assistant coach of the Gwynedd-Mercy College women's tennis team in Gwynedd Valley, Penn., and other members of the Center Court Athletics, a volunteer group of players from the Pelican Marsh Tennis Club. In addition to providing tennis lessons to TIF youth, Center Court Athletics also works to secure donations of rackets, balls and miscellaneous equipment to be used in the program.

Sixteen students from RCMA Charter School and four from Immokalee Middle School learned the basics of the game and practiced their skills with short games and drills as they rotated among three sets of volunteer instructors. They had the opportunity of hitting balls at targets; volleyed back and forth; and tested their ability to hit the ball in different sections of the court.

Holt, who co-founded the program, said he hopes learning the game will enrich the students' lives as it has his own, "I enjoy helping with my favorite sport, and I hope they'll benefit from it like I did, playing tennis all over the world. Maybe later on, they'll be playing at Florida Gulf Coast University or even Wimbledon."

After the instruction portion of the afternoon, the students had the opportunity to



LEFT: Johann Saubier with TIF students. RIGHT: Pete Minarich and Emilio Soto



Submitted photos

watch their four coaches play a round of doubles from a courtside vantage point.

Thanks to the Holts and the Center Court Athletics volunteers, the TIF program continues to inspire and provide Immokalee youth by providing opportunities to build physical and social skills that help its participants

grow, learn and advance to educational and professional heights that otherwise may not have been possible.

The Immokalee Foundation provides a range of education programs that focus on building pathways to success through college and post-secondary preparation and

support, mentoring and tutoring, opportunities for broadening experiences and life skills development leading to economic independence. To learn more about TIF, volunteering as a mentor or for additional information, call 239-430-9122 or visit www.immokaleefoundation.org.



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Swamp Buggy Tours now offered in Felda

by **Patty Brant**
Immokalee Bulletin

South Florida is rich in lots of things, like deer and turkey, gators and birds, brilliant sunrises and breathtaking sunsets.

Most people don't have access to these wonders, that's one of the reasons so many converge on South Florida during the winter months.

Locals like Jordan Roberts have grown up with these amazing natural gifts and are anxious to share them with others who are not as fortunate.

So, when Jordan's dad, Robert Roberts, got the idea of using their 4,000-acre property in Felda to introduce people to swamp buggy rides through the old Florida wilds, Jordan got right to work.

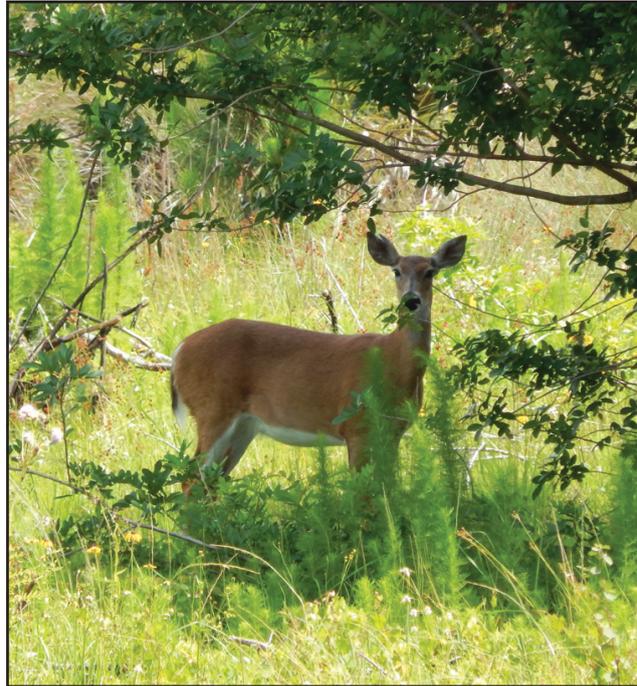
He researched how to do it and is making it happen. Felda Swamp Buggy Tours has officially opened its doors as of May 23. Located at 13375 S SR 29, Felda, you can get a great look at old Florida backwoods on a modern 26-passenger swamp buggy with Jordan behind the wheel.

This 2004 LaBelle High School graduate's first dream was on the baseball diamond. In fact, he pitched for the Dodger minor league. Now, he's using his youth and energy to build up this family venture.

The 4,000-acre property offers swamps and woods with wildlife that can pop out of the brush or water at any moment. It has been in the family since his great-grandfather purchased it.

The property is part of the original Roberts family property that included Southwest Florida's legendary Red Cattle Company.

The site includes an air conditioned reception building to house ticket sales and displays. The walls are already covered with local South Florida game trophies. Even with the



LEFT: Some of the wildlife you could see on the tour. RIGHT: Jordan Roberts and his swamp buggy.

emphasis on the natural beauty of South Florida, they still have nice modern restroom facilities.

You can call 863-843-2989 for tickets or information or go on line at Feldaswampbuggytours.com to schedule a tour.

They're open seven days a week from 8:30-5:00. Call about early morning or evening group tours.

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Community Briefs

Allen's Chapel VBS

Allen Chapel A.M.E Church will host Vacation Bible School July 14-18, 2014 from 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m., nightly. It is for ages 6-17. The children will be fed a free, hot meal each night. This year's theme is: Bible Boot Camp For registration and general info, please call Lee Lozano at (239) 410-9430.

Martha's Kitchen

Allen Chapel A.M.E Church's feeding ministry, Martha's Kitchen, will serve a free, southern-style breakfast on Saturday, July 12, at 8:30 a.m. If you are hungry, please stop by.

Revival

Everyone is invited to enjoy the music, singing, the message of the Word of God from June 29-July 6 at the tent revival, 410 Colorado Ave. For all information, call Rev. J.C.Paul 239-503-5135 or 239-657-7668. We just can't wait to welcome you.

Christmas Around the World

Christmas around the World Parade and Gala Event is the second largest Winter Event in Southwest Florida. The event is DECEMBER 13, 2014 at 5:30 p.m., (Christmas Parade is directly across from The Seminole Casino of Immokalee) and immediately after the parade. "The Snow Gala" begins at the Aquatic Park @ 505 Escambia Street.

In August, the Immokalee Chamber of Commerce's Christmas Committee will announce the Christmas Parade theme and have the entire Christmas Event Packages ready to come to you.

If you need additional information on the above, please contact Cherryll Thomas @ 239-657-0080 or Mariela Romero @ 239-658-0704.

Help America's forests: Join the Arbor Day Foundation

America's forestland is a prized natural resource, and anyone can help plant trees in these vital areas by joining the Arbor Day Foundation this month.

Through the Replanting Our National Forests campaign, the Arbor Day Foundation will honor each new member who joins in July by planting 10 trees in forests that have been devastated by wildfires, insects and disease.

The cost for joining the Arbor Day Foundation is a \$10 donation.

America's national forests face enormous challenges, including unprecedented wildfires that have left a backlog of more than one million acres in need of replanting. The Foundation has worked with the United States Forest Service for more than 20 years to plant trees in high-need forests.

Our national forests provide habitat for wildlife, keep the air clean and help ensure safe drinking water for more than 180 million Americans.

"Keeping our forests healthy is vital to the health of people and the entire planet." said

Register for School board candidate forum

Monday, August 11, 2014 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM EST. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. in the Naples Daily News Community Room, 1100 Immokalee Rd., Naples. Program: 6:45-8:30 p.m. Contact Lisa Church The Education Foundation of Collier County 239-643-4755. Moderated conversation-style forum, employing Connect Now conversation guidelines, that will provide an opportunity for the community to become better informed on their choices for School Board. Space is limited; pre-registration required.

Hours extended

St. Matthew's Thrift Store's in Immokalee will be extending their days of service to our community and surrounding area. The Thrift Store located in the Winn Dixie Plaza at 1520 Lake Trafford Rd, will be open Monday - Friday from 9:30 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. and on Saturday from 9:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Our St. Matthew's Outlet located at 630 West Main St. will be open Monday - Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. We offer outstanding prices on gently used furniture, household goods, pictures, washer, dryers, stoves, refrigerates and much more.

Register for Pop Warner

Apply with the Immokalee Seminoles Pop Warner league for Cheer and Football players ages 5-15 for the upcoming season. If you would like to register your child you can pick up an application at the Print Shop, 1390 North 15th Street Suite 300 (across the Florida Community Bank) or go online at www.ImmokaleeSeminoles.com. Register Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at the Print Shop from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Matt Harris, chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. "By planting trees in our national forests, we will preserve precious natural resources and the benefits they provide for generations to come."

To join the Arbor Day Foundation and help plant trees in our national forests, send a \$10 membership contribution to Replanting Our National Forests, Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Ave., Nebraska City, NE 68410, or visit arborday.org/july.

Did you know?

While in college, Theodor Seuss Geisel was caught drinking gin with his friends; as a result, his dean insisted he resign from the college magazine. To continue working on the magazine without the dean's knowledge, he began signing his work with "Seuss," which he later changed to "Dr. Seuss."

School's out Traffic Safety Tips

FORT MYERS -- As the school year comes to a close in our twelve district counties (Charlotte, Collier, Desoto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands, Lee, Manatee, Okeechobee, Polk and Sarasota), the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and our local safety partners remind motorists and students to take extra traffic safety precautions this summer.

During the summer, children are at increased risk of transportation related injuries from pedestrian, bicycle, and motor vehicle crashes. FDOT offers these tips for making summer safer for everyone:

Tips for motorists

- Slow down and obey all traffic laws, speed limits and traffic signals.
- Keep an eye out for children walking or bicycling in the street, especially where there are no sidewalks.
- Be alert for children playing and for those who may dart into the street without looking for traffic.
- When backing out of a driveway or leaving a garage, watch for children walking, biking, skating or skateboarding.

Tips for parents

- Be a good role model. Always buckle up, always wear a helmet when biking, and always follow pedestrian safety rules.
- Supervise young children when they are walking, biking or skating.
- Provide your children with bright clothing so motorists can easily see them.
- Make sure your child is properly buck-

led into the appropriate child safety seat in the back seat. Safety experts advise that all children under the age of 13 should ride in the back seat.

- Make sure your teen driver understands and obeys all state traffic laws.

Tips for youngsters

- Always buckle up when riding in a car. Ride in the back seat, it's the safest place for young people.
- Always wear a helmet and follow traffic safety rules when riding your bike.
- Learn and practice safety rules for pedestrians. It's extremely important for you to use the sidewalk where available, look left-right-left when crossing the road, and always walk facing traffic.
- Always cross at crosswalks, obey all traffic signs and traffic lights.
- Teen drivers should avoid speeding and minimize distractions (texting, talking on cell phones, eating, adjusting the radio) while driving. Never overload your vehicle. Require everyone riding with you to use safety belts.
- Teen drivers should be good role models for younger brothers, sisters, and friends, and should help them learn and follow traffic safety rules.

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Jesus "Chuy" Barnhart is one out of four children born to Juan & Veronica Barnhart. He was born in Naples, FL and has lived his entire life in Immokalee. Chuy graduated from Immokalee High School in 1999. He went on to study Automotive Tech at Santa Fe in Gainesville and earned his degree in 2003.



He came back to Immokalee with the intentions of opening up an automotive business and in two short years later, he opened up Chuy's Hot Auto & Performance located at 1509 5th Avenue Immokalee, FL.

Stop by and visit Chuy for all your vehicle repairs & maintenance needs.



If you would like to be featured in the Chamber page as a sponsor for 6 weeks of advertisement to begin on July 17th 2014 through September 4th 2014 for the low price of \$90.00 please contact Mariela at the Chamber Office on Friday's at (239) 657-3237 m_romero12@comcast.net



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