Migrant Expo: ‘Care Mobile’ to visit

Healthcare Network of Southwest Florida will take part in two community outreach programs this weekend, Mar. 8-9, in Immokalee. On Saturday, Mar. 8, the Network will provide free health screenings during Migrant Expo IX from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., at the Florida Department of Health - Collier on 419 1st Street in Immokalee.

The event includes information for migrant farmworkers and their families on available services, health, education opportunities, legal rights and responsibilities. There will be free food, education and health services.

On Sunday, Mar. 9, students from Florida State University College of Medicine’s Cross Cultural Medicine Rotation will be assisting aboard Healthcare Network’s Ronald McDonald Care Mobile from 8 a.m.-12 noon at Bethel Church, 1225 West Main Street in Immokalee.

Known as FSU Cares - Service Through Medicine, this week-long rotation gives first-year medical students the chance to spend spring break in Immokalee working with FSU faculty members to administer health screenings to underserved individuals in migrant communities. Established by community leaders in 1977, Healthcare Network of Southwest Florida is a private not-for-profit organization providing primary medical and dental care for more than 36,000 people in Southwest Florida (25,000 are children) at 13 medical and dental service locations in Collier County, including the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile.

For more information on the Healthcare Network, contact Kaydee Tuff at (239) 658-3116 or knuf@healthcarenetworkfl.org

Expo de Emigrantes IX

Un evento para la comunidad de Immokalee. Información para Trabajadores de Agricultura y sus familias. Cuando: Sábado 8 de Marzo 2014, 10 a.m. hasta las 2 p.m. Donde: Florida Department of Salud - Collier, 419 N. 1st Street, Immokalee.

Se le dará información a trabajadores emigrantes de agricultura y a sus familias relacionado al los servicios y oportunidades disponibles en educación, derechos laborales, y mucho más.

Think Purple!

Come to Relay for Life March 14 at 6 p.m. Immokalee Sports Complex. See more on Page 5.

Golden Apple for I.H.S. teacher

On March 4, students in five Collier classrooms received bush- els of golden delicious apples while their teachers were surprised with Golden Apple awards. Representatives from Suncoast Credit Union Foundation, presenting sponsor of the Golden Apple Celebration of Teachers Dinner, were joined by The Education Foundation—Champions For Learning board members, sponsors, and volunteers to present the awards to the teachers in their classrooms.

The magic happened to Frederick Rimmler II at Immokalee High School. Mr. Rimmler teaches honors physics to I.H.S. seniors and has been a teacher for four years.

Congratulations to the other 2013-14 Golden Apple recipients:
- Ryan Shore, Pelican Marsh Elementary
- Suzanne Szczepaniak, Lely High
- Jacqueline Williams, Lely High
- Adam Winkle, Mike Davis Elementary

Golden Apple is a community-based teacher recognition program that honors and helps teachers to share best practices. The process is designed to elicit and highlight best practice(s) that may include innovative instructional practices, integration of real world experience, educator collaboration and collegiality, community involvement, parent engagement.

In addition to the many celebratory activities and the cash awards ($500 for Teacher of Distinction and additional $500 for Golden Apple recipients), this year, thanks to Suncoast Credit Union Foundation, the Golden Apple award also comes with a $5,000 grant through which the teacher can expand/adapt/build on the best practice(s).

The 24th Golden Apple Celebration of Teachers Dinner, presented by Suncoast Credit Union Foundation, will honor the Golden Apple teachers along with the Teachers of Distinction and celebrate the support that our community provides to educators through the work of Champions For Learning. The Golden Apple Celebration of Teachers Dinner will be held on May 9, 2014, and is generously hosted by the Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club. Additional support is provided by CenturyLink, the Mary Ingram Fund of the Columbus Foundation, Moorings Park, Naples Daily News, NBC-2 Waterman Broadcasting, and Publix Super Markets Charities.

“Supporting education is at the forefront of the work we do,” says Greg Pasinien, Regional Vice President at Suncoast Credit Union. “And we’re proud to support the Golden Apple in recognizing the Collier County educators who are making a difference in the lives of our youth.”

Table sponsorships for the 24th Annual Golden Apple Celebration of Teachers Dinner are available. Please call 239-643-4755 or visit www.ChampionsForLearning.org/UA for more information.

Families, students, and the entire community are invited to join in the celebration by tuning in to NBC-2 who will produce a Golden Apple Teacher Celebration special.

See Teacher — Page 2
Get the scoop on the loop

On Wednesday, February 19, the Immokalee CRA Advisory Board requested that CRA staff arrange to have Lucilla Ayer, Executive Director of the Collier County Metropolitan Planning Organization, come to Immokalee in order to discuss the projects contained within the MPO’s Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The request followed the B292 Loop Road presentation by Bill Howell, FDOT Transportation Consultant from Lochner.

As explained by Mr. Howell during the meeting, there are numerous projects identified within the MPO’s LRTP Cost Feasibility and Needs Plans that fail in and around the Immokalee region. Mr. Howell advised that our Advisory Board familiarize themselves with the projects identified in the LRTP prior to the April 11, 2014 MPO Board meeting so that we can begin to bifurcate the long range transportation infrastructure plans for Immokalee.

Mr. Ayer has agreed to come to Immokalee to hold a public meeting on Monday, March 10, at 10 a.m. at the CareSource (aka Southwest Florida Works) facility. She will provide an overview of the MPO’s role as an organization along with brief Q&A related to the LRTP. This meeting is being publicly advertised so that two or more Board members may attend.

Please plan on attending this important meeting. This is Immokalee’s chance to be heard in the decision making that will determine the future of our area. More information will follow.

For more information regarding the Collier MPO, please visit their website at: www.colliermpo.org.

From the CRA

It’s a very safe bet, at this point in the process, the so-called “loop road” truck route alternative, will connect State with Road 29 and become the Northern corridor of the Immokalee Regional Airport and again just north of New Market Road. The alternatives for the route have been significantly reduced and the most likely route will take the truck route through the commercial portion of New Market Road, as a widened roadway, jutting to the northeast just south of the residential area of New Market Road. The roadway would parallel New Market to the northeast of the residential section connecting once again to S.R. 29 north of New Market, north of Westclox Avenue.

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) will hold a public workshop on the proposed road’s alternative routes in Immokalee on April 3. The precise time and location of that public hearing will be announced. Its most recent public session about the project was January 23.

The Immokalee Community Redevelopment Agency citizen advisory committee received an update on the project February 19 in its regular monthly session.

The so-called, “loop road,” to skirt Immokalee — or perhaps connect into its corner — will be an essential trade route for the town and, especially, for the airport.

A precise source of funding for the project has yet to be decided and its eventual construction will depend heavily on a list of roadway priorities established by the Collier County Metropolitan Planning Council, an inter-governmental advisory which advises Collier County commissioners on major transportation issues.

The FDOT maintains a website about the proposed project and updates that website as needed.

Students First

by Maribel De Armas

“We are the creative force of our life, and through our own decisions rather than our circumstances, if we carefully learn to do certain things, we can accomplish those goals.” — Stephen Covey

Take another read of the quote above. It’s a pretty powerful statement that most adults probably believe their whole lives to really grasp. Picture this, though, Elementary school students learning about goal setting, time management, and life balance — those 21st century skills they’ll need to do well someday in the real world. Well, that someday is today for students at Highlands Elementary School thanks to "The Leader in Me" program leadership development program. Again, this is at the elementary school level!

This program is based on Stephen Covey’s "The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People." The goal of "The Leader in Me" is to prepare students for success in school and in life. They learn to be proactive, begin with the end in mind, put first things first, think "win-win," to seek first to understand before being understood, to synthesize and to "sharpen the saw" (recharge their inner batteries) — author Covey’s seven "habits. At Highlands Elementary, staff and students have been working through the school year to develop life-long leaders in every classroom on campus. In fact, they’ve been doing such a great job in developing a culture of leadership that they were recently recognized as an official "Leader in Me" school! The desired end result: an increase in student achievement and a student who is motivated, is a problem-solver with a strong work ethic, values diversity, is trustworthy and trusts others, and believes in teamwork — all things that are critical in order to succeed in the world today and even more so tomorrow.

Things at Highlands are going so well and they are so excited to share their successes that they have scheduled their first Leadership Day — calling it "Around the World in 7 Habits" — on Friday, May 23, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the school (1101 Lake Trafford Road). They will be celebrating student leaders and spotlighting the seven habits with a unique cultural integrations.

The day will include student-led campus tours, presentations on the seven habits, interactive classroom visits, cultural exhibits and an entertainment-filled luncheon. It’ll be a day full of inspiration and motivation and HLE and STE students are eager to share this experience with you. That’s right, you’re invited to attend and learn more about this awesome program. The event itself is still a few months away, but if you would like to attend, you’ll have to let the school know by March 30 (977-7100). Your RSVP is very important, as space is limited and the day’s schedule is contingent on knowing how many people will attend.

Teacher

Continued From Page 1

Apple program featuring the five teachers and their classrooms. The program will be presented on May 5 on NBC at 7:00pm.

Immokalee Teachers of Distinction for 2013-14 are: Melanie Bowser and Kathryn T. Doyle, both of Lake Trafford Elementary, and William Stors, Jr. of Highlands Elementary.

Champions For Learning brings our community together to invest in innovative ways to enrich the environment for student learning. We provide opportunities for teachers to work together and with the community by recognizing and sharing best practices in teaching, funding innovative classroom experiences, and helping educators connect with their community.

Expo

Continued From Page 1

lugas y otras responsabilidades. GRATIS: Comida.— Servicio: Para más información: llame a 252-7332.

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Migran Expo IX

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