



# RCMA HOY

Second Anniversary Edition

We Can Make A World of Difference

## Helping Our Youth



APRIL 1995 Issue 25

OUR MISSION: Helping Parents Restart, Giving Kids a Head Start, Helping Staff Develop

**FROM THE DESK OF BARBARA**



*When you have the opportunity, be sure to point out that today's immigrants do the same thing that immigrants always have done. They work hard hoping for a better life for their children. They pay taxes like everyone else.*

both "legal aliens" and "illegal aliens."

I believe racism and economic fears are what is behind this mood calling for action against

PLEASE SEE ALIENS, PAGE 2

**Ugly mood against "aliens"**  
But there is something you can do

It's important that all of us are aware of the ugly mood against people who are being called



Photo By JOSIE GRACIA

**CROSS-CULTURAL FIELD TRIP:** Outreach Worker Veronica Dubois (back left) and Elida Vasquez, Teacher, at a Native American Festival with the children of Ruskin Infant Center.

Several children are busy looking at the elaborate dress of members of this Aztec tribe from Mexico. This group, *Sol de Aztlan*, performed their ceremonial dance for the children.

### Very Important People



Photo By GERARD LAMBERT

**RECEIVING LINE:** Outreach Workers, Family Support Assistants, and Center Coordinators from the South Region are greeted by State Office staff during a tour of State Offices in Immokalee.

### INSIDE:

- Delray Beach center parents to go before School Board (page 3).
- Zellwood Center staff respond well in emergency. Please see Letter To The Editor.

## Desk of Barbara Ugly mood against "aliens" and what you can do

ALIENS, FROM PAGE 1

"aliens."

The people in this ugly mood don't want "aliens" to receive any services, including child care and food stamps.

You need to point out that the word "alien," which was used for creatures from outer space, like E.T., is now used for people who once were called "immigrants."

Apparently, "immigrants" are okay and "aliens" are not. Maybe that's because most of the people against the "aliens" know their parents or grandparents also came to this country as immigrants.

When you have the opportunity, be sure you point out that today's immigrants do the same thing that immigrants always have done.

They work hard hoping for a better life for their children. They



Photo By GERARD LAMBERT

**CENTER COORDINATOR** Betty Nelson of Belle Glade Child Development Center. Betty also acts as the Education Coordinator for the center which is going through NAEYC accreditation.

pay taxes like everyone else.

If you are eligible to vote and are not registered, please register. Learn how elected officials make decisions that affect you, your family and "your people."

Our children deserve better and by voting you can make a difference.

### DEL ESCRITORIO DE BARBARA

## Fea disposición en contra de extranjeros Pero hay algo que tu puedes hacer

**E**s muy importante que todos nos demos cuenta de que actualmente existe

una fea disposición en contra de las personas a las cuales se les esta llamando de dos maneras "extranjeros legales" y "extranjeros ilegales."

Yo creo que racismo y miedo a la economía son las razones

detrás de esta disposición como acción en contra a extranjeros.

Las personas que están con esta fea disposición no quieren que "extranjeros" reciban ningún tipo de servicio, incluyendo cuidado de niños y



Photo By GERARD LAMBERT

**BONITA MIGRANT HEAD START:** From left to right (rear) Teacher Trainees Maria Gomez, Marcela Santiago, Suzanna Longoria, and Teacher Romana Maturino. Frances Cuellar (front) is the Bus Driver and Teacher Trainee.

*Cuando tengas la oportunidad, asegurate de dejar saber a otros que los inmigrantes de hoy están haciendo lo mismo que otros inmigrantes han hecho siempre. Ellos trabajan duro con el deseo de una vida mejor para sus hijos. También ellos pagan impuestos como cualquier otra persona.*

estampillas para comida.

Necesitas darte cuenta de que la palabra "extranjero (alien)," la cual ha sido usada para describir criaturas de otra planeta como E.T., es ahora usada para describir personas que antes eran llamadas "inmigrantes."

Aparentemente "inmigrantes" está bien y "extranjeros (aliens)," no. Tal vez esto ocurre debido a que la mayoría de las personas en contra de "extranjeros" saben que sus padres ó abuelos también vinieron a este país como inmigrantes.

Cuando tengas la oportunidad, asegurate de dejar saber a otros que los inmigrantes de hoy hacen lo mismo que

otros inmigrantes han hecho siempre.

Ellos trabajan duro con el deseo de una vida mejor para sus hijos. También ellos pagan impuestos como cualquier otra persona.

Si eres elegible para votar y no estás registrada(o), por favor regístrate. Aprende como los oficiales elegidos toman decisiones que te afectan a tí, a tu familia y a "la raza."

Nuestros hijos merecen lo mejor y si tú votas puedes hacer la diferencia.

# HAPPENINGS



Photo By GERARD LAMBERT

**HEALTH AND DISABILITIES COORDINATORS:** Maureen Nieves (left) of Plant City Migrant Head Start listens as June Brownell of Wahneta Migrant Head Start plays the piano during a break at a training.

## Pasco/Lake/Orange Area

Staff and children at Zellwood Child Development Center have been so excited lately about butterflies.

Why? Because Susan Vega, the Education Coordinator, purchased a butterfly garden and everyone loved it.

The children watched the whole process from the caterpillar building a cocoon to the creation of a butterfly. All for only \$9.95. This is a great example of creative learning brought to life.

## Ruskin/Wimauma/Palmetto Area

Children's hands—made of paper, that is—from all over RCMA ended up in Tallahassee, thanks to the children and teachers.

Josie Gracia, Education Coordinator for Ruskin Infant Center, coordinated the project.

Josie Children's Tallahassee attended, inspiring emotional."



s a i d Day in which she was "very and

The hands ended up in a visible spot for all to be reminded of the importance of children in making laws for Florida. Three cheers to Josie!

## Delray Beach center parents to go before school board

The newly elected parent officers at Farmworker Child Development Center in Delray Beach have set an agenda of activities for the 1995-96 year that the parents have approved. And do these parents have a lot of energy.

Especially noteworthy among the activities is a plan to go before the School Board in May.

Recently the boundaries were redrawn and families in the local community around the center were told that they would have to change schools and their children bused to a Boca Raton school.

They were not too happy about that change since the school their children have been attending is sensitive to the diversity of cultures in the community and families are pleased with the school.

So headed by the Parent President, Juan Bello, and supported by Center Coordinator, Mary Espinoza, the parents plan to go before the School Board to express their wishes that the school boundaries be returned to the way they were before.

We wish the parents good luck in this important action of having their voice be heard.

## Dover Education Coordinator To Be On Fox Television on Saturdays

Martial Arts program could replace Power Rangers

By GERARD LAMBERT  
Editor

Don Dino is the Education Coordinator of Dover Migrant Head Start. During the day, that is.

At night, from 8 p.m. or 11 p.m. till 6:30 a.m., is a different story. During this time Don can be found in a television studio acting, sleeping or meditating.

Don has been very busy completing 13 episodes of a martial arts television program, playing the role of master referee. This program,

which uses real people, is scheduled to be aired on Fox television Saturdays at noon starting in September.

If all goes well, Don says, it could replace Power Rangers. This program, yet to be officially named, would get away from the violence of

weapons, emphasizing instead discipline and the use of martial arts for self-defense.

It deals with kung fu, karate and kick boxing. And the people "acting" are world class athletes in the sport.

In the past, Don was also



Photo By GERARD LAMBERT

**Don Dino**

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Hoy,

During my visit at Zellwood Child Development Center not too long ago, an emergency occurred in the toddler room that required calling for emergency services.

I would like to commend the staff on the way they handled the situation:

From Patricia Ayala, Outreach Worker, who immediately took off to get the child's mom and got back with her almost as quickly as the

ambulance arrived.

To Juana Brown, Health and Disabilities Coordinator, who, as a sign of her extraordinary dedication, went along to the hospital to serve as translator and to give courage to the upset mom.

Hats off to everyone at the Zellwood center.

Signed,  
Irene Brammertz  
Staff Development Specialist,  
North Region

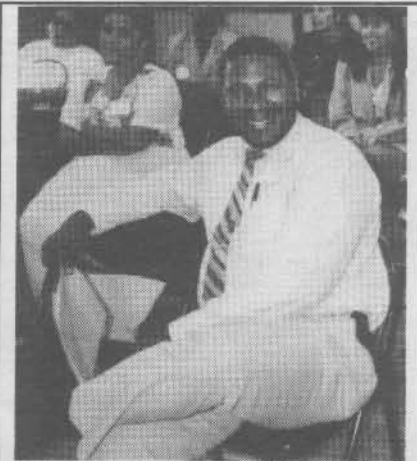


Photo By GERARD LAMBERT

**FAMILY SUPPORT WORKER**  
William Harmon. William is an important link to families in the Putnam area.



Photo By GERARD LAMBERT

**ROLE MODEL:** Penney Cobb, the Education Coordinator at Avon Park Head Start. She spoke recently at a training of Outreach Workers, Family Support Assistants, and Center Coordinators, sharing her experience on how the different components fit together. The Avon Park center is an excellent example of teamwork among the center team.



Photo By GERARD LAMBERT

**REACHING OUT:** Anselma Fernandez, Outreach Worker of Westside Village Child Development Center in Plant City. By making home visits, Anselma plays an important role in successful parent involvement.

## Get Well Soon

We wish Armendina Reyes and Carrie Mae Simon a speedy recovery after their recent hospitalization.

### COMING EVENTS

May 11 - End of Year Migrant Head Start Center Coordinators Meeting, Cedarlark.

May 17 - Head Start Parents/Staff Celebration, Holiday Inn, Sebring.

### Education Coordinator doubles as TV Actor

Program to focus on discipline and self-defense, not violence

### DINO, FROM PAGE 3

involved with the sport of fencing for the Colorado Shakespeare Festival, taught football and track, and did stunt work for Indiana Jones productions at Walt Disney World. He also did outdoor adventure education at Boston University.

How did Don get involved with RCMA? He ran a preschool for 110 kids in Tampa doing everything including cooking, bottle washing, and diaper changing. And he was asked to do some workshops for RCMA.

Editor: Gerard Lambert  
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Please send suggestions, comments, and Letters to the Editor to the following address:

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