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## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

April 28, 2010

Dear Friends of St. Matthew's House

It is with our greatest gratitude that we extend our hand to all who participated in the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual St. Matthew's House/Immokalee Friendship House Golfathon, held on April 20<sup>th</sup> at Imperial Golf Club. In its unique fundraising format, the Golfathon accommodates up to 200 players on up to three courses for continuous marathon-format play. This year, 170 golfers enjoyed perfect weather and the superb course layout at Imperial to rack up anywhere from 40 to even 120 holes! Volunteers behind the scenes were also a major factor in its success, helping with administrative duties beforehand, at the check-in desk and behind the scenes setting up and running the silent auction. Club manager Greg Hibbard, Imperial head golf pro John Lee, and the entire Imperial staff were also extremely helpful in all phases of the day, right up to the awards dinner and reception that evening in the beautiful Imperial clubhouse. Fundraising totals should hopefully be announced within the next week.

As St. Matthew's House receives no federal, state or county money for our operations to provide recovery and temporary housing to the community in need, the Golfathon is THE major event on our calendar that funds our ministry. In this down economy, more people than ever are turning to St. Matthew's House and Immokalee Friendship House for emergency housing, groceries from our food pantries and voucher assistance from our Thrift Stores. We are fortunate to be able to help as many as we can thanks to individual donations.

It takes the work of all involved to make an event a true success, and we are forever grateful to all those who came together to make the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Golfathon a great day for all, and a successful fundraising event.

Sincerely,

Rev. Vann R. Ellison  
President/CEO  
St. Matthew's House