

Applications ready for dental care

By **PAMELA STAIK STAFF WRITER**

While the national event is scheduled to be celebrated on Feb. 5, event coordinator Dr. Judy Marshall said Charlotte County's celebration is set up a little differently.

For starters, Marshall said Charlotte's program will span six days.

The first four have been established as preventative care clinics, where professionals will evaluate the student's medical history, take X-rays and plan the course of treatments for each child. During these clinics, the children will receive free cleanings, fluoride treatments and have teeth sealants applied.

The last two days of the program will be in February, where prescreened children in need of more work, like fillings

Charlotte County students without dental insurance will have the opportunity to get a better, cleaner and healthier smile in January and February during the third annual local celebration of the American Dental Association's national Give Kids A Smile Day. and extractions, can be treated.

All of the work being completed will be done by volunteer dentists, dental hygienists and dental assistants from the area as well as teachers and students from the dental program at the Charlotte Technical Center. Clerical office staff, local businesses and dental supply companies are also donating their time and resources for the event, Marshall said.

"This is the community at large coming together to help the children in our area," Marshall said. "It's a win-win for everybody."

To enroll your child in the free dental program, you must complete an application.

Applications are available in the clinic at all Charlotte County Public Schools, as well as through the **Charlotte County Health Department**. At the latest, applications are due Dec. 10.

If accepted, students will be contacted for appointments.

For more info about the Give Kids A Smile Day, visit www.ADA.org.

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