

The MULLET RAPPER



What's Happening in the Everglades & 10,000 Islands!
News, Stories, Classifieds, Tide Tables & More



April 1, 2023 - April 14, 2023

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P.O. Box 513, Copeland, FL, 34137

Volume XXIII · Issue # 433

Easter Egg Hunt
April 8th
10 am to 1 pm

Free Community
Easter Egg Hunt

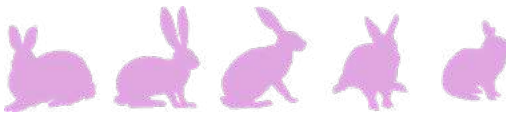
Cash filled Eggs • Food • Giveaways • Inflatables

Saturday, April 8th
10 am - 1 pm

McLeod Park
Copeland Ave & Hibiscus St. W.
Everglades City, FL 34139

Everyone is
invited to attend!

Mark your calendar for this The Everglades City Annual Easter Egg Hunt, April 8th. An annual community event organized by multiple churches. There will be 2000 filled Easter eggs, inflatables, giveaways, music, free food, and lots of happy kids!



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Mullet Rapper Photojournalist Helen Bryan Retires

by Patty Huff, Kathy Brock & Denise Wauters

Photojournalist Helen Bryan is retiring from the Mullet Rapper! For over 20 years, Helen has been capturing the events of our area through the lens of her camera. If you have attended an event here, there is a very good chance the Helen was somewhere in the background snapping away. Then, like clockwork, she would prepare and then email them to the Mullet Rapper for publication.

Helen's contribution to the Mullet Rapper was invaluable. Her keen eye for the best shot and her willingness to keep shooting until she gets that shot is why her photography is so meaningful. Helen made it to every major event without fail. Rain or shine, Helen was there doing what she does with that nice smile of hers...and her unbounding energy!

Although her retirement is a loss for all of us, we are elated that Helen may have some time to relax...just a little bit. Yes. I know that "relax" and "Helen" are seldom used in the same sentence since we are used to seeing her buzz around like the Energizer Bunny from event to event.

From everyone at the Mullet Rapper from the past and in the present, thank you Helen Bryan! Your contribution to the Mullet Rapper made every edition of this publication better. Your dedication to our little paper will always be appreciated. Enjoy your well-deserved retirement, Helen. We will miss your photos!
Patty Huff, Kathy Brock & Denise Wauters

Fishing For April

By Captain Mike Merritt



March is known as the windy month and this March was no different! We have had winds from every possible direction and it has made fishing in the Islands difficult. The days the winds are favorable we have had some good Trout fishing. On some of the flats, and along the Islands we have been catching some good size fish. Limits of 17-18" fish are not uncommon. Shrimp, live baits, and DOA's have all produced.

I have done best with the jigs this month. Fish them slow and tipping them with shrimp will help. Redfish have actually been the toughest ones to catch with any consistency. Some days we will get a few good fish and then the next day maybe only 1 fish. Shrimp on a cork or jigs again have worked best.

Fishing incoming water in the Islands and if you can find water that is not too dirty you will have a shot. Work along the shorelines and cover as much area as you can. 1/4 oz. jigs with a paddle tail tipped with a small piece of shrimp has been getting it done.

Snook fishing has been off and on. We have been catching fish in the back country and in the rivers and then out in the Islands. I like to say March is a transitional month for the Snook. The water temps are rising and the winds are switching. Fish are on the move. They are slowly making their way into the Islands this time of year. Hopefully April will bring about some consistent Snook fishing as it usually does.

Over all the Snook fishing has been down. Not sure what the reason is but we can all speculate and I have seen this before. We end up catching good fish if we get a little stability in the weather. I can't wait till we can fish top water successfully again! Soon!

See **Fishing** p4

EVENT CALENDAR - April 2, 2023 to May 13, 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
April 2	3	4	5 Wilderness Talk p3 Food Pantry ECC, 9:30-12p	6 Ladies' Coffee City Seafood 8:30a Book Club p7 Full Moon	7 Good Friday	8 Easter Egg Hunt p3
9 Easter 	10	11	12 Wilderness Talk p3 Food Pantry ECC, 9:30-12p	13 Ladies' Coffee HavAnna Cafe 8:30a	14	15-RAPPER
16	17	18 Tax Day	19 Wilderness Talk p3 Food Pantry ECC, 9:30-12p	20 Ladies' Coffee Island Cafe 8:30a 3rd Thurs Talk p9 New Moon	21	22
23	24	25	26 Wilderness Talk p3 Food Pantry ECC, 9:30-12p	27 Ladies' Coffee City Seafood 8:30a	28	29-RAPPER Museum Event p3 Praise Night p3
30	May 1	2	3 Wilderness Talk p3 Food Pantry ECC, 9:30-12p	4 Ladies' Coffee HavAnna Cafe 8:30a	5 Full Moon	6
7	8 100th Anv p3	9	10 Wilderness Talk p3 Food Pantry ECC, 9:30-12p	11 Ladies' Coffee Island Cafe 8:30a	12	13

AREA BUSINESS & CLUB HOURS & NUMBERS

AA: Wed., 5:00 pm, 1st Baptist Church, 416 School Dr., Everglades City
 Carnestown Recycle & Trash: 2nd Sat. of month, 9a-12p, 12:30p-2 pm
 Everglades City Visitor Center: Open 7 days, 10 am—2 pm
 Lions Club: Meetings are on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6 pm.
 Museum: Open Tuesday-Saturday, 9 am to 4 pm, (239) 252-5026
 Smallwood Store: Open daily 11 am to 4 pm, (239) 695-2989
 Everglades Comm. Church Food Pantry: Wednesdays, 9:30am-1 pm
 Mobile Pet Vet: hsnaples.org/mobile-veterinary-clinic

POST OFFICE INFORMATION

Chokoloskee (239) 695-4468
 Everglades City (239) 695-2174
 (M-F: 10 am to 12 pm, 1 pm to 3:30 pm, closed Sat. & Sun.)
 Ochopee (239) 695-2099
 (M-F: 8 am to 10 am, noon to 4 pm; Sa: 10 am to 11:30 am)

OTHER IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Airport: (239) 695-2778
 Big Cypress: (239) 695-2000
 City Hall: (239) 695-3781
 Curbside Trash Pickup (239) 252-2380
 Dr. Demartino, Marco Island (239) 642-5552
 EVG National Park: (239) 695-3311
 Fakahatchee Preserve Office: (239) 961-1925
 Public Library: (239) 695-2511
 Visitor Center: (239) 232-0473

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What's Happening!

April 2023
6:30 pm
1st Baptist Church

On the last Saturday of each month, First Baptist Church of Everglades City will have a "Praise Night" with a light supper at 6:30 pm, followed by praise music and fellowship.

April 29
10 am to 2 pm
Tamiami Trail 95th Anniversary

This annual event celebrates the anniversary of the completion of the Tamiami Trail — Barron Collier's Highway across the Everglades begins with speeches by local dignitaries and members of the Collier family at City Hall. Join us for a day of live music by the Naples Jazz Band playing the hits of the Roaring 20s, birthday cake served by the Friends of Museum of the Everglades, Laundry Cart Races in front of the Old Laundry Building (the museum), a motorcade of classic cars and full parade through town, food, fun, and much more.

May 8
10 am to 11 am
Collier County 100th Anniversary



Monday, May 8: Collier County 100th Anniversary Everglades City Hall, from 10 to 11 am. See CollierMuseums.com



COMMUNITY SERVICES & INFORMATION

Food Bank
Wed. 9:30 am to 12 pm

Food is distributed from the rear of Everglades Community Church located at 101 S. Copeland Ave., Everglades City. "This institution is an equal opportunity provider."

Everglades Area Information
Open daily 10 am to 2 pm

The Everglades Area Visitor Center is located at 207 Broadway W., Everglades City. The Visitor Center is open daily Monday through Friday 10 am to 2 pm; Saturday and Sunday 10 am to 4 pm.

Volunteer: email ESHP@hotmail.com

3rd Annual Everglades CHILI COOK-OFF 

April 1st
11 am to ???

Organized by the
Chokoloskee Family Church of God
Women's Ministry

Part of the Full Throttle Festival
In McLeod Park, Everglades City

Registration is open to any restaurant, business or individual. Entrance Fee \$25.
Registrations due by March 17th
Deliver to Peggy at (863) 445-1161

1st Place
\$100
Trophy
Bragging Rights

2nd & 3rd Place
Medals

5 samples of chili with 4 oz cup of your choice of chili for \$10

For More Info Contact Hazel
(239) 719-0368
HazelMitchell49@hotmail.com

Full Throttle Festival
April 1, 2023
11 am to 3 pm
McLeod Park



The Chokoloskee Family Church of God invites you to Full Throttle Festival, a community outreach and fundraiser. Anything with an engine is coming to McLeod Park in Everglades City on April 1st from 11 am to 3 pm.

The line up includes:

- Annual Chili Cook-Off
- Antique Car Show
- Blessing of the Bikes
- Silent Auction
- Contest with Prizes
- Vendors
- Food Trucks
- Christian Music

Prizes will be awarded for bikers showing off their rides, airboats, as well as swamp buggies. This will also include a Blessing of the Bikes being invited here from all over south and central Florida.

There will be a showcasing of local artists and businesses as well as vendors from Naples and Miami. All vendors and sponsors will be donating items for a silent auction.

The Chili Cook-Off will, of course, be one of the highlights of the event showing off the cooking skills of our local community.


For More Information
FullThrottleCFC.com
(813) 713-4303
JAWilson1968@hotmail.com

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 Orlo & Pam Hilton (239) 695-2662
 Monday - Saturday, 10:30-6
 Sunday 10:30 - 5



First Baptist Church
Knowing Him and making Him known!

Praise Night, last Saturday of the month, light supper, music, fellowship at 6:30 pm!

All-ages Sunday School: 9:45 a.m., Sunday Worship: 11:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
 Wednesday Worship: 6:00 p.m.

416 School Drive / P.O. Box 550, Everglades City, FL 34139, Call Us:(239) 695-3871

Spring Brings More Activity from Florida's Wildlife

As spring brings warmer weather across the state, several species of wildlife become more active for migration, breeding, feeding and nesting. This increased level of wildlife activity means that people could be more likely to encounter wildlife and should take precautions to avoid disrupting these natural behaviors and prevent conflicts with wildlife.

Bats: Spring is when bats start to give birth and raise their young. Bat maternity season starts April 15 and runs through Aug. 15. Install Exclusion devices, which allow bats to exit a structure but block them from returning to roosts

Bears: As spring temperatures warm, bears become more active, increasing the opportunities for potential conflicts with people. During this time of year, females are teaching their cubs what to eat and the skills necessary to survive. Remove any food opportunities from your property.



Gopher Tortoises: Spring days are a good time to spot a gopher tortoise, as Florida's only native tortoise becomes more active, foraging for food and searching for a mate. Do not disturb or assist them.

Sea Turtles: These large marine turtles start nesting on Florida beaches in spring. Keep beaches dark at night and free of obstacles during their March through October nesting season.

Snakes: Keep an eye out for snakes in your yard or when hiking, as they could be encountered more as the weather warms. Just give them space.

MyFWC.com/News/Spring-News
 Wildlife Alert Hotline
 (888) 404-FWCC (3922) or text 847411
 (Tip411) with keyword "FWC"

Fishing
 From p1

There is definitely more boat traffic and more fishing pressure here than I have ever seen in my lifetime and I have been Snook fishing here for 53 Years. Remember, there is such a thing as fishing etiquette so be respectful of others space and be courteous to all! After all, we all are after fish and a good time! Good Luck Fishing, Capt. Mike Merritt

Mike Merritt, Fishing Guide
Everglades City, FL.
(561) 252-4324
SnookFishing1@juno.com



New Packaged Goods Service is Now Available

Everglades Isle RV Resort's Marlin Bar Now Offers Packaged Goods!

Order online, select your pick up time, and then pick up at the gate! Either scan the QR code below, click below, or go to the link online!
<https://bit.ly/3qUgmMA>

When you reach the gate, push the intercom button to let us know you are here to pick up!

Note: You must be 21 or older to order and to pick up.
 Everglades Isle



803 Collier Avenue
 Everglades City, FL 34139

Just look for the Lighthouse!

Go slow and look out below – manatees are on the move!



Spring is a particularly important season for boaters to go slow and look out below for manatees as the slow-moving mammals naturally disperse from their winter refuges, traveling to other parts of the state and beyond.

Manatees depend on water generally warmer than 68 degrees Fahrenheit to survive the winter, so in the fall, they travel to Florida springs, power plant discharges and other warm-water sites. In the spring, as water temperatures rise, manatees gradually leave their winter habitats and are more likely to be found in rivers, canals and nearshore waters.

While manatees are large, they can be difficult to see in the water. That is why it is important to: go slow and follow all manatee protection zones; wear polarized glasses and look out below while boating or using personal watercraft — a visible snout or large circles on the water are indicators that manatees are below the surface; and always give manatees space.

Manatee protection zones are marked by waterway signs and maps of manatee protection zones are available online at MyFWC.com/Manatee Report injured, distressed, sick or dead manatees to the FWC's Wildlife Alert Hotline at (888) 404-FWCC (3922) so trained responders can assist.

Resources for boaters, educators and other interested members of the public are available at MyFWC.com/Manatee. What should you do if you see a manatee? The Viewing Guidelines page provides helpful tips on respectfully viewing manatees, additional guidelines for boat and personal watercraft operators, and information on what you can do to help these amazing aquatic mammals.

Spring is an active time for many of Florida's wildlife species. For more information, visit MyFWC.com/News and click on "Spring Wildlife News."

Adventures of the Saltwater Cowboy

Biggest Fan

by Jon Edward Edwards

I sat alone in the back row of a group of chairs assembled at Sunshine Booksellers – South Location – on Marco Island for a reading and book signing featuring my favorite novelist, who profoundly influenced my journey to becoming a writer. On the chair next to me was the latest book written by the featured artist, arguably the heir to John D. MacDonald, and two of my more popular short stories written under the byline, Adventures of the Saltwater Cowboy. I wasn't vying for more time, but more appropriately, an uninterrupted amount, as I had some things I wanted to say. First, I'm not the same person I was at the last book signing I attended many years ago. The big difference - I wasn't a published writer then. Sitting at a fold-out table against the far wall, he looked more like a football coach or baseball skipper (coach) than an New York Times Bestselling novelist. I noticed the mono-filament line tied around his glasses as a makeshift lanyard and realized he could even pass for a fishing guide.

I approached the table as the last fan walked away, grinning, admiring the personal note. Then, with an outstretched hand, I flashed my best movie-star smile and reintroduced myself: "Jed Edwards." I saw a glimmer of recollection in his eyes and hoped it was from all the book signings, not the copyright infringement notice.

It's not as bad as it sounds. In 2014 my stepbrother, Scott McLeod (R.I.P.), asked me to write a piece on the state of skateboarding from the viewpoint of an "aged skater" for his online magazine, Deprived Society. The theme manifested immediately, as a few weeks prior, my viewpoint was crystal clear as I was jettisoned from my skateboard by the force of a main tendon rupture – the Achilles.

The fact that the after-school teacher had been skating with my son and I could have contributed to the possibility that I may have been pushing my limits. Therefore, I ignored the tightness in my heel as I came around for the next run. I wanted to make sure I had enough speed going into the carve, and I gave two more full pushes. Then, "BANG!" some soccer mom on a crotch rocket sped up behind me and slammed me in the back of the legs with a 2 x 4 – at least, that's what it felt like. Before becoming intimately familiar with the pavement

See **Cowboy** p6



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Featured Listing



ONE OF A KIND HOME WITH GUEST HOUSE LOCATED IN THE HEART OF EVERGLADES CITY.

This stilt home has three bedrooms and two bathrooms with an open concept. Enjoy gorgeous sunsets over the water from the screened porch. It also has a separate one bedroom one bath guest house with it's own driveway. Enjoy the wonderful

evenings in your cozy lite fenced back yard with fire pit. Lots of parking under main house with enclosed work shop.

Property Address: 301 Allen Avenue, Everglades City. Asking \$597,000. MLS Listing #222046891.

Collier County Parks & Recreation

Summer Camp Registration Begins Monday, April 3, 2023

Online Registration begins at 7:00 a.m.
In-Person Registration begins at 9:00 a.m.

Collier County Parks & Recreation Division plans and prepares for Summer Camp 2023. This year's theme is "Cruisin' Through Summer 2023". There will be a cool theme each week that will include a variety of fun and exciting activities designed to meet our campers' social, physical, and developmental needs in a fun and supportive environment.

Secure your spot for your favorite camp. Collier County Parks & Recreation offers the largest variety of summer camps for children of all ages and abilities. Experience day camp, sailing camp, skiing camp, pee wee & youth sports camps, animation camp, junior lifeguard camp, 3D game design camp, app design camp, gaming academy camp, graphic design camp, movie makers camp, fishing camp, game development camp, BMX camp, and skateboarding camp.

Elementary School Day Camp (K-5th Grade) and Middle School Day Camp (6th-8th Grade) begins Monday, June 5 – Friday, August 4, 2023 (No Camp July 4). Camp hours are 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. The cost for Weekly Summer Day Camp is \$85 per week.

Discounted cost for Full Summer Camp "Full 9 Weeks" is \$600. A payment plan is available in three payments - 1st \$255, 2nd \$255, 3rd \$90 and siblings are offered a 10% discount. Cost for Before & After Camp - 7:15 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. is \$15 per week.

To register online, visit CollierParks.com and click the "Browse & Register for Activities Search." Search by Keyword, Activity Category, and Activity Location. Sign in or create an account to complete registration and payment. If you don't have an account, refer to "Online Registration How To's" available online by clicking the "Programs & Registration" Link. Register & Pay Online 24/7 with no additional fees.

For more information call (239) 252-4000

Mother's Day Gift Shop - Donations Needed

EVG would love to have a Mother's Day gift shop so elementary students can purchase gifts for their mother or caregiver. We are looking for gently used or new items that would make a great Mother's Day gift! Contact Dr. Allison at (239) 377-9804.

Substitute Teachers Needed

EVG is in need of substitute teachers. If you have ever wanted to work with children please contact Dr. Allison at (239)377-9804.



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Facebook-Wilhelm Landscapes

Cowboy

From p5

of the parking lot of my son's elementary school, I registered that sound, like the "crack" from a 22-long rifle as my Achilles tendon snapping.

With parents still picking kids up in the car line, I laid in the gutter with my head resting on the curb, my left foot flat on the surface, and my right leg crossed over my knee to support my wrecked and dangling foot. I don't remember the pain as much as I do the trauma; more like a violent car crash than a sports injury. However, the humiliation as every mini-van, S.U.V., and alternate fuel truckster rode slowly by, asking if I needed assistance, would live in infamy in my brain. I didn't need an ambulance or an E.R. visit. I knew what had happened the moment I felt the tendon break and heard the sickening "pop" in my head. There was nothing anyone but a surgeon could do for me. Since it was Friday afternoon, I was on my own until Monday. If not for my legendary reflexes during critical times, as chronicled in many of my short stories, I would have assuredly suffered more significant injury from that wipeout, which had to have been spectacular.

"Na," I waved them off, "I'm good, just catching my breath.... Happens all the time." The embarrassment faded when I realized that a gnarly wipeout resulting in a grisly injury must have made a hell of an impression on the after-school teacher. I lifted my head from the curb and looked around, but she was gone.

Remember, people, this was 2010 – I no longer have the option of skateboarding with child caregivers.

.....

Like many of my stories, I didn't know the title until well into the writing process. Then, "Bang," there it was. My perception of the event in relation to the world, six feet (1 fathom) off the ground in flight, drew me to a reference from my favorite author's flagship series. Because the title had nothing to do with the content, the thought of it being problematic never occurred to me.

The piece ended up being more than a short story. It was more an ode to the sport in the 80s when skateboarding was still a crime, when skaters accessed terrain by any means necessary, which, in some instances, could be defined as trespassing. The bonds formed by a group of skaters pushing each other's physical and mental limits in the face of danger and personal injury while sometimes skirting the boundaries of the law are unmatched in competitive sports. The competition was within ourselves, not each other.

Tragically, Scott passed away before publishing the issue that would have featured my piece. When the shock of losing my brother subsided somewhat, I realized how proud I was of the story and posted it on my Facebook page, hoping somebody might read it.

See **Cowboy** p8



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Collier County's First Hospital

by Lila Zuck

Barron G. Collier established Collier County's first hospital in 1923. Named for his wife, the Juliet C. Collier Hospital was a five-bed medical facility operating in a remodeled cottage along the eastern bank of the Barron River.



Juliet C. Collier Hospital, 1920s

Established to provide medical care to the men working on construction projects, the hospital also offered services to residents of the communities in what became Collier County, eliminating the need to travel to either Lee Memorial Hospital in Fort Myers or the U.S. Naval Hospital at Key West for medical care.

The Juliet C. Collier Hospital was staffed by Dr. William A. Brewer, physician in charge, and Mrs. F.C. Duncan, Head Nurse. In November 1926, Dr. D.M. Griffin of Plant City, Florida opened a dental office at the hospital, spending two weeks or longer at Everglades as needed..

"Nothing is more successful to the outcome of a large construction program employing several hundred men in widely separated communities, than the health of the workmen and the sanitation and hygiene of their living quarters and surroundings," explained

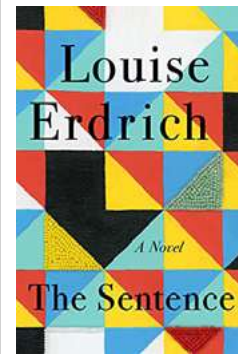
Dr. Brewer. "In carrying out its program in this respect, the welfare

See **Hospital** p9

Book Club

EVERGLADES BOOKCLUB SCHEDULE

The Everglades Book Club will meet the 3rd Thursday of the month at 9:30 am (unless noted otherwise). Anyone is welcome to attend.



April 6
The Sentence
 by Louise Erdrich

Recommended Reading
 Misses Benson's Beatles
 The Book of the Lost Friends


Questions, call Diann Lock at (812) 361-7402.

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Authorized Concessioner

March 18, 2023 Puzzle Solution

1	R	2	O	3	B	4	B	5	E	6	D	7	L	8	E	9	D	10	A
11	A	U	R	O	R	A						12	I	R	I	S			
13	P	R	O	P	E	L						14	G	U	S	H			
							15	A	16	D	H	D							
17	R	18	E	19	T	20	A	21	L	I	A	22	T	23	I	O	N		
24	A	G	O	N	Y					25	M	E	T	R	O				
26	G	O	O	D	M		27	A	N	N	E	R	S						
						28	C	R	E	W									
29	O	30	B	O	E					31	F	R	E	E	U	P			
37	L	U	L	A						38	U	N	S	A	F	E			
39	E	N	D	S						40	L	A	P	T	O	P			

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF OUR PRESIDENTS

by Rev. Bob Wallace



Way back when I was in high school in Tulsa, Oklahoma, American history was really pounded into my head. I had to memorize all the Presidents of the United States. It wasn't too difficult, because at that time we had only had thirty-two Presidents! In fact, the only President I had known until I got into High School was Franklin Delano Roosevelt. And the first time I ever voted was when General Dwight D. Eisenhower was running for President against Governor Adlai Stevenson of Illinois.

Now, we're in a new election cycle in our country. A lot of names are being mentioned for the 2024 election. A lot of them we know. A lot of them we have yet to know. So, I thought it might be fun for you to test your own knowledge about this great institution. You might even want to share this little memory exercise with some of your Trivia buddies.

1. Who was the first President of the United States?
2. Who presently serves as President of the United States?

Okay so far? Easy, peasy? Well, it's gets a little harder now.

3. How many political parties have our Presidents been affiliated with and name them.
4. What was George Washington's political party?
5. What President was the first Democrat and what state was he from?
6. Who was the first Republican President and in what state was he born?
7. Who was elected as our first Vice-President?
8. Name three Presidents who were assassinated while in office.
9. Who was the first President to live in the White House?
10. What was Zachary Taylor's nickname?
11. Name the Presidents who have Presidential Libraries and where they are located.

Well, I guess I'd better give you some answers.

1. George Washington.
2. Joe Biden
3. Federalist, Democrat, Republican, Whig.
4. Federalist.
5. Andrew Jackson, Tennessee
6. Abraham Lincoln, Kentucky
7. John Adams
8. Abraham Lincoln, William McKinley, John F. Kennedy
9. John Adams
10. "Old Rough and Ready"
11. Roosevelt, Hyde Park, NY; Hoover, West Branch, IA; Truman, Independence, MO; Eisenhower, Abilene, KS; Kennedy, Boston, MA; Johnson, Austin, TX; Ford, Ann Arbor, MI; Carter, Atlanta, GA; Nixon, Yorba Linda, CA; Reagan, Simi Valley, CA; Bush, Sr. College Station, TX; Clinton, Little Rock, AR; Bush, Geo. W., Dallas, TX; Obama, Chicago, IL; Trump, to be announced.

Now, that wasn't too bad, was it? But if you had trouble with some of the answers, why not Google them, or pay a visit to your local library? It's a great way to keep your mind active.

And by the way, be sure you are registered and that you vote in the 2024 elections.

Reverend Doctor Bob N. Wallace
 Pastor of Everglades Community Church
 Learn More: Ever-Community-Church.com

Cowboy

From p6

Not long after, I received a "seriously fonted" direct message notifying me of a copyright infringement. I perused the notice enough to realize it was legitimate. A lot to take in, I leaned over and placed my head in my hands. I called a friend, trusted proofreader, and fellow fan of The Author and told him the news.

"Man... that's awesome."

"I know, right?" I couldn't believe it. He'd read my story and cared enough to call me out.

"What are you gonna do?"

I thought for a moment. "I'll change the name of the story, then craft a carefully written apology... problem solved." So, that's what I did.

Sometime later, I received his response, and my spirits drifted away like ash from a burned-out campfire. Only after consulting with his people did he understand. He said he didn't have a problem with it and that I could keep the name for my story. Dang... my heart sank. He didn't read it. I felt like beating up on myself like Chris Farley – idiot. I wanted to respond with, "Are you sure you don't want me to change it?" But I didn't, instead thanking him for his generosity.

Back in the present... I laid the two stories on the table in front of him, gambling with my pride that he hadn't made the connection. Finally, I said earnestly, "I'd like you to know that I hadn't written a sentence until I started reading your work."

He donned the reading glasses hanging from his neck and perused my short stories for seemingly long enough to get a feel for my "voice." When finished, he took his glasses off, looked at me, and said, "And now you're published."

I repeated his words to him, "And now I'm published." I held my head a little higher and added proudly, "The Coastal Breeze News AND the Everglades City Mullet Rapper."

I showed him some interesting mementos from over the years, including an article published eons ago after a book signing at the old Sunshine Booksellers location and a picture of six author signed novels I dug out of an apartment fire in Las Colinas, Texas, in 2010. They're warped and stained from the smoke and water from the fire hoses – maybe even a little mildewed.

I looked at him and said, "When people say they're your biggest fan, they're not your biggest fan." The implication needed no explanation. Then he did something he didn't have to do, ask

See *Cowboy* p9

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**Exhibits and Events
Museum of the Everglades
105 West Broadway Avenue
Everglades City, FL**



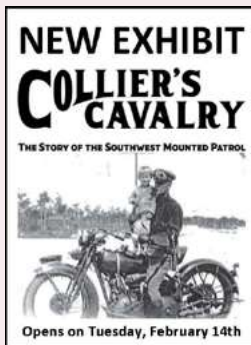
About the Museum of the Everglades: First opened in 1927 as a commercial laundry, the building that now houses Museum of the Everglades is one of the historic structures still standing as a testament to the town's time as a once-bustling center of business and the region's first County seat.

February 14, 2023-May 13, 2023

The Story of the Southwest Mounted Patrol

When the Tamiami Trail opened to automobile traffic in April of 1928, it spanned over 100 miles of desolate sawgrass prairie and swampland.

The Southwest Mounted Patrol was not only the precursor to the Collier County Sheriff's Department, but also predated the Florida Highway Patrol by more than 10 years. This exhibit, featuring a vintage 1929 Harley-Davidson JD as its centerpiece, celebrates Collier County's colorful contribution to law enforcement history and the role of the motorcycle in taming Florida's last frontier.



Wilderness Wednesdays

The Big Cypress National Preserve is partnering with the Museum of the Everglades to bring you Wilderness Wednesdays, a lecture series hosted at the museum every Wednesday from 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm. Join us for a series of talks through April presented by our National Park Service on a variety of topics.

Third Thursdays Talks

Learn about a wide range of topics at an exhibit companion lecture happening every third Thursday of the month from 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm.

Some events require reservations. Please make reservations online at colliermuseums.com OR by calling the museum at (239)252-5026 Tuesday – Saturday, 9am-4pm



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Cowboy

From p8

me to sign my stories to him, and he would put them in his office.

We talked about the 10,000 Islands and marine violations (mine, not his, as chronicled in more than one Adventure of the Saltwater Cowboy). Never once did he appear put out or disinterested. On the contrary, he gave me the impression that he could have carried on. However, I gracefully bowed out on a high note and bid my farewell. A second too long and the experience would have been sullied. Hopefully, this was his introduction to Jon Edward Edwards. That pain-in-the-ass copyright infringer was “Jed,” anyway.

On the way out, I announced to the staff loud enough for anyone in the room to hear. “Y’all be looking for the latest Adventure of the Saltwater Cowboy. Comes out in the Breeze tomorrow.” I walked to my truck more confident than ever with the swagger of an up-and-comer.

I’ll leave the story title anonymous with everything else out of respect (and further legal complications). Those who know me know. Besides, it will be that much cooler should he tell the story.

Jon Edward Edwards is a local author, fishing guide, and avid sportsman. His stories often recount his adventures in and around the 10,000 Islands.

Hospital

From p7

workers of the company required a base from which to work and accordingly the Everglades hospital was established. When the size of our community and the number of employees is considered, we believe our hospital is second to none. While there are improvements to be added that are necessary in an up-to-date hospital with accommodations for 100 patients, we can modestly say that we are already equipped to take care of all minor and emergency surgery.

“In carrying out the Chinese plan of paying to be kept in good health, each white employee is charged one dollar and a half a month, married men one dollar and a half per month for one wife and one child, and fifty cents for each additional child. Colored employees pay eighty cents per month. These charges include medical attention day and night, at home or in the hospital, and full hospitalization.”

Dr. Brewer received his Medical Degree in 1911 from the Memphis Hospital Medical College, where he also interned for one year, before attending the New York Post-Graduate Medical School. He practiced medicine for 16 years in Memphis, during two of which he served in the U.S. Army during the World War. His experience included Assistant to the Chair of Obstetrics at Memphis Hospital Medical College, Clinician in Obstetrics at the University of Tennessee, and four years experience working with G.U. Specialist Dr. George R. Livermore, of Memphis, Tennessee.

Mrs. Duncan graduated from the City and County Hospital of Rochester, Minnesota, and completed her nursing residency at the Mayo Brothers Institution in Rochester, Minnesota, before relocating to Everglades. In an August 4, 1927 Collier County News article Dr. Brewer described her as “always on the job, and not only sees that her patients have the best possible attention, but puts herself out in many ways in preparing and serving delicacies not easily procurable in a frontier town. Mrs. Duncan has, by her untiring efforts, endeared herself to the entire community.” The Juliet C. Collier Hospital closed in 1964 and became a private residence.

Crispy Parmesan Potatoes

Spray 9 x 13 glass baking dish

Melt one stick of butter in baking dish

Peel and quarter 12 medium white potatoes

Place in baking dish and stir in the butter until potatoes are coated.

Liberally sprinkle Parmesan cheese over potatoes plus salt and pepper. Toss to coat then sprinkle cheese over again.

Bake at 375° for 45 minutes. Remove from oven at 30 minutes and use spatula to turn potatoes over. This helps brown all sides. Prick with fork to be sure they are tender inside at 45 minutes.

Serve hot with sour cream for dipping if desired.

Kathy Kronk
Chokoloskee



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Sun. Kids Church 10:00 am
Sunday Renewal 6:00 pm
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at Island Café*

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MULLET RAPPER CROSSWORD

Across

- 1 Not yet scheduled
- 4 Afternoons
- 7 Gasoline auto performance stat
- 10 X-ray dosage measure
- 11 "Gangsta" genre
- 12 Attention
- 13 Tel Aviv, for example
- 15 Fort Meade intel group
- 16 Stir-fry ingredients put baroness out of sorts
- 18 Nervously irritable
- 19 Brings up

1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9
10				11				12		
13			14					15		
16								17		
18					19					
			20	21						
22	23	24					25	26	27	28
29						30				
31				32						
33				34				35		
36				37				38		

- 20 "I am monarch --- I survey" (Cowper)
- 22 Enhanced by artificial body parts
- 25 "Lovely ---, meter maid" (Beatles)
- 29 Considered
- 31 Ultimate degree
- 32 Got around remolding melding
- 33 Cholera
- 34 Arithmetic abbreviation
- 35 Orkin target
- 36 "... --- iron bars a cage" (Richard Lovelace)
- 37 Affirmative reply
- 38 Equality State
- Down**
- 1 Clan
- 2 Headquartered
- 3 "If that don't suit ya, that's ---" (Alice Cooper, "School's Out")
- 4 Veep's boss
- 5 Garbled camp recital's an abuse
- 6 Inflationary path
- 7 Beanery handouts
- 8 Wallop
- 9 Switch ---, biofuel source
- 14 "Do I have a volunteer?"
- 17 Drilling apparatus
- 21 With assurance
- 22 Nation once known as Dahomey
- 23 Foreword, briefly
- 24 Survey option
- 26 Relative by marriage
- 27 Itsy-bitsy
- 28 Embellish
- 30 "... a bushel --- peck"

4/1/23



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Captain Morgan's Seafood Tues-Sun 11 am – 8 pm (239) 232-0041
City Seafood All Year 8 am – 3 pm (239) 695-4700
Diving Pelican Restaurant Sun-Thur 11 am – 8 pm Fri & Sat 11 am – Midnight (239) 232-0475
Nely's Corner Fri, Sat, Sun 6 am – 4 pm (239) 695-4222
HavAnna Café Open Daily 7 am – 4 pm (239) 695-2214
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Copeland Baptist Church Sunday: 10 am School, 11 am Worship
Everglades Community Church Sunday: 11 am Worship
1st Baptist Church of Everglades City Sunday: 9:45 am School, 11 am Worship & 6 pm Svc Wednesday: 6 pm Bible Study
Holy Family Catholic Church Sunday: 10:30 am Mass

BARRON RIVER TIDES

4/1/2023	Sat	12:13 AM	2.32	H
4/1/2023	Sat	7:53 AM	0.08	L
4/1/2023	Sat	2:00 PM	2.12	H
4/1/2023	Sat	8:17 PM	0.71	L
4/2/2023	Sun	1:06 AM	2.46	H
4/2/2023	Sun	8:34 AM	0.08	L
4/2/2023	Sun	2:08 PM	2.27	H
4/2/2023	Sun	8:51 PM	0.57	L
4/3/2023	Mon	1:49 AM	2.57	H
4/3/2023	Mon	9:09 AM	0.11	L
4/3/2023	Mon	2:26 PM	2.42	H
4/3/2023	Mon	9:24 PM	0.41	L
4/4/2023	Tue	2:26 AM	2.64	H
4/4/2023	Tue	9:41 AM	0.16	L
4/4/2023	Tue	2:47 PM	2.55	H
4/4/2023	Tue	9:56 PM	0.26	L
4/5/2023	Wed	3:01 AM	2.65	H
4/5/2023	Wed	10:12 AM	0.23	L
4/5/2023	Wed	3:07 PM	2.65	H
4/5/2023	Wed	10:30 PM	0.11	L
4/6/2023	Thu	3:37 AM	2.61	H
4/6/2023	Thu	10:41 AM	0.32	L
4/6/2023	Thu	3:25 PM	2.72	H
4/6/2023	Thu	11:05 PM	-0.02	L
4/7/2023	Fri	4:15 AM	2.52	H
4/7/2023	Fri	11:10 AM	0.43	L
4/7/2023	Fri	3:40 PM	2.78	H
4/7/2023	Fri	11:44 PM	-0.13	L
4/8/2023	Sat	5:00 AM	2.38	H
4/8/2023	Sat	11:37 AM	0.55	L
4/8/2023	Sat	3:58 PM	2.83	H
4/9/2023	Sun	12:27 AM	-0.19	L
4/9/2023	Sun	5:54 AM	2.2	H
4/9/2023	Sun	12:04 PM	0.67	L
4/9/2023	Sun	4:23 PM	2.86	H
4/10/2023	Mon	1:14 AM	-0.21	L
4/10/2023	Mon	7:00 AM	2.01	H
4/10/2023	Mon	12:28 PM	0.8	L
4/10/2023	Mon	4:59 PM	2.84	H
4/11/2023	Tue	2:10 AM	-0.18	L
4/11/2023	Tue	8:26 AM	1.86	H
4/11/2023	Tue	12:51 PM	0.91	L
4/11/2023	Tue	5:44 PM	2.78	H
4/12/2023	Wed	3:20 AM	-0.13	L
4/12/2023	Wed	10:03 AM	1.84	H
4/12/2023	Wed	1:14 PM	1.02	L
4/12/2023	Wed	6:44 PM	2.66	H
4/13/2023	Thu	4:38 AM	-0.1	L
4/13/2023	Thu	11:53 AM	1.93	H
4/13/2023	Thu	4:32 PM	1.07	L
4/13/2023	Thu	8:39 PM	2.54	H
4/14/2023	Fri	5:48 AM	-0.09	L
4/14/2023	Fri	12:45 PM	2.08	H
4/14/2023	Fri	6:02 PM	0.94	L
4/14/2023	Fri	10:43 PM	2.58	H



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*Guests should consider travel time to another Island will deduct from total allotted shelling time.



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The MULLET RAPPER

What's Happening in the Everglades & 10,000 Islands

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We strive to present the facts accurately.

We encourage contrasting points of view.

The views expressed in signed articles are not necessarily those of the editors or publisher.

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