

# THE MULLET RAPPER

What's Happening in the Everglades & 10,000 Islands!  
News ← Stories ← Classifieds ← Tide Tables ← & More  
**SPECIAL CENTENNIAL EDITION**

July 1, 2023 - July 28, 2023



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

Volume XXIII · Issue # 437

# 100 YEARS AGO IN 1923

## EVERGLADES CITY

was known as  
"EVERGLADE"



was the **SEAT OF COLLIER COUNTY**

(changed to Naples in the 1960s)



was home to about  
**12 FAMILIES**

## CENTENNIAL EVENT CELEBRATION

Come and join us today (7/1) at the Independence Day parade starting at 10:00 am. This year's theme is **100 Years of History** so come dressed to impress. In McLeod Park there will be games, prizes, hot dogs, cold drinks, raffels and a Little Miss & Mister FireCracker best-dressed contest. Bring a chair because the fireworks begin at 9:00 pm. We hope you enjoy this special edition of the Mullet Rapper in honor of our 100 years.

**NO HURRICANES** made landfall in Florida




**U.S. PRESIDENTS**  
Warren G. Harding  
& Calvin Coolidge

The original  
**BANK OF EVERGLADES**  
building opened for business in July 1923.

**COLLIER COUNTY** was  
**ESTABLISHED** on May 8, 1923.

After getting postponed during the war, construction of the  
**TAMIAMI TRAIL**  
resumed in 1923.

  
**Rosewood Massacre**  
in Rosewood, FL.  
on January 1, 1923

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## KENTUCKIAN CAUGHT

1,512lb of fish in Chokoloskee

\*Reported by The Fort Myers Press on June 30, 1923



## NAPLES DAILY NEWS

was founded.



  
**DISNEY**  
Company  
Founded

First **helicopter**, called an **autogyro**, was created



  
We learned other **GALAXIES** exist

## EVENT CALENDAR - July 2, 2023 to August 12, 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2	3 <b>Full Moon</b>	4 Independence Day	5 Food Pantry <b>ECC 9:30-12p</b>	6 Ladies' Coffee HavAnna Cafe 8:30a	7	8
9	10	11	12 Food Pantry <b>ECC 9:30-12p</b>	13 Ladies' Coffee Island Cafe 8:30a	14	15 Workshop p9
16	17 <b>New Moon</b>	18	19 Food Pantry <b>ECC 9:30-12p</b>	20 Ladies' Coffee Dulce Valdes 8:30a Third Thurs. p9	21	22
23	24	25	26 Food Pantry <b>ECC 9:30-12p</b>	27 Ladies' Coffee City Seafood 8:30a Summer Nights p3	28	29-RAPPER Praise Night p3
30	31	August 1 <b>Full Moon</b>	2 Food Pantry <b>ECC 9:30-12p</b>	3 Ladies' Coffee HavAnna Cafe 8:30a	4	5
6	7	8	9 Food Pantry <b>ECC 9:30-12p</b>	10 Ladies' Coffee Island Cafe 8:30a	11	12

### AREA BUSINESS & CLUB HOURS & NUMBERS

AA: Wed., 5p, 1st Baptist Church, 416 School Dr., Everglades City  
 Carnestown Recycle & Trash: 2nd Sat. of month, 9a-12p, 12:30p-2p  
 Everglades City Visitor Center: Open Daily except Wed., 10a-2p  
 Lions Club: 2nd Thurs. of month, 6p (No Meetings: Jun.-Aug.)  
 Museum: Open Tues.-Sat., 9a-4p (239) 252-5026  
 Smallwood Store: Open daily 11a-4p (239) 695-2989  
 Everglades Community Church Food Pantry: Wed., 9:30a-Noon  
 Mobile Pet Vet: [hsnaples.org/mobile-veterinary-clinic](http://hsnaples.org/mobile-veterinary-clinic)

### POST OFFICE INFORMATION

Chokoloskee: (239) 695-4468  
 Everglades City: (239) 695-2174  
 (M-F: 10a-12p, 1p-3:30p, closed Sat. & Sun.)  
  
 Ochopee (239) 695-2099  
 (M-F: 8a-10a, Noon-4p; Sat.10a-11:30a)

### 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  
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|---|---|



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**What's Happening**

**July 2023 at 6:30 pm  
First 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.

**July 27 - 6 pm to 8:30 pm  
Hot Summer Nights**

This year's event is filled with games, food and FUN for all ages. Hosted by Collier Sheriff in McLeod Park from 6:00 to 8:30 pm, July 27.

**Community Services**

**Food Bank  
Wednesdays 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."

**Adventures of the Saltwater Cowboy  
Hooked**

by Jon Edward Edwards

The visibility improved as the sun bled through the eastern tree line, although I was still fishing blind. Through the fog, I heard the propellers on the topwater lure, a Devil's Horse, thrash the surface with each twitch of the rod tip. The air was calm and heavy, and the humidity felt like a fleece jacket. Sweat ran down my face stinging my eyes, yet I couldn't take my hands off the reel. Tucking my chin into my armpit, I dragged my face across my shirt sleeve. It was a fine late Spring morning in Southwest Florida to be rippin' lips. The bite had been fast and furious after arriving through a gap in the fence, traipsing through the palmetto and scrub brush, and picking off hundreds of those little "hitchhikers" that stick to your socks and shoes like tiny leeches.

Twitch, reel slack, Twitch... wait, "BLEOW!" He knocked it out of the fog and into sight, where it plopped. Letting it sit, I watched the water rings dissipate. Then, as predator fish do many times after striking, he struck again, the first hit not necessarily a "strike" but a "stun" to disable the prey. Hooked up! Shifting my weight from one side to the other, counteracting the fish's movements, and leading it away from obstructions along the bank, I did the "tight line dance." All the while looking over my shoulder like a thief in the night, as the area I was fishing may have been posted. Who can ever really tell about these things?

I pulled the healthy 2-3-pound Florida strain largemouth bass onto the water's edge and carefully "lipped" it with my non-dominant hand's thumb and index finger while carefully working the hook(s) out with the other.

Anyone who has ever caught and released a fish caught on a lure with treble hooks knows this is where things can get interesting. There are six points, six barbs, and three per hook. Pliers are the proper tool. However, sometimes the situation calls to travel light, such as the possibility of an escape and evade; in 00 Redneck training, pliers are deemed non-essential in this type of mission. So you wing it and hope the fish will be still, but they don't always, in which case you may find yourself in quite the pickle. Which is what happened with one unexpected flail, one flip - I was hooked.

I imagine I resembled a looter carrying a 40" plasma after Katrina as I hiked back through the brush to my truck, holding my hand close to my body, hook, lure, line, rod, and myself one unit. If the barb wasn't sunk into the meat of my finger, it was by the time I opened the heavy bed cover of my truck and rummaged

See Cowboy p7

**Update from City Hall**

by Michael McComas  
Everglades City Council

For lots of our local citizens it is difficult to keep track of the projects for which the Mayor, staff and council have been working to obtain funding and bring to completion. Replacement of the wastewater treatment plant heads the list. Prior to Irma our wastewater treatment plant was in serious decline. Mayor Grimm, City Clerk Dottie Smallwood, our City Attorney Zach Lombardo, engineering firm CPH and the entire city staff worked closely with the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) on the design and construction of a new plant which would provide for our needs well into the future.

During the planning and prior to the start of construction the Pandemic caused the cost of the plant to virtually double. The funding for this project came from two sources. Our State Senator Kathleen Passidomo procured us a 100% grant in last year's budget of 4.34 million dollars which allowed us to start construction and a DEP SRF which started as a 100% loan but converted to an 80/20 grant of 5.9 million dollars of which 4.72 million dollars does not need to be repaid.

The original completion date was projected to be July 2023, however, Ian caused a large backlog in sub-consultants work, the cancellation of orders by several concrete suppliers and the contractor has asked DEP for an extension until October. DEP agreed and will support the request for an extension before the court per the Consent of Final Judgement.

The construction of the new plant has required us to restrict new hookups to our existing plant, however, we have allowed property owners to pull building permits with the understanding that they sign an affidavit that no certificate of occupancy will be issued until the new wastewater plant is completed. This was done to avoid a logjam in the building department when the ribbon on the new plant is cut.

I imagine some of you have passed by the site and had a chance to see the work as it has progressed and I know we are all looking forward to its projected completion in October!



**Capt. Joshua D. Lewis**  
(239) 719-7907  
CaptainJDLewis@gmail.com  
LewisIslandExcursions.com

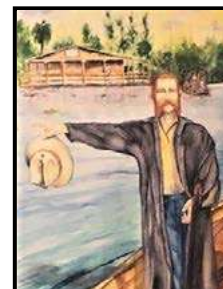
**GROUP  
MOTOR BOAT TOURS**

**2-Hour Eco/Sight-Seeing Tour**  
Adults (Ages 16 and up)...\$100  
Youth (Ages 7 to 15)... \$80  
Children (Ages 6 and under)... Free

**3.5-Hour Eco/Sight-Seeing Tour**  
Tour will be the same as the 2-hour eco tour but will include a 1-hour island stop where guests can swim, shell, and explore the beach!  
Adults (Ages 16 and up)... \$150  
Youth (Ages 7 to 15)... \$110  
Children (Ages 6 and under)... Free

**3.5-Hour Shelling Tour**  
This tour will include a 2.5-hour island stop for shelling along the beach and if desired another island can be explored! \*  
Adult (Ages 16 and up)... \$150  
Youth (Ages 7 to 15)... \$110  
Children (Ages 6 and under)... Free

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



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**Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park Rights a Wrong**

by Howard Lubel



Bill Mesce, a 28 year resident of Copeland, photographer, naturalist, swamp walk guide and all around good guy passed away in April, 2016. He loved the Fakahatchee Strand swamp so much, his remains were scattered there. In 2017, after approval from park management, Bill's friends donated a picnic table for a memorial site in the Fakahatchee to honor his contributions to the park. In December, 2022, a new park manager dismantled the memorial signage at the site and rebuffed entreaties by Bill's many friends to restore this recognition. Subsequent complaints about this insult caught the attention of the park manager's supervisor, who, graciously worked with Bill's friends to remedy this offense to Bill's memory.

Bill Mesce introduced thousands of people to the natural wonders of the Fakahatchee through his many years guiding swamp walks in the park. With good humor, interesting stories and the gift of knowledge, Bill turned city folk into ardent protectors of the park. A swamp walk with Bill was never to be forgotten.

As a result of the persistence of Bill's friends, recognition of his memory and contributions to the park has been returned to his favorite spot on the west main trail. A special thanks goes out to Department of Environmental Protection District 4 supervisor, Ezell Givens, for making this resolution possible. On Friday, May 26, 2023, Bill's memory was returned to the picnic area where it belonged. Acting park manager, Joe Berger, and Ranger Alex Gobel, helped with clearing the site and supervising installation of the new signage.

To quote the Reverend Martin Luther King, "the arc of the moral universe is long but it bends toward justice." Welcome home Bill.



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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!**

70 Years of Cityhood

by Lila Zuck



D.W. McLeod, c.1940.

In 1953, the Florida Legislature passed House Bill 961, changing the status of the 30-year old Town of Everglades to the City of Everglades, 70 years old this centennial year, 2023.

That year, Daniel W. McLeod was elected first Mayor of the City of Everglades. At the time, he had been serving his 28th year as the second mayor of the Town of Everglades, having been elected in 1925, following John L. Kerr, the town's first mayor.

Daniel McLeod was born in Euchee Anna, Walton County, Florida on April 15, 1888. He was a descendant of the North Carolina Highlanders who settled in the Euchee Valley. He was educated in Marianna, Florida. In 1906, became Deputy Clerk of the Circuit Court of Jackson County and later Vice-President of the Florida Land Title and Trust Company.

On May 14, 1911, he married Lucy McKeown of Quincy, Florida and they had two daughters. In 1913 they moved to Arcadia, where he worked for the Consolidated Title Company until 1921 when Hardee County was created. He then formed the Consolidated Abstract Company for DeSoto County and the McLeod Abstract Company for Hardee County. What was named the *McLeod System* was adopted by abstract title companies throughout the State of Florida. In 1923, the McLeods moved to Everglades, where he operated an abstract title company and began lifelong service to Collier County.

In 1923, Florida Governor Carey A. Hardee appointed Dan McLeod first Tax Assessor of Collier County, a position he held until 1960. He was Vice-President of the Bank of Everglades until 1960, Secretary of the Collier County Title Company, President of the Board of Elders of the Everglades Community Church, which he helped organize in 1926, Superintendent of the Sunday School, a member of the Collier County Board of Public Instruction, and a board member of the Deep Lake Grove Company.

He became the first editor and publisher of The Collier County News, serving in that capacity from 1923 until 1925. In 1927, Mayor McLeod was appointed first chairman of the Collier County Chapter of the American Red Cross, a position he held through World War II. He also served on the Selective Service Board and was a Government Appeal Agent.

He served on the board of the National Mission of the Southwest Presbytery and was a trustee of the Synod of Florida. In 1928 he helped organize the T a m i a m i Chapter, F. & A.M., was a Master M a s o n , Royal Arch M a s o n , and Knight Templar. He was a Shriner , Knight of Pythias, P r e s i d e n t of the



D.W. McLeod, 1959.

Naples Lions Club, a charter member of the Everglades Lions Club, and a charter member of the Everglades School PTA in 1931.

Mayor McLeod passed away on August 12, 1960, never witnessing the adoption of the historic Resolution by Collier County Commissioners on September 4, 1960 officially changing the seat of Collier County from the City of Everglades to East Naples, nor the passage of the bill introduced on behalf of the City Fathers by Collier County Representative J. Lorenzo Walker during the May 1965 session of the Florida Legislature requesting the name of the City of Everglades be changed to Everglades City, in order to dispel existing public confusion of the municipality with the vast *Everglades*.

Dan McLeod was, and still is, the only elected Collier County official who held office continuously since the formation of Collier County in 1923 ... for a record 37 years, 35 of which he was Mayor of the Town and the City of Everglades.

Summer Time Fishing In 10,000 Islands

by Captain Mike Merritt



Well it's hot, hot, hot! Summer fishing is here! Get out early and come in early. That's the best way to handle the heat. Stay hydrated and keep some Gatorade handy. Okay, now let's talk about the fishing.

Snook fishing will be best early in the day, or if you go out late then, before sunset will also See Fishing p8



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Featured Listing



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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.

**Congratulations EC Class of 2023!**



River Brown James Collins Sienna Duncan Slade Johnson



Billy Smallwood Carl Nicholson Emmalee Joyce

We are so very proud of you and wish you all the best on your new adventures.

**Graduate Class of 2023 Baccalaureate**



Photo Credit: Helen Bryan

The Chokoloskee Church of God held a special celebration for our 2023 graduates with a Baccalaureate event. It was an evening filled with music, gifts, speakers, cake and refreshments. Many speakers shared advice and well wishes for a successful future for our graduates.



2023-2024  
**NEW STUDENT**  
**REGISTRATION** »  
**AVAILABLE NOW**

Register by July 15 to avoid delays that may impact your child's ability to start school on the first day.

[CollierSchools.com/Registration](https://CollierSchools.com/Registration)

**Free Breakfast & Lunch for Everglades City Schools**

Collier County Public Schools has recently announced a revised meal policy for the upcoming 2023-2024 school year. Under the National School Lunch/School Breakfast Programs, all Collier county public school students will now be provided with complimentary breakfast and lunch. For additional information, please contact: Jennifer Devlin, Meal Applications & Compliance Specialist with CCPS Nutrition Services at (239) 377-0718 or email at [devlij@collierschools.com](mailto:devlij@collierschools.com)

**Chokoloskee Family Church Remodel Complete**

During Hurricane Ian in September of 2022, Chokoloskee Family Church was flooded with over 3 feet of water. It has taken months but thanks to the generosity of churches around the country and local community assistance, they were able to remodel the entire church.

Before

After



Photo Provided



- New -  
Post Office Hours  
Chokoloskee  
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Everglades City  
10:00 to Noon



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**Cowboy**  
 From p3

around in my toolbox, searching for a tool adequate to reduce the drag until I reached the walk-in clinic. During what felt to be about ten minutes, every move I made shook that Devil's Horse, and every time it did, I felt the hook digging around, twisting in my finger.

Some of you may be grimacing, imaging the trauma – sympathizing. Upon seeing my Facebook post, my cousin, Blair, texted me a video of himself performing the procedure on himself, complete with a moniker that means "less than masculine." Where I come from, you're probably not very popular if your friends don't haze you.

For someone to perform at a "world-class" level, they will have over 10,000 hours of deliberate practice invested. As a writer, I'm about 40% there. As an angler, although I can't claim to be "world-class," I surpassed the 10,000 hours milestone decades ago. All that time near sharp hooks, and this would be the first visit to the ER. Considering all the close calls and near misses, those are pretty good odds – the story of my life thus far.

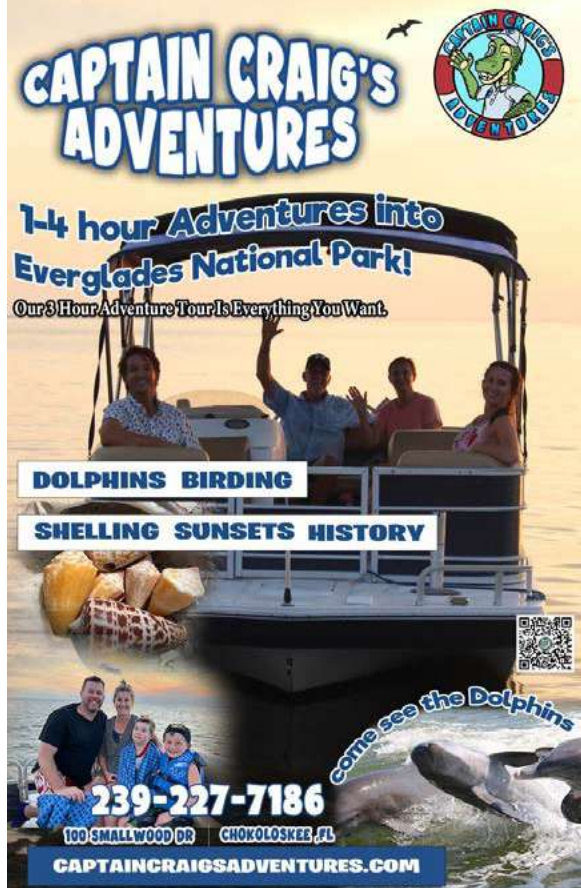
Running trot lines in the Mississippi River, my brother, Barney, was snagged by a hook. We had baited a section and were moving to the next, the small outboard struggling to keep up with the current when suddenly, our momentum had stalled due to the hook in Barney's tricep. As I watched in horror, Barney pulled enough slack in the trotline against the current to free the hook from his arm. That was some Huck Finn stuff right there.

Reggie and I were trout fishing in the grass flats of Gullivan Bay (when there used to be some) when he ended up with a #3 circle hook impaled in his finger. In the blink of an eye, Reggie grabbed some pliers and yanked that sumbitch out – just like that .

Ned "bapped" me upside the head at Black Bayou with a Texas-rigged bullet weight that had to feel close to being hit with a small sap. Or maybe I slapped Ned with the weight in my backcast. I'll have to ask him.

My coup de gras of close calls with treble hooks would be the two instances I had to take Turk to the emergency pet clinic. Turk was my Feist, who lived to be sixteen years old. I never went fishing without him, ever. He either loved fish or hated them because as soon as one hit the deck, Turk was on it. Once, he ended up with a rattle-trap in his paw, and the other time he attacked a bass that had yet to be

See Cowboy p8



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**May 27, 2023 Puzzle Solution**

1	S	A	S	H	A	6	S	A	M	B	A
11	I	S	L	E	S	12	T	R	Y	O	N
13	L	I	O	N	S	14	A	C	O	R	N
15	L	A	B			16	U	S	B		
						17					
						18	P	D	A		
						19	U	M	M		
						20	L	I	E	N	
						21	S	T	R	E	E
						22					
						23	T	C	A	R	
						24	S	P	A	N	
						25	L	A	D		
						26	A	R	T		
						27	B	L	M		
						28					
						29	C	I	D		
						30					
						31	L	I	T	H	E
						32					
						33	I	R	O	N	Y
						34					
						35	S	N	O	U	T
						36	L	O	C	K	E
						37	A	T	O	M	S
						38	S	W	A	Y	S

## Keeping Track of Your Prescriptions

by Rev. Bob Wallace



When I was a kid growing up, I remember seeing people line up medicine bottles on a shelf in their kitchens in the order they were to take them each day. At the time, I thought it was funny. But not anymore. My kitchen shelf looks just like theirs! And prescription drugs must be taken properly according to the doctor's orders. Problems arise when so many pills are prescribed which must be taken at different times of the day, or regulated with your meals.

Some people have simplified this. They made a chart, or they had someone make it for them, putting a name on the chart and titling it "Medicines taken by . . ." Older parents can benefit from this by having someone in their family do it for them. Take a lined sheet of paper. Seven columns should be made. One for each day of the week. Under each day write the time of day and the name of the medicine that should be taken at that time and if it's to be with food, or without food, before a meal, or after a meal. That's one way.

Some people have plastic pill containers that have a compartment for each day of the week; however, all the pills are put together in one compartment, regardless of the time of day they are to be taken. This can be tricky.

I know some who have used egg cartons for this. They color code them. The problem is an egg carton is hard to pack and travel with.

Now, another way is by using your cellphone. There are over 150 pill reminder apps available for your use. You can go to the App Store on your Apple iPhone and type in pill reminder. If you have an Android device, you can go to Google Play to find the app. Then scroll through all the apps listed and read the description to see which one suits your needs. Among those 150 pill reminders are numerous health trackers, blood pressure trackers, blood sugar trackers, prescription reminders and more. Some even have visual reminders, or reminders with alarms. That's pretty neat!

After you select the one you want and download it into your phone, you must begin putting in a lot of information about each prescription: medication name, dose, who the prescription is for, strength, how taken, form, RX number, doctor, pharmacy, instructions, and probably more. It's going to take some time to do it, but it will be well worth the effort. You will have this information handy whenever you are asked for it.

And always be sure to check the expiration date on your prescription bottle. Some drugs, such as nitroglycerin, lose their strength when exposed to open air. Some prescriptions must be refrigerated. Check with your pharmacist or doctor about the deterioration factor of your medications being left out in the air for a few hours or a few days. That will ensure your prescriptions maintain their full potency and value needed for your treatment. And if you are on automatic refills, be sure and check from time to time to see if all your prescriptions are still on it.

To make your system work, it must be done properly.

I hope these suggestions help you with what often can become a very complicated and confusing ordeal. If you use whatever system you have chosen, do it wisely and carefully. It will pay off for you in the long run. And with the knowledge you are taking your medicine as the doctor prescribed.

Good luck!

**Reverend Doctor Bob N. Wallace**  
**Pastor of Everglades Community Church**  
 Learn More: [Ever-Community-Church.com](http://Ever-Community-Church.com)

## Cowboy

From p7

released, resulting in bass, crankbait, and dog joined as one.

You can imagine how that went. After all that, fishing on the bank of a small inland pond did me in.

.....

So, I go ducking in and around posted and no-trespassing signs and run down banks from security guards holding a rod with a fish attached to it? Which did not happen in this instance. Say I have an accident on your property? Believe me; I don't want you to know I was there. 00Redneck, remember? I'm addicted to the pull on the other end of the line, the anticipation and rush of the strike, the thrill of victory, and the agony of defeat.

Regardless of my debauchery, I will leave an area better than I found. I don't care if it's picking up one piece of trash. I realize that's not a feather in the cap of fixing the environment. It's just an example. It could justify my tomfoolery, "I may steal your diamonds - I'll bring you back some gold."

As a generation X white man from Louisiana, I must be a rebelrous, crude oil burning, hell-raising, assault rifle toting, environment hater. I may be many of those things, but as a Saltwater Cowboy, the backwater is my sanctuary. I challenge anyone to match my passion for the environment. ~

See **Fishing** p5

be good. This, of course, will depend on tide and winds. Hopefully we are in some better wind patterns by the time you are reading this. The SW winds have made fishing a little tough. If you get close to river mouths or passes and fish early or late you should be able to get on some trophy size Snook. Yes these fish are spawning so do your best to handle them properly and release them as soon as possible. We always catch big Snook in the summer months. There will still be fish offshore all summer too. But, catching a big Snook on a top water lure is hard to beat and that will be best inshore early in the morning.

I prefer the New Moon but the tides around the full Moon are good too. Fish around oyster bars and the troughs along the Islands on the incoming tide for your best chance. Redfish are scattered at best. They have been hit or miss most days. Popping cork with a live shrimp along the edges of the outside Islands will find you some action. And, of course, it's hard to beat a jig tipped with a piece of shrimp or a gulp. Fish as slow as the bottom will allow and you will find Reds and Snook both love this.

Seatrout are still biting but this is the time of year we typically catch a lot smaller fish. Incoming water is definitely best. Depth will vary but 3-4 ft. is normally good when it is hot out. I know the grasses are almost all gone but there are some different types of grass taking root in places and the Trout are adapting to this. So fish the clumps of grass you see and you should find some hungry fish. Tarpon are typically caught all summer long. Just not in the large numbers they were at the beginning of their trek north.

There should be more fish in the rivers and bays now but I have not seen them yet. Maybe by the time you are reading this that will be the case. Baitfish have moved out deeper but there are lots of Mullet around inshore. There are even some big Menhaden around. But it seems the Pilchards are out offshore. Offshore Grouper and Snapper will be good this summer. The deeper you go, the better the fishing. This can change as the fish move around. Good bottom is the key to success.

Whatever you target this summer, there is some great fishing! Enjoy some quality family time and be safe! Till next time, good fishing. Capt. Mike Merritt ~



**Museum of the Everglades**

105 West Broadway Avenue Everglades City, FL



The Museum of the Everglades is a historic building that was originally established as a commercial laundry service back in 1927. Today, it stands as a testament to the town's vibrant past as a bustling center of business and

the region's inaugural County seat. Open from Tuesday to Saturday, between 9 am and 4 pm, the museum welcomes visitors with free admission. Plan your visit today to explore the rich heritage of the Everglades.

**Exhibits & Events****Save Your Stuff: How to Protect Your Family's Treasures from a Hurricane Workshop**

Saturday, July 15 | 10AM-12PM

Scan your old family photos for free! Museum of the Everglades will be hosting a workshop on Saturday, July 15th on how to preserve your family treasures! We will discuss recommended ways to store and save beloved family photos, important documents, and other objects related to your heritage and history. We will also be offering the opportunity to have family photos and documents scanned and digitized by our museum collections staff. You will receive your own digital copy on a flashdrive along with the original. Information on how to clean photos and documents that have been immersed in flood water will also be provided.

**Third Thursday Lecture****The Queen's Gambit: How Tommie Barfield Helped Collier Create the County**

Thursday, July 20 | 2PM

Guest speaker Rebecca Mazerowski, Manager of the Marco Island Historical Museum, will share the story of the "Queen of Marco", Tommie Barfield, on the 135th Anniversary of her birth (07/20/1888). Join us as she brings to life this indomitable woman with a true pioneering spirit. Ms. Barfield is well known as a driving force behind the development of Marco Island, but her instrumental role in the lobbying effort to create Collier County often goes unsung. While we are already celebrating 100 years as a county, we just might also be serving 135th Birthday cake after the talk.



*Some events require reservations.*

*Please make reservations online at [colliermuseums.com](http://colliermuseums.com) OR by calling the museum at (239)252-5026 Tuesday – Saturday, 9am-4pm*

**Obituary Robert (Bob/Bobby) A. Flick**

Robert A. Flick passed away in peace Thursday, May 25, 2023, in Hiawassee, Georgia.

He was born on February 10, 1932, in Cincinnati, Ohio, where he was raised. Following High School, he was drafted into the Korean War. A Veteran of The United States Army, he served from August 1952 - July 1954 during the war.

In 1957, he homesteaded in Naples, Florida and soon after opened "The Elbow Room," a hamburger joint near the famous "4 Corners".

As he settled in the quaint resort community, a love of Real Estate development bloomed. His entrepreneurial vision led to building homes, apartments, and duplexes. Known for his "landlord antics" back in the day, Bob often provided housing for many in need and was always willing to offer a roof over anyone's head that required help. Many of his tenants became lifelong friends. In 1958, he was proud to run a distribution route for the local paper. He was well known for his excellence in tile setting and was employed with DeCoil Tile Company. Bob even landed a role in the famed movie *Wind Across the Everglades*.

He married his bride, Junette Flick, in 1963, and they formed an immediate love and family life. He was a Parishioner of St. Ann Catholic Church and influential in its dedication. The family home was nearby, and frequent joyous get-togethers were had with those from the parish.

In 1972, Bob relocated his family to acreage and built his beautiful home on County Barn Road, where he remained for over 40 years.

He was a great supporter of Everglades City. With the purchase and renovation of the glorious Bank of Everglades Building back to the 1920s era design, he and his daughter Patty acquired a historical status for the building and then opened it as a prestigious Bed and Breakfast.

Buzzing around town in his old Jeep that maxed out at 45 mph, mornings would typically be spent visiting with neighbors at the local spots, including Woolworth's breakfast counter back in the 70s, The White House on Airport Road and McDonald's in Gulf Gate Plaza.

He had a passion for tennis and golf, frequenting the Conservancy and an amazing love for growing orchids. A true Neapolitan, he was an avid hunter and angler who spent most days in his airboats in the Everglades or sailing on the Gulf, always ending a day on the water at The Cove Inn. Bob loved a good trip to the Casino in Immokalee, was an antique car enthusiast, and fabulous skater and dancer.

In 2021, he moved to Hiawassee, Georgia, to be closer to his daughter and grandchildren.

He was pre-deceased by Junette Flick, his 'partner-in-crime.'

He is survived by his son Darrell (Beth) of Naples, Florida, son Tim Flick of Naples, Florida, and daughter Patty Flick of Hiawassee, Georgia. Grandchildren Alyse and Adam Flick, Katiepaige and Cole Richards and Great-Grandson Tonii Flick. As well as many nieces and nephews.

A Funeral Mass in his honor was held Wednesday, June 7 at St Ann Catholic Church, 985 3rd Street South in Naples, Florida. A light luncheon followed. In lieu of flowers the family requests donations be made to Puppies Under Protection, Inc.; [www.puppiesunderprotection.com](http://www.puppiesunderprotection.com). Mountainview funeral home in Blairsville, GA oversaw arrangements. You may sign the family guestbook and send condolences online at [www.mountainviewfuneralhome.com](http://www.mountainviewfuneralhome.com).



**Summer Beet Salad**

**Ingredients**

- Salad  
 6-8 Beet Leaves shredded  
 1 small Cucumber diced  
 ¼ medium Onion diced  
 ¼ small Tomato diced  
 ¼ cup Cilantro chopped  
 2 small boiled Beets cooled and diced
- Dressing  
 ½ Cup Mayo  
 2 tbsp Apple Cider Vinegar  
 ½ packet Goya Salad & Veg Seasoning

**Directions**

- Combine salad ingredients. Set aside.  
 In a small bowl whisk together dressing ingredients.  
 Combine and serve.  
 Refrigerate remaining salad.  
*Contributor: Donna Medina*



**Doing Life Together**

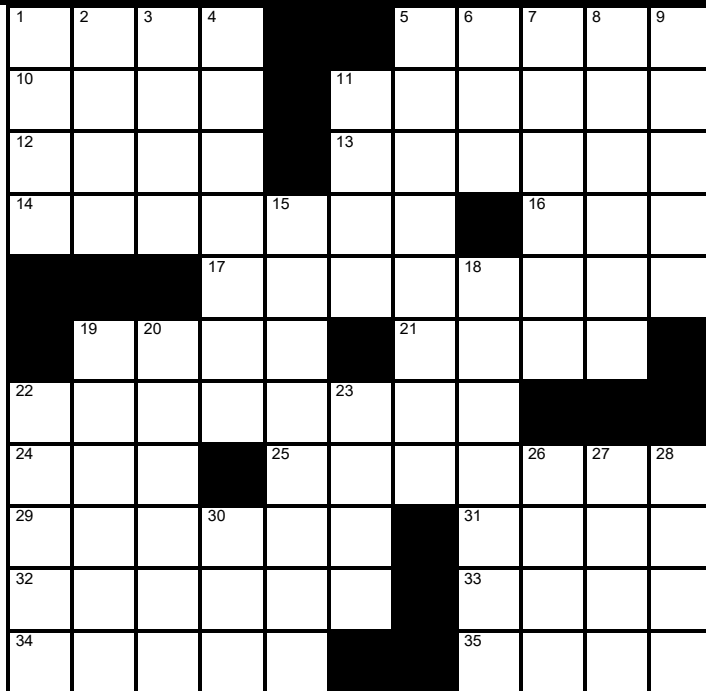
- Sunday Worship** 10:00 am  
**Sun. Kids Church** 10:00 am  
**Sunday Renewal** 6:00 pm  
**Wed. Youth Program** 7:00 pm

*Wednesday Bible Study  
 at Island Café  
 Free Coffee and Tea Served, 7:00 pm  
 1236 Demere Lane, Chokoloskee, FL  
 Phone: 239-232-0098*

**MULLET RAPPER CROSSWORD**

**Across**

- 1 High-five, e.g.  
 5. Eucharist container  
 10. Hawaiian tuber  
 11. \_\_\_ point (example)  
 12. 24-hr. conveniences  
 13. Cassandra, e.g.  
 14. Bridegroom's attendant  
 16. Cap  
 17. Liturgical form of praise to God  
 19. "D"  
 21. "\_\_\_ #1!"  
 22. Arthur Miller play, with "The"  
 24. "Baloney!"  
 25. From the south  
 29. Encircle  
 31. Bit  
 32. Action film staples  
 33. Christian name  
 34. \_\_\_ and Cher  
 35. "Desire Under the \_\_\_"



5. Hooters  
 6. \_\_\_ Today  
 7. Church of England priest  
 8. Cow corn  
 9. Foe  
 11. Cajole  
 15. Professor James \_\_\_, archenemy of Sherlock Holmes  
 18. Current running with the wind  
 19. "Now!"  
 20. Exceed in firepower  
 22. Salad green  
 23. Chums  
 26. Aggravate  
 27. Bit  
 28. 1968 Chemistry Nobel  
 30. Setting for TV's "Newhart"

7/1/23

**Down**

- 1 Attempt  
 2. When repeated, like some shows  
 3. Kind of dealer  
 4. One doing advanced research, often



305 Collier Ave., Everglades City, FL 34139

**Monday - Sunday**  
 6:00 am - 9:00 pm  
**Breakfast Served**  
 6:00 am - 11:00 am

Phone: (239) 695-0003  
[IslandCafeECity.com](http://IslandCafeECity.com)



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 Fax: (239) 695-3849  
 Email: [Karen@GladesRealty.com](mailto:Karen@GladesRealty.com)

<b>EATERIES</b>	
<b>Angler's Cove, Port of the Islands</b> Wed & Thur 4 pm – 11 pm Fri & Sun 12 pm – 11 pm	
<b>Boatwreck BBQ &amp; Seafood Food Truck</b> Mon-Sat 10:30 am – 5 pm Sun 10:30 am – 3 pm	
<b>Camellia Street Grill</b> Daily 11 am – 9 pm (239) 695-2003	
<b>Captain Morgan's Seafood Grill Corp.</b> Wed-Sun 11 am – 8 pm (239) 232-0041	
<b>City Seafood</b> Daily 8 am – 3 pm (239) 695-4700	
<b>Diving Pelican Restaurant</b> Sun-Thur 11 am – 8 pm Fri & Sat 11 am – 8:30 pm (239) 232-0475	
<b>The Hangout</b> Thur-Mon 11 am – 3 pm (239) 232-0461	
<b>HavAnna Café</b> Mon-Thur 7 am – 4 pm Fri-Sun 7 am – 8 pm (239) 695-2214	
<b>Hole in the Wall Pizza</b> Mon-Th 11 am – 8 pm Fri & Sat 11 am – 9 pm (239) 695-4444	
<b>Island Café</b> Daily 6 am – 9 pm (239) 695-0003	
<b>Joanie's Crab Café</b> Thur-Tuesday 10:30 am – 5 pm (239) 695-2682	
<b>Nely's Corner</b> Fri & Sat 6 am – 8 pm   Sun 6 am – 6 pm (239) 695-4222	
<b>Rod &amp; Gun</b> Daily 11:30 am – 8 pm (239) 695-2101	
<b>Triad Seafood Market &amp; Cafe</b> Closed Until October (239) 695-2662	
<b>MARKETS</b>	
<b>Right Choice Market</b> Daily 9 am – 7 pm (239) 695-4535	
<b>Grimm's Stone Crab</b> Mon-Sat 8 am – 5 pm (239) 695-3222	
<b>AREA WORSHIP</b>	
<b>Chokoloskee Family Church</b> Sunday: 10 am School, 10 am Worship	
<b>Copeland Baptist Church</b> Sunday: 10 am School, 11 am Worship	
<b>Everglades Community Church</b> Sunday: 11 am Worship	
<b>1st Baptist Church of Everglades City</b> Sunday: 9:45 am School, 11 am Worship & 6 pm Svc Wednesday: 6 pm Bible Study	

<b>BARRON RIVER TIDES - July 1 to July 28 2023</b>										
7/1/2023	Sat	2:36 AM	2.2	H	7/15/2023	Sat	3:49 AM	2.15	H	
7/1/2023	Sat	8:19 AM	0.94	L	7/15/2023	Sat	8:42 AM	0.98	L	
7/1/2023	Sat	12:58 PM	3.1	H	7/15/2023	Sat	1:31 PM	3.01	H	
7/1/2023	Sat	9:28 PM	-0.33	L	7/15/2023	Sat	9:36 PM	-0.14	L	
7/2/2023	Sun	3:27 AM	2.26	H	7/16/2023	Sun	4:08 AM	2.15	H	
7/2/2023	Sun	9:06 AM	0.95	L	7/16/2023	Sun	9:26 AM	0.96	L	
7/2/2023	Sun	1:40 PM	3.29	H	7/16/2023	Sun	2:11 PM	3.06	H	
7/2/2023	Sun	10:16 PM	-0.45	L	7/16/2023	Sun	10:17 PM	-0.15	L	
7/3/2023	Mon	4:18 AM	2.29	H	7/17/2023	Mon	4:20 AM	2.18	H	
7/3/2023	Mon	9:53 AM	0.94	L	7/17/2023	Mon	10:06 AM	0.94	L	
7/3/2023	Mon	2:23 PM	3.43	H	7/17/2023	Mon	2:47 PM	3.09	H	
7/3/2023	Mon	11:04 PM	-0.5	L	7/17/2023	Mon	10:56 PM	-0.14	L	
7/4/2023	Tue	5:08 AM	2.31	H	7/18/2023	Tue	4:42 AM	2.23	H	
7/4/2023	Tue	10:42 AM	0.91	L	7/18/2023	Tue	10:44 AM	0.91	L	
7/4/2023	Tue	3:11 PM	3.49	H	7/18/2023	Tue	3:23 PM	3.09	H	
7/4/2023	Tue	11:52 PM	-0.47	L	7/18/2023	Tue	11:34 PM	-0.1	L	
7/5/2023	Wed	5:55 AM	2.34	H	7/19/2023	Wed	5:11 AM	2.31	H	
7/5/2023	Wed	11:35 AM	0.86	L	7/19/2023	Wed	11:22 AM	0.88	L	
7/5/2023	Wed	4:05 PM	3.43	H	7/19/2023	Wed	3:59 PM	3.05	H	
7/6/2023	Thu	12:40 AM	-0.36	L	7/20/2023	Thu	12:10 AM	-0.03	L	
7/6/2023	Thu	6:38 AM	2.38	H	7/20/2023	Thu	5:43 AM	2.39	H	
7/6/2023	Thu	12:30 PM	0.79	L	7/20/2023	Thu	12:00 PM	0.84	L	
7/6/2023	Thu	5:10 PM	3.26	H	7/20/2023	Thu	4:38 PM	2.97	H	
7/7/2023	Fri	1:27 AM	-0.18	L	7/21/2023	Fri	12:45 AM	0.07	L	
7/7/2023	Fri	7:19 AM	2.44	H	7/21/2023	Fri	6:16 AM	2.46	H	
7/7/2023	Fri	1:29 PM	0.71	L	7/21/2023	Fri	12:38 PM	0.81	L	
7/7/2023	Fri	6:22 PM	3.01	H	7/21/2023	Fri	5:19 PM	2.84	H	
7/8/2023	Sat	2:16 AM	0.06	L	7/22/2023	Sat	1:18 AM	0.2	L	
7/8/2023	Sat	8:01 AM	2.52	H	7/22/2023	Sat	6:50 AM	2.52	H	
7/8/2023	Sat	2:34 PM	0.62	L	7/22/2023	Sat	1:19 PM	0.76	L	
7/8/2023	Sat	7:37 PM	2.71	H	7/22/2023	Sat	6:05 PM	2.67	H	
7/9/2023	Sun	3:07 AM	0.31	L	7/23/2023	Sun	1:50 AM	0.35	L	
7/9/2023	Sun	8:43 AM	2.61	H	7/23/2023	Sun	7:23 AM	2.55	H	
7/9/2023	Sun	3:48 PM	0.51	L	7/23/2023	Sun	2:07 PM	0.71	L	
7/9/2023	Sun	8:58 PM	2.42	H	7/23/2023	Sun	6:56 PM	2.48	H	
7/10/2023	Mon	4:04 AM	0.55	L	7/24/2023	Mon	2:21 AM	0.51	L	
7/10/2023	Mon	9:26 AM	2.69	H	7/24/2023	Mon	7:57 AM	2.57	H	
7/10/2023	Mon	5:01 PM	0.37	L	7/24/2023	Mon	3:07 PM	0.65	L	
7/10/2023	Mon	10:21 PM	2.19	H	7/24/2023	Mon	8:02 PM	2.27	H	
7/11/2023	Tue	5:02 AM	0.74	L	7/25/2023	Tue	2:53 AM	0.67	L	
7/11/2023	Tue	10:11 AM	2.77	H	7/25/2023	Tue	8:30 AM	2.6	H	
7/11/2023	Tue	6:07 PM	0.22	L	7/25/2023	Tue	4:18 PM	0.55	L	
7/12/2023	Wed	12:01 AM	2.06	H	7/25/2023	Tue	9:23 PM	2.11	H	
7/12/2023	Wed	5:59 AM	0.88	L	7/26/2023	Wed	3:34 AM	0.82	L	
7/12/2023	Wed	11:00 AM	2.83	H	7/26/2023	Wed	9:05 AM	2.64	H	
7/12/2023	Wed	7:08 PM	0.09	L	7/26/2023	Wed	5:25 PM	0.4	L	
7/13/2023	Thu	2:06 AM	2.08	H	7/26/2023	Wed	10:49 PM	2.01	H	
7/13/2023	Thu	6:56 AM	0.96	L	7/27/2023	Thu	4:36 AM	0.94	L	
7/13/2023	Thu	11:53 AM	2.88	H	7/27/2023	Thu	9:47 AM	2.73	H	
7/13/2023	Thu	8:03 PM	-0.02	L	7/27/2023	Thu	6:27 PM	0.23	L	
7/14/2023	Fri	3:09 AM	2.13	H	7/28/2023	Fri	12:24 AM	2.03	H	
7/14/2023	Fri	7:52 AM	0.99	L	7/28/2023	Fri	5:48 AM	1.03	L	
7/14/2023	Fri	12:45 PM	2.94	H	7/28/2023	Fri	10:39 AM	2.85	H	
7/14/2023	Fri	8:52 PM	-0.09	L	7/28/2023	Fri	7:26 PM	0.04	L	

**CLASSIFIED ADS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**



**HELP WANTED:** The Mullet Rapper is seeking volunteers to photograph happenings in Everglades City and surrounding areas. If you like to attend local events, have a camera (phones work) and you have the desire to share your imagery with the community please contact me or send your photos with a brief description to:

[MulletRapper@gmail.com](mailto:MulletRapper@gmail.com)

**PET PHOTO CALL:** If you have cute, crazy or just lovable pets please send their photo to the Mullet Rapper and we'll put them in the paper for all to enjoy. They'll be Famous!

[MulletRapper@gmail.com](mailto:MulletRapper@gmail.com)

**RESTAURANTS:** Please send your updated summer hours and effective dates to [mulletrapper@gmail.com](mailto:mulletrapper@gmail.com). Include the date you will return to normal hours.

**FOR SALE: INFLATABLE HOT TUB -** \$250 or trade. Gently used inflatable hot tub available for \$250. Will consider trade for working washing machine. This hot tub was purchased less than a year ago and is in perfect working condition. Heats up in minutes. Great for relaxation or physical therapy. For more info call (314) 555-2383.

**EC Water Tower Mural**



Tony Pernas completing the mural on the Everglades City water tower. Wes Nairn has also helped with this Everglades Lions Club Project.

**Pets of the Everglades**



**Tater & Riley**

Owners: Doug and Erin Risher

**The MULLET RAPPER**

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

**PUBLISHER**

Denise Wauters, Paradise Web

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

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**PUBLISHER'S STATEMENT**

We provide local news of interest to the extended communities of Everglades City, Chokoloskee, Plantation Island, Lee Cypress, Copeland, Jerome & Ochopee.

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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*"The Everglades is a test. If we pass it, we may get to keep the planet." ~ Marjory Stoneman Douglas*

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