

# *The MULLET RAPPER*

## What's Happening in the Everglades City Area

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2007

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P O Box 617, Everglades City, FL, 34139

Volume II • Issue #45



### TRAIL CELEBRATION

What would we do without it? Imagine not having a road to Naples or Miami! And, imagine the hardship that the workers endured, struggling with swamp muck and mosquitoes to build the road that we take for granted.

The Tamiami Trail will be 80 years old next April and a committee has been formed to prepare a celebration of the anniversary on April 26. There will be a planning meeting on **Monday, January 7**, at 9:00 a.m. in the Community Church Annex.

It is also the tenth birthday of the Museum of the Everglades so the Friends of the Museum are organizing the events but welcome help.

Other meetings are scheduled for the first Monday in each month (February 3, March 4, and April 7). For more info, phone Carol 695-2159.

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**FEATURE: "2007 REVIEW", page 6-7**

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**  
TO ALL OUR READERS  
see our  
**REVIEW of 2007**  
pages 6-7



**Everglades Community Church had a live Nativity on Christmas Eve.**

**There will be a special service on New Year's Eve, Monday, December 31, at 7:00 p.m. which features music by Jerry & Saundra Loar and friends. Everyone is welcome to attend and join in the singing of "Auld Lang Syne".**



**The bicycles donated by Tetra Pak were given out on Wednesday, January 19, to local families.**

**SEE MORE HOLIDAY PHOTOS ON PAGE 11.**



### Tetra Pak Visit

Employees from all over the world were brought from Miami in a fleet of buses to the HQ set up behind Holy Family Catholic Church on Monday, December 17, and then dispersed to partake in a variety of activities. Green-shirted leaders organized by the Ivey House piled them into kayaks, helped them find fishing guides, or led them around by bicycle.

Except for clumps of bikes wobbling through the streets and convoys of buses lumbering around the circle, the 700 visitors did not seem to be here at all. After a chilly night spent in tents, they had a motivational talk and then resumed their athletic activities. By 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday they were gone. The City benefited by having bikes to dispense and new tables for Seafood Festival.

Let's hope some of the visitors come back with their families, now that they've seen what we have here.



# JANUARY 2008

<u>SUN</u>	<u>MON</u>	<u>TUES</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THURS</u>	<u>FRI</u>	<u>SAT</u>
<b>DEC 30</b> Indian Arts Festival, see p.3	<b>31</b> Community Church New Year's Eve Service 7 pm, see p.1	<b>JAN 1</b> <u>New Year's Day</u>	<b>2</b> Ladies Coffee Triad Seafood 8 am	<b>3</b> Lions Club Depot, 7 pm	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Hour of Prayer Everglades Community Church 7 pm Trail Cmtee ECC, 9 am, see p.1	<b>new moon ○ 8</b> FME mtg Comm. Church 9 am City Council City Hall, 5:30 pm	<b>9</b> Ladies Coffee Havana Cafe 8 am ESHP mtg City Hall, 10 am	<b>10</b> Great Gators School, 9:30 Chamber of Commerce 5:30 pm see p.11	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Pet Vet see p.3 Museum Reception 1-4 pm, see p.9
<b>13</b> Pet Vet surgery only see p.3	<b>14</b> Hour of Prayer Copeland Baptist Mission 7 pm OFCD Board 7 pm	<b>15</b> Reach Out Comm. Church 8:30 a.m.	<b>16</b> Ladies Coffee Everglades Scoop 8 am	<b>17</b> Lions Club Bd Mtg, 5:30 pm Copeland Civic 7 pm	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Art-in-the-Glades 10 am - 2 pm see p.3
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> <u>Martin Luther King Day</u> Hour of Prayer Chokoloskee Church of God 7 pm	<b>full moon ● 22</b> SAC meeting School, 3 pm	<b>23</b> Ladies Coffee Roadkill Cafe 8 am	<b>24</b> Gaither Gathering Germain Arena for tickets phone 695-3514	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Hour of Prayer Holy Family Catholic Church 7 pm	<b>29</b> Primary Election 7 am to 7 pm	<b>30</b> Ladies Coffee Triad Seafood 8 am	<b>31</b>	<b>FEB 1</b> Seafood Festival Family Evening	<b>2</b> SEAFOOD FESTIVAL

THRIFT SHOP: Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri, Sat, 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

SKATING RINK: Friday/Saturday, 7:00 - 10:00 pm

MUSEUM: Tues-Fri, 9 am to 5 pm; Sat, 9 am to 4 pm

SMALLWOOD STORE: daily 10 am to 5 pm

FOOD PANTRY: Sat, 8:30 to 10:30 am, Community Church

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS: Wed, 5 pm, Community Church

CHRIST-CENTERED 12-STEP PROGRAM: Tuesday, 6:30 pm, Chokoloskee Church of God Annex Building

NATIONAL PARK GULF COAST VISITORS' CENTER: daily 8 am to 4 pm (boats 8:30 am to 4:00 pm)

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE INFORMATION CENTER (Carnestown): daily, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

SHERIFF AT CITY HALL: 12/28 (noon - 2 pm) 1/4/08 (9-11 am) 1/8/08 (3-5 pm) 1/10/08 (9-11 am) 1/11/08 (9-11 am)

**BOATERS: No-Wake Zones and new Speed Limits have been posted near Chokoloskee bridge and are being enforced.**



Harold Mays is ready for business at his new shop at City Seafood. He is open every day from 11 am and serves home-made ice cream in a variety of flavors, including peppermint for the holidays. The huge cone on the side of the building was painted by Virgil ... you can't miss it!



If you have art works or craft items to sell, join Art-in-the-Glades on Saturday, January 19. There is no charge but you have to bring your own table/chair. For info, phone Marya at 695-2905.

The Wednesday afternoon bridge group on Storter Avenue is looking for more bridge players beginning in January. All levels of experience are welcome. For info, call Jean Wagner at 695-0903 after January 3.

Reach Out wishes everyone a Happy New Year and wants the community to know that they will continue in the future to provide for needy families and the summer program. The next Reach Out meeting is on Tuesday, January 15, at 8:30 am in the Community Church annex. The public is invited to attend and participate.

**PAN CAKE FLY-IN**

Enjoy breakfast at the airport on Saturday, December 29, courtesy of Wings. Everyone is welcome and you don't have to have to fly in to attend.



**INDIAN ARTS FESTIVAL**

The Miccosukee Tribe is holding its annual festival at the Indian Village on US-41 from December 26 to January 1, from 9:30 am to 5:00 p.m.

**RESTAURANT NEWS**



City Seafood is now serving dinner upstairs from 4 to 9 pm every evening except Monday. Daily specials.

Right Choice Supermarket will have new hours for the busy season after the new year: 8 am to 8 pm every day except Sunday when they are open from 10 am to 6:30 pm.

**PLAN AHEAD FOR 2008**

- Feb 1-3: Seafood Festival
- Feb 8: Blackwood Gospel Quartet
- Feb 9: Pet Vet
- Feb 16-17: Blue Grass Festival, Collier Seminole State Park
- Feb 24: "Chick Cruise" leaves
- Feb 26 - Mar 1: MSD Festival
- Mar 1: Art-in-the Glades
- Mar 1: Lions Club Cast-Off
- Mar 23: Easter Sunday
- Apr 26-27: Tamiami Trail 80<sup>th</sup> and Museum 10<sup>th</sup> Celebrations
- May 10: Firefighters' BBQ
- May 23: School Graduation

**OCHOPEE FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT**

- 12/12/07: Vehicle Accident, 66m I-75
- 12/12/07: Injury Due to a Fall, Chokoloskee Island
- 12/13/07: Alarm Sounding, Plantation Island
- 12/14/07: Suicidal Person, Copeland
- 12/14/07: Vehicle Accident, Ochopee
- 12/14/07: Gun Shot Wound, Copeland
- 12/16/07: Vehicle Accident, 51m I-75
- 12/16/07: Vehicle Accident, 55m I-75
- 12/17/07: Fire Alarm, Port of the Islands
- 12/18/07: Vehicle Accident, Copeland
- 12/18/07: Unknown Medical Problem, Ochopee
- 12/18/07: Brush Fire, 70m I-75
- 12/19/07: Trouble Breathing, 63m I-75
- 12/19/07: Fire Alarm, Loop Road
- 12/19/07: Broken Leg, Everglades City
- 12/19/07: Vehicle Accident, 59mm I-75
- 12/20/07: Brush Fire, Plantation Island
- 12/20/07: Person in the River, Everglades City
- 12/21/07: Fire Alarm, Port of the Islands
- 12/21/07: Brush Fire, 70m I-75
- 12/21/07: Vehicle Accident, 79m I-75
- 12/21/07: Sick Person, Copeland
- 12/22/07: Vehicle Accident, SR-29 at Everglades City bridge
- 12/23/07: Vehicle Accident, 55m I-75
- 12/23/07: Trouble Breathing, Copeland
- 12/23/07: Brush Fire, 53m I-75
- 12/24/07: Sick Person, Everglades City
- 12/24/07: Vehicle Fire, 59m I-75
- 12/24/07: Vehicle Accident, 59m I-75
- 12/24/07: Vehicle Accident, SR-29 at Janes Scenic Drive

**MOBILE PET VET**



Dr Baker will be here on Saturday, January 12 in McLeod Park from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm and in Copeland from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. She will also visit on Sunday, January 13 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for surgery by appointment only. Phone 777-PETS.

**TIDES FOR BARRON RIVER**

INFORMATION FROM <http://TIDESANDCURRENTS.NOAA.GOV>

12/28/2007	Fri	12:05AM	0.6	L	04:46AM	2.7	H	12:47PM	-0.1	L	06:24PM	2.3	H
12/29/2007	Sat	01:03AM	0.5	L	05:51AM	2.4	H	01:32PM	0.1	L	07:01PM	2.3	H
12/30/2007	Sun	02:10AM	0.5	L	07:01AM	2.1	H	02:19PM	0.3	L	07:40PM	2.4	H
12/31/2007	Mon	03:22AM	0.4	L	08:16AM	1.8	H	03:12PM	0.5	L	08:21PM	2.4	H
01/01/2008	Tue	04:31AM	0.3	L	09:48AM	1.7	H	04:07PM	0.7	L	09:05PM	2.5	H
01/02/2008	Wed	05:31AM	0.1	L	12:38PM	1.7	H	05:08PM	0.8	L	09:56PM	2.5	H
01/03/2008	Thu	06:23AM	0.0	L	01:49PM	1.9	H	06:04PM	0.8	L	10:47PM	2.5	H
01/04/2008	Fri	07:10AM	-0.1	L	02:09PM	1.9	H	06:55PM	0.9	L	11:34PM	2.6	H
01/05/2008	Sat	07:53AM	-0.2	L	02:13PM	2.0	H	07:40PM	0.8	L			
01/06/2008	Sun	12:16AM	2.7	H	08:33AM	-0.3	L	02:33PM	2.1	H	08:20PM	0.8	L
01/07/2008	Mon	12:54AM	2.8	H	09:11AM	-0.4	L	03:00PM	2.1	H	08:57PM	0.8	L
01/08/2008	Tue	01:28AM	2.8	H	09:48AM	-0.4	L	03:31PM	2.2	H	09:34PM	0.7	L
01/09/2008	Wed	02:00AM	2.9	H	10:23AM	-0.4	L	04:04PM	2.2	H	10:11PM	0.6	L
01/10/2008	Thu	02:33AM	2.8	H	10:58AM	-0.4	L	04:37PM	2.3	H	10:51PM	0.5	L
01/11/2008	Fri	03:10AM	2.7	H	11:33AM	-0.3	L	05:10PM	2.4	H	11:36PM	0.5	L



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# SCHOOL NEWS

phone: 377-9800 or 695-2561

website: www.collier.k12.fl.us/evg

## IMPORTANT DATES

**Mon, Jan 7:** School starts again  
**Thurs, Jan 10:** Great Gators, 9:30 a.m.  
**Tues, Jan 15:** Boys' Basketball, 5:00 p.m.  
**Tues, Jan 15:** Girls' Basketball, 6:30 p.m.  
**Thurs, Jan 17:** Girls' Basketball, 5:00 p.m.  
**Thurs, Jan 17:** Boys' Basketball, 6:30 p.m.  
**Tues, Jan 22:** SAC Meeting, 3:00 p.m.



### From Savannah's Eyes

Wow, wow, wow! Our Christmas play was so much fun; everyone had a great time doing the play and we were so glad that our families were there to see us act and sing. Every year in December we do a Christmas play and I think that we do better and better every year, or that is what everyone else says.

I want to thank Mayor Sammy Hamilton and Santa for giving all the kids in the Everglades gifts for Christmas. We always look forward to going to City Hall and getting our gifts every year. And they just don't give any gift; they give great gifts to all of the kids and that's what is so great about living in a small town like Everglades City. So now it is almost a new year so Happy New Year to all!!

*Savannah Oglesby is a 5<sup>th</sup> grade student at Everglades City and a regular contributor to this paper.*



The Christmas Musical "Forty Winks" on Thursday, December 20, was directed by Mrs Oglesby, with help from other teachers, and performed by students from Pre-K through 6<sup>th</sup> grades.



## SAC MEETING

New Chairperson Pam Drake welcomed members of the School Advisory Council to the meeting on Tuesday, December 18. After the minutes of the November meeting were approved, Vicky Wells reported that the Uniform Committee had met and discussed various options for the new uniforms for the next school year. She distributed a list of recommendations which were discussed and approved by SAC. Principal Mr. Bobby Jones will review the recommendations, a representative group of students, parents and teachers will discuss it and the final list will be submitted to the Collier County School Board. All parents are invited to participate in the SAC which is comprised of students, parents, teachers and community members. The next meeting will be Tuesday, January 22, at 3 pm in the Media Center.



Some of the winners of the Accelerated Readers contest in December. The full list is Alexis Rain (Pre-K), Destany Vanleeuwen (K), Stephanie Bruscini (1<sup>st</sup>), Hailey Mitchell (2<sup>nd</sup>), Logan Foss (3<sup>rd</sup>), Sierra Dungan (4<sup>th</sup>), Nic Jones (5<sup>th</sup>), Linzy Falls (6<sup>th</sup>), Wesley Sylvest (7<sup>th</sup>), Meggan Harrington (8<sup>th</sup>), Nicole Huggins (9<sup>th</sup>), Robert Huggins (10<sup>th</sup>), and Daisy Burgess (11<sup>th</sup>).



Mrs Young, right, organized the canned food drive to benefit needy families. The Pre-K and K class brought in almost 500 cans and won a popcorn party. Fifth and sixth graders helped to gather the food.

*Thanks to Mrs Trina Mitchell for photos.*



# REVIEW OF THE RAPPER, 2007



Sue Tucker celebrated her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday with friends in January (1/12/07 issue).



The "Chick Cruise" left in January for the Virgin Islands. (1/19/07 issue).



Elaine Middelstaedt sold Reach Out cook books at Art-in-the-Glades (1/26/07 issue).



The Restoration Celebration on January 27, the official re-opening of City Hall, was attended by about 400 people (2/2/07 issue).



Neta Noble, 86, passed away on January 20 (2/2/07 issue).



Seafood Festival started out in a jolly mood but ended up flooded (2/9/07 issue).



Roland Martin was at the Oyster House for the Wild Turkey Federation dinner which raised about \$18,000 (2/16 issue).



A bench in memory of Harvey McPherson was dedicated at the tennis courts by his wife Sue and friends (2/23/07 issue).



The Big Move into the "real City Hall" took place at the end of February (3/2/07 issue).



Chuck Gretze at one of the Pancake Fly-ins which he hosts at the airport (3/17/07 issue).



Fran Tiff was wished a Happy 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday at the City Council meeting at the end of March (3/30/07 issue).



Olga Hirschhorn cut the ribbon at the dedication of the painting of the boat lift by Kenneth Noland (4/20/07 issue).



Lincoln Frost celebrated his 95<sup>th</sup> Birthday on April 17 (4/20/07 issue).

## The MULLET RAPPER

WHAT'S Happening in the Everglades City Area  
FRIDAY, APRIL 27, 2007

The new format *Rapper* included *What's Happening Around Town* (4/27/07 issue).



Parker Oglesby was appointed to the vacant seat on the City Council during the meeting on April 24 (4/27/07 issue).



George Furrer and his Swiss pals were welcomed during their visit (4/27/07 issue).



The Museum celebrated its 9<sup>th</sup> Birthday with free hotdogs on April 28 (5/4/07 issue).



The Kids' Activity Club enjoyed a swim at the Rod & Gun (5/11/07 issue).

Georgia Brown, 72, passed away on May 15 leaving her husband Arvid of Chokoloskee and many other family members (5/25/07 issue).





# REVIEW OF THE RAPPER, 2007



ECity School art students exhibited at the Museum over the summer (5/25/07 issue).



Kim Lamp, 49, passed away on June 3 after a brave struggle with cancer (6/8/07 issue).



The refurbished Skating Rink was opened on July 2 with a concert by the Jazz Knights from West Point (7/6/07 issue).



Best float in the Independence Day Parade was Friends of the Museum (7/6/07 issue).



There were heated discussions at meetings about plans for the Park (7/20/07 issue).



Kids had a busy month at the Reach Out Summer Camp (7/20/07 issue).



Ms Frances Hodge, 100, passed away on August 17 (8/17/07 extra issue).



Pastor Morris and Mrs Martha Dantin celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary by renewing their vows (8/31/07 issue).



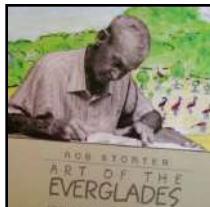
Clyde Butcher's Labor Day "Muck About" attracted a good crowd, some of whom went on guided swamp walks (9/14/07 issue)



There was an Open House at the school on September 13 (9/28/07 issue).



Savannah Oglesby wrote about the dolphins she saw on a boat trip she took with her family (9/28/07 issue).



The Storter Exhibit opened at the Historical Museum of South Florida in Miami. It was loaned to them by the Collier County Museum (10/12/07 issue).



A reunion of older ECity School students gathered on October 6 (10/12/07 issue).



The Rapper celebrated its first birthday and also announced that the website was live (10/26/07 issue)



Forrest Harmon, 93, passed away on October 14 (10/26-7 issue).



Veterans' Day was observed in a ceremony at the school (11/16/07 issue).



The election on November 27 did not change the City Council or Mayor (11/30/07 issue).



About 100 people turned out for the National Park 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations held in City Hall (12/14/07 issue).



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## LOCAL HISTORY

The Collier County Historical and Archaeological Preservation Board is updating its booklet of historic sites and will be working with local historical societies and the Collier County Museum for input. Buildings in this area recently approved for historic preservation are JT's Island Grill in Chokoloskee and the Bula Baptist Mission in Copeland.

The Board has a vacancy with the term expiring on October 1, 2010 representing the category of law or urban planning. This 7-member board is vested with the power, authority, and jurisdiction to designate, regulate, and administer historical; and archaeological resources in Collier County, under the direct jurisdiction and control of the Board of County Commissioners. Terms are 3 years.

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## MUSEUM NEWS



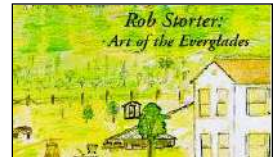
Ronald Shelley will be exhibiting his art works "Capturing Paradise" at the Depot in Naples during January, February, and March. His wife Donna Ridewood, who was manager of the Museum of the Everglades in earlier days, sent this picture and an invitation to attend the reception to meet the artist on **Saturday, January 5**, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

The main Collier County Museum, in Naples at Government Center on US-41, features an exhibition entitled *Golf Swings!* which explores the game in the US from its beginnings in a cow pasture to today's phenomenon. The show runs from January 19 to April 19 and includes historic artifacts from the PGA.



Clyde Butcher, renown black & white photographer, will show his "Visions of Big Cypress National Preserve" at our own Museum here for the months of January and February. There is a reception to meet him on **Saturday, January 12**, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. with refreshment provided by the Friends.

And, don't forget to visit the Storter Collection at the Historical Museum of Southern Florida in Miami. That exhibit closes on **January 20** and is well worth the trip. The Museum on West Flagler also has permanent displays about Florida history and a huge gift shop.



### Recipe for Good Eating

#### Turkey Burgers by Marya Repko



Grind or chop finely leftover cooked turkey meat, mix in some onion, flavor with sage, even add leftover stuffing, moisten with a beaten egg. Form into patties, roll in bread crumbs, fry gently in a bit of olive oil.

When I lived in Dublin, we looked forward to these on Boxing Day (called St Stephen's Day there) after a chilly day at the races ... a real homey meal to counteract the formality of the Christmas feast. The burgers could be made with turkey that you have frozen after getting tired of sandwiches, etc, etc, during the week. Serve with salad, steamed green beans, pickled beets, mashed potatoes.

### Angels of the Swamp

Our special thanks this month goes to the men who have made so much possible in the City during this busy season. They put up our Christmas tree, fetched the bikes and tables after the Tetra Pak visit, decorated City Hall with festive lights, and do so many other little things that we don't notice but that make the City such a special place. Our angels are the inmates and City workers. What would we do with out them?





## Fishing Report

by Capt. Bill Lindsay

For some anglers January and February are the two most difficult months to catch trophy fish in the Everglades. For others it means relatively mosquito-free conditions and great weather. On cold days it's hard to get snook to hit and tarpon seem to disappear. However, some fishing improves at this time of year. Sheepshead move into shallow water and spawn. They can be taken on shrimp and are great eating. While you're fishing for them, mangrove snapper and small black drum make it fun. Redfish will feed all year long, as weather is mild. Tarpon will slip into the backcountry bays when weather becomes unusually warm. Snook seem to move from the river mouths to small creeks in the backcountry. The best fishing for them often take place right before an approaching front. Offshore, mackerel, cobia, pompano and jacks move up and down the coast.

*Capt. Bill Lindsay lives in Chokoloskee and has been fishing in the Everglades National Park for 27 years. In 1992 he was Master Angler of the MET Tournament.*

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## WHY DO MULLET JUMP?

by Patricia Huff

*One of our readers recently asked me if I knew why mullet jump and said that she thought it would be appropriate if The Mullet Rapper wrote an article about it.*

While out on the boat, I always enjoy watching mullet jump. They always seem so happy, jumping for joy. This theory most people ignore. Another theory is that they are being chased either by larger mullet or other predators.

Doing some research online, I found that the Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science Library at the University of Miami states that this question has never been answered and that the most likely it is simply "the nature of the fish" and is "the result of fright or playfulness."

However, according to the Australian Museum Fish website, there may be several mullet jumping together simultaneously when predators are chasing them. Or, there may be a single fish jumping with a slower and shorter leap, rolling on its back. This seems to be the case with the "sea mullet" (an inshore species) who jump in order to fill the pharyngobranchial organ located in the back of the throat with air. In places where there is low oxygen, it is believed that the mullet jump more often.

Flip Pallot, a noted Florida sportsman, has his own theory. Mullet are one of the few fish that have a rudimentary gizzard. Flip feels that when they jump, they are packing food into their gizzards to aid digestion.

*If you have a theory or an answer, please let us know.*

## VIP Report

by Shirley Leonard



My name is Shirley Leonard, and I'm a newcomer to the Everglades National Park VIP program. VIP? Very Important Person? Sort of. What I am is a volunteer in the Volunteers-in-Parks Program. Thousands of volunteers work every year in national parks, preserves, and programs. This winter I'll be at the Gulf Coast Visitor Center in Everglades City. In 2005 I would have been one of 137,000 volunteers throughout the country.

One of my jobs will be to report anything interesting or unusual (or unusually interesting) around and about the park. Bird and wildlife sightings, camping adventures, humorous happenings will become fodder for this column. Readers should e-mail me *anything at all of interest* they think other readers and visitors would appreciate. You can reach me by phone from 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Sunday through Wednesday at the center (239-695-3311). E-mail (anytime): ReporterSr@verizon.net

One unusual experience about a week ago: entering a portable toilet at one of the backcountry keys, a camper was startled when a Burmese python, about five to six feet long, exited, slithering across his feet in the process. The camper lost sight of the snake when it blended into the underbrush. The snake showed no aggressiveness toward the camper. Any sightings of this exotic snake should be reported to park personnel. They have been substantiated as a breeding population. They vie with native wildlife for food and threaten some species of special concern such as the mangrove fox squirrel.

Recent sightings: White pelicans have arrived for the holidays. A reddish egret, a somewhat scarce bird, was sighted by a Gulf Coast Visitor Center visitor this week. The bird was clearly visible from the marina area of the center as it perched on the edge of a nearby sandbar. A peregrine falcon also visited the center 7 a.m. one morning. He moved from behind the visitor center building over to pilings, then to trees near the marina.

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## ENP Gulf Coast Visitor Center Ranger-Led Activities, Winter 2008

**Eyes on the Everglades** (20-minute talk about ecology, history, environment): daily, 2 pm, meet at picnic tables

**Canoe Trips:** Wed, Sat, Sun, 10 am to 2 pm

**Everglades Evenings** (45-minute talk): Sat, 7:30 pm

**Bike Tour** (historic Everglades City): Thurs, 10-12 am

**Evening Canoe Trip:** 6-9 pm on 1/1, 2/15, 2/17, 3/2, 3/15, and 3/30

**Phone 695-3311 for info and reservations for trips.**



**NEW BUSINESSES**



Alli and Justin Shurr are back in town! This year they have started a new kayak and canoe guiding business. Trips are designed to be both educational and fun for a variety of ages (beginning at age 7). Trips may be as short as two hours for beginners (or those with less time) or be as long as multi-day trips designed for people who want to experience more of the Everglades. Alli and Justin are very excited about the range of guided adventures they offer which will include full day, sunset, and full moon trips. For more info, phone 239-682-2246 or visit [www.shurradventures.net](http://www.shurradventures.net).



Marjorie Collins of Port of the Islands has opened her studio *Jewel of the Glades* in the old Glades Realty Building on the corner of Allen Avenue and West Broadway in Everglades City and welcomes the public to visit her there. She designs unique jewelry, many pieces with a nautical theme. Marjorie and her husband Dennis, originally from Massachusetts, spend the winter season in this area. Dennis enjoys fishing while Marjorie travels around the State displaying and selling her fine jewelry at Art Festivals. *Jewel of the Glades* is not open all the time so call Marjorie for an appointment at 508-982-1057.



Bob Wells announced the results of the Chamber of Commerce election at the meeting on Wednesday, December 19. Directors for 2008 are Orlo Hilton, Cheryl Henderson, Bob Wells, Gene Wooten, Sammy Hamilton, Bill Shelburne, Myrna Baier, Elaine Middelstaedt, and Aashish Patel. The next meeting will be on **Thursday, January 10**, at 5:30 p.m. at the Tower Building when officers will be selected by the new Board.



Local ladies joined about 400 others in Marco Island on Saturday, December 15, for the annual Christmas tea.

**THRIFT SHOP NEEDS STUFF**

Clean out your closets for the New Year and take everything you haven't used in the past twelve months to the Thrift Shop which is looking for more stock. But, do not leave items on the porch! Donations should be made during opening hours only: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



The sun was breaking through the mist over this solitary fisherman early one morning during the week.



Even Santa, seen above with one of his helpers, reads the *Rapper*. A huge crowd gathered on December 14 in front of City Hall to welcome him and his goodies, smiled upon with a brilliant rainbow that arched over the festivities.



The Reach Out toy drive almost filled the annex of the Community Church on Saturday, December 22 when parents came in to select presents for their children. A wrapping station was set up by volunteers so the goodies left the building ready to put under the tree.



## SNOOK CLASSIFIEDS

**FOR SALE. 2002 Travel Trailer.** 35-foot Keystone Trailer, 2 Bedroom, \$7,500. Lot 108 at ORA, Call 502-593-5078.

**FOR SALE. Lot with Travel Trailer,** \$50,000, 10-year dock rights on Barron River, Everglades VR Corp #34, Call 239-695-0633.

Send your Classified Ads to [snookcity@hotmail.com](mailto:snookcity@hotmail.com) or phone 695-2397

The Medical Closet at the Thrift Shop has canes, crutches, wheelchairs, walkers, to loan out. Stop by if you need something or phone Fran at 695-2660.

## JOBS VACANT

**HOUSEKEEPER needed at River Wilderness, phone 695-4499.**

PUT YOUR JOB ADS IN THE *RAPPER* no charge! phone us at 695-2397

## MUSEUM OF THE EVERGLADES



105 West Broadway. Everglades City, FL  
**Open: Tuesday – Friday, 9 am – 5 pm**  
**Saturdays, 9 am – 4 pm**  
 Admission is Free  
**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**  
 Contact Martha at 695-0008

## The **MULLET RAPPER** What's Happening in the Everglades City Area

### PUBLISHER

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*We strive to present the facts accurately without political bias or personal opinion.*

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## Everglades Area Chamber of Commerce, Inc.



website: [www.evergladeschamber.com](http://www.evergladeschamber.com)

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12/28/07