

The MULLET RAPPER

What's Happening in the Everglades City Area

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2008

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RAFFLE
prizes donated by
Clyde & Niki Butcher
for the Mozie Memorial Fund



ART-IN-THE-GLADES
December 6, 2008

Clyde and Niki Butcher have donated two pictures for the Carol Moseman Memorial Fund. Raffle tickets are available at the Museum of the Everglades and at the Butchers' Big Cypress Gallery in Ochopee. The lucky winners will be selected at Art-in-the-Glades on December 6 (see page 3).

Clyde Butcher will hold his traditional Holiday Book Signing at his Ochopee gallery over Thanksgiving weekend from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, **November 28-30**. For more info, see his website www.clydebutcher.com or phone 695-2428.



Kindergarten students at ECity School got into the Thanksgiving spirit when they dressed up as pilgrims.



Virginia Klotz was feted on her 88th birthday at Everglades Scoop on Thursday, November 21. Ms. Klotz has been operating her unique Sea Gull Studios gift shop just south of the Circle since the late 1960s.



DEPOT BURGLARY

Lt. Mark Milligan told the *Rapper* that the arrest of a named suspect is imminent in the theft of boxes of seafood at the Depot.



The annual Christmas Tree lighting will be held at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 6. Kids & adults are invited to bring decorations.

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FEATURE: MORE News & Events page 11

**SCHOOL YEARBOOK
DEADLINE**
December 1, 2008

Ads cost from \$25 to \$150.
Make sure you're seen supporting the school!
Phone Stacia at 695-2561.

DECEMBER 2008

<u>SUN</u>	<u>MON</u>	<u>TUES</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THURS</u>	<u>FRI</u>	<u>SAT</u>
23	24 Hour of Prayer Copeland Baptist Church, 7 pm	25	26 Ladies Coffee Havana Cafe 8 am	new moon ○ 27 Happy Thanksgiving	28 Butcher Book Signing see p.1	29 Hanging of the Greens Community Church, 11 am Book Reading JT's, 1 pm, see p.3
30 Butcher Book Signing, see p.1 ORV Permits Deadline	DEC 1 SNOOK SEASON CLOSES Hour of Prayer Chokoloskee Church of God 7 pm School Yearbook Deadline, see p.1	2 Aide to Congressman City Hall, 3 pm City Council City Hall, 5:30 pm	3 Ladies Coffee Backcountry Cafe 8 am	4 Great Gators School, 9:30 am	5	6 Mobile Pet Vet see p.3 Art-in-the- Glades, see p.3 Museum Reception 1-3 pm, see p.9 Tree Trimming 4 pm, see p.1
7 Mobile Pet Vet see p.3	8 Hour of Prayer Holy Family Catholic Church 7 pm OFCD Bd Fire Sta, 6 pm Chamber of Commerce 6:30 pm, see p.3	9 ESHP mtg City Hall, 10 am	10 Ladies Coffee JT's Cafe 8 am	11	full moon ● 12	13 Sons of Confederate Veterans see p.11
14	15 Hour of Prayer Everglades First Baptist Church 7 pm FME Lunch see p.9 Christmas Program School, 7 pm	16	17 Ladies Coffee Jan Brock's Home Ochopee 8 am	18 SAC School Media Center, 3 pm	19 Santa Visit City Hall Steps 3 pm, see p. 3	20
21	22 Hour of Prayer Everglades Community Church 7 pm	23 Reach Out Comm Church 8:30 am	24 Ladies Coffee Havana Cafe 8 am	25 Christmas Day	26	new moon ○ 27

Jan 10/11: Pet Vet

Jan 17: Art-in-the-Glades

Jan 20: Big Cypress ORV Meeting

Feb 7/8: Seafood Festival

Feb 23-26: MSD Festival

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

SKATING RINK: Fri & Sat, 7:00 to 10:00 p.m.

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

SMALLWOOD STORE: Fri, Sat, Sun, Mon; 11 am to 5 pm

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

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS: Wed, 5 pm, Community Church

SHERIFF AT CITY HALL: Tues, 12/2 (4-5:30 pm) Fri, 12/5 (2-3 pm) Tues, 12/9 (noon-1 pm)

Thurs, 12/11 (9-10 pm) Fri, 12/12 (9-10 am)

CONGRESSIONAL VISIT

George Barton, aide to Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart, will be at City Hall on **Tuesday, December 2**, at 3:00 p.m. to talk with constituents.

CITY COUNCIL

The next meeting will be on **Tuesday, December 2**, at 5:30 p.m.

ALLEY "RFP" MEETING

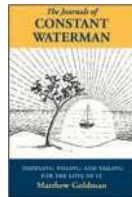
The deadline for Requests For Proposals on the privatizing of I-75 has been extended until January 9. There will be a public meeting on **Tuesday, December 2**, at 6:00 p.m. at the Hilton Hotel in Naples. For more info, phone FDOT at (850) 414-4595 or see www.alligator-alley.com.

CHAMBER TALK

The Chamber of Commerce will hear James Hammond of Naples Back Yard History during their meeting on **Monday, December 8**, at 6:30 p.m. in the Seafood Depot. Election results for directors will be announced after the presentation about local history.

CITY HALL HOURS

City Hall will be closed on Thanksgiving Day and on Friday, November 28. It will also be closed for Christmas on December 24/25.



JT's Cafe & Gallery in Chokoloskee is holding its first book reading under the new management of Rebecca Sensor on Saturday, November 29, at 1:00 p.m.

Matthew Goldman, author of "Constant Waterman", has flown down from Connecticut to read from his collection of wryly humorous stories about boating and will also be signing books. Hear about "the cat lady's canoe" on Half Way Creek and Sanibel's stingrays, among other adventures.

ARTS & CRAFT SALE



The first Art-in-the-Glades of this winter season will be held just in time for holiday shopping in McLeod Park on **Saturday, December 6** from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will be hot dogs for lunch and live music, as well as several dozen booths selling items such as jewelry, pictures, and T-shirts. If you would like to participate, phone Marya at 695-2905.

Santa Visit

Santa will hand out presents on **Friday, December 19** from the steps of City Hall at 3 p.m.. *Parents should hand in their wish lists by December 1.* For info, phone 695-3781.

OCHOPEE FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT

- 11/12/08: Medical, Ochopee
- 11/12/08: Vehicle Accident, Port of the Islands
- 11/12/08: Alarm, Port of the Islands
- 11/13/08: Unknown Medical Problem, Everglades City
- 11/13/08: Vehicle Accident, 66m I-75
- 11/15/08: Unknown Medical Problem, 58m I-75
- 11/15/08: Lacerated Finger, Everglades Fire Sta.
- 11/15/08: Vehicle Accident, US 41 and SR 29
- 11/16/08: Vehicle Accident, 68m I-75
- 11/16/08: Vehicle Accident, Ochopee
- 11/18/08: Call Box Activation, 73m I-75
- 11/18/08: Heart Problems, Everglades City
- 11/19/08: Brush Fire, 80m I-75
- 11/19/08: Vehicle Fire, 73m I-75
- 11/19/08: Unconscious Person, 54m I-75
- 11/20/08: Chest Pains, 63m I-75
- 11/21/08: Fire Alarm, Everglades City
- 11/22/08: Person Fell, Turner River Road
- 11/22/08: Trash Fire, Chokoloskee Island
- 11/22/08: Vehicle Accident, Loop Road & US-41 West
- 11/22/08: Vehicle Accident, Loop Road & US-41 East
- 11/24/08: Vehicle Accident, 65m I-75
- 11/25/08: Vehicle Accident, Everglades City
- 11/26/08: Electric Pole on Fire, SR-29 and I-75
- 10/27/08: Person Fell, Plantation Island

MOBILE PET VET



Dr Baker will be here on **Saturday, December 6**, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in McLeod Park, Everglades City, and from 2 to 4 p.m. in Copeland. She will also be here for surgery on **Sunday, December 7**, by previous appointment only. Phone her at 777-PETS (7387).

See more News & Events on page 11 ...

TIDES FOR BARRON RIVER

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

11/28/2008	Fri	01:25AM	3.0	H	09:57AM	-0.2	L	03:33PM	2.4	H	09:46PM	0.9	L
11/29/2008	Sat	01:54AM	3.0	H	10:35AM	-0.2	L	04:13PM	2.4	H	10:17PM	0.9	L
11/30/2008	Sun	02:23AM	2.9	H	11:13AM	-0.2	L	04:58PM	2.3	H	10:49PM	0.9	L
12/01/2008	Mon	02:56AM	2.9	H	11:52AM	-0.1	L	05:45PM	2.3	H	11:25PM	0.9	L
12/02/2008	Tue	03:33AM	2.7	H	12:33PM	0.0	L	06:33PM	2.3	H			
12/03/2008	Wed	12:13AM	0.9	L	04:21AM	2.5	H	01:16PM	0.1	L	07:18PM	2.4	H
12/04/2008	Thu	01:21AM	0.8	L	05:32AM	2.4	H	02:04PM	0.2	L	08:01PM	2.4	H
12/05/2008	Fri	02:45AM	0.8	L	07:12AM	2.2	H	02:57PM	0.4	L	08:42PM	2.5	H
12/06/2008	Sat	03:59AM	0.6	L	08:46AM	2.1	H	03:52PM	0.5	L	09:20PM	2.5	H
12/07/2008	Sun	04:59AM	0.4	L	10:12AM	2.1	H	04:46PM	0.6	L	09:57PM	2.7	H
12/08/2008	Mon	05:53AM	0.1	L	11:27AM	2.2	H	05:39PM	0.7	L	10:33PM	2.8	H
12/09/2008	Tue	06:43AM	-0.1	L	12:31PM	2.4	H	06:30PM	0.8	L	11:12PM	3.0	H
12/10/2008	Wed	07:33AM	-0.4	L	01:26PM	2.5	H	07:20PM	0.8	L	11:52PM	3.2	H
12/11/2008	Thu	08:23AM	-0.5	L	02:18PM	2.5	H	08:10PM	0.8	L			
12/12/2008	Fri	12:35AM	3.4	H	09:12AM	-0.6	L	03:08PM	2.5	H	08:59PM	0.8	L

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Everglades Seafood Depot



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SCHOOL NEWS

Everglades City School

phone: 377-9800 or 695-2561

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

IMPORTANT DATES

Wed, Nov 26 - Fri, Nov 28: Thanksgiving Break

Mon, Dec 15: Christmas Program, 7:00 p.m.

Mon, Dec 22 - Tues, Jan 6: Winter Recess



From Savannah's Eyes

From Savannah's Eyes

Ahh, I just love the new cold weather here now; it is just perfect! Like a few days ago, I was outside with my parents. It was such a nice day I decided to make dolls out of clothes pins like the colors of the rainbow! They were so beautiful, and I also made beds out of sponges for them. They were the same colors as the dolls. Also, last weekend I went on the boat with my Dad, I caught a BIG redfish. I was really surprised and so was my Dad! We had a great time and, of course, with this nice weather the day was perfect!

Last week my class and I went to the philharmonic where they were showing the TV show called CSI. And, guess what? The real people from the show were there! The guy David Hart from the show and his partner came out on stage to solve a mystery. The mystery was about a magician and his assistant but his assistant got hurt while they were doing a show (not really). Also, the audience could participate in it! It was fun because we got to solve each scene and David Hart made us laugh so hard! We really had a great time, especially with the real actors from the show being there.

Our Fall Festival at the school was really great and fun! My Mom and I made a cake for the cakewalk. We also brought some canned food for the can food drive which was really important so people will have food for Thanksgiving! They had games for people to play but everyone liked the cake walk the best! Thanksgiving is a wonderful time of the year. It is about people spending time with family and friends and, of course, being thankful for the things we have and lots of food to eat! So, I hope everyone has a Happy Thanksgiving!

With love, Savannah

Savannah Oglesby is in the 6th grade at Everglades City School and is a regular contributor to this paper.

An Outdoor Activities Club is being organized for students in grades 6 through 12. Proposed activities include biking, running, hiking, kayaking, and ice skating. Suggestions from students are welcome. Call 695-2397 for more information.



Top 100 Book Challenge Readers: Natalie Thompson, Ashlyn Goff, Jesse Goff



Mr. Tribble with 5th graders Sierra Dungan and Lilian Pablo-Jerinomo who designed two of the six different Holiday Greeting cards which are for sale in the school office. See some of the other students and designs on page 11.



The "tooth fairy" visited the K and Pre-K to talk about oral health and hygiene. Trina Mitchell, who supplied the photo, said "Some children believe that she comes from a magical land far, far away. Others think she lives in the clouds. Some even go as far as to say she lives with Father Time." In reality, this tooth fairy is Janice Siegel, Oral Health Educator for Collier County Health Dept.

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RESTAURANT NEWS**Backcountry Cafe:**

6:00 am - 3:00 pm.; Mon - Thurs
6:00 am - 9:00 pm.; Fri, Sat, Sun

Camellia Street Grill:

Noon - 8:00 pm; Mon - Thurs
Noon - 10:00 pm; Fri, Sat
Noon - 6:00 pm; Sunday
Music and line dancing nightly

City Seafood:

11:00 am - 6:00 pm; daily

Everglades Scoop:

11:00 am - 5:00 pm; Mon- Sat

Glades Haven Deli:

6:00 am - 6:00 pm; Sun - Thurs
6:00 am - 9:00 pm; Fri - Sat

Grimm's Stone Crab (takeout):

8 am - 6 pm; Mon - Sat

Havana Cafe:

8:00 am - 3:00 pm; daily

Ivey House:

7:00 - 9:30 am; daily

Joanie's Blue Crab Cafe, Ochopee:

10:00 am - 5:00 pm; Wed - Mon
Live Music on weekends

JT's Cafe & Gallery, Chokoloskee:

9 am - 3 pm; Sun, Mon, Wed, Thurs
9 am - 5 pm; Fri, Sat

Leebo's Rock-Bottom Bar:

4:00 pm; Mon - Sat
noon; Sunday

Oyster House Restaurant:

11:00 am - 9:00 pm; Sun - Thurs
11:00 am - 10:00 pm; Fri, Sat

Right Choice Pizzeria (takeout):

5:00 - 9:00 pm; Thurs, Fri, Sat, Sun

Rod & Gun:

7:00 - 10 am Breakfast; daily
11:30 am - 9:00 pm; daily

Seafood Depot:

Breakfast: 5:30 - 10:30 am; Fri - Sun
11:00 am - 9:00 pm; daily
Cabana Bash: 4 - 7 pm, Sat

Subway:

10:00 am - 8:00 pm; daily

Susie's Station:

11:00 am - 5:00 pm; daily

Triad Seafood:

10:30 am - 3:00 pm; Mon - Thurs
10:30 am - 6:00 pm; Fri, Sat, Sun

Triad Seafood is not serving breakfast but they will have some super specials soon ... watch this space for more news.

*Recipe for Good Eating***Brussels Sprouts**

by Marya Repko



These tiny cabbages are traditionally served in England with the Christmas turkey and with the Sunday roast of beef during the winter.

They are simple to cook: peel off any damaged outside leaves, then score a cross on the bottom so the core gets the heat of cooking, and steam (or boil covered in just a little water) for 5 to 10 minutes. They should be green and crunchy, not yellow and soggy. The timing will depend on their size – put smaller ones into the pot after the larger ones.

To serve, toss in butter, maybe add a pinch of nutmeg or a grinding of pepper or some chopped walnuts. To get fancy, make a Hollandaise sauce (an emulsion like mayonnaise but with butter). I cheat and start off with an egg yoke beaten up a bit, pour in a few drops of olive oil while continuing to beat until it forms a colloidal suspension (it gets thick as the egg yoke absorbs the oil). Then, slowly, slowly, beat in cooled melted butter and eventually add lemon juice to taste.

Back to the sprouts: leftover cooked sprouts can be sautéed in butter with leftover boiled potatoes, all mashed up to create a hash – the dish called “bubble & squeak”, maybe because of the noise it makes while cooking.

By the way, an old wives' tale is that Brussels aren't ready to harvest until after the first frost so we'd never get to eat them if we grew them here!

Thanks to my friend June Taylor who is visiting from Cambridge, England, for help with this article.

Angel of the Swamp

by Patty Huff



Our angel this month is appropriately nominated during this season of Thanksgiving since so many of us over the years have benefited from his giving. He is a true angel in the sense that he gives unselfishly, from his heart. His talent as an artist inspires even the most amateur of would-be painters. His encouragement makes you believe that you can draw and paint; he brings out your creativity even when you don't know there is a creative bone in your body. Mr. Paul Tribble (“Trib”) has not been just the art teacher at our school for over 30 years; he has been a mentor to every student that has had the opportunity of meeting him. Even as adults his former students return to seek his guidance and wisdom. He lives as he speaks, with his love of God and his church. When he sings, his voice is one of an angel and always brings tears to the eyes of the audience. It's difficult to think what this community would be without the positive influence of Paul Tribble in our lives. During this season we, the community, give “thanks” to our teacher, our mentor and our friend “Trib.” May God bless you always.

THRIFT SHOP HAS HOLIDAY SPIRIT

The Thrift Shop, behind the Fire Station, is now open on Monday and Wednesday, as well as Thursday, Friday and Saturday, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Christmas decorations and other seasonal goodies are selling fast so be sure to visit soon.





COUNTRY WATERWAYS

by Adela Padron-Butler

Back on the Green River from a different launching point, the day is mild and sunny for fall weather. Conditions are just right for wild life sightings, and we are not disappointed. Our boat trip starts off uneventfully but it is not long before we spot the first of many critters that live in or are drawn to water.

Sunning on fallen tree limbs and tree trunks, we spot several of numerous turtles of all sizes we see today. Their color resembles their perches so they are not really noticeable. As the boat approaches, some dive into the water causing a splashing sound, much like throwing a stone, drawing attention to their presence. All day we are aware of their numbers. One was so large it was the size of a serving platter. It gingerly balanced itself on its belly with legs outstretched taking in the warmth of the sun. What a sight.

Several fawns are startled, as are we, when we near their watering and eating area. One runs for cover while the other cautiously continues grazing close to the water. We manage a picture including the one obscured by bushes. We feel like intruders in this magnificent wilderness.

Farm fields about today's leg of the river and we are not surprised to encounter cows on the water's edge eating and drinking. They wearily stare at us, some amble away and I consider their size and distance to us. Do cows get angry? They seem relieved to see us continue down the river. I am happy to leave them behind.

Birds are also part of our day on the river reminding us of our experiences in the everglades. Blue Herons wait in the distance and fly ahead of us as we approach, seeming to lead the way. They become welcome companions throughout the day. Flocks of birds that we do not readily recognize wade in a shallow, grassy area of the river. They are a breed of duck we have imprinted on our minds with intentions to classify them later. We even spot a lone wild turkey leaving the water's edge.

The day went by quickly and we travel at a faster speed on the return trip before the sun slips too far behind the tall trees taking with it daylight. The river banks are quiet. Our animal companions have gone home. Only a few brave turtles linger. A day made to order.

© Adela Padron-Butler. All Rights Reserved.

This is the last in a three-part series of articles about Adela's Kentucky summer. Parts 1 & 2 appeared in the Rapper on 10/31/08 and 11/14/08.

Adela lives most of the year on Plantation Island and has been a regular contributor to the Rapper and to our previous publication What's Happening Around Town when her columns were entitled "Island Hopping – 10,000 Island Style" and described her forays into our waters.

MEMORIES

"The Thanksgiving Turkey"

by Barbara Hoffman Daniels

I grew up on Collier Avenue where now Datura Street runs through to the School House. Back then, there was no Datura and we had to walk to Camellia Street and left on School Drive in order to get to School each day. Copeland Avenue was the only North-to-South route through town. In between School Drive and Collier Avenue was grown up with saw grass and wire grass.

The year was 1940, the month was November, and there were only two days left before Thanksgiving Day. I was twelve years old and really looking forward to the turkey dinner we always had in Everglades City where I grew up.

My Father had gone turkey hunting and, lo and behold, he bagged a wild turkey. He was naturally proud of that bird and proceeded to house it in our chicken house, letting the chickens loose in the fenced pen.

My two brothers and I and a younger sister just could not stay away from that chicken house to gawk at that wonderful bird. And, so it went, but we were already beginning to have second thoughts about eating it, thinking more on the order of keeping it for a pet. My mother, needless to say, was not happy about our attitudes on the matter.

The following day our father and a friend of his took the turkey out of the chicken house to prepare the bird for cooking the next day. My siblings and I were not supposed to be in the back yard during this procedure but we had some tall pine trees in the front yard from which, by climbing up in them, we could observe what was happening.

As my Dad took the rope off the bird's leg, that bird gave one long and loud gobble and took to the air, out into what back then was a good four blocks of nothing but tall saw grass and wire grass.

Well, of course, we were laughing and cheering for the turkey as my Dad and his friend went out after him. Every now and then you could see that turkey ahead of them, rising up and over the tops of the bushes and the men hot after it.

Well, they never caught that bird and we were delighted but careful not to express that fact. What a sight that chase was!

Needless to say, we had chicken for our Thanksgiving dinner and we thoroughly enjoyed it, although my Dad wasn't too pleased with the fact.

Barbara Hoffman Daniels grew up in Everglades City. She lived for over thirty years in the Big Cypress where she had the experience of seeing what our animals are really like.

LOCAL HISTORY

“Preservation in Progress” Historic House Tour Bonita Springs by Pat Rinkevich

On Saturday, November 8, the Historical Society of Bonita Springs offered a historic house tour in their city. I felt a special interest in Bonita after reading so much in the local paper about their efforts to preserve the history of the town.

The tour began at the Historic Society Headquarters which is just west of Old 41 Road, off of West Terry Street on South Riverside Drive. We drove to various locations and it gave an opportunity to enjoy the ambiance of the town. The tour included five homes and each one had a flavor of the owners and their style of life.

The first house (Casner-Holzmeyer) was restored by the Historic Society and maintains a casual and 1930's relaxed era. It is thought to have been originally constructed as a pump house serving as a water treatment system. The second house (Wineberg 1934) I really enjoyed because it was so like our house on North Storter Avenue. It is showing the rafters and some siding is installed, but, much work still under way. I encouraged the owner to visit us in Everglades City and see the finished product. Renovating a historic home is worth the time and energy. Number three was an amazing house (Leitner 1914) in that it is so large with high ceilings, moldings, and spacious rooms. It has been renovated by Chris Busk who has a great interest in historic buildings. The house was a pre-fab home of the Alladin Company out of Bay City, Michigan. Number four (“Palm Vista” 1940) is maintained beautifully with the original tin roof, oak floors, and solid wood doors. The present owner has lived there for 19 years. Number five was my favorite (Haldeman House 1886). It is very large with board and batten paneling in most rooms, wonderful high ceilings, and huge windows. A great deal of work still to be done. It was moved to Bonita from Naples in 2005. It is a treasure to tour and enjoy.

All the people we encountered, the owners and volunteers staffing the houses, were charming and ready to share their knowledge.

Pat Rinkevich owns an original Collier home and is a member of the Everglades Society for Historic Preservation (ESHPP).



Off The Shelf - Book Review

Alligators, Sharks & Panthers; Deadly Encounters with Florida's Top Predator – Man by Charles Sobczak

reviewed by Marya Repko

Sobczak is a Sanibel writer whose previous works are fictional. However, he dedicates this book (published in 2007) to a friend and fellow member of the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF) who died after an alligator attack in 2004.

The author makes the point that animals have been here for millions of years but humans are relatively new to this continent. The Native Americans, who arrived first, learned to live with the existing animals and recognized that there may be a conflict when they were hunting the same food sources. And, that two-legged animals could be considered prey by four-legged attackers.

Parts of the book are gory – descriptions of death by gator, shark, or puma aren't pleasant. Other sections have scientific and historical background material about each predator. For example, alligator feeding was banned after the death of a young girl in 1973 in Oscar Scherer State Park (south of Sarasota) where gators were fed bread and marshmallows which were sold in baggies by the park to visitors for that purpose.

Panthers (pumas) were first tagged in 1972 and their plight in Southwest Florida is precarious as development crowds them out of their massive traditional hunting territory. There is also a discussion of whether the “Florida Panther” with the kink in its tail is a separate sub-species.

The book has numerous photos, tables, and even cartoons. It is available from our branch of the Collier County Public Library by requesting it from Naples.

CONGRATULATIONS to Peter Matthiessen for winning the best fiction award at the National Book Awards for “Shadow Country”, his new version of the Watson story.



Old Holiday Photos on Show

The Marco Island Historical Society holds its regular monthly evening meeting on **Tuesday, December 2**, at Mackle Park. Refreshments are served at 7:00 p.m. and the entertainment begins at 7:30 p.m. with “Merry Memories of Marco” led by program chairman Jerry Masters. For info, call (239) 394-3917.

MUSEUM NEWS

Eloise Barrows is the featured artist in the Pauline Reeves Gallery at the front of the Museum for the month of December. There will be a reception to meet her on **Saturday, December 6**, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. with refreshments provided by the Friends of the Museum.

The Annual Members' Luncheon on **Monday, December 15**, features a “Tribute to Carol”. The Friends need to know how many people to cater for so *please* reserve your places. Phone Patty at 695-2397 or send a check for \$15 to FME, P.O. Box 677, Everglades City, 34139. Members are encouraged to bring a friend or family member.





Fishing Report

by Capt. Bill Lindsay

Cool weather and lower water levels move Snook into the backcountry as the tide gets lower. Fish the deeper holes and bends of creeks. Captain Becky Campbell fished two days when the water levels were very low and still caught a lot of Snook by using jigs tipped with shrimp. She found the fish in deep holes and fished very slowly. Redfish can still be caught on oyster bars but are less numerous than in our summer months. Cold fronts push Trout, Sheepshead, Mackerel, Pompano, and Black Drum into the area. Cobia can be caught on the Park boundary marks. Most people use live bait but rubber eels or even a jig with a whole squid will do the trick. When running from one spot to the next look for larger "muds" or Pompano skipping in the wake of the boat. For best results cast a small jig with no leader. Remember to use good judgment on the water and respect other fishermen; there are lots of spots to fish; part of the fun is finding a new one for yourself.

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.

Getting Out in the BigC

Big Cypress National Preserve has posted the winter 2008/09 schedule of ranger-led activities at their website www.nps.gov/bicy/planyourvisit/ranger-led-activities.htm. The preserve can also be contacted by phone at 695-1201.

The wildlife viewing area talks, swamp walks, canoe tours, bike hikes and a variety of other opportunities that allow visitors to venture into the swamp with park rangers and volunteers. These programs aim to provide visitors with a greater understanding of the cultural and natural features of the Preserve and an appreciation for why this area is protected for everyone.

The number of activities offered this year is greatly increased over previous years in part due to increased staffing made available through the NPS's Centennial in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service in 2016.

Midnight Canoe Trips & Night Hikes

Collier Seminole State Park has a series of guided walks and canoe trips this season, including night-time rambles. The events are organized by their Friends group to benefit the park and cost between \$10 and \$30. Reservations are required. Special trips can be arranged for groups. For more info, see www.floridastateparks.org/collier-seminole and click on Special Events or phone (239) 394-3397.

EXOTICS WORKSHOP

A full day will be devoted to exotic plants at the 13th Annual Exotic Species Workshop on **Tuesday, December 2**, at FGCU. Subjects include Brazilian Pepper, Melaleuca, Pythons, Lizards, and strange fish. Speakers include Dennis Giardina, an occasional contributor to the *Rapper* and former manager of the Fakahatchee. For more info, see www.fws.gov/floridapanther/exotics/exotics_index.html or phone Takako at 239-353-8442 x 222.

IMPROVING OUR COAST

The Gulf of Mexico Alliance is holding an Input Workshop on **Wednesday, December 3**, from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. at Rookery Bay to consider input for a new Action Plan. For more info, see www.supportthegulf.org or phone Renee Wilson at 239-417-6310 ext. 213.

NATIONAL PARK NEWS

Homestead, November 21. Superintendent Dan Kimball is pleased to announce that the National Park Service will reopen "Chekika" to the public for day use on December 1, 2008 and remain open until May 1, 2009. Chekika is open seasonally due to a tendency to flood during the wet season. This popular part of the Park is in the northeastern part of the park at the west end of SW168th Avenue and will be open from dawn to dusk. Chekika offers picnicking opportunities and a short hiking trail through the hammock. It is also a good staging location for bicycle rides along the paved roads and canal banks in the East Everglades section of the park. Portable rest-rooms and drinking water are available.

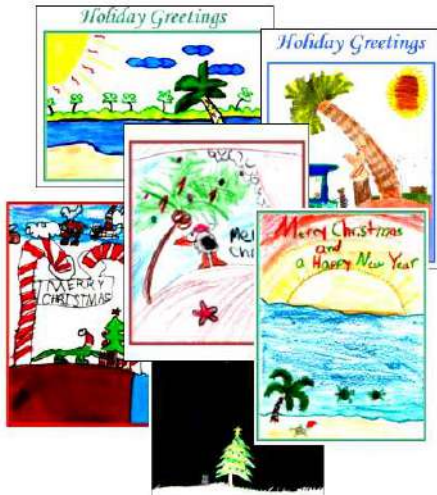
This popular local natural resource is also steeped in historical significance. "Chekika" is named after a famous Seminole chief and Indian leader during the Seminole Wars. His men used a tree island similar to this one as a staging point for a raid on Dr. Henry Perrine who was killed on Indian Key in 1842. Troops from Ft. Dallas (Miami), led by Colonel Harney after the raid attacked the hammock and killed chief Chekika. The actual tree island where Chekika was killed is about 10 miles from present day Chekika in Shark River Slough in Everglades National Park.

Before becoming Chekika State Recreation Area in 1970 the area was a private resort called Grossman Hammock Mineral Springs, famed for a bubbling mineral spring that some believed had healing powers. Chekika was added to Everglades National Park in 1991, along with 44,000 acres of state owned lands in the Everglades, as part of the Everglades Expansion Act of 1989. This land, once completely annexed into the park, will play an important role in restoration of the entire Everglades ecosystem.

For more info, see <http://www.nps.gov/ever/> where there is an interesting section under History & Culture.



MORE News & Events, etc ...



Holiday Greeting Cards, designed by ECity School students, are available for sale at the Thrift Shop, the School, and City Hall. Proceeds benefit Reach Out Everglades & COPS, our neighborhood charity. Packs of cards can also be bought by mail order. Phone Marya at 695-2905 for info.

GIFTS FOR KIDS

Reach Out Everglades is already planning its Christmas gift giving for needy children in the area and welcomes donations of toys (unwrapped), money, and gift cards which can be purchased at Circle K or Walmart. Drop off your contributions at the Thrift Shop, Right Choice Supermarket, Everglades Island Properties, or Chokoloskee Post Office or send checks payable to Reach Out with a memo line "Kids Christmas" to P.O. Box 894, Chokoloskee, FL, 34138.



SUNDAY SCHOOL AT COMMUNITY CHURCH

The Everglades Community Church now has Adult Sunday School from 9:45 to 10:30 p.m. on Sunday morning.

Sons of Confederate Veterans

The Everglades Chapter of the SCV meets every second Saturday at the Seafood Depot at 6:00 p.m. For info, phone Steve Markley at 695-2186.



Holy Family Catholic Church has new pews! A special "Thank You" to Father Stan of St. Leo's Church in Bonita Springs. Mass is offered on Sunday at 10:30 a.m. from the first day of Advent (November 30 this year) until Easter.

MPO Wants Advisor

A representative from Everglades City is needed for the Citizens Advisory Committee of the MPO (Metropolitan Planning Organization). For more info, see www.colliercountympo.com or phone 252-8192.

Help Keep SR-29 Tidy

The Ladies Coffee Group that meets on Wednesday mornings at 8:00 a.m. (see calendar on page 2) is assisting with the trash pick-up of SR-29 leading into Everglades City. If you could help with this beautification project, please join the team. We will schedule the work every other Thursday. Come with rubber gloves, comfortable shoes, and plastic bags. To volunteer or for more info, call 695-4642 or 695-0202.

BAYSIDE WORSHIP

First Assembly Ministries at Chokoloskee will have bayside worship at 9:00 a.m. every Sunday, starting on November 30, on Rodney & Lessie Raffield's porch at 1125 Chokoloskee Drive. The new congregation is a satellite of First Assembly Ministries of Naples and proclaims to be "Casual, Caring, Contemporary, and Committed". Everyone is welcome.



Helen Bryan (who took these photos) organized a large package of Holiday Greeting wishes designed by ECity School students for Recovering Heroes. You can send your own cards to:

Holiday Mail for Heroes
P.O. Box 5456
Capitol Heights, MD 20791-5456



TRIBUTE TO KYLE WAYNE ISON

We received the following email and photo:

He was one of the very special Joys of my life. He was a well liked good ole southern boy with manners to match. He loved his family and never met a stranger. Thank you for allowing me to thank everyone in Everglades and Chokoloskee for their help.

Fran Schaner



County Commissioner Jim Coletta joined the Ladies' Coffee group on November 26 at the Havana Cafe in Chokoloskee. This informal group meets every Wednesday morning at 8:00 a.m. Everyone is welcome to join in. See our Calendar of Events (page 2) for the venue each week.

OLD EYE GLASSES

Drop them off at City Hall to benefit the Lions Club who specialize in helping people with vision and hearing problems.

SNOOK CLASSIFIED

FOR SALE: House on 1.02 Acres. Sale price \$225,000 or for rent at \$900/mo. For info, call 321-439-7635

FOR SALE, Condo: 1 bed, 1 bath, large living room, wrap-around balcony, pool privileges, sheltered parking, rental potential at managed site. Only \$169,000. Phone 289-7477.

FOR SALE, 2005 Gheenoe, 15-ft 6-in, 25 hp Johnson 4-stroke. Like New, Low Hours, Includes Trailer, Trolling Motor, \$3995. Call 775-7206.

FOR RENT in E-City: 2 or 3 bed, 1 bath duplex \$1,000/month.. Dock available for extra fee. Contact 239-961-3986.

FOR RENT: Furnished Apartment, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, \$800/month, Call 719-0020.

FOR SALE: Ford 1966 Mustang, Needs Restoration, \$3,500, Call Mark, 239-273-2403.

Classified Ads cost \$15/month. Phone us at 695-2397 or email mulletrapper@gmail.com



No, it's not a kiddies' swimming pool! The Fire Department set up temporary water-holding pens while they take the tanker truck to look for more water in areas that do not have fire hydrants.

USED INK CARTRIDGES
Drop off computer or photocopier ink cartridges at City Hall or the Thrift Shop to benefit Reach Out's subsidiary that helps stray cats (and dogs). For info, see www.recycle4charity.com or phone Barb at 695-3167.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED in Museum to greet visitors. Phone Martha 695-0008.

REVISED SCHOOL WISH LIST
FOODS: pecans, walnuts, graham cracker crumbs, sugar, unsweetened cocoa, ground beef or turkey or sausage, shredded cheese (mozzarella, cheddar), parmesan cheese, eggs, butter or margarine.
KITCHENWARE (new or used): 1-quart jars.
SUPPLIES: bib aprons (preferably white), dishwashing soap.
Thanks to everyone who has brought items to us already! For info phone Stacia Ferguson at 695-2561.

The **MULLET RAPPER**

What's Happening in the Everglades City Area

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PRODUCTION
layout: Marya Repko, printing: Snook Publications

PUBLISHER'S STATEMENT
We aim to provide local news of interest to the extended community of Everglades City, Chokoloskee, Plantation Island, Lee Cypress, Copeland, Jerome, and Ochoppee.

We strive to present the facts accurately without political bias or personal opinion.
The views expressed in signed articles are not necessarily those of the editors or publisher.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
25¢ per issue or \$38 per year by US Post

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