

# The MULLET RAPPER

## What's Happening in the Everglades City Area

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2009**

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### CITY COUNCIL REPORT by Marya Repko

At the meeting on February 3, Mayor Sammy Hamilton announced that he has good news about our new grinder pumps, which should arrive soon, and that he was meeting with FEMA on the following day (photo above).

He said the Shamrock Bank is almost ready to move into City Hall but is waiting for special secure telecommunications lines.

The Mayor said again that residents should not put out white goods (eg, fridges, washing machines) without first contacting City Hall so that the County can pick them up the next day. There is no charge for this service.

He praised our great Sheriff's Department who "will make sure the Festival goes without a hitch".

# Seafood Festival



### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7

- 10:00am Opening Ceremonies
- 10:15am Casey Weston
- 11:15am Parker Oglesby
- 12:30pm Joey Allcorn
- 1:30pm Ronnie Morgan Band
- 3:00pm Katie Armiger
- 4:15pm Confederate Railroad
- 6:15pm Chris Cagle

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8

- 11:00am Opening Ceremonies
- 11:15am Parker Oglesby
- 12:15am Blackwater
- 1:30pm Ronnie Morgan Band
- 2:15pm Katie Armiger
- 3:30pm Joe Diffie

**FRIDAY NIGHT** is Family Night featuring Gospel music by Parker Oglesby, Chokoloskee Church of God, Paul Tribble and First Assembly of Naples, and Christ Central of LaBelle. Festivities begin at 5:00 p.m.

**PANCAKE BREAKFAST.** Start the Festival with a good breakfast! The Everglades Community Church (on the Circle) is serving pancakes & sausages, juice, coffee, and fruit from 7:00 to 11:00 a.m. on **Saturday, February 7.**

**WALKING TOUR.** There will be a guided Walking Tour of Historic Buildings on **Sunday, February 8,** starting at 2:00 p.m. at the Museum on West Broadway.

### RESTAURANT SPECIALS (see page 11 for full list)

- Backcountry Cafe** will have live Bluegrass music on Saturday, February 7.
- Camellia Street Grill** will be open during Festival and will have a shuttle bus. They advertise live local music during the evenings.
- Everglades Scoop** will serve Special BBQ Pork Sandwiches and Hot Dogs.
- Gator Express** has opened a new pizza/subs/burger bar. The menu includes milk shakes and key lime pie.
- Havana Cafe** will have a booth at Festival and will also be open regular hours in Chokoloskee.
- Triad Seafood** will serve breakfast from 6 am to 10:30 am on Friday - Monday.

**MESSAGE TO ALL VISITORS.** Do not leave valuables where they are visible in your car! A big Festival attracts thieves just looking for a car to break into. Hide everything in the trunk and make sure you lock up.

The Sheriff's Department has said that traffic on SR-29 may be one-way only, going out of town, for brief periods in the afternoons to avoid jams.

**MORE FESTIVAL NEWS on page 7**

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If you have news, photos, announcements, or articles ... email mulletrapper@gmail.com or phone 695-2397.

# FEBRUARY 2009

<u>SUN</u>	<u>MON</u>	<u>TUES</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THURS</u>	<u>FRI</u>	<u>SAT</u>
<b>FEB 1</b>	<b>2</b> Hour of Prayer Copeland Baptist Church, 7 pm	<b>3</b> ESHP mtg 10 am Barton Visit City Hall, 3 pm Coletta Visit City Hall, 3 pm City Council City Hall, 5:30 pm	<b>4</b> Ladies Coffee Rena & Adela 15 Spoonbill 8 am School Early Release	<b>5</b> Great Gators School, 9:30 am	<b>RAPPER 6</b> Seafood Festival see p.1, p.7 Panther Talk Rookery Bay 6:30 pm	<b>7</b> Seafood Festival see p.1, p.7 Pancakes Comm. Church see p.1 Kids' Clinic see p.3
<b>8</b> Seafood Festival see p.1, p.7 Walking Tour Museum, 2 pm see p.1	full moon ● <b>9</b> Hour of Prayer Chokoloskee Church of God 7 pm BigC Comments see p.10 OFCD Bd Fire Sta, 6 pm	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Ladies Coffee Camellia Street Grill 8 am	<b>12</b> Census Jobs see p. 12	<b>13</b> BRICKS Deadline see p.3	<b>14</b> Valentine's Day Muck-About see p.3 Blue Grass see p. 3 SCV Depot, 6 pm
<b>15</b> Muck-About see p.3 Blue Grass see p. 3	<b>16</b> <u>Presidents' Day</u> Hour of Prayer Holy Family Catholic Church 7 pm Muck-About see p.3	<b>17</b> Reach Out Comm Church 8:30 am	<b>18</b> Ladies Coffee Sue Turner 605 Lake Placid 8 am	<b>19</b> Copeland Civic 7 pm	<b>RAPPER 20</b>	<b>21</b> Mobile Pet Vet see p.3 Yard Sale First Baptist see p.11 Wild Hog BBQ see p.11
<b>22</b> Mobile Pet Vet see p.3	<b>23</b> Hour of Prayer Everglades First Baptist Church 7 pm MSD Festival see p.9	<b>24</b> MSD Festival see p.9	new moon ○ <b>25</b> Ladies Coffee Backcountry Cafe 8 am MSD Festival see p.9	<b>26</b> SAC School Media Center, 3 pm MSD Festival see p.9	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Fly-In Airport, see p.3 ORA Bazaar see p.11 Paddle-In see p. 11
<b>MAR 1</b>	<b>2</b> Hour of Prayer Everglades Community Church 7 pm	<b>3</b> Coletta Visit City Hall, 3 pm City Council City Hall, 5:30 pm ESHP mtg Depot, 6:30 pm	<b>4</b> Ladies Coffee Havana Cafe 8 am FME mtg 9 am, Museum	<b>5</b>	<b>RAPPER 6</b> School Early Release	<b>7</b>

Mar 14: Art-in-the-Glades, Kids' Clinic    Mar 17: Kids' Clinic    Mar 24: BigC ORV    Mar 28: Kids' Clinic    Mar 28/29: Pet Vet  
 April 12: Easter (Sunrise Service, 7:00 am)    April 25: Museum Birthday    May 2/3: Mobile Pet Vet    May 19: BigC ORV

THRIFT SHOP: Daily except Sunday, 11:00 am to 3:00 pm

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

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

SHERIFF AT CITY HALL: Tues, 2/10 (9-10 am)    Wed, 2/11 (9-10 am)    Fri, 2/13 (1-2 pm)    Fri, 2/20 (10-11 am)

Mon, 2/23 (9-10 am)    Wed, 2/25 (1-2 pm)    Thurs, 2/26 (10-11 am)

SKATING RINK: Fri & Sat, 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. (closed Feb 6/7)

SMALLWOOD STORE: Daily, 10 am to 5 pm

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS: Wed, 5 pm, Community Church

**BUTCHER WEEKEND**

Join Clyde & Niki Butcher for another "Muck About" behind the Big Cypress Gallery on US-41 on the long weekend of **February 14/15/16**. There will be swamp walks and other adventures. For info, phone 695-2428 or see [www.clydebutcher.com](http://www.clydebutcher.com).

**BLUE GRASS FESTIVAL**

Collier Seminole State Park is having its second annual "Jammin' in the Hammock" bluegrass festival on **Saturday/Sunday, February 14/15**. For info, phone (239) 394-3397

**Condo Auction**

Units at the Estuary condo are being auctioned off on **February 15**. For more info, phone 695-4299 or see [www.decaroauctions.com](http://www.decaroauctions.com).

**PANCAKE FLY-IN**



A pancake breakfast hosted by Wings 10,000 Island Tours will take place at Everglades Airpark on **Saturday, February 28**, from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Everyone is welcome. For info, phone Chuck at 695-3296.

**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.



**Congratulations to Lincoln Frost who received a Seventy Year certificate and pin from the Masons. At 96, he is the oldest member of the local Tamiami Trail Lodge #262.**

**Little Gator Clinic**



The free walk-in clinic for youngsters 18 and under is located next to the Thrift Shop (behind the fire station). It will be open on **Saturday, February 7, from 9:00 a.m. to noon** (see the sign in the window). There are no drugs at the clinic.



**DEADLINE FOR BRICKS**

If you want to dedicate an engraved brick in front of City Hall, the deadline is **Friday, February 13**. You can get a form at City Hall or phone Marya at 695-2905 or see the ESHP website [www.evergladeshistorical.org](http://www.evergladeshistorical.org).

**OCHOPEE FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT**

- 01/23/09: Emergency Medical, Chokoloskee Island
- 01/23/09: Vehicle Accident, 54mm I-75
- 01/23/09: Vehicle Accident, 59mm I-75
- 01/25/09: Unknown Medical Problem, Everglades City Fire Station
- 01/25/09: Airplane Accident, Everglades Air Park
- 01/25/09: Chest Pains, 65mm I-75
- 01/26/09: Sick Person, Chokoloskee Island
- 01/26/09: Chest Pains, Port of the Islands
- 01/26/09: Sick Person, Port of the Islands
- 01/26/09: Brush Fire, 73mm I-75
- 01/28/09: Vehicle Accident, 60mm I-75
- 01/28/09: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
- 01/30/09: Brush Fire, Plantation Island
- 01/30/09: Medical Problem (Choking), Port of the Islands
- 01/30/09: Fire Alarm, Everglades City
- 01/31/09: Brush Fire, Monroe Station
- 01/31/09: Vehicle Accident, SR-29 & US-41
- 01/31/09: Vehicle Accident, 67mm I-75
- 01/31/09: Unknown Medical Problem, Everglades City
- 01/01/09: Unknown Medical Problem, Everglades City
- 02/01/09: Vehicle Accident, 69mm I-75
- 02/03/09: Unknown Medical Problem, Ochopee Plantation Island
- 02/03/09: Vehicle Accident, Monroe Station & US-41
- 02/03/09: Vehicle Fire, SR-29 & I-75 Ramp
- 02/04/09: Unknown Medical Problem, Everglades City

**MOBILE PET VET**



Dr Baker will be here on **Saturday, February 21, 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, February 22, by previous appointment only**. Phone her at 777-PETS (7387).

**TIDES FOR BARRON RIVER**

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

02/06/2009	Fri	07:04AM	-0.5	L	01:38PM	2.0	H	06:54PM	0.7	L	11:42PM	2.9	H
02/07/2009	Sat	07:57AM	-0.6	L	02:03PM	2.1	H	07:51PM	0.6	L			
02/08/2009	Sun	12:40AM	3.0	H	08:45AM	-0.6	L	02:29PM	2.2	H	08:43PM	0.4	L
02/09/2009	Mon	01:32AM	3.1	H	09:29AM	-0.5	L	02:55PM	2.3	H	09:31PM	0.3	L
02/10/2009	Tue	02:21AM	3.0	H	10:09AM	-0.4	L	03:23PM	2.4	H	10:18PM	0.1	L
02/11/2009	Wed	03:10AM	2.8	H	10:48AM	-0.3	L	03:52PM	2.5	H	11:04PM	0.0	L
02/12/2009	Thu	03:59AM	2.6	H	11:25AM	-0.1	L	04:23PM	2.5	H	11:51PM	-0.1	L
02/13/2009	Fri	04:52AM	2.3	H	11:59AM	0.2	L	04:55PM	2.5	H			
02/14/2009	Sat	12:41AM	-0.1	L	05:49AM	2.0	H	12:32PM	0.4	L	05:31PM	2.5	H
02/15/2009	Sun	01:38AM	0.0	L	06:54AM	1.7	H	12:59PM	0.6	L	06:11PM	2.5	H
02/16/2009	Mon	02:45AM	0.1	L	08:13AM	1.5	H	12:00PM	0.7	L	07:04PM	2.4	H
02/17/2009	Tue	03:59AM	0.1	L	08:17PM	2.3	H						
02/18/2009	Wed	05:10AM	0.0	L	01:53PM	1.8	H	04:59PM	0.9	L	09:40PM	2.3	H
02/19/2009	Thu	06:11AM	-0.1	L	02:08PM	1.8	H	06:10PM	0.8	L	10:51PM	2.4	H
02/20/2009	Fri	07:01AM	-0.1	L	02:05PM	1.9	H	07:01PM	0.7	L	11:46PM	2.5	H

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# SCHOOL NEWS

Everglades City School

phone: 377-9800 or 695-2561

website: [www.collier.k12.fl.us/evg](http://www.collier.k12.fl.us/evg)

## IMPORTANT DATES

Feb 10-13: FCAT (Writing)  
 Mon, Feb 16: Presidents' Day  
 Thurs, Feb 26: SAC, Media Center, 3:00 pm.  
 Tues, Mar 3: Baseball HOME, 5:00 p.m.  
 Fri, Mar 6: Early Release



### From Savannah's Eyes

The Seafood Festival is coming up this Friday and I can't wait, because I love to ride the rides at the Festival, eat funnel cakes, and shop the booths.

Homecoming was a blast, especially when my cousin Karisa Brown was crowned homecoming Queen and when Brittney Potter was crowned Princess. I was so proud of them. All the girls were beautiful. And, all of the guys were looking good. It was wonderful!

Valentine's Day is coming real fast. And, boy, I can't wait because Valentine's Day is my favorite holiday out of all of the holidays!

I hope you have fun at the Festival and have a Happy Valentine's Day, Savannah

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



Red E. Fox ("E" is for Emergency) from the Collier County Sheriff's Department came to visit Pre-K, K, and Grade 1 on January 20 to discuss 911, how to call, and what real emergencies are.



**HOMECOMING**  
 Congratulations to the Queen & King, Karisa Brown & Lee Kidder (above) and Princess & Prince, Brittney Potter & Hunter Watson (right).

photos by Stacia Ferguson

## HELPING OUR WONDERFUL KIDS

Vicky Wells spoke at the City Council meeting on Tuesday, February 3, full of pride at the good behavior of our 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders on a recent outing to the Philharmonic in Naples. She said that, as a chaperone, she observed they were quiet on the bus, patient during a long wait before the performance, and well-dressed (no food stains on their neat uniforms).

Unfortunately, operations funding for the school has been cut so there is less money for materials and trips. Vicky was fortunate that the first donor in her fund-raising campaign was the City, thanks to the Mayor, and she has received several other substantial contributions since then. If you would like to donate to this worthy cause, phone her at 695-2660.

## DRUG FREE COLLIER

"Drug Free Collier" wishes to focus on underage drinking by establishing a planning committee that will work to develop practical methods to reduce access and improve vendor training. The committee will be open to individuals from all areas of Collier County and from all sectors of the community, but the number of participants selected will be limited. For info, contact Ken Baginski of Drug Free Collier at 239-377-0535, or by email at [k.baginski@yahoo.com](mailto:k.baginski@yahoo.com).

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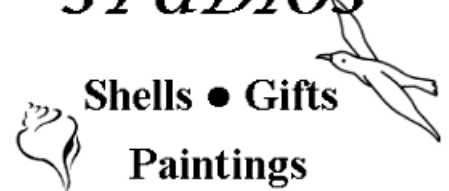
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Sunday Evening Service: 6:00 PM  
Wednesday Evening: 7:00 PM

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**FESTIVAL WORSHIP**

- Chokoloskee Church of God  
Sunday, 2/8: 11:00 am
- Copeland Baptist Church  
Sunday, 2/8: 11:00 am
- Everglades Community Church  
Sunday, 2/8: 9:00 am
- First Baptist Church  
Sunday, 2/8: 11:00 am
- Holy Family Catholic Church  
Sunday, 2/8: 8:30 am, 10:30 am
- First Assembly Ministries  
no service on Sunday, 2/8



**Old Bank Building Sale**

The original Bank of Everglades became a boarding house and then a Bed & Breakfast after the banking operation moved to Immokalee in 1962. The owner of the building is now selling off all the contents – beds, microwaves, fridges, furniture. Stop in through **Sunday, February 8**, to see what is for sale.

**First Assembly Ministries**

Chokoloskee

**SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAM**  
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Rev. Dr. Bob Wallace, Pastor

Adult Sunday School 9:45-10:30 am  
Sunday Worship Service 11:00 am

[www.evergladescommunitychurch.com](http://www.evergladescommunitychurch.com)

**MUSEUM OF THE EVERGLADES**



105 West Broadway, Everglades City, FL  
OPEN: Tuesday – Friday, 9 am – 5 pm  
Saturdays, 9 am – 4 pm

Donations Welcome  
**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**  
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**ARTIST AT MUSEUM**

Watercolorist Hannah Ineson will have a special one-woman show on the lawn in front of the Museum during Seafood Festival. She is well-known in Everglades City where she has lived, worked, and taught.

*Everglades Area*

*Chamber of Commerce, Inc.*



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

Post Office Box 130 239-695-3172 Business  
Everglades City, FL, 34139 239-695-3171 Fax



## Fishing Report

by Capt. Bill Lindsay

As I write this, another cold front is approaching. February can be cold and windy, but it can also be nice and warm. When this happens, big tarpon can be caught in the backcountry and rivers. Although most large Snook are caught in back at this time of year, some big ones are taken out on the Gulf. "Chico" Fernandez, fishing with Captain Steve Huff, landed an 18 lb Snook this past week with a light fly rod. On days when water temperatures are low, Captain Houston Brown has been finding plenty of Mackerel and Trout. Captain Don Cochran has had no trouble getting Trout, Mackerel and Bluefish. Captain Tim Brady caught a limit of Trout and Black Drum using live shrimp. Snook and Redfish action will pick up next month. For now, most fishermen argue that if you want action try for Trout, Mackerel, Sheepshead and Pompano. Watch out for extra low water on new and full moon tides combined with strong northeast winds.

*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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## FLAMINGO OPEN AGAIN

The National Park Service has announced that full facilities are available at Flamingo including fuel sales, Marina store, canoe rentals, and boat tours. For info, phone 695-3101.

The concession is operated by Everglades National Park Boat Tours who also run the informative boat trips into the Ten Thousand Island from the Western Gateway in Everglades City. For local info, phone 695-2591.

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## COLD WAR RELIC ON VIEW

National Park Service has opened the historic Nike Hercules Missile Base HM-69 located near Homestead to the public for the first time since it was turned over to the park in 1979. The park is offering guided tours of one of the best preserved relics of the Cold War in Florida. This significant historical site is physically the best overall example of the Nation's missile defense system close to Cuba and remains virtually the same as it was when official use of the site was terminated in 1979. This Missile Base was built by the United States Army Corps of Engineers in 1963 at the height of the Cold War, immediately following the Cuban Missile Crisis of October, 1962.

The interpretive tours will be held every Saturday at 2:00 p.m. through March 28, 2009. The tours are free but park entrance fees apply. In order to join the tour, please reserve a space by signing up at the parks Ernest F. Coe Visitor Center, or by calling 305-242-7700.

## VIP Report

by Shirley Leonard

### Why Florida?



When relatives visited recently, they tried to understand why I like Florida, what it is about this place that makes it special to me, why I keep returning. I had a hard time explaining it. How do you capture how a culture different from your home can be enchanting?

The single biggest reason for me is how well the elderly are treated here. There's respectful consideration for the aged that I don't see as often at home in Massachusetts. The United States worships youth, but that's not so much the case here. Retired old folks, even if they're only snowbirds, here only for the winter, are welcomed. They contribute a lot to Florida's tourism driven economy, and they don't go unappreciated.

I find the elderly culture here is quite different from up north. There's robustness to it. It's routine to see white-haired folks riding bicycles and often three-wheelers. Walkers abound. Tennis courts, swimming pools, golf courses, and shuffleboard courts teem with activity.

Here at the park's Gulf Coast Visitor Center we often have people in their 60s, 70s, 80s, and sometimes even 90s, canoeing, kayaking, motor boating, fishing and camping out in the 10,000 Islands. One group of elderly women spends as long as two weeks tenting on the islands. The youngest is 66, the oldest nearly 80. I find them an inspiration and wish everyone could be so in love with the outdoors, so in love with their lives. (*See "Paddling" article on page 10*).

In the 1960s President John Fitzgerald Kennedy captured this kind of spirit. One of his favorite words was "vigor." Every plan he proposed, everything he asked people to do, he requested they do "with vigor." He gave it his Boston pronunciation – "vigah" – but he was always understood.

What I see in Florida more so than at home is enthusiasm for life such as President Kennedy embodied. That's ironic considering he came from Massachusetts. Even with its largest concentration of universities and colleges in the world, Boston can learn a thing or two from Florida.

*Shirley Leonard is a member of the "Volunteer in Parks" program during the winter season. She was a journalist in Quincy, Massachusetts, on The Patriot Ledger for over 20 years and is a regular contributor to the Rapper.*

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For information about park activities, phone 695-3311.

## SENIOR EXPO

Coincidentally to Shirley's article, there is a Senior Expo on **Wednesday, February 11**, at Golden Gate Community Center from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. with exhibitors, advice, and freebies. For info, phone Jim Thomas at 252-4000.





**LOCAL HISTORY**

Congratulations to Everglades Community Church on their new Historical Landmark sign which was installed at the end of January.

The congregation was founded in 1926 as Presbyterian and met in various buildings around town. The present church was constructed in 1940 and became nondenominational, a condition of the gift of land by the Collier Corporation. The annex to the rear, which serves as a fellowship hall and is the location of our community food pantry, was completed in the late 1950s.



**MUSEUM NEWS**

Photographer Rick Cruz is the artist being shown this month in the Pauline Reeves Gallery at the Museum. Rick has been tromping the swamps of Big Cypress and Fakahatchee with his camera for years and was instrumental in the making of the Live Oak film (see MSD article on this page).

Rick (whose exhibit is entitled "The Endangered Everglades") is an ardent and informed ecologist. His work can also be seen at Clyde Butcher's Big Cypress Gallery on US-41 in Ochopee and at [rickcruzphotography.com](http://rickcruzphotography.com).

*Recipe for Good Eating*

**Seafood Casserole**  
by Sunny Burke



- 1 pkg (6oz) long grain & wild rice
- 1 lb crabmeat
- 2 pieces celery, chopped
- ½ cup chopped green pepper
- 1 jar (2oz) diced pimento pieces
- 1 cup mayonnaise
- ½ tsp. salt
- ¼ cup dry bread crumbs
- 1 lb cooked medium shrimp, cut in ½" pieces
- 1 medium onion, chopped fine
- 1 can (4oz) mushroom stems
- 1 cup milk
- dash Worcestershire sauce

Cook rice. Combine crab, shrimp, celery, onion, pepper, mushroom, pimento. Combine mayo, milk, salt, Worcestershire sauce and stir into seafood mix. Stir in rice. Put in 9"x13" pan. Sprinkle with bread crumbs. Bake at 375° for 40 minutes. Serves 6.

**Marjory Stoneman Douglas Festival**

The Fifth Annual Festival will take place on **February 23-26** and includes an interesting preview, snippets from Live Oak Production's "Big Cypress Swamp" video which will be shown later on public television. There will be a morning of talks about the making of the film and the composition of original music for it.

Marjory Stoneman Douglas was a journalist, short-story writer, and author of the influential book *Everglades; River of Grass* which was published in 1947 and influenced generations about the ecological importance of the Glades. She lived for an amazing 108 years and was actively lecturing about her favorite topic until shortly before her death in 1998.

Other activities during the Festival include boat tours, guided swamp walks, and numerous talks. For all ages is Otter John with his Wild Everglades Animals (including the Florida panther he raised).

Reservations are required for some of the events. For info, phone the Museum at (239) 695-0008 or see [www.evergladesmuseum.org](http://www.evergladesmuseum.org) to download a program.

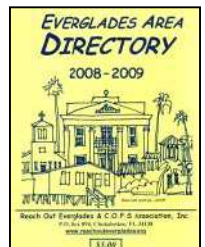
**BIBLE STUDY**

First Baptist Church is now holding Women's Bible Study on Tuesday mornings. The 8-week course (which started on February 3) is a study of Philippians. Meet for fellowship at 9:30 a.m. followed by an hour of lectures starting at 10:00 a.m. For info, phone Sue Evans at 695-4273.

**Little Yellow Book**

You can still get a copy of the new Everglades Area Directory which includes most of the "695" subscribers plus cell phone numbers, emails, and post box addresses ... a really valuable resource for local residents and their friends. There is also an index to the many advertisers and a list of sponsors.

The project is a service from Reach Out, our neighborhood charity. Buy a copy at City Hall, the Thrift Shop, or Right Choice Supermarket or download an order from at [www.reachouteverglades.org](http://www.reachouteverglades.org).



## The 8 Ball Story

reported by Patty Huff



A friend of mine has great courage. Six months ago her husband told her he wanted a divorce (a younger woman!), then she found out a few weeks later that she had breast cancer. She's been undergoing chemotherapy since then and during the Christmas holidays her father passed away. She's been an inspiration to me. This is one of her recent notes that was posted on her website (reprinted with permission).

**I needed to clear my head today and there is no better way than to go on a bike ride. The roads were pretty clear of snow so I ventured out for a 15-mile ride. The weather was cold and damp and about 5 miles before I got home I started thinking about my Dad and practicing my well-honed skill of cycling while crying. It works pretty well, the wind just blows the tears away from your eyes. Anyhow I was also thinking " man is it friggin' cold out and my feet are cold". Just then the clouds parted a little and this intense sun came out and seared its warmth right into my body. I had a very strong feeling that my Dad was with me just then. Then about 2 miles later, still riding along, I see something lying in the snow in the ditch. It's a child's 8 ball, you know the one that answers all of your questions? It's sitting with the #8 side straight up and I think "that is so weird that I have to check it out". I consider asking it a question but quickly decide against that but opt instead just to turn it over and see if it gives me some vague generalization about my life or my future ahead. I turn it over and watch the triangle right itself in the murky blue water and what does it say? " OUTLOOK GOOD" .....Right On!**

## SANCTUARY

***We received this email from a caring friend:***

Laura Quinn, a lady in her 80s, rescues and rehabilitates sick and injured wild birds, including pelicans, owls, hawks, egrets, herons and everything else that flies, including an endangered Everglades snail kite, that we brought apple snails from Miami to feed. She has tremendous expenses for food, equipment, staff and overhead. She makes it day-to-day on small donations and grants, taking nothing for herself. In a recession environment those donations are falling off rapidly. The public is welcome at her facility on the bay side of the south end of Key Largo. It is well worth the drive just to see what she does with so little. Please send what you can to: Florida Keys Wild Bird Center, attn: Laura Quinn, 93600 Overseas Highway, Tavernier, FL 33070.

## NATIVE PLANTS IN NAPLES

Want something in your garden that belongs here ... and probably needs very little care. The Naples Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society will hold an EXPO and SALE of Florida Native Plants on **Saturday, February 14**, at the Naples Botanical Garden, 4820 Bayshore Drive, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For info, call (239) 403-4207

## Big Cypress Comments

The date for written public comments about the Preserve's proposed Commercial Services Plan has been extended to **Monday, February 9**. For info, phone 695-1153 or see [www.parkplanning.nps.gov](http://www.parkplanning.nps.gov)

## PADDLING AGAIN ON THE WILDERNESS WATERWAY

Once again we have enjoyed the challenges and beauties of the Wilderness Waterway, thanks to the National Park Service and the kind people of Chokoloskee and Everglades City.

"We" are a group of mature women who like to paddle our own canoes and kayaks and camp in wild, lovely places. We gained a bit of notoriety last year in this very publication when one canoe swamped in heavy Gulf swells, and several people camping on Mormon Key (including Jason Sine) rescued the two paddlers, the gear and the canoe. That hadn't happened to either paddler in 50 years (we are "mature"), and it certainly didn't happen this year.

Capt. Wright (Everglades Area Tours) efficiently transported 4 of us, our 2 canoes, and all our gear, to Broad River campsite (not Highland Beach, due to adverse winds of a cold front) for the start of the adventure. Next day, we explored the Nightmare for a couple of hours before going on to Highland Beach.

The wind was still strong after the front, so we had to "line" the canoes along the shore to a good campsite. Shelling is always good there, and we watched a bald eagle, sharks, porpoises and pilot whales, even took plaster casts of bobcat tracks.

After a cold front dries out the sky, the stargazing is good in the Everglades; we could see all the usual constellations, plus Scorpio in the south. The phosphorescent comb-jellies were less numerous than last year, but still fascinating.

A full moon rising on the 10<sup>th</sup> was a special sight from Darwin's Place, and we explored Gopher Key Creek nearby. Even a small motorboat can access this creek which is a treat for birdwatchers; we saw spoonbills, every kind of heron, ibises, red-shouldered hawks and 'gators in all sizes. Walking the canoes across one of the flats in Chokoloskee Bay gave us a few surprises in the form of lazy stingrays and orange-tipped sea-hares in our path.

Coincidentally, all four of us learned in Girl Scouts how to paddle 10-12 miles in a day and make a comfortable camp for the night. Living on the chickees poses challenges of space and loss to the water, but fills ones sleep with a gentle kind of "surround-sound."

As usual, we found that fellow campers and paddlers were friendly and interesting, each with a story to tell, and ready to share tips, recipes and a helping hand. Thanks for the lovely weather all that week; we hope to see you next year!

Dale Samler, Claudet Benton, Ethel Winters, Janice Zeoli

## Boardwalk Beckons

If you don't feel up to a long outing, visit the Big Cypress Bend Boardwalk, part of the Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park, to get a flavor of the Everglades. It is located on US-41 just 7 miles west of SR-29 and the gentle walk is about half-a-mile each way. You'll probably see, among other wildlife, an active bald eagle's nest and an alligator pond with generations of progeny. For more info, see [www.friendsoffakahatchee.org](http://www.friendsoffakahatchee.org).



**RESTAURANT NEWS**



**Backcountry Cafe:**

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

**Camellia Street Grill:**

Noon - 8:00 pm; Mon - Thurs  
Noon - 10:00 pm; Fri, Sat  
Noon - 6:00 pm; Sunday

**City Seafood:**

11:00 am - 6:00 pm; daily  
4:00 - 9:00 pm; Thurs - Sun

**Everglades Scoop:**

11:00 am - 5:00 pm; daily

**Gator Express:**

6:30 am - 9:00 pm; Sun - Thurs  
6:30 am - 10:00 pm; Fri, Sat

**Glades Haven Deli:**

6:00 am - 9:00 pm; daily

**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 - 5 pm; daily

**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 - Mon

**Rod & Gun:**

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

**Seafood Depot:**

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

**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

**NEW GATOR GAS**

Gator Express is changing its fuel supplier and will sell Marathon gasoline which has no ethanol, which is good news for boaters.



**Mitchell ("Liam") Williams DeFort**  
Parents: Dr. Raymond, III, and Kristan DeFort, Grandfather: Mitch House, Great-grandparents: Doug & Jean House



**Henry William Snyder**  
Parents: Billy & Shannon Snyder

**Zachary Amos Macrander**  
Parents: Patrick & Danyale Macrander,



Grandparents: Rick & Daphne Browning and Patricia Titmas, Great-grandparents: Rev. Amos & Lucille Browning, Great-great-grandmother: Beatrice Rogers

Thanks to Rudy Oglesby and Helen Bryan for baby photos and research.

**Public Announcements are now on cable Channel 98.**

**More than a Yard Sale!**

First Baptist Church, across from the school, is having a grand sale on **Saturday, February 21**, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Besides the usual items (tools, hardware, household goods, clothing, toys, books, fishing gear, etc) there will be hot dogs for lunch and baked goods. Phone 695-3871.

**Glades Traditional BBQ**

The Annual Wild Hog Barbeque is on **Saturday, February 21**, at Monroe Station (on US-41 east of Ochopee). This event, which was first held in 1950, is sponsored by the Everglades Conservation and Sportsmen's Club, who strive to keep alive the "Gladesman" culture. Besides the delicious hog and other edibles, there will be live music, swamp buggy rides, archery, BB-gun shooting, skeet shooting and other activities. Tickets \$20. Phone (239) 784-1328 or see [www.wildhogbbq.org](http://www.wildhogbbq.org).

**ORA BAZAAR**

This annual jamboree in Chokoloskee will take place a bit later this year on **Saturday, February 28**. For more info, phone 695-0054.

**KAYAK PADDLE-IN**

Capt. Charles Wright holds his Fifth Annual Fishing Kayak Paddle-In" on **Saturday, February 28**, to benefit local charities. For more info, phone him at 695-9107 or stop in at JT's in Chokoloskee. or see his website [www.EvergladesKayakFishing.com](http://www.EvergladesKayakFishing.com).

**Thrift Shop Needs**

The Thrift Shop, behind the fire station, is looking for more things to sell, particularly clothing, shoes, bedding, household items, antiques, and "forgotten treasures". So, if you're cleaning out your closets, stop in from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Monday through Saturday. The Thrift Shop is operated by Reach Out, our neighborhood charity.

# SNOOK CLASSIFIED

**FOR SALE:** House on 1.02 Acres. Sale price \$188,000 or for rent at \$900/mon. For info, call 321-439-7635

**RESIDENTIAL RENTAL in E-City:** Seasonal or Annual. Dock available for extra fee. Contact 961-3986 for details.

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

**FOR SALE:** Furniture (beds, tables, chairs), appliances (microwave, refrigerators, etc) and more at Bank of the Everglades Building. *Ongoing sale through February 8.* Contact Patty Richards at (239) 289-6671.

**FOR RENT:** Office/shop space available – units from \$300 to \$700. Call Glades Realty, (239) 695-4299

**FOR SALE:** Zoned commercial fishing 2,500 sq ft concrete building with high ceiling. Land 90' x 190' in Enterprise Zone on Dupont. \$295,000. Call (239) 340-4770.

**FOR RENT:** Mini-storage units starting at \$65 plus tax per month. Dupont Street. Call (239) 340-4770.

**HOUSE NEED CLEANING?** Cheryl's Cleaning Business is the helping hand you need. Call Cheryl at 239-745-6291.

**FOR SALE:** Very nice sofa and love seat set. Price negotiable. Call Winnie or Jim at 695-2342.

# JOBS VACANT

Everglades Isle Motor Coach Retreat is hiring restaurant, bar, and housekeeping staff. Stop by at the lighthouse near the bridge or phone 695-2600.

The Gulf Coast Ranger Station is looking for a temporary maintenance worker to clear brush in the backcountry from a 16-ft Carolina skiff. Phone Bill Wagner at (239) 280-9192.

## CENSUS INTERVIEWS Everglades City Thursday, February 12

The Census Bureau will hold tests and help applicants fill in paperwork on Thursday, February 12.

You can meet them at:

12:45 p.m. in City Hall, old chamber  
5:45 p.m. in the Community Center

The process takes about 1½ hours.

Bring 2 forms of ID with you (driver's license, Social Security card, passport).

Census-2010 jobs pay between \$9.75 and \$14.75 per hour. For more info, see [www.2010censusjobs.gov](http://www.2010censusjobs.gov) or phone (941) 308-8360.

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

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*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.

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[www.evergladesmulletrapper.com](http://www.evergladesmulletrapper.com)

# SNOOK CLASSIFIED

**FOR SALE:** 2006 Gheenoe Classic with 2008 20 hp Yamaha 4-stroke and trailer. Equipped with Minn-kota electric motor, seats, tank and battery. \$4,200. Call Mike at (239) 248-0793.

**FOR RENT:** Seasonal or Vacation, house in Everglades City (very nice), fully furnished. Call (239) 695-1561.

**FOR SALE OR LEASE:** Historic *Bank of Everglades* Building. Contact Patty Richards at (239) 289-6671.

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2/6/09