

The MULLET RAPPER

What's Happening in the Everglades City Area

FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2009

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SHERIFF'S MEETING

Sheriff Kevin J. Rambosk spoke to approximately 45 members of the Everglades area community on Thursday, March 26, about "Making our Community Safe TOGETHER." The Sheriff discussed the role of his office in the community and asked the audience for feedback on what they would like to see from his department. The program was very well received and many people signed up to participate in future meetings.

The ways individuals can help with crime prevention are to:

- Keep car and home doors locked
- Drive safely, drive responsibly
- Join Neighborhood Watch
- Get involved in your community
- Call CCSO if you see criminal or suspicious activity
- Make a difference by volunteering your time or sponsoring local youth programs

To subscribe to the CCSO "Collier Star" email newsletter, visit their website www.ccsoblog.blogspot.com. For more general info and news, see www.colliersheriff.org. Phone Sheriff Kevin Rambosk at 793-9203 or our local Lt. Mark Milligan at 695-2007.

NATIONAL PARK MEETING

by Patricia Huff

A large crowd gathered at Everglades City School on Tuesday, March 31, to learn more about the four revised alternative plans for marine waters proposed by the Everglades National Park. Superintendent Dan Kimball first addressed approximately 90 community members in regards to the development of the General Management Plan. He explained that these proposed alternatives referred only to boating issues and that the Park is also spending time on the restoration of the Everglades ecosystem. The boating issues include an education platform, marking channels with U.S. Coast Guard compliant signs, and gathering local knowledge in identifying channels to access. Park researcher Dave Hallc then discussed the seagrass scaring in Florida Bay. Fred Herling, Park Planner, went into detail about each of the four alternatives and public involvement.

Ten speakers from the audience signed up and expressed their opinions. Three individuals, including representatives from "Everglades for Everyone" voiced their preference for Alternative 2. Captain Cecil Oglesby said he was disappointed that only a few local fishing guides attended the meeting, but expressed his views based on 51 years of guiding in these waters. All of the public speakers thanked Superintendent Kimball and the park service for their hard work in developing the revised alternatives.

Most speakers stressed the importance of education. John Adornato, Regional Director of the National Parks Conservation Association, addressed the educational issue and announced that there would be a new website (www.ecomariner.org) on **Earth Day, April 22**, which will include a voluntary educational course for power boaters to learn about the regulations and proper techniques for boating in Florida Bay and the Everglades.

On **April 13**, the public meeting to be held in Key Largo will be broadcast live at 6:00 pm. To access this program, go to www.nps.gov/ever and click on the "General Management Plan" link.

Remember the deadline to comment on the alternative plans is **May 15**. Comment forms are available at the Gulf Coast Ranger Station or online at www.nps.gov/ever.



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Bike Tour

If you see lots of cyclists in town on **Saturday, April 4**, they are part of the Everglades Scenic Ride sponsored by the Naples Pathways Coalition in support of the River of Grass Greenway. For info, phone 695-2397.

“Bay Day”

The National Park is having a huge clean up on **Saturday, April 4**, and there will be a big dumpster at the ranger station. Boaters are urged to take out trash bags to tidy up the islands. You can also volunteer on land from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. If you can help, phone 695-3405.

Fish Fry & Cake Walk

The Women’s Ministry at Chokoloskee Church of God is holding a fish fry and cake walk on **Saturday, April 4**, at noon. The menu at \$9 (children \$5) includes fish, coleslaw, home-baked beans, hush puppies, and iced tea.

Museum Reception

There will be an open house for artist-of-the-month Shirley Hansen on **Saturday, April 4**, from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Museum where her work is currently on display. Everyone is welcome.



Our “Queen of the Fireworks”, **Fran Tift**, was joined by friends and family on **Thursday, March 26**, at the **Backcountry Cafe** to celebrate her **82nd Birthday**. She will make a guest appearance at the **City Council meeting next week** in her patriotic garb to kick off the **July Fourth fundraising**.

CITY COUNCIL

The next meeting will be on **Tuesday, April 7**, at 5:30 p.m. in City Hall. Everyone is welcome. If you want to speak, sign up before the meeting.

Little Gator Clinic

The free walk-in clinic for youngsters 18 and under will be closed for the summer.



Wildflower Walks

Big Cypress National Preserve is offering ranger-guided walks on **Saturday, April 11**. For info and to make reservations, call 695-1164.

OCHOPEE FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT

- 03/20/09: Laceration, Everglades City
- 03/20/09: Chest Pains, Port of the Islands
- 03/22/09: Head Injury, Copeland
- 03/22/09: Vehicle Accident, Turner River Rd and US-41
- 03/22/09: Vehicle Accident, 72mm on I-75
- 03/22/09: Person Bleeding, Everglades City
- 03/22/09: Brush Fire, Ochopee
- 03/22/09: Boat Accident, Chokoloskee Island
- 03/22/09: Illegal Burn, Everglades City
- 03/22/09: Illegal Burn Everglades City (returned to scene of previous call),
- 03/23/09: Median Fire, 78mm on I-75
- 03/23/09: Disabled Vehicle, 76mm on I-75
- 03/23/09: Vehicle Fire, 73mm on I-75
- 03/26/09: Vehicle Accident, 78mm on I-75
- 03/27/09: Allergic Reaction, Ochopee
- 03/27/09: Vehicle Accident, 58mm on Tamiami Trail
- 03/28/09: Vehicle Accident, 73mm on I-75
- 03/29/09: Vehicle Fire, 63mm on I-75
- 03/29/09: Diesel Spill, Everglades City
- 03/30/09: Vehicle Accident, 5 Miles West of Oasis Ranger Station
- 03/30/09: Vehicle Accident, 8 Miles South of I-75 on SR-29
- 03/31/09: Vehicle Accident, 67mm on I-75
- 03/31/09: Vehicle Accident, 72mm on I-75
- 04/01/09: Fish Hook in Finger, Port of the Islands

MOBILE PET VET



Dr Baker will be here on **Saturday, May 2**, 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 on **Sunday, May 3**, for surgery by previous appointment only. Phone her at 777-PETS (7387).

The Shamrock Bank in City Hall is now open on Tuesday and Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

TIDES FOR BARRON RIVER

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

04/03/2009	Fri	05:19AM	-0.2	L	12:17PM	2.0	H	05:27PM	0.8	L	10:11PM	2.5	H
04/04/2009	Sat	06:24AM	-0.1	L	12:49PM	2.1	H	06:41PM	0.7	L	11:40PM	2.5	H
04/05/2009	Sun	07:20AM	-0.1	L	01:13PM	2.3	H	07:40PM	0.5	L			
04/06/2009	Mon	12:48AM	2.6	H	08:09AM	0.0	L	01:37PM	2.5	H	08:31PM	0.2	L
04/07/2009	Tue	01:43AM	2.7	H	08:53AM	0.1	L	02:01PM	2.6	H	09:17PM	0.0	L
04/08/2009	Wed	02:31AM	2.6	H	09:34AM	0.2	L	02:25PM	2.7	H	10:01PM	-0.2	L
04/09/2009	Thu	03:15AM	2.5	H	10:11AM	0.3	L	02:50PM	2.9	H	10:43PM	-0.2	L
04/10/2009	Fri	03:56AM	2.5	H	10:47AM	0.4	L	03:16PM	2.9	H	11:23PM	-0.3	L
04/11/2009	Sat	04:38AM	2.4	H	11:20AM	0.5	L	03:43PM	2.9	H			
04/12/2009	Sun	12:04AM	-0.3	L	05:22AM	2.2	H	11:49AM	0.6	L	04:11PM	2.9	H
04/13/2009	Mon	12:46AM	-0.2	L	06:12AM	2.1	H	12:13PM	0.7	L	04:42PM	2.8	H
04/14/2009	Tue	01:32AM	-0.1	L	07:09AM	1.9	H	12:24PM	0.8	L	05:18PM	2.6	H
04/15/2009	Wed	02:25AM	0.0	L	08:13AM	1.8	H	12:23PM	0.8	L	06:09PM	2.5	H
04/16/2009	Thu	03:27AM	0.1	L	09:24AM	1.8	H	12:44PM	0.9	L	07:44PM	2.4	H
04/17/2009	Fri	04:35AM	0.2	L	10:37AM	1.9	H	04:47PM	0.9	L	09:23PM	2.3	H

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SCHOOL NEWS

Everglades City School

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

IMPORTANT DATES

Thurs, April 2: Great Gators, 9:30 a.m.
 April 6-13: Spring Recess
 Mon, April 13: Baseball HOME, 4:00 p.m.
 April 15-24: "Pennies for Pasta" (see page 11)
 Fri, April 17: Baseball HOME, 5:00 p.m.
 Wed, April 22: Early Release
 Thurs, April 23: SAC, 3:00 p.m.
 Tues, April 28: Baseball HOME, 5:00 p.m.



From Savannah's Eyes

Hooray! We have only one more week of school 'till Spring break! I love school but I like to have a break once in a while. The baseball games are still going on at our school. I love to go and watch our team play.

This has been a great month for me! Because I got a thousand dollar donation collected by friends at ORA for the J. V. volleyball players to go to the volleyball camp. My friends and I have been working so hard to earn money for the volleyball camp. We have been having fundraisers like the bake sale at Art in the Park and at the circle. We also have a scratch-off game. I want to thank everyone for contributing to the fundraisers and giving donations because this means a lot to us. And you are all very special people. I also want to thank my coach Diana and her sister Terra for all their hard work and time to help us with the fundraisers and teaching us to play volleyball. It is so nice to live in a small town where people have such big hearts and help us when we need help. We almost have all the money we need to go to camp and hopefully we'll get the rest before the deadline.

Thank you, thank you, thank you! Savannah

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



With Savannah and the money are Gwen Baxter, Marlene Sonderfan, and Sherri Parsons.

HONOR ROLL Third Quarter, 2009

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Straight A's:

Logan Foss, grade 4
 Madelyn Mitchell, grade 5
 Brandon Steffen, grade 4
A's & B's:
 Brandon Bruscini, grade 4
 Jonathan Chirino, grade 4
 Sindy Cifuentes, grade 4
 Sierra Dungan, grade 5
 Haleigh Ellington, grade 3
 Haylee Ellington, grade 4
 Ashlyn Goff, grade 3
 Savannah Humphreys, grade 5
 Bryce Kish, grade 3
 Morgan LeMay, grade 4
 Hailey Mitchell, grade 3
 Alex Thompson, grade 5
 Victoria Wells, grade 3
 Kiley West, grade 4

with thanks for this list to
*Jacqueline Richardson and
 Principal Bobby Jones*

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Straight A's:

Paige Robinson-Hilton, grade 7
A's & B's:
 Houston Brown, grade 6
 Trevor Daniels, grade 7
 Linzy Fails, grade 7
 Angelica Martinez, grade 7
 Savannah Oglesby, grade 6
 Reagan Richardson, grade 8
 Hector Roldan, grade 8
 Cristen Steffen, grade 7
 Jessica Thomas, grade 7

HIGH SCHOOL

Straight A's:

Peyton Beebe, grade 11
 Karisa Brown, grade 12
 Louis Daniels, grade 11
 Renee Gonzalez, grade 12

A's & B's:

Raymond Ferguson, grade 11
 Jeanne Lopez, grade 12
 Courtney Noble, grade 9



Mrs. Hazel Mitchell's 5th and 6th grade classes competed in a poster contest about Paul Revere. They researched his life and history in the Revolution. John McCullough from the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution came by on March 25 to award the following: Best 5th grade poster depicting Paul Revere to Tawny Wood (left). Her poster will go to county next for competition (only 5th grade posters can go to competition). Best 6th grade poster of Paul Revere to Ana Roldan (right). Good Citizenship Award for 5th grade to Madelyn Mitchell (center). Good Citizenship Award for 6th grade to Savannah Oglesby (not pictured). *Photo & Report, Trina Mitchell.*

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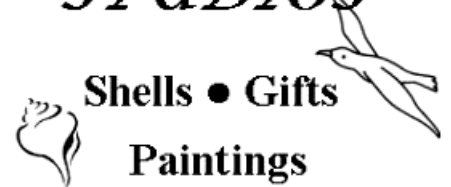
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CHURCH NEWS

The parishioners at Holy Family Catholic Church donated money for palms, trees and other plants for landscaping. Mark Kalmanek, owner of Flamingo Bend Nursery, located on the Tamiami Trail between Carnestown and Naples, provided free of charge not only additional trees and shrubs but also his services for planting. He recycled all the trimmings from the landscaping project and the Catholic Church would like to thank him for his generosity.

Inside Holy Family Catholic Church "South", there are new Stations of the Cross that were given by Holy Family Catholic Church "North" of Memphis, Michigan. Father Joseph Horn of the "North" church refers to our local church as the Holy Family "South". Thanks to Denise Rousseau for initiating and her sister Patti Holland of Michigan for making arrangements for this wonderful gift.

There will be a special service on **Good Friday, April 10**, at 3:00 p.m. and the doors will be open for private prayer before that from noon.

Easter Sunday Sunrise Service



The traditional early-morning area celebration of Easter takes place at the National Park Gulf Coast Ranger Station on **Easter Sunday, April 12**, at 7:00 a.m. The service is being held by the combined congregations of the Community Church, Chokoloskee Church of God, Holy Family Catholic Church, and First Baptist Church.

Attendees are invited for coffee and donuts after the service at the Community Church.

Copeland Baptist Church will have a sunrise service at the Rock Pit in Copeland.

Recipe for Good Eating

Pistachio Pineapple Pie

by Sunny Burke



¼ cup Butter or oleo, melted 2 cup Baker's coconut

1½ cup milk

1 envelope Dream Whip mix

1 pkg Jello pistachio instant pudding mix

1 can (8½ oz) crushed pineapple

Combine butter and coconut in a 9" pie pan. Bake at 300° for 20 minutes and let cool. Blend milk, whipped topping, and pudding mix. Beat with mixer for 5 minutes, until thick. Fold in drained pineapple. Spoon into pie crust. Chill. Garnish with toasted coconut.

Angels of the Swamp

It's that time of year when our dear "winter" Angels return north, but they are not forgotten. The Everglades community would like to thank all of you for the volunteer services you provide to the non-profit organizations in town, the Museum, and the School. Every one of you deserves the honor of being our special Angel of the Swamp.



Below are the names given to the *Mullet Rapper*. We apologize if we have left someone out.

MUSEUM OF THE EVERGLADES. A special thank you to those who were "greeters" at the front desk: Linda Bristol, Sunny Burke, Jo Drudi, Heather Harvey, Leanne Kurrle, Anne Mitchell, Mary Morris, Sherri Parsons, Tony Trayling and Joyce Watson. Those who helped "host" and prepare for our monthly artist's receptions: Helen Bryan, Sunny Burke, Barbara Portz, Pat Rinkevich and Jean Schultz. For our beautiful plants outside the building: Leanne Kurrle. For updating our website every month: Marya Repko. For those who volunteered during the MSD and Seafood Festival, there were too many to mention but included most of the above names plus Maxine Combs, Judi Leigh, Jo Anne Hawkins, Virginia Kanning, Hannah Ineson, Renee Rau and her Americorps Volunteer Laura Skinner.

EVERGLADES CITY SCHOOL. Pre-K: Pam Drake and Gina Lamphere; **Kindergarten:** Jo Drudi and Tensy Thatcher, **1st Grade:** Janie Russell and Charlene Hon; **2nd:** Kay Rickard; **3rd - 4th:** Ray Hefflefinger; **5th - 6th:** Jane Rackley and Colby Teague; **fundraising:** Vicky Wells.

THRIFT SHOP. Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday: Gerri Fowler, Jane Graber, Alice Morrow, Mimi Bruckert, Sandy Cameron; **Tuesday:** Barbara Honert, Jeffie McDonald, Annie Mitchell; **Thursday:** Maxine Combs, Joanne Hawkins. And, of course, Fran Tift and Helen Bryan who keep the shop operating efficiently and the other members of Reach Out Everglades & C.O.P.S Association, our neighborhood charity.

Other volunteers also help out at the Community Pantry, National Park, Big Cypress, Fakahatchee Strand, and Panther Refuge.

What would our community do without you all!



Fishing Report

by Captain Bill Lindsay

Weather and fishing should start to improve. Some of the largest tarpon are taken at this time of

the year. These fish move into the coves near deep channels and can be found "laid up" or resting just below the surface. A well placed fly or plug will produce a strike. I like a high tide during the night for this type of fishing. If you find a school of tarpon, keep an eye out for tripletail; they often move into shallow water together. Snook fishing will also improve. Trout fishing is still great and while you're on the grass flats, you might pick up a cobia, tripletail or even a Spanish mackerel. Windy days make it difficult to get offshore; but when it gets nice, the shallow Gulf wrecks will produce permit, snapper and cobia.

Capt. Bill Lindsay lives in Chokoloskee and has been fishing in the Everglades National Park for 28 years. In 1992 he was Master Angler of the MET Tournament.



After the control burns, the grass is new and a beautiful shade of green. Often deer are seen grazing on the prairie. Nature is alive and well in our preserves.

Boating Emergencies

by Patricia Huff



What do you do if your boat breaks down out in the Everglades – call a friend, wait for another boat to pass by, or call a rescue service? If you're lucky, some good Samaritan will see you and help you to shore. If not, it may cost you up to \$500 or more to be towed back home.

Even the most experienced and prepared boater can become incapacitated. Many people may not realize that you can join the international marine organization "Sea Tow" which was established in 1983 by Captain Joseph Frohnhoefer. He founded the company after the U.S. Coast Guard ceased to respond to non-emergency calls for assistance. There are now over 121 locations throughout the United States, Australia, Europe, the Bahamas, and Puerto Rico.

Sea Tow services are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week; these include towing, supplying gas, charging your battery at sea, dock to dock tow, and un-groundings among other assistance programs. Memberships are \$149 per year (no additional charge for towing, etc.).

For more information on membership, services (including a "float plan"), and insurance, visit website www.seatow.com. The local franchise in Goodland is family owned with Capt. John McLaughlin, his wife Sandra, and sons Eric and Adam, all licensed captains. They currently have four boats with a fifth one (46' Wesmac) now being built and to be located in the Everglades City area. The Marco Island / Goodland office services the Everglades area, from Marco Island to Cape Sable. Phone 239-394-1188 or email seatowmarcoisland@seatow.com.

Rotary Scholarship Raffle

by Pete Rossi



We have a Fantastic Gift that came about by Rotarians working to "Make Dreams Real".

First, Dick Perman, a former Pelican Bay Rotary Member, who relocated to the Santa Rosa Rotary Club, Sonoma Valley, California, started a conversation with our member, Pat Miller of Orion Bank about our wonderful 2008 Ritz-Carlton Raffle. Would Pete Rossi be interested in providing them a similar trip for their scholarship auction?

I put together a Ritz-Carlton Resort Golf trip package for their October 2008 auction, it sold for \$3,500 to a non-Rotarian attendee. The winner turned out to be one of the clubs biggest scholarship supporters. He and his wife came in January 2009 and had a perfect time in paradise. His comment to me before they left was that Santa Rosa was going to have a hard time matching their trip. They did a great job!!! The result of this new partnership is before you. Thanks to the creative resources of our own Printing Guru, Bob Weidenmiller and the Prestige Printing team for their professional support with the brochure and raffle ticket. Go to website pelicanbayrotary.com to see the brochure.

Our Trip for 2 adults for 6 days, 5 nights includes Air Travel & Car Rental allowance - \$1,000, arrival in Santa Rosa via Rental Car from SFO Airport, 2 nights at the Fountaingrove Inn in Santa Rosa, Fountaingrove Golf Course OR Spa Day, 2 nights at the St. Helena Road Winery B & B retreat, private wine-tasting & Tours, 90-Minute Hot Air Balloon Ride & Picnic for 2 adults, transportation for Wine tasting Tours and Private Dinner, Santa Rosa Rotarian Privately Hosted Wine Pairing Dinner, Safari West Wildlife Preserve. Total Estimated Value of this Trip PRICELESS or Fair Market Value \$6,000.

We priced each raffle ticket at \$20 or 3 tickets for \$50. Drawing will be held on **May 8**. For more info, phone Pete at (239) 530-0100.

Note: The scholarship program includes Everglades City School students.



LOCAL HISTORY

by Patty Huff

In 1994 when we purchased our home on Storter Avenue, I always imagined that we would find some "treasure" while we were renovating our house, maybe in the attic or under the house. Our home was always called the "nurse's" home since the town nurse lived here when Barron Collier developed this little community in the 1920's. The hospital was next door and the doctor's home located on the other side of the hospital. The most valuable item we found when we started renovating was the Dade County pine crossbeams under the house which had fallen and were lying in the mud; obviously they had not supported the house in many years. Our contractor used the beautiful old wood to build our kitchen and bathroom cabinets and for window/door trim.

A month ago, my husband was doing some repair work on the outside siding around a window sill. Apparently, water had damaged the original wood and had to be replaced. While removing the boards, he found several issues of the "Tampa Daily Times", dated July 6 to August 15, 1918. Most of the newspapers were unreadable due to the water damage, mud daubers, and termites. However, the important thing is that they were dated 1918, several years before the house was thought to have been built by Barron Collier. The Storter families were living in Everglade during the first part of the 20th century. In 1922 Collier started buying large parcels of land in Lee County and the following year in 1923 the Florida State legislature created Collier County. So, if my house was built by Collier in the 1920's, why were the recently found newspapers put in the walls? Were they "saved" for 6 to 8 years and used just for insulation or was the original structure built by one of the Storter families along the river? No one knows but I did finally find my "treasure."

VIP Report

by Shirley Leonard

New Ranger and "The Elephant in the Living Room"

Everglades National Park Ranger Raymond Little's most memorable Christmas gift came from his parents when he was a child. A bicycle? Nope. A puppy? Nope. What?

A set of snake tongs!!

"I remember getting them and being so excited," Little said recently. "I've kept snakes since I was about ten years old. Around 19 I became interested in law enforcement. Now I have the best of both worlds."

Little, the national park's new Gulf Coast head law enforcement ranger owns about 100 snakes all native to the United States. He recently played a role in a movie titled "The Elephant in the Living Room."

"They interviewed me and several park biologists including Skip Snow about the pythons we get in the park," Little explained. Hollywood veteran film maker Michael Webber is the writer, director and producer. Others involved include Keith Gad, formerly a law enforcement officer in Big Cypress, and Tim Harrison, a police officer recognized worldwide for his writing and work in animal protection.

In a news release Webber explained that the documentary, not yet released, deals with "the controversial world of trading and raising exotic animals as common household pets," some of which "are the most deadly animals in the world." The title refers to the size of the problem and the absurdity of trying to ignore it. Problems with other animals such as cougars, alligators, tigers and lions also will be addressed. "It's a work in progress," Little said.

Burmese pythons have become a breeding population in Florida's Everglades. They compete for prey with native species such as the Florida panther, alligators and bobcats. Biologists believe they are disturbing the natural balance of nature. People buy pythons as pets shortly after they're born. In their first year they can grow as long as eight feet! "If they get enough to eat, they grow fast," Little said. Many owners release them outdoors because they aren't up to dealing with them. Southern Florida's subtropical climate suits them well. They can grow to be 20-plus feet.

The presence of Burmese pythons in the Everglades became well known in 2005 when the national park released a photograph of an encounter between an alligator and a python. The 13-foot-long python had swallowed whole a six-foot alligator. The gator's tail and hind feet and tail had erupted from the python's midsection. The python's head was missing. Both were dead.

The photograph exploded the Burmese python issue into the media, but pythons were nothing new to this area, according to Little. "I don't think the population exploded. They were a small problem until the past three or four years. There had been occasional sightings. Their population gradually increased. I caught one around 2000 or so in Big Cypress. It was eight feet."

Little grew up in northern Alabama where he's currently vacationing. What would you guess he's doing? He's hunting milk snakes for a research project!



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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RESTAURANT NEWS



- Backcountry Cafe (695-2552):**
6:00 am - 9:00 pm.; Mon - Sat
6:00 am - 3:00 pm.; Sun
- Camellia Street Grill (695-2003):**
Noon - 8:00 pm; Mon - Thurs
Noon - 10:00 pm; Fri, Sat
Noon - 6:00 pm; Sunday
- City Seafood (695-4700):**
11:00 am - 6:00 pm; daily
5:00-9:00 pm; Thurs - Sun (upstairs)
- Everglades Scoop (695-0375):**
11:00 am - 5:00 pm; daily
- Gator Express (695-3937):**
7:00 am - 9:00 pm; Sun - Thurs
7:00 am - 10:00 pm; Fri, Sat
- Glades Haven Deli (695-2746):**
6:00 am - 9:00 pm; daily
- Grimm's Stone Crab (695-3222):**
8 am - 6 pm; Mon - Sat (takeout)
- Havana Cafe (695-2214):**
8:00 am - 3:00 pm; daily
6:00 - 8:00 pm dinner; Saturday
- Ivey House (695-3299):**
7:00 - 9:30 am; daily
- Joanie's Blue Crab Cafe (695-2682):**
10:00 am - 5:00 pm; Wed - Mon
Live Music on weekends
- JT's Cafe & Gallery (695-2630):**
9 am - 5 pm; daily
- Leebo's Rock-Bottom Bar:**
4:00 pm; Mon - Sat
noon; Sunday
- Oyster House Restaurant (695-2073):**
11:00 am - 9:00 pm; Sun - Thurs
11:00 am - 10:00 pm; Fri, Sat
- Right Choice Pizzeria (695-3663):**
5:00 - 9:00 pm; Thurs-Mon (takeout)
- Right Choice Supermarket (695-4535):**
4:00 - 7:30 pm; Fri (cooked chicken)
- Rod & Gun (695-2101):**
7:00 - 10 am Breakfast; daily
11:30 am - 9:00 pm; daily
- Seafood Depot (695-0075):**
10:30 am - 9:00 pm; daily
Cabana Bash: 4 - 7 pm, Sat
- Susie's Station:**
11:00 am - 5:00 pm; daily
- Triad Seafood (695-0722):**
10:30 am - 5:00 pm; daily

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RESTAURANT NEWS

JT's Island Grill is now offering fruit smoothies and milkshakes: mango mash, guava berry, strawberry banana and choco nana (chocolate banana) as well as their usual sandwiches (New Turkey Key, Hog Key, etc), desserts, coffee and salads.

Right Choice Grocery has fresh Rotisserie chicken now available on Fridays after 4:00 p.m.

Gator Express is now baking their own fresh bread for sandwiches.

Triad Seafood is no longer open for breakfast. Enjoy their luncheon menu beginning at 10:30 a.m.

“Pennies for Pasta”

The elementary school is having a contest during **April 15-24** to raise money for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society of Southern Florida. The winning class will receive a Pasta Party from Olive Garden. You can give your donations to students or teachers to help that class win – but, even more so, to help fight cancer. Checks should be made out to Everglades City School with a memo “fight cancer”. For more info, phone 695-2561.

DISASTER WORKSHOP

Collier County Emergency Services is holding a seminar “Keep On Keepin’ On” on Tuesday, May 5, at Edison College to explore possibilities for survival & recovery after serious disaster. This is an important event for organizations wishing to become Disaster Partners in the county. If you would like to participate, register for free by **Friday, April 17**. For info, phone 252-8095

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“Our winter visitors are leaving for their summer roosts” writes Phill Lawry who sent this photo of the farewell potluck supper at the VR Corp.

If you're packing up to go away for the summer, please bring canned and unopened dry foods (eg, pasta, cereals) to the Community Pantry. Just drop it off on Saturday from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. at the Community Church on the Circle.

When you're clearing out closets, remember that the Thrift Shop behind the fire station welcomes clothing, household utensils, linens, and books/videos. If you aren't sure, stop in any day except Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. But, please don't leave anything on the porch!



AIRPORT NEWS

Intrepid and talented pilot John Apte picked up the banner at the first try on a blustery Saturday, watched by anxious attendees at the monthly Pancake Fly-in at Everglades Airpark on March 28. You can just see the two poles which have the banner rope that he hooks onto as he flies over. You've probably seen his yellow plane circling overhead without realizing the feat of flying that goes into attaching the banner.

The free breakfast is hosted by Chuck Gretske of Wings 10,000 Island Tours who offers aerial trips around the coast for the price of an airboat ride.

The next Fly-In is on **Saturday, April 25**, from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Everyone is welcome, whether by sea or land or air. John's dramatic pick-up is usually around 11:00 a.m.

OBITUARY

Gail Torres-Staples, one of our local EMS team, passed away suddenly from complications after surgery. Originally from the east coast of Florida, she had been stationed in Everglades City for about a year and will be missed by her colleagues.

Photo Safari



Rick Cruz, whose pictures of endangered orchids and other wildlife are well known, will lead a photo workshop on **Saturday, April 18**, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Loosescrew Swamp behind the Clyde Butcher Gallery. Participants should bring their own cameras. For info and to make reservations, phone 695-2428 or see www.clydebutcher.com.

Celebrating Libraries

National Library Week is **April 12-18** this year and Collier County is having special lectures at their Marco Island and East Naples branches. For info, phone 593-0334.

SNOOK RULES

Snook season started on March 1 and will close on May 1. A reminder of the rules:

1. Slot limit 28-33 inches
2. one fish per person per day
3. fishing license with Snook stamp

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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

FOR RENT: Studio apartment with private bath in Everglades City, one block from the Barron River. 1 person \$500/month. 2 people \$550/month. Water and electric included. Contact 961-3986 for details.

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. REDUCED \$225,000. Call (239) 340-4770.

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

House on Steinhatchee River. Get Ready for Scallop Season! 2 bedrooms, 2½ baths just ½ mile from Gulf, Floating dock in front, 1800 sq ft, Swimming pool, Nearby restaurants. For Sale or Lease (short or long term), Rental: 2-night minimum stay. Contact: dmrousse@gmail.com

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

FOR SALE: 2-bedroom 1-bath mobile home with a dock and boat ramp, Plantation Island. \$135,000. For info, call 239-825-4502.



County Commissioner Jim Coletta spoke at the opening ceremony for the County facility at Port of the Islands Marina on March 26. Also present: Fr. Tim Navin, Marla Ramsey (Public Services Administrator), and Barry Williams (Parks & Recreation Director).

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 SALE: Chokoloskee premium lot @ huge reduction!!! Private, select, elevated land laced with fruit trees. Secluded lot between Chokoloskee and Smallwood Drive approximately 800' from the gulf. Above flood plain. Call Paul Camposano, Broker/Salesman @ Horizons/GMAC Realty on Marco for add'l details-800-832-8643 or 239-860-1901. Offered at huge discount @ \$152,000!!!

FOR SALE BY OWNER: 3 lots in Chokoloskee, 2 on Calusa Dr, Lot M-4 \$115,000, Lot M-5 (filled) \$135,000, Lot by cemetery \$79,000. Phone owner at (419) 441-2068 or (740) 864-2179.

FOR SALE: Lots of bedroom, living & dining room furniture, very reasonably priced. Please contact Myrna at River Wilderness. 695 4499 ext 105.

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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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