

The MULLET RAPPER

What's Happening in the Everglades City Area

JUNE 12 - JUNE 25, 2009

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MONEY FOR PARK

The Board of County Commissioners formally approved the expenditure of \$60,000 on improvements in McLeod Park at their meeting on June 9.

The *Rapper* understands that the funds will be used to replace the fencing around the park and to provide "tot riders" for the kiddies. Some of the money will also go to the skating facility to maintain the ramps.

The work will be done by Collier County on behalf of the City through an Interlocal Agreement which was negotiated by the Mayor.

CHEERING FOR OUR TEAMS

A special note to recognize the cheerleaders who participated this past year in so many of our sports:

Ana Roldan (6th grade), Jordyn Demere (7th grade), Paige Hilton-Robinson (7th grade), Meggan Harrington (9th grade), Kendall Smallwood (9th grade), and Kim Brown (11th grade). During the school's awards ceremony, Meggan Harrington and Kendall Smallwood each earned a 1st year Letter and Kim Brown was awarded her 3rd year bar. Congratulations, Cheerleaders, and thank you for your spirit!!



"Aunt Bea" Feted

Bea Rogers welcomed three of her sisters and many relatives of all ages for a Williams family reunion at the Seafood Depot on June 6.

However, she did not know that it was also a surprise party to recognize her 90th birthday which officially took place on May 31.

Family members from all over the country showed up. Seen above, from left to right, are sisters Birdie Warren from Clearwater, Bea, Belle Cernich from Texas, and Iris Johnson from Tallahassee.

Bea Rogers has 19 grandchildren, 41 greats, and an amazing 11 great-greats! And, that does not count all the cousins, in-laws, and other family members who attended the party. They were entertained with a show of old family photos on the big screen and a magnificent array of foods at the buffet luncheon.



SHERIFF'S REPORT

Lt Mark Milligan told the *Rapper* about several upcoming events that have been organized by the Collier County Sheriff's Office.

Community Safety Team. This is a coalition comprised of Neighborhood Watch, the Code Enforcement officer, and concerned citizens. The idea for such a team grew out of the local visits by Sheriff Rambosk. The next meeting will be on **Tuesday, June 16**, at 5:30 p.m. in the Everglades Community Church Annex. For more info, phone Lt Milligan at 253-5031.

Operation Medicine Cabinet. Bring your expired or unwanted perscription medicines or other strong drugs into City Hall on **Friday, June 19**, between 9:00 and 10:00 a.m. The Sheriff's Office will take them away and dispose of them safely.

Pills hanging around in your home could be dangerous. So, clean out your bathroom cupboard and bring along whatever medicines you don't need.

Build-a-Boat. A new program for youngsters aged 13-17 years old will literally "build a boat" in one week. The scheme hopes to teach team skills and will provide the participants with a boating safety certificate (required to take out a boat for under-18s).



Details are not finalized but the project is scheduled for this summer. For info, phone 253-5031.

Hot Summer Nights. A great time out for kids. *See page 11.*

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

JUNE/JULY 2009

<u>SUN</u>	<u>MON</u>	<u>TUES</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THURS</u>	<u>FRI</u>	<u>SAT</u>
full moon ● 7 Mobile Pet Vet	8 Hour of Prayer Everglades Community Church 7 pm OFCD Bd Fire Sta, 6 pm Summer Camp Starts	9	10 Ladies Coffee Backcountry Cafe 8 am	11	RAPPER 12 <u>TV Goes Digital</u>	13 SCV Depot, 6 pm
<u>Flag Day</u> 14 	15 Hour of Prayer Copeland Baptist Church, 7 pm	16 Reach Out City Hall, 8:30 am Community Safety Team 5:30 pm, see p.1	17 Ladies Coffee Backcountry Cafe 8 am	18 Copeland Civic 7 pm	19 Medicine Cabinet City Hall 9-10 am, see p.1	20
<u>Fathers' Day</u> 21	new moon ○ 22 Hour of Prayer Chokoloskee Church of God Bible School see p.3	23	24 Ladies Coffee Backcountry Cafe 8 am	25	RAPPER 26	27
28 Bible School Awards Lunch see p.3	29 Hour of Prayer Holy Family Catholic Church 7 pm	30	JULY 1 Ladies Coffee Backcountry Cafe 8 am	2	3	4 <u>Independence Day</u> Leebo's Cookout/Music time tba
5 Independence Day Celebration  see p.11	6 Hour of Prayer Everglades Community Church 7 pm	full moon ● 7 Congressional Visit , see p.3 Hot Summer Nights see p.11	8 Ladies Coffee Backcountry Cafe 8 am	9	RAPPER 10 Hot Summer Nights see p.11	11

July 18/19: Mobile Pet Vet

July 21: BigC ORV mtg

July 31: end of BigC ORV rest period

Aug 4: City Council, CCSO National Night Out

Aug 24: Back to School

Sept 5-7: Butcher Labor Day "Muck About"

Sept 15: BigC ORV mtg

Oct 11-17: 10K Island Refuge Week

THRIFT SHOP: 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: Daily, 11 am to 5 pm

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

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS: Wed, 5 pm, Community Church

SHAMROCK BANK: Tues, Thurs, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

LITTLE GATOR CLINIC: closed for the summer

SHERIFF AT CITY HALL: Fri, 6/12 (10-11 am)

Tues, 6/16 (4-5 pm)

Thurs, 6/18 (4-5 pm)

Mon, 6/22 (9-10 am)

Wed, 6/24 (10-11 am)

Fri, 6/26 (10-11 am)

REACH OUT PLANS

Summer Camp is in full swing and the kids can look forward to a boat tour at the National Park, a visit to the Museum, and a trip to Shealy's, besides the events planned each Tuesday by the Sheriff's office.

At the Reach Out meeting on **Tuesday, June 16**, the board will discuss shopping for school clothes which is tentatively scheduled for August 15. Parents should phone Carol at 825-5762. Funds are low so if you can help with a donation, she'd also be glad to hear from you.

BIBLE SCHOOL

Copeland Baptist Church is holding Vacation Bible School for a week starting **Monday, June 22**. Times are 4:30 to 8:30 p.m. and there will be food served at 4:30 p.m. A parent/child award ceremony will be held on **Sunday, June 28**, at 11:00 a.m. followed by a pot-luck lunch.

For more info, contact Sue Doster at (239) 821-5864.

CONGRESSIONAL VISIT

Representatives from the Collier County office of Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart will meet with constituents in City Hall on **Tuesday, July 7**, at 3:00 p.m. For info, phone 348-1620.



Jameson Virgil McDowell born on 5/9/09 (6 lbs, 11 oz; 18.5"). Parents: Annamarie Satz & James V. McDowell, Grandparents: Toni & James P. McDowell, Siblings: Jasmine & Jocelyn McDowell, Shawn & JoAnna Satz.



If you noticed smoke wafting over the north end of the City on Monday and Tuesday, it was a training burn conducted by our fire department to get rid of garden refuse collected by the City. The concrete block structure on the corner of Begonia and Camellia Streets is on the old power house premises which operated before LCEC took over our electricity supply in the mid 1950s.

OCHOPEE FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT

- 05/27/09: Vehicle Accident, East of Port of the Islands
- 05/28/09: Unknown Medical Problem, 72mm on I-75
- 05/28/09: Commercial Structure Fire, Everglades City
- 05/28/09: Emergency Medical, Ochopee
- 05/29/09: Emergency Medical, Ochopee
- 05/29/09: Heart Attack, Ochopee
- 05/29/09: Vehicle Fire, 63mm on I-75
- 05/29/09: Person Passed Out, 63mm on I-75
- 05/30/09: Vehicle Fire, 71mm on I-75
- 05/31/09: Vehicle Accident, 68mm on I-75
- 05/31/09: Vehicle Accident, 56mm on I-75
- 05/31/09: Vehicle Accident, 65mm on I-75
- 05/31/09: Vehicle Accident, 55mm on I-75
- 05/31/09: Vehicle Accident, 66mm on I-75
- 05/31/09: Emergency Medical, Copeland
- 06/01/09: Vehicle Accident, 59mm on I-75
- 06/01/09: Unknown Medical Problem, 60mm on US-41
- 06/01/09: Vehicle Accident, 59mm on I-75
- 06/02/09: Laceration, Everglades City
- 06/02/09: Emergency Medical, SR 29 and I-75
- 06/03/09: Vehicle Accident, 70mm on I-75
- 06/03/09: Vehicle Fire, 51mm on I-75
- 06/05/09: Structure Fire, Plantation Island
- 06/05/09: Aircraft Accident, Everglades City
- 06/05/09: Vehicle Accident, 65mm on I-75
- 06/07/09: Vehicle Accident, 67mm on I-75
- 06/08/09: Sick Person, Everglades City
- 06/09/09: Vehicle Accident, 60mm on I-75
- 06/10/09: Vehicle Accident, SR-29 and US-41

MOBILE PET VET



Dr Baker will be here on **Saturday, July 18**, 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, July 19** by previous appointment only. You can phone her at 777-PETS (7387). For more info, see www.naplesmobilepetvet.com.

TIDES FOR BARRON RIVER

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

06/12/2009	Fri	01:22AM	-0.1	L	07:08AM	2.3	H	01:00PM	0.8	L	05:30PM	2.6	H
06/13/2009	Sat	02:01AM	0.1	L	07:50AM	2.3	H	01:55PM	0.8	L	06:28PM	2.5	H
06/14/2009	Sun	02:42AM	0.2	L	08:31AM	2.4	H	03:06PM	0.7	L	07:41PM	2.3	H
06/15/2009	Mon	03:26AM	0.3	L	09:11AM	2.5	H	04:22PM	0.6	L	09:04PM	2.1	H
06/16/2009	Tue	04:15AM	0.5	L	09:50AM	2.5	H	05:29PM	0.4	L	10:29PM	2.0	H
06/17/2009	Wed	05:07AM	0.6	L	10:29AM	2.6	H	06:28PM	0.2	L	11:52PM	2.1	H
06/18/2009	Thu	06:01AM	0.7	L	11:10AM	2.8	H	07:21PM	0.0	L			
06/19/2009	Fri	01:04AM	2.1	H	06:55AM	0.8	L	11:52AM	3.0	H	08:13PM	-0.2	L
06/20/2009	Sat	02:05AM	2.3	H	07:48AM	0.8	L	12:36PM	3.2	H	09:04PM	-0.4	L
06/21/2009	Sun	02:57AM	2.3	H	08:41AM	0.8	L	01:20PM	3.4	H	09:53PM	-0.5	L
06/22/2009	Mon	03:46AM	2.4	H	09:33AM	0.8	L	02:07PM	3.5	H	10:42PM	-0.6	L
06/23/2009	Tue	04:34AM	2.4	H	10:24AM	0.8	L	02:55PM	3.6	H	11:30PM	-0.6	L
06/24/2009	Wed	05:20AM	2.4	H	11:14AM	0.7	L	03:47PM	3.5	H			
06/25/2009	Thu	12:16AM	-0.5	L	06:04AM	2.5	H	12:07PM	0.6	L	04:45PM	3.3	H
06/26/2009	Fri	01:03AM	-0.4	L	06:47AM	2.5	H	01:03PM	0.6	L	05:51PM	3.0	H

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SCHOOL NEWS

Everglades City School

phone: 377-9800 or 695-2561

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

IMPORTANT DATES

Thurs, July 16: Summer Camp/School Ends
Fri, July 17: Summer Camp Trip to Wannado City
 Mon, Aug 24: School Starts



From Savannah's Eyes

Summer is here and school's out for three months! I am ready to have some fun, go on vacation and have the time of my life! Now, I am a 7th grader waiting for the next school year.

On June 5-8 the JV volleyball players went to volleyball camp! And, it was really a blast! We stayed at the Hampton Suites in Orlando. We stayed in Suites LOL! The first day we got there we went swimming and had a pizza party because it was one of the player's birthday. Then we went to bed. The next morning we put on gym clothes for the first day of volleyball camp which was at a college called UCF (University of Central Florida). It was an amazing college! It was like a tiny city because it had restaurants, shops and other things, and the motel was right across the street. Inside the college was really cool! The gym was about twice the size of the Everglades City School gym! It was really amazing. We practiced a lot and then it was time for lunch. All of the volleyball players walked to a buffet restaurant called "The Market Place." Their food was delicious! Then we walked back to the gym. Sooner or later it was time for dinner. We ate at the same place. Then it was time to go to the motel. We went swimming again and ate Wendy's food. The next day was another day at volleyball camp and we worked really hard. After lunch at "The Market Place," we had a pizza party at the college! The pizza was delicious! I made a lot of friends, too, but my best friend was named Marylee. Soon it was time to leave Orlando and go back home. We got a T-shirt from the college and a volleyball! What a great weekend I had at volleyball camp. Again, thank you everyone who made it possible for us to go to camp.

Loving volleyball and life,
Savannah

Savannah Oglesby will be in the 7th grade at Everglades City School and is a regular contributor to this paper.

**See the tribute to our cheerleaders
on the front page.**

Great Gators, May 2009



Pre-K: Taylor Richards, Lindsey Lamphere, Charlie Rain, Paris Humphreys



K: Gracie Emma Brown, Daniel Gibson, Jesse Goff, David Fogle



1st: Caroline Teague, Savannah Weeks, Brandy Bowen, Destany VanLeeuwen



2nd: Stephanie Pablo-Ramirez, Edin Lopez, Dustin Young, Jalia Chirino



3rd & 4th: Jasibel Ruth, Brandon Steffen, Caleb Morris, Morgan Lemay



5th & 6th: Madelyn Mitchell, Savannah Humphreys, Lindsay Thomas, Darnell Guyadeene

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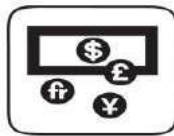
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FOREIGN CHANGE



If you're traveling abroad, you can get rid of your foreign currency by donating it to UNICEF. The banks will exchange notes (at a hefty fee) but coins are useless and more and more countries are issuing large-denomination metal currency.

The Irish airline Aer Lingus collects UNICEF donation envelopes just before landing (when they pick up the headsets) and now others, including American Airlines, are doing it, too.

It has also been noticed that European airports have collection boxes for foreign money near the outgoing security check points, an idea that our own airports could adopt.

However, if you still have money left, you can send it to:

U.S. Fund for UNICEF
Change for Good Program
125 Maiden Lane
New York, NY 10038

For info, see the American UNICEF website www.unicefusa.org.

HOUSEHOLD TIPS

Coffee filters are lint free and absorbant so they are good for many household tasks besides making that welcome breakfast drink.

One suggestion that we received by email is to use them for cleaning eye glasses, mirrors and windows.

Because they absorb well, they can soak up excess grease after food has been fried or bacon has been grilled. They also make good covers for dishes in a microwave because they trap all the splatters.

Of course, they can be used to filter other things besides coffee: wine that has cork in it or frying oil with bits of food that haven't made it to hungry mouths.

If you have any other ideas, let us know!

Recipe for Good Eating

Rum Cake by Sunny Burke



1 c. chopped pecans or walnuts	¾ c. cold water, divided
1 (18.5 oz) pkg. yellow cake mix	½ c. Wesson Oil
1 (3.5 oz) pkg. vanilla instant pudding	1 c. dark rum, divided
4 eggs	1 stick butter
1 cup sugar	

Preheat oven to 325°. Sprinkle nuts in a greased bundt pan. Mix together the cake mix, pudding mix, eggs, ½ c. cold water, oil, and ½ c. rum. Beat for 2 minutes. Pour into bundt pan and bake for 1 hour at 325°.

For glaze: melt butter in small pan, add ¼ c. water and sugar, stir until sugar is melted. Remove from heat and add ½ c. rum. Poke holes in cake. Pour glaze, one cup at a time, over the cake and let soak in. Cake can be frosted with Cool Whip, jelly, or frosting (I never do).

Sunny Burke is a full-time resident on Plantation Island and is known for her baking. This is a favorite and the recipe was requested by several readers. She is a regular contributor to the Rapper.



Off the Shelf – Book Review

Infidel by Ayaan Hirsi Ali

Reviewed by Patricia Huff

This *New York Times* bestseller is a powerful autobiography that takes you into the life of one special little girl growing up in a strict Muslim family, born in Somalia and raised in Africa and Saudi Arabia. Ayaan Hirsi Ali was courageous, despite the physical and emotional abuse she suffered as a child. She was able to gain self-confidence, studied English and read whatever she could find (at times reading American romance novels which was her only link to the “outside” world). At an early age she “escaped” an arranged marriage and arrived in the Netherlands as a refugee. She learned the language, worked and studied, earning a degree in political science and eventually was elected to Parliament. She spoke publicly about the plight of Muslim women in Europe and received a number of human rights awards, and what was most impressive was her resilience and strength to overcome adversity. This book is well worth reading.

¿Habla Español?

Have you ever thought of learning another language? Or, want to brush up on long-forgotten high school lessons? It's something everyone can do and Collier County Library makes it easy for you. If you have a computer and wish to download a complete course, go to the Library's website at www.collier-lib.org. On the home page, under the “Features” section (half way down the page), click on the title “Online language learning from Mango Languages.” You will need the number on your library card to log in. The courses include Spanish for English speakers and English for Spanish speakers.

If you have any questions, talk to Roberta at the Everglades Branch Library in City Hall or phone her at 695-2511.

FWC NEWS

If you renew your fishing license by **Saturday, August 1**, and then call 866-967-5600, you can receive a free six-month subscription to *Florida Wildlife* magazine.



If you fish along the shoreline, are a resident without a saltwater license, do not receive food stamps, and use a mechanical reel, then you will need the new shore fishing license by August 1. For more info, see www.myfwc.com or phone 850-488-4676.

Applications for hunting permits in Florida Wildlife Management Areas are due by **Tuesday, June 30**, and some new quota rules are in force. For more info, see the FWC website or phone 850-488-3641.

Land owners or developers must have an FWC permit to relocate tortoises. They are a threatened species in Florida.



The new online permitting system for gopher tortoises is now operational at www.myfwc.com/GopherTortoise.

10K ISLANDS REFUGE NEWS

You've probably noticed the construction along US-41 west of Port of the Islands – a new parking lot has been built on the south side of the Trail. It is part of the Ten Thousand Islands National Wildlife Refuge which is also the organization that manages the Panther Refuge on the northwest corner of SR-29 and I-75.

There are lots of events in the planning stages but one to put on your calendar is Panther Refuge Week starting on October 11. Volunteers to help with all facets of the event (from publicity to wildlife and cleanups) are welcome. For info, call Takako at (239) 353-8442, ext. 222, or email her at takako_sato@fws.gov.

ROGG GETS MIAMI OK

On May 19, 2009, the Miami Dade County Board of Commissioners endorsed the River of Grass Greenway with the understanding that it will not prohibit pre-existing uses of US41 and public access to public lands adjacent to US41. Consultation with the Miccosukee Indian Tribe of Florida will be ongoing through the development and construction of the River of Grass Greenway.

The Commission believes the River of Grass Greenway provides opportunities for education, stewardship and preservation of the environmental, historical and cultural assets of this unique area, and is in the best interests of the citizens of Miami-Dade County. This resolution was approved unanimously with only one commissioner absent.

For more info, see www.EvergladesROGG.org.



FLORIDA FLORA

Night-blooming Cactus

by Patricia Huff

This amazing cactus growing up a Washingtonia tree in our front yard was just a small cutting a few years ago and had never bloomed. For the past week or so it has come alive with beautifully scented blossoms that start out as small fuzzy buds and open just once, after dark, and close again when the sun comes up. Every night was a treat to see them, especially this past Sunday night when 6 flowers opened up at one time. My husband remarked that it was a shame that they were only visible during the late evening and through the night when no one could enjoy them, but I don't mind that they are beautiful just for themselves, an evening miracle. This cactus comes from the "Cereus" family. From my short research, it seems to be a "*Selenicereus brevispinus*" which is native to Cuba. The name "Selenicereus" comes from the Greek meaning "moon cereus" and refers to the flowers open at night.



Left is an early bud and above is the faded flower the next day.



LOCAL HISTORY

The photo above shows local gals at the Girl Scouts special ECity day on June 3 this year but it is not the first time that the scouts have had been active in the area.

We had this email from Deborah Giddes, who takes care of Collier County for Girl Scouts of Gulfcoast Florida:

The Everglades City Girl Scouts in 1955 were: Midgie Goff (who sold the most cookies!), Vonice Brown (2nd in the cookie sales!), Kathy Predmore (3rd in cookie sales!), Gale Drake, Etta Mae Fussell, Patsy Smith, Carol Mosher, Jenelle Thompson, Patricia Tredwell, Geneva Brown, Wanda Fussell, Marie Holzman and Sue Arnold. The Leaders were Mrs. Charlotte Predmore, Mrs. Libby Tredwell and Miss Lois Fletcher.

The 1956 troop was lead by Mrs. Charlotte Predmore and the girls in the troop were Natalie Goff, Sue Arnold, Lana House, Midgie Goff, Kathy Predmore, Patricia Tredwell and Virginia Rindy.

Some of those names are familiar! Were you a Girl Scout? What do you remember? When did the troop stop meeting? If you have any information, please phone Marya at 695-2905.

HISTORY ON TV

The next broadcast in the "Untold Stories" series on WGPU-TV on **Friday, June 26**, at 8:30 p.m. is a repeat of the History of Captiva. The island, off the coast of Ft Myers, was isolated completely (except by boat) until the Sanibel Causeway was built in 1963 and is still remote. It experienced a similar pioneering history to ours in this area years ago.



MUSEUM NEWS

The Friends have produced their Program of Events for the 2009-2010 winter season. Members can take part in a number of exiting trips: Christmas at Palm Cottage, Edison/Ford Winter Estates, Mound House, Historical Museum in Miami, and Koreshan State Park. The highlight will be a guided tour of the new Marco Island Historical Museum, the fifth in the Collier County Museums system and one which shares much of our pioneering history. Finalized programs will be mailed to members. If you are interested, stop in at the Museum or visit the Friends' website www.evergladesmuseum.org (where you can also read the latest newsletter and documents about local history).

Thanks to our new Business Members whose brochures are now available to visitors at the Museum. The list, so far, is: Shamrock Bank, River Wilderness, Ivey House, and JT's Cafe & Gallery. If your business wants to join, the annual membership is only \$50 which classifies as a donation to the Friends of the Museum of the Everglades, a 501(c)3 charitable corporation. You can pick up a form at the Museum.

Shown above is a photo from the reception last month for students at the great exhibit of ECity School art which will be on show all summer. Stop in for a visit. There is no admission charge (although donations are always welcome). Hours are Tuesday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m and Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For info, phone 695-0008.

"Catching the Fak-a-Habit"

reviewed by Marya Repko

If you wish you could go on a swamp walk in the Fakahatchee – or if you've been on one and didn't see everything – then this DVD is a must. Photographer Jay Staton has meticulously compiled a continuous display of plants and animals in our most remote and unspoiled local state park. You can see a gator lurking beneath the surface, ready to show its head above the water when a photo op presents itself, and any number of birds just doing their own thing.

Jay is known for his "Stages of a Ghost", a time-exposure showing the development of this rare orchid. His new DVD has many other wonderful images taken with consummate skill. Some of the footage was captured using motion-triggered cameras. There are scenes of black bears, bobcats, deer, and panthers acting naturally because they aren't afraid of the man behind the lens.

One comment from a viewer was "It's wonderful!". A local swamp tromper said she'd never seen some of the things so close up and recommended it highly. Another viewer said it was "total emersion" and particularly appreciated that most of the sound was natural (birds, water) rather than someone talking at her.

Copies are available at JT's in Chokoloskee and Right Choice Supermarket. For info, phone Marya at 695-2905.

MEMORIES

Summer Nights in the 1940s

by Barbara Hoffman Daniels

There was an unbelievable stillness that settled over the little town of Everglades City back then after my father had made his rounds to the various main transformers around town to turn the street lights on.

The City workers, having finished their days work by then, were all at home for their evening meal, a hot bath, and a radio program perhaps or the world news.

When School was out for summer vacation, we children were allowed to play out of doors under the street lights until ten or ten-thirty when we had to go in and clean up and get ready for bed.

We even played in the streets back then, especially between the medians. During these years it was very unusual to see an automobile riding around after dark. Most vehicles were issued to the men for work and there were not that many privately owned ones anyway.

We would gather a few more children from down the block and play "Prisoners Base" or "Hide and Seek" or maybe just play with the big fat toad frogs where they gather to feed on insects under the street lights. We would turn them upside down and rub their little fat bellies and put them to sleep. "Charming them" was what we called it.

Another fun thing was to catch fire flies and put them in glass jars so that we could take them in our rooms at night and watch them glow in the dark and then turning them loose the next day.

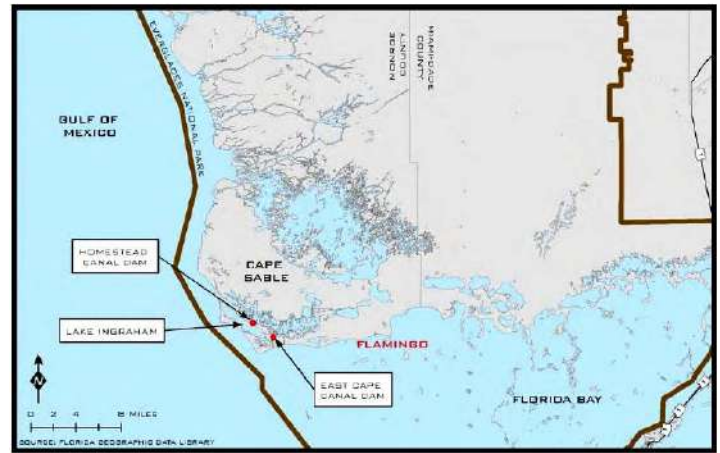
We had only one electric fan in our home then and the nights could get pretty hot. I would lay by my screened window and listen to the night sounds. The slightest breeze blowing through the coconut palm leaves made a sound like miniature castanets. The sounds of the big diesel engines at the power plant hummed and vibrated the ground, but not so loud that you could not hear the bull frog choir that carried from across the bay, from the mangrove swamps. Our little yard "peepers" joined in as well as millions of crickets.

The view I could see from my window was like a painting on nights that the moon was bright. Tiny drops of moisture glittered on everything green and, along with the sounds, was a memory of a scene that I hope I never lose.

It was my world back then and my town.

I knew the names of every household, I knew when to listen for the Atlantic Coast Line train whistle, the sounds of the whistle from the power plant for noon break, and quitting time for the workers, the sounds of the guide boats warming up, up-town at the docks on cold winter mornings. I don't know the little town very well any more but I feel that I had the best of it.

Barbara Hoffman Daniels grew up in Everglades City where her father was the City electrician. She also lived for over thirty years in the Big Cypress.



CAPE SABLE DAM RESTORATION

Everglades National Park has released the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Cape Sable Canals Dam Restoration Project. This project is intended to provide sustainable solutions to issues associated with saltwater intrusion into and degradation of freshwater and brackish marshes north of the marl ridge; illegal motorized boat access into the Marjory Stoneman Douglas Wilderness area; and unsafe conditions for motorized and non-motorized boaters at the dam sites.

The EA evaluates three action alternatives for the East Cape Extension Canal and five action alternatives for the Homestead Canal, along with the no action alternatives for both dam sites.

Under the preferred Alternatives (D and D1, respectively) for the East Cape Extension Canal and the Homestead Canal, dams would function for a 50-year life-cycle and a portage would be installed to provide safe passage over the restored dams for non-motorized boaters (canoeists/kayakers).

Public comment is welcomed until **Tuesday, July 14**. For info, see www.parkplanning.nps.gov or contact DeWitt Smith, Project Manager, at (305) 224-4218.

Glades Daze

by Patricia Huff

Last night was one of those evenings that Barbara Daniels talks about in her "Memories" article. It's summer, it's hot, but from my hammock on the river, the breeze kept the mosquitoes away and I experienced some of the same small-town feelings that Barbara did 60 years or so ago. Instead of the sounds of the "big diesel engines at the power plant," there was a hum of a few air conditioning units across the river but not so loud that you could not hear the sounds of the everglades. I looked up at the sky to see an osprey and other birds glide across the white-veiled clouds. Life is good and the world seems at peace, at least in this small section of the world.

RESTAURANT NEWS



- Backcountry Cafe (695-2552):**
6:00 am - 3:00 pm.; Sun - Wed
6:00 am - 9:00 pm.; Thurs, Fri, Sat
- Camellia Street Grill (695-2003):**
Closed for Summer
- City Seafood (695-4700):**
11:00 am - 6:00 pm; daily
Closed June 15, 16, 17
Fish market also open
- Everglades Scoop (695-0375):**
Closed for vacation
- 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 - 6:00 pm; Sun - Thurs
6:00 am - 9:00 pm; Fri, Sat
Food service stops 1 hr before close
- Grimm's Stone Crab (695-3222):**
8:00 am - 3: pm; Mon - Fri
Fish market (grouper/pompano)
- Havana Cafe (695-2214):**
Closed for summer
- Joanie's Blue Crab Cafe (695-2682):**
11:00 am - 5:00 pm; Wed - Mon
Closed Tuesday
- JT's Cafe & Gallery (695-2630):**
12:00 noon - 4:00 pm; Sat, Sun
- Leebo's Rock-Bottom Bar:**
4:00 pm; Mon - Sat
noon; Sunday
- Oyster House Restaurant (695-2073):**
Closed for summer
- Port of the Islands (239-394-3101):**
7:00 - 10:00 am; Mon-Sat
7:00 - 11:00 am; Sun
Hot and cold breakfast menu
- Right Choice Pizzeria (695-3663):**
5:00 - 9:00 pm; Thurs-Mon (takeout)
- 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):**
Closed for summer

For a list of church service times and park openings, see our website or phone us for a copy.

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS



Plans are being made for our annual festivities which take place on **Sunday, July 5**, this year.

The parade will start at 1:00 p.m. and the theme is "Fishing for Fun". If you want to join in with a float, phone Elaine at 695-2695.

There will also be an Arts & Crafts sale in McLeod Park beginning at 11:00 a.m. There is no charge to set up your table. For info, phone Marya at 695-2905.

The prizes for best floats and for the best-dressed kiddies ("Mister and Miss FireCracker") will be given out at 2:00 p.m. After that, the winning tickets for the raffle will be drawn. There will be food for sale and music to give the event a party atmosphere.

Finally, at around 9:00 p.m. the grand fireworks display will be shown, *thanks* to donors to our Fireworks Fund.

It is not too late to contribute. You can send your check payable to "Everglades Community Fireworks Fund" to P. O. Box 110, Everglades City, FL, 34139 or drop in your donation at City Hall.

Summer Specials



JT's in Chokoloskee is offering delicious and healthy fruit smoothies this summer for the special price of \$3.95. The tempting flavors include mango mash, strawberry, and banana. And, there is a mango ice cream shake which is very popular.

JT's is open this summer on weekends from noon to 4:00 p.m. and the gift shop also has special offers.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Greet Visitors in the Museum
Meet people from around the corner or around the world!
Phone Martha 695-0008.



A very happy Mike Owen, the biologist at Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park, is seen here unpacking the new computer equipment which was presented to him by the Friends. Besides the laptop, the box contained a projector so we can expect some informative and enthusiastic slide shows from Mike about the wonders of the Fak. For info about the Friends and how they help the park, see website www.friendsoffakahatchee.org.

Little Chairs for Little Tykes



Tiny tables and chairs are wanted for the Skating Rink. If you have some in wood or plastic that aren't being used, contact Lisa at City Hall, 695-3781.



HOT SUMMER NIGHTS

The Collier County Sheriff's Office is hosting a series of events for youngsters over the summer and will be in ECity on **Tuesday, July 7**, and **Friday, July 10**, at McLeod Park with a variety of activities from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. "Hot Summer Nights" are open to youths ages 10 through 17.

For more info, stop in and chat with Lt Mark Milligan during his office hours at City Hall or phone the CCSO Youth Relations department at 239-793-9260. There is also info at website www.colliersheriff.org.

SNOOK CLASSIFIED

FOR SALE: House and Barn on 1.02 Acres. Zoned (A). Sale price \$148,000 or for rent at \$900/mon. For more info, call 321-439-7635.

FOR SALE BY OWNER: 3 lots in Chokoloskee, 2 on Calusa Dr, Lot M-4 \$105,000, Lot M-5 (filled) \$135,000, Lot by cemetery \$79,000. Phone owner at (419) 441-2068 or (740) 864-2179.

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: 2-bedroom 1-bath mobile home with a dock and boat ramp, Plantation Island. Make an offer!!! Phone 239-825-4502.

FOR RENT: Mobile Home on Canal, 29 Plantation Drive, 2 bedroom, 1 bath, unfurnished, \$600 per month or \$700 per month with lawn maintenance. Call 239-250-0668

FOR SALE: Deeded waterfront home on a quiet canal; 2 kitchens, 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, remodeled, furnished, new A/C, new dock. \$525,000 (owner licensed realtor). Call 239-860-6369

SNOOK CLASSIFIED

FOR RENT: Nice furnished hotel condo efficiency at Port of the Islands, includes ALL, only \$900/mon. Phone (239) 269-2511.

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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
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The views expressed in signed articles are not necessarily those of the editors or publisher.

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