

# The MULLET RAPPER

## What's Happening in the Everglades City Area

**JUNE 26 – JULY 9, 2009**

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### BUCKLE UP!



A new law effective June 30 allows deputies to stop a car for a seat belt violation.

Before that the offense was secondary, not a reason to pull a car over. In addition, all front seat passengers in a pickup truck must be wearing restraints, including someone sitting in the middle. Passengers 18 years and older are free to ride in the bed of the truck without a restraint.

The penalty for a seat belt violation is \$98 and for a child restraint violation is \$148.

### BOAT PATROL

“Operation Dry Water” aims to stop boating accidents and fatalities by warning boaters not to drink & drive on the water.

CCSO deputies will be out patrolling the public waterways over the **weekend starting on Friday, June 26**, on the lookout for BUIs and other boating safety violations. Law enforcement agencies in 43 states take part in this annual operation. For info, see [www.operationdrywater.org](http://www.operationdrywater.org).

If you think someone may be boating under the influence, call 252-9300.

### Celebrate Independence Day! SUNDAY, JULY 5



- 11:00** Arts&Crafts, Food Booths Open, McLeod Park
- 12:30** Opening Ceremony, City Hall
- 1:00** PARADE
- 2:00** Food, Music, Prizes, Raffle in McLeod Park
- 4:00** Jazz Concert, Community Center
- 9:00** Fireworks

If you want to join the parade, phone Elaine at 695-2695. There are prizes for the best floats. The theme this year is “Fishing for Fun”.

If you want to be a vendor in the Arts & Crafts sale, phone Marya at 695-2905.



### FREE JAZZ CONCERT

We’re honored to have a visit by the Air National Guard Band of the Smoky Mountains to help us celebrate Independence Day. They will be performing on **Sunday, July 5, at 4:00 p.m.** after our festivities. Come along to the Community Center (Skating Rink) behind the Fire Station to hear them.

We understand that they “take great pride in their ability to offer a wide variety of musical programming. Concerts typically include: traditional concert band pieces, military marches, patriotic selections, rock, jazz and country/western selections.”

It should be a great concert! and, early enough for all the family to enjoy.

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If you have news, photos, announcements, or articles ... email [mulletrapper@gmail.com](mailto:mulletrapper@gmail.com) or phone 695-2905.

# JUNE/JULY 2009

<u>SUN</u>	<u>MON</u>	<u>TUES</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THURS</u>	<u>FRI</u>	<u>SAT</u>
<b>Fathers' Day 21</b>	new moon ○ <b>22</b> <b>Hour of Prayer</b> Chokoloskee Church of God 7pm	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> <b>Ladies Coffee</b> Backcountry Cafe 8 am	<b>25</b>	<b>RAPPER 26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> <b>Hour of Prayer</b> Holy Family Catholic Church 7 pm	<b>30</b>	<b>JULY 1</b> <b>Ladies Coffee</b> Backcountry Cafe 8 am	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> <b>Independence Day</b> Leebo's Mullet Fry see p.3
<b>5</b> <b>Independence Celebration</b> <b>Jazz Concert</b> see p.1	<b>6</b> <b>Hour of Prayer</b> Everglades Community Church 7 pm	full moon ● <b>7</b> <b>Congressional Visit</b> , see p.3 <b>Hot Summer Nights</b> see p.3	<b>8</b> <b>Ladies Coffee</b> Backcountry Cafe 8 am	<b>9</b>	<b>RAPPER 10</b> <b>Hot Summer Nights</b> see p.3	<b>11</b> <b>SCV</b> Depot, 6 pm
full moon ● <b>12</b>	<b>13</b> <b>Hour of Prayer</b> Copeland Baptist Church, 7 pm <b>OFCD Bd</b> Fire Sta, 6 pm	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> <b>Ladies Coffee</b> Backcountry Cafe 8 am	<b>16</b> <b>Summer School ends</b>	<b>17</b> <b>Summer Camp trip to Wannado City</b>	<b>18</b> <b>Mobile Pet Vet</b> see p.3 <b>Miccosukee Music &amp; Crafts Fair</b> , see p.11
<b>19</b> <b>Mobile Pet Vet</b> see p.3	<b>20</b> <b>Hour of Prayer</b> Chokoloskee Church of God 7pm	<b>21</b> <b>Reach Out</b> City Hall, 8:30 am <b>BigC ORV mtg</b> 3:30-5 pm	new moon ○ <b>22</b> <b>Ladies Coffee</b> Backcountry Cafe 8 am	<b>23</b> <b>Copeland Civic</b> 7 pm	<b>RAPPER 24</b>	<b>25</b>

July 27-31: Copeland Baptist Vacation Bible School      July 30: Wildlife Crossing Mtg      July 31: end of BigC ORV rest period  
 Aug 4: City Council mtg      Aug 4: CCSO National Night Out      Aug 10-14: Build-a-Boat      Aug 24: Back to School  
 Sept 2: FME mtg      Sept 5-7: Butcher "Muck About"      Sept 9-11: FWC mtg  
 Sept 15: Reach Out mtg      Sept 15: BigC ORV mtg  
 Oct 2-4: RedSnook Tournament      Oct 10-17: 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. (closed July 3 & 4)  
 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: Sat; noon, 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, 6/26 (10-11 am)      Thurs, 7/2 (10-11 am)      Mon, 7/6 (1-2 pm)      Wed, 7/8 (10-11 am)

**SKATING RINK CLOSED**

The Skating Rink in the Community Center will be closed on **Friday & Saturday, July 3 & 4**, so it can be set up for the free Jazz Band Concert on Sunday (see front page).

**Mullet Fry on the 4th**

Leebo's is celebrating the Fourth of July with traditional local foods. Besides fried mullet, there will be swamp cabbage, potato salad, and baked beans. During the evening, music will be provided by Rex & Hot Country who have played here before.

The fry starts at 3:00 p.m. on **Saturday, July 4**. You can get tickets in advance and take-out will be available. For info, phone 465-9521.

**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.

**REACH OUT BREAK**

The next meeting will be on **September 15**. However, money for Summer Camp is still needed because there are about 60 kids! Hot meals at noon are a special treat (see page 12).



**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](http://www.colliersheriff.org).

**FIREWORKS FUND**

It is not too late to contribute to the Fireworks Fund. 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.



**OCHOPEE FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT**

- 06/10/09: Vehicle Accident, Oasis Ranger Station
- 06/10/09: Emergency Medical, Copeland
- 06/10/09: Vehicle Accident, 55mm on I-75
- 06/11/09: Emergency Medical, Everglades City Fire Station
- 06/12/09: Vehicle Fire, Kirby Storter Park
- 06/12/09: Vehicle Accident, 74mm on I-75
- 06/12/09: Vehicle Fire, 78mm on I-75
- 06/12/09: Vehicle Accident, East of Dade County Line on US-41
- 06/14/09: Emergency Medical, 74mm on I-75
- 06/16/09: Vehicle Accident, 72mm on I-75
- 06/18/09: Vehicle Fire, 80mm on I-75
- 06/19/09: Trouble Breathing, Everglades City
- 06/19/09: Knee Injury, Everglades City
- 06/19/09: Possible Hazardous Material Odor, Plantation Parkway
- 06/19/09: Emergency Medical Call, Copeland
- 06/20/09: Emergency Medical Call, Port of the Islands
- 06/20/09: Emergency Medical Call, SR-29 and US-41
- 06/21/09: Vehicle Accident, 69mm on I-75
- 06/21/09: Suicidal Person, Plantation Island
- 06/23/09: Vehicle Fire, 73mm on I-75

**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](http://www.naplesmobilepetvet.com).

See the Rapper in full color!  
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**TIDES FOR BARRON RIVER**

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

06/26/2009	Fri	01:03AM	-0.4	L	06:47AM	2.5	H	01:03PM	0.6	L	05:51PM	3.0	H
06/27/2009	Sat	01:50AM	-0.1	L	07:29AM	2.5	H	02:05PM	0.5	L	07:03PM	2.7	H
06/28/2009	Sun	02:39AM	0.1	L	08:11AM	2.5	H	03:15PM	0.4	L	08:18PM	2.4	H
06/29/2009	Mon	03:31AM	0.4	L	08:54AM	2.6	H	04:30PM	0.4	L	09:39PM	2.1	H
06/30/2009	Tue	04:27AM	0.6	L	09:40AM	2.7	H	05:41PM	0.2	L	11:18PM	2.0	H
07/01/2009	Wed	05:27AM	0.7	L	10:30AM	2.7	H	06:44PM	0.1	L			
07/02/2009	Thu	01:36AM	2.0	H	06:26AM	0.8	L	11:22AM	2.8	H	07:40PM	0.0	L
07/03/2009	Fri	02:52AM	2.1	H	07:21AM	0.9	L	12:13PM	2.9	H	08:30PM	-0.1	L
07/04/2009	Sat	03:36AM	2.1	H	08:13AM	0.9	L	12:59PM	2.9	H	09:15PM	-0.1	L
07/05/2009	Sun	03:54AM	2.1	H	08:58AM	0.9	L	01:40PM	3.0	H	09:55PM	-0.2	L
07/06/2009	Mon	03:54AM	2.1	H	09:39AM	0.8	L	02:18PM	3.1	H	10:33PM	-0.2	L
07/07/2009	Tue	04:11AM	2.2	H	10:16AM	0.8	L	02:53PM	3.1	H	11:09PM	-0.2	L
07/08/2009	Wed	04:37AM	2.3	H	10:52AM	0.8	L	03:27PM	3.1	H	11:43PM	-0.2	L
07/09/2009	Thu	05:09AM	2.3	H	11:27AM	0.7	L	04:01PM	3.0	H			
07/10/2009	Fri	12:16AM	-0.1	L	05:44AM	2.4	H	12:03PM	0.7	L	04:37PM	2.9	H



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# SCHOOL & SUMMER CAMP 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

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

I can't believe how hot it is outside! A few days ago I went to the pool with my friend Trevor and in the shade the temperature registered 104 degrees Fahrenheit! I was very surprised that it would be that hot in the shade! A week ago my Mom and I took my little niece Kailey swimming, and when we got into the car to go home, she said to me and my mother "It sure is hot out here" in a little Southern voice! And, she is only two but speaks like an adult! My Mom and I planted sunflower seeds two months ago, and one is already 6 ft tall! And in the mornings they face my house and when I look out at them, they look like little suns here to brighten up the day!

Sunday was father's day and my father is a great Dad and grandparent. He works really hard everyday to make everyone happy. I love my Dad more than anything in the whole wide world! He makes sure everyday that he tells me he loves me and that is what I love about him the most. He is a very loveable person! I am really thankful to have a Dad like him in my life. Also, my Dad is funny, too! He loves to make people laugh!

Wish for cooler weather, Savannah

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

If you want something to do after our Summer Camp in ECity finishes on July 17, the Girl Scouts have a day camp in Naples at Cambier Park that runs until August 14 plus many other activities in different locations. For more info, see [www.gsgcf.org](http://www.gsgcf.org) or phone 800-232-4475.

### HONOR ROLL for the last school term

#### Elementary School (Straight A's)

Sindy Cifuentes, Logan Foss, Madelyn Mitchell, Jasibel Ruth, Brandon Steffen

#### High School (Straight A's)

Peyton Beebe, Karisa Brown



Summer Camp has been really busy, thanks partly to members of the Collier County Sheriff's Office who provide activities each Tuesday. A team from the Mounted Patrol visited on June 16 to talk about how horses are used by the deputies and how to approach a horse safely.



A bike rodeo was held on June 23. All 50 kids were fitted out with helmets and completed a bike safety course. They took home goodie bags to reinforce their lessons. The officers & volunteers, some from Lee County, were pleased at how appreciative the kids were.

McGruff, the safety dog, was also on hand, with Crime Prevention Officer Sue Gentry, to chat with the students. He's an old favorite and visits us each year.



*Our thanks to Helen Bryan for photos.*



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## SENIOR MEALS

If you are at least 60 years old, you can stop in for a meal courtesy of Collier County Housing & Human Services Department. Lunch is served at the East Naples Community Center at 3500 Thomasson Drive (west off US-41) from 11:30 a.m. to noon. Meals are also available in Immokalee at the Roberts Center at 905 Roberts Avenue (east off SR-29). For info and reservations, phone 793-4414.

## HOUSEHOLD TIP

by Marya Repko

I sometimes receive as birthday or holiday gifts wonderfully-smelly bars of soap (or buy them for myself at craft fairs). I don't use them in the shower but bury them among my clothes in drawers. It's always a pleasure to put on a clean nightshirt and find it smells so nice.

## TRAVEL WARNING



If you go to the islands or cross any American borders, you now need either a passport book or passport card. The card is only good for North American travel by boat or land (not by air); the traditional blue passport book lets you go anywhere.

Application forms are available from the library in City Hall or online at [www.travel.state.gov/passport](http://www.travel.state.gov/passport).

## FREE COURSE

Business owners who sell alcohol are invited to sponsor a 2-hour workshop for their employees to learn about local alcohol sales laws. "Drug Free Collier" will make a presentation to groups of 10 to 15 people and include your business as a sponsor in their promotional publicity. One of the aims of this program is to reduce underage drinking. For info, phone 377-0535 or see [www.drugfreecollier.org](http://www.drugfreecollier.org).

## Recipe for Good Eating

### Summer Medley

by Patricia Huff



Eggplant, asparagus, summer squash, zucchini, tomatoes, red and/or green peppers, whatever ...

This summer I've been on a vegetable kick; picking up all kinds at the grocery store or market. I have found that I just feel healthier eating lots of greens and lots of vegetables.

The easiest and best tasting way to prepare is to just choose three of your favorite (mine is eggplant, asparagus and tomatoes) and slice thinly. Preheat oven to 350 degrees; spray olive oil in a baking dish and place the vegetables alongside each other. I then sprinkle the slices with salt and pepper and drizzle extra virgin olive oil on them before placing in the oven. After about 15 minutes, they are done and I like to let the vegetables sit out a few minutes to almost room temperature before eating. Just delicious and so easy. Not an original idea, but just a reminder to eat healthy this summer!

## Summer Fashion

by Patricia Huff

During these warmer (hot) months of summer, it's a good idea to dress for the occasion. The Seminole women wore colorful long sleeved blouses and floor-length full skirts, made from cotton material. The men wore a simple full cut shirt. Most fishing guides now wear light-weight long-sleeve shirts and long pants. The sun has taken its toll on those who used to wear just shorts and T-shirts, and people have become more aware of skin cancer and its affects. Another reason for covering the skin is that it keeps the mosquitoes away (as long as the clothing is loose fitting).

However, we're in South Florida, home of beaches and sun and fun. For many of us who want to *dress for summer*, comfortable shorts and tops can be worn. I find that the loose fitting blouses are more airy and many of the very light weight materials (organic cotton and/or recycled polyester) made by Patogonia or other manufacturers are the most appropriate. Of course, when the skin is exposed, one should always put on sunscreen to protect yourself. Because my skin is more sensitive to the rays of the sun, first thing in the morning (and, again, every 2 hours) I apply sunscreen to my face. Enjoy the outdoors but take precaution.

## YOUTH ACADEMY GRADS

Congratulations to Kimberly Brown, Renee Gonzalez, and Brittney Potter who completed a 40-hour Youth Academy that was held by CCSO on June 8-12. The course motivates youth to become productive leaders in their community.

Lt Mark Milligan told the *Rapper*, "Our local youth represented our area well and stood out as role models to the instructors teaching the class. We should all be proud of these outstanding youth in our community. May they have continued success as they embark in their future!"





## Fishing Report

by Captain Bill Lindsay

The rain has helped the backcountry action for snook and small tarpon. They feed early and late in the day, just

like the mosquitoes. Some large snook are being taken on the outside points and in the mouth of the rivers. Large tarpon can be caught in the rivers and passes. Capt. Norman Brown has been catching his limit of trout and redfish. Captain Don Cochran has taken several nice permit and cobia on the Gulf wrecks. He has had no trouble catching nice trout. On one trip his party caught and released a 16-lb snook in Sandfly Pass. There are lots of sharks around and on some of the wrecks they attack every fish you hook. The outside coves are holding some small snook and lots of large black drum. In short, if you can stand the heat and bugs, fishing is pretty good.

*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.*

## FWC NEWS

Among the items on the agenda at the FWC meeting on June 18, two rule changes for fishing in the Gulf were approved.

The season for recreational harvesting of **red snapper** is now June 1 through August 14 (it was September 30). The FWC press release states "This is consistent with new federal regulations and is necessary because of recreational over-harvests of Gulf red snapper in 2008."

The new closed spawning season for recreational **grouper** is February 1 through March 31 and the reduced daily aggregate bag limit is 4 per person. These rules apply to Gulf waters except Monroe County. Commercial fishermen will be able to take smaller Gulf red grouper; the minimum size has been reduced to 18 inches total length (from 20 inches), starting in August.

To read the full report, see [www.myfwc.com](http://www.myfwc.com) and click on Newsroom.

By the way, FWC celebrates its 10<sup>th</sup> Birthday on July 1. The public can help FWC by joining the Florida Wildlife Foundation, a non-profit founded "to provide assistance, funding and promotional support to contribute to the health and well-being of Florida's fish and wildlife resources and their habitats." It is "the citizen-support organization of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission." To learn more, see [www.wildlifeflorida.org](http://www.wildlifeflorida.org).



## FLORIDA FLORA

### Seagrape (*Coccoloba uvifera*)

by Patricia Huff

This time of year the seagrape trees come alive, at least it seems so at my house. We have a very large tree that was planted long before we moved here 15 years ago. Although we'll have "grapes" in a few weeks, the tree is somewhat messy year round. The leaves are beautifully shaped, round with bright red veins, but they turn brown and drop constantly. When we first moved into our home, I thought how I would surely keep the sidewalk clear of these leaves but it is a constant battle. In the early summer the tiny white blossoms that spike out to almost a foot start falling like raindrops. Then, the reward: fruit will come and grow in grape-like clusters, thus the name. Our tree is so tall that when the fruit hits the ground, it splits open. This year I bought a net which I hope will catch the fruit and I can use to make jelly (*see recipe below*). The tree does provide a lot of shade, is extremely salt tolerant, has grown very tall (with some trimming) and has character. And, I know the birds will enjoy the fruit as well.

### Seagrape Jelly

The grapes are ripe when they turn dark purple. We found this recipe in "Prop Roots" published by our school.



Wash them and put into a large pot. Pour water into pot, covering seagrapes. Boil rapidly for 30 minutes. Drain juice off the seagrapes and strain. Measure 1 cup of juice to 1 cup sugar. Return to stove for cooking. Boil rapidly until it starts to pop. Then pour into hot containers and seal.

Other recipes are similar and all call for equal measures of juice to sugar.



## LOCAL HISTORY



All the recent donations to the Historical Library have finally been catalogued on the ESHP computer (and a back-up disk has been saved off-site).

We were fortunate to receive a generous donation by Karen Cabral who gave the Historical Library over 50 books from her extensive Florida collection. Included are some old classics by Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings, Patrick Smith, and Marjory Stoneman Douglas. There are also great modern novels by Carl Hiaasen, Randy Wayne White, James W. Hall, and Peter Matthiessen, among others, which will be classics in time.

There are over 150 books on our shelves, some of them dating back to the 1920s and out-of-print. For a full list of our holdings in City Hall, visit the ESHP website [www.evergladeshistorical.org](http://www.evergladeshistorical.org) or phone Marya at 695-2905.

## HISTORY IN PRINT

### Pelts, Plumes, and Hides; White Traders among the Seminole Indians, 1870-1930

by Harry A. Kersey, Jr.

reviewed by Marya Repko

This is a lovely, nostalgic book with chapters about the Storters and Ted Smallwood, as well as others further afield such as the Stranahans in Fort Lauderdale and Browns at the Boat Landing east of Immokalee.

The Indians brought their hunting bounty to the trading posts to sell for cash which they used to buy goods such as ammunition and calico cloth.

The author is a renowned authority on the Florida Seminoles and has published a multitude of interesting books and papers (some of which are in the Historical Library). He is now Professor Emeritus at Florida Atlantic University.

He sets the Indian trade in context, referring to the Seminole Wars and the often bad treatment which they received from cheating itinerant traders and their relief in finding honest storekeepers.

A curious note: the book was printed in 1975 by "The Storter Printing Company, Gainesville, Florida" which has since moved to Texas.



## MUSEUM NEWS

Good news! The TDC (Tourist Development Council) voted at its meeting on June 22 to give almost \$1.5 million to Collier County Museums, a recognition of how important museums are to tourism. Extra money was also awarded to the new Marco Island museum to help set up exhibits. Final approval by the Board of County Commissioners is expected on June 29. About 85,000 people visited the county museum system last year, over 20% of them here in Everglades.

The schedule of artists that will be shown during the 2009-2010 season in the Pauline Reeves Gallery at the front of our Museum is now available. The brochure also includes the dates for "Meet the Artist" receptions and special events. To get a copy of the new schedule, visit the Museum or see the Friends' website [www.evergladesmuseum.org](http://www.evergladesmuseum.org).

## Short Field Landings

by Mike Klein

Finally, almost 4 years after Hurricane Wilma, construction of the new hangers at Everglades Airport will be completed this year.

While there were many valid reasons for the delay (initial entanglements with the insurers, contract bidding and re-bidding, the County budget process, dealings with other agencies: the FAA, hangar manufacturers, door suppliers, and engineering consultation schedules), it has been a dedicated struggle. Now, thanks to Mayor Sammy's persistence and the untiring efforts of the staff and board of the Collier County Airport Authority, we are finally on the way.

The work is being done by Grady Minor of Bonita Springs and Coral Sands Construction, LLC. David Griggs of Coral Sands and Jim Kenney, airport manager for Everglades and Immokalee, met with the City to review the project and have applied for the necessary permits. Weather and whatnot permitting, the project should move along according to the following schedule:

- June 22 – Utilities siting, Survey/Layout
- July 6 – Demolition of the old foundation
- Aug 3 – Layout foundations
- Aug 4-27 – Excavate & pour foundations
- Aug 27 – Pour concrete slab
- Sept 7 – Erect metal building
- Sept 21 – Asphalt and Site restoration
- Sept 22 – Interior framing & drywall
- Sept 28 – Electrical and plumbing
- Oct 5 – Interior finishes
- Oct 12 – Substantial completion
- Nov 9 – Closeout completion

Mr. Griggs will keep us updated on progress.

Reconstruction of the dwelling/office structure has been postponed due to the current financial situation and will be revisited once the economy gets back up to takeoff speed.



## NEW DEPUTY-SUPER

Big Cypress National Preserve has a new Deputy Superintendent. JD Lee started in on the job on June 22 but this is not his first post in the preserve; he served as a ranger in Big Cypress from 1999 to 2003. After that he went to Gulf Island National Seashore in northern Florida and then to the NPS Intermountain Region out west. JD has park experience stretching back over 22 years. He originally came from Indiana.



## Beyond Glades Daze

by Patricia Huff

This past week I went to the Keys for a few days to meet my husband who was fishing with a client there. He had a day free so just the two of us went out on the water; it's been a while since I've been out on the boat in the Keys and it was beautiful!! The day was extremely hot but with a slight breeze it was pleasant enough. Also, I hung my feet overboard (not having to worry about alligators swimming by) and that seemed to cool me off. We rode out a few miles off Islamorada and the bay was slick calm. Just riding along in such clear, blue green water reminded me of being in the Bahamas. Looking out towards the horizon, it was difficult to determine where the sky met the sea; the haze over the water and the misty blue of the sky seemed to block out any distinguishing line between the two. Just watching Steve work the fly line out to the tarpon cruising by on the flats made the day complete. The stillness was astounding! There were a few egrets and pelicans on a nearby island and the bridge in the far distance looked as if it was built just to go across the water. We love the Everglades but it is nice just to drive a few hours down to the Keys and experience another world, just as beautiful.

## BigC Zone 4 Airboat Access Reopened

With recent rains water levels in Zone 4 of Big Cypress National Preserve have risen to allow for the reopening of airboat trails within the zone.

The National Park Service reminds all permitted Off-Road Vehicle (ORV) operators that the other portions of the Preserve that allow for wheeled vehicle access remain closed, as part of the annual 60-day closure period, through July 30.

Zone 4 is located within the southeast corner of the Preserve, south of Loop Road, and is the only area within the Preserve that allows for backcountry access via airboat. For info, phone 695-1107.

## STATE PARKS COST MORE

Fees at State Parks will go up, beginning July 1. To take your car with up to 8 people into Collier Seminole and Koreshan, it will cost \$5 (rather than \$4). The entry new fee at Delnor-Wiggins is \$6 and at Lovers Key is \$8. Camping fees have also been increased. There is no entry fee to the Fakahatchee at Janes Scenic Drive in Copeland or at the Boardwalk on US-41 (Tamiami Trail), although donations are gratefully received.

## NPS FREE WEEKENDS

There will be no entry fee at local National Parks during the weekends of **July 18/19** and **August 15/16** as part of the "Fee Free Summer Weekend" program. This is a good chance to visit Shark Valley or the park headquarters on the east coast near Homestead and have an inexpensive day out.

## PANTHER KILLING: \$15,000 AWARD



An award is being offered for information leading to the arrest of the person who shot a panther near Hendry Correctional Institute. The dead body was found there on April 21. The money for the award has been contributed by a number on environmental agencies and organizations. Florida panthers are an endangered species so this is a serious offense. If you can help, phone (239) 561-8144 or the anonymous line (888) 404-3922.

## BEWARE OF GATORS



We had this email from John Elting who leads swamp walks for the Friends of Fakahatchee:

Alligators should be approached with caution. They have very quick lateral movement. On land, if their tail is cocked to the right, they can very quickly move in that direction and visa versa.

Though not aggressive by nature, beware if one moves slowly in a bee-line toward you in the water, especially if he cocks his head forward and down. Dominate bulls ride higher in the water.

To learn more about the Fak and to book swamp walks, see the Friends' website [www.friendsoffakahatchee.org](http://www.friendsoffakahatchee.org).

**RESTAURANT NEWS**



- Backcountry Cafe (695-2552):**  
6:00 am - 3:00 pm.; daily
- Camellia Street Grill (695-2003):**  
*Closed for Summer*
- City Seafood (695-4700):**  
11:00 am - 6:00 pm; daily  
*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  
*Gallery & Gift Shop also open*
- Leebo’s Rock-Bottom Bar:**  
3:00 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-Sun (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. The list is also posted on the board outside the Captain’s Table hotel.



This little owl was seen in broad daylight on June 24 in the Fakahatchee. He was “frolicking in a puddle” on Janes Drive and then flew up into a tree but was not afraid of photographer Phill Lawry who emailed his note & pic to us.

**BUILD A BOAT**



Youngsters aged 13 to 17 are invited to sign up to “Build-a-Boat”. During the week of the program, they will construct a boat from a kit with guidance from the CCSO Marine Bureau. This program teaches the importance of teamwork and provides education so that students can test for their Boating Safety Card.

“Build-a-Boat” will be held in ECity on August 10-14 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day. The boat building will take place in a bay outside the fire station and class work will be held in the Community Center. The course is free.

Places are limited so sign up now by phoning Lisa at 695-3781.

**WILDLIFE CROSSINGS**

A workshop for the public has been scheduled for **Thursday, July 30**, to learn about the proposed wildlife crossings on US-41. The informal meeting will be held at the Everglades Community Center from 5:30 to 7:30 in the evening.

For more info, phone Debbie Tower at the Florida Department of Transportation at (239) 461-4300.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

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

**Native American Festival**



The sounds of Country and Classic Rock will emerge from the Everglades on **Saturday, July 18**, at the 34th Annual Miccosukee Everglades Music & Crafts Festival at the Miccosukee Indian Village on the Tamiami Trail (US-41). Featuring live concerts by Darryl Worley, Bad Company’s former lead singer Brian Howe, and Main Highway. Enjoy alligator demonstrations, airboat rides and a Miccosukee Fashion Show. Authentic Native American Indian arts, crafts and food will be on sale. The fun starts at 9:30 a.m. General admission \$25, children 6 years and under are free. All proceeds will benefit the Miccosukee Educational Fund. For info, see [www.miccosukee.com](http://www.miccosukee.com) or call (305) 223-8380.

**Paws to Reflect**

by a Squeediliferous Pusslet



Salutations from the rain forest. It’s now been raining here in Connecticut for two months and forty-one days. Even the flowers aren’t happy. And when the sun did come out, a week ago last Tuesday between ten and two, the lawn sprang up so fiercely that I had to hide in the woodpile. There’s certainly no incentive for me to play hooky and spend the night outdoors. It got so depressing having to stay inside most days that I brought in a half grown bunny for Ma to play with. Fortunately, she was having her lunch, so I didn’t have to go look for her. I dropped my gift gently just beneath her chair. She got so excited she couldn’t even be bothered to finish her meal. I guess it had been a while since she had her very own bunny. The two of them hopped around the dining room while I sprawled on my cushion and giggled. When she finally caught my bunny, she snuggled him for a minute then put him back outside. Well! After all my work to find some way to amuse her. There’s just no pleasing some people...

*Pusslet is assisted by “Constant Waterman” whose book about boating is available for sale around town.*



## SNOOK CLASSIFIED

**FOR SALE:** House and Barn on 1.02 Acres. Zoned (A). Sale price \$139,000 (\$59,000 below appraised value) or for rent at \$900/month. 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:** 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, \$500 per month or \$600 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

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

**FOR SALE:** Mini-refrigerators. Several available. \$50 each, willing to negotiate on price. The refrigerator/freezer units are made by Danby, weigh 77 lbs, and have a power input of 85 watts. Call Brady at 695-3299.



**Kids at the Reach Out summer camp get a free hot meal every day at noon, prepared and served by Lorraine and Betty from the kitchen. If you would like to help, send your check to Reach Out, P.O. Box 894, Chokoloskee, FL, 34138.**

## JOBS VACANT

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

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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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