

The MULLET RAPPER

What's Happening in the Everglades City Area

OCTOBER 30 – NOVEMBER 12, 2009

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Swamp Buggy Races

by Phill Lawry

Want to go to a true family event? Want to go to an event that is not over-commercialized beyond reason? Just hit the Swamp Buggy Races. It's Naples home-grown sporting event that brings out people from all walks of life. Kids having a great time, high-power motors screaming, drivers that can drive without three hundred sponsors on their suits. Watch wheeled racing machine go where they have no business being in TEN FEET of water.

All the event staff are super helpful. Explorer Scouts worked hand-in-hand with event staff and Collier County Sheriff's deputies: directing traffic, guiding misdirected people, helping run a safe clean event with easy access and parking. Everybody you meet just wants to make sure you have a good time. Do not eat for a couple days before you go because the food choices are unbelievable. If you live near Naples, you should go at least once in your life.

The next races are on the weekend of January 30/31.

See the Book Review on page 9.



Mayor Sammy Hamilton was Grand Marshall of the Swamp Buggy parade which was themed "Return to the Everglades". He is seen here with Queen Megan Hoolihan.



The Jeeps have special wheels, as do the more speedy racers with their powerful engines, seen straight-on in the photo below.



MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Sammy Hamilton issued an update on October 20 in which he summarized his recent activities.

Most of his concern has been with the water and sewer plants. As he said, "we forget how important they are until they stop working." He has drawn up a long term plan which he presented to the Southwest Water Management Board who will fund many of the improvements.

The Mayor has also been busy with the docks and street improvements. He welcomes the start of crab season, the return of winter residents, and the promise of a good tourist numbers.

He signed off by saying, "I am proud to be your mayor!"

SHERIFF'S REPORT

Lt. Mark Milligan told the *Rapper* that there had been two burglaries recently from cars on US-41. One was in the new Ten Thousand Islands Marsh Trail parking lot where a locked car was broken into. The other was at Big Cypress Bend (the Fakahatchee Boardwalk) and that vehicle was unlocked.

He reminded us to lock up and not leave anything tempting within sight.

CCSO on TV

The Everglades District was the feature on a new monthly program on Collier TV (channel 97) called "Sheriff on the Scene". Repeat air times are at 10:30 a.m. on **Saturday, October 31**, and on **Sunday, November 1**. For info, see www.colliergov.net

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FEATURE: MORE News & Events, p.11

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

NOVEMBER 2009

| <u>SUN</u> | <u>MON</u> | <u>TUES</u> | <u>WED</u> | <u>THURS</u> | <u>FRI</u> | <u>SAT</u> |
|---|--|---|---|---|--|---|
| 25 | 26 Hour of Prayer Everglades Community Church 7 pm School Teacher Workday Voter Registration | 27 | 28 Ladies Coffee Patty Huff's home 8 am | 29 | <u>RAPPER 30</u> | <u>Halloween 31</u> <i>see p.11</i> |
| NOV 1 <u>Clocks Change</u> <i>see p.3</i> | full moon ● 2 Hour of Prayer Copeland Baptist Church, 7 pm | 3 Congressional Visit, <i>see p.3</i> City Council <i>see p.3</i> Kids' Clinic <i>see p.3</i> | 4 Ladies Coffee Backcountry Cafe 8 am FME mtg Museum, 9 am <i>see p.9</i> | 5 Great Gators School, 9:30 am | 6 Old Florida Festival <i>see p.9</i> | 7 Kids' Clinic <i>see p.3</i> School Fall Festival, <i>see p.3</i> Museum Reception <i>see p.9</i> |
| 8 Old Florida Festival, <i>see p.9</i> | 9 Hour of Prayer Chokoloskee Church of God 7 pm ESHPP mtg City Hall, 9am <i>see p.9</i> OFCDBd Fire Sta, 6 pm | 10 | 11 <u>Veterans' Day</u> Ladies Coffee Gator Express 8 am Veterans' Day School Flagpole 8:30 am | 12 | <u>RAPPER 13</u> | 14 Mobile Pet Vet <i>see p.3</i> Kids' Clinic <i>see p.3</i> Medicine Cabinet <i>see p.11</i> |
| 15 Mobile Pet Vet <i>see p.3</i> | new moon ○ 16 Hour of Prayer Holy Family Catholic Church 7 pm | 17 Meet the Candidates Depot, 5:30 pm <i>see p.3</i> | 18 Ladies Coffee Havana Cafe 8 am Absentee Ballots | 19 SAC School, 3 pm Lions Club Depot, 5:30 pm Copeland Civic 7 pm | 20 ESHPP talk | 21 Chokoloskee Fall Festival |
| 22 | 23 Hour of Prayer Everglades Community Church 7 pm | 24 Reach Out mtg City Hall, 8:30 am City Election 7 am – 7 pm | 25 Ladies Coffee Backcountry Cafe 8 am | 26 <u>Thanksgiving</u> | <u>RAPPER 27</u> | 28 |

Nov 30: last day of Snook season Dec 1: BigC ORVs Dec 5: Art-in-the-Glades, Boat Parade Dec 7: FME Annual Luncheon

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

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

MUSEUM: Tues-Fri; 9:00 am to 5:00 pm; Sat; 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

SMALLWOOD STORE: Daily; 11:00 am to 5:00 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: 11/3, 11/7, 11/14

SHERIFF AT CITY HALL: Thurs, 10/29 (2-3 pm) Tues, 11/3 (4-5:30 pm) Thurs, 11/5 (9-10 am)

Mon, 11/9 (10/11 am) Fri, 11/13 (1-2 pm)



CLOCKS FALL BACK
 Don't forget to turn your
 clocks, watches, phones, etc,
 back one hour on
Sunday, November 1.

CITY COUNCIL

The next meeting will be on **Tuesday, November 3**, at 5:30 p.m. in City Hall.

CONGRESSIONAL VISIT

Monica Aranegui, the District Representative in Collier County at the office of Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart, will meet with constituents in City Hall on **Tuesday, November 3**, at 3:00 p.m. For info, phone 348-1620.

FALL FESTIVALS

ECity School is holding a fun festival on **Saturday, November 7**, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. with games, cake walk, face painting, pumpkin painting, dunk tank, and bounce house. There will be hot dogs, snow cones, and cotton candy for sale. Admission is canned goods for the food drive. For info, phone the office at 695 2561.



Chokoloskee Church of God have their popular annual event on **Saturday, November 21.**

There will be another shopping opportunity at Art-in-the-Glades on **Saturday, December 5.**



Congratulations to Jordan Thompson and Robby Mayberry on the birth of Rylee Kay Mayberry on October 20 who joins her excited big sister Taylor Lee Mayberry. Proud grandparents are Robert & Jolen, Pam, Scott & Debbi.

Little Gator Clinic



The free walk-in clinic for youngsters 18 and under is located next to the Thrift Shop (behind the fire station). It will be open on **Tuesday, November 3**, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. and on **Saturday, November 7**, from 9:00 a.m. to noon. There are no drugs at the clinic but prescriptions can be written if necessary.

The clinic does not treat pregnant girls or give vaccinations. Spanish speakers should bring a translator, if possible. Everyone is welcome. There are no qualifying criteria and the clinic is free, thanks to Dr & Kathy Barnard.

COUNCIL ELECTION

There will be a "Meet the Candidates" event on **Tuesday, November 17** at the Seafood Depot at 5:30 p.m. and a special issue of the *Rapper* on November 13.

OCHOPEE FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT

- 10/14/09: Vehicle Accident, Monroe Station
- 10/14/09: Vehicle Accident, 65mm on I-75
- 10/14/09: Emergency Medical, Port of the Islands
- 10/15/09: Emergency Medical, Port of the Islands
- 10/16/09: Vehicle Accident, 77mm on I-75
- 10/16/09: Person Down, 70mm on I-75
- 10/16/09: Laceration, Port of the Islands
- 10/18/09: Emergency Medical, Janes Scenic Drive
- 10/18/09: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
- 10/19/09: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
- 10/19/09: Brush Fire, 61mm on I-75
- 10/22/09: Vehicle Accident, 74mm on I-75
- 10/22/09: Vehicle Accident, 75mm on I-75
- 10/25/09: Unknown Medical Problem, Copeland
- 10/26/09: Vehicle Accident, 59mm on I-75
- 10/27/09: Possible Heart Attack, Everglades City
- 10/27/09: Grass Fire, 54mm on I-75

MOBILE PET VET

Dr Baker will be here on **Saturday, November 14**, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in McLeod Park, ECity, and from 2 to 4 p.m. in Copeland. She will also be here for surgery on **Sunday, November 15** by previous appointment only. Phone her at 777-PETS (7387). For info, see www.naplesmobilepetvet.com.



LIONS CLUB AT DEPOT

The Lions Club will meet on **Thursday, November 19**, at 5:30 p.m. at the Seafood Depot and every **Third Thursday** of each month. For more info, phone Elaine at 695-2695.

MORE News & Events on page 11.

TIDES FOR BARRON RIVER

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

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------|-----|---------|-----|---|---------|------|---|---------|-----|---|---------|-----|---|
| 10/30/2009 | Fri | 12:43AM | 2.8 | H | 08:07AM | 0.4 | L | 01:24PM | 2.7 | H | 08:15PM | 0.6 | L |
| 10/31/2009 | Sat | 01:10AM | 2.9 | H | 08:45AM | 0.2 | L | 02:08PM | 2.8 | H | 08:50PM | 0.7 | L |
| 11/01/2009 | Sun | 01:35AM | 3.1 | H | 08:23AM | 0.0 | L | 01:49PM | 2.8 | H | 08:25PM | 0.7 | L |
| 11/02/2009 | Mon | 12:57AM | 3.2 | H | 09:03AM | -0.2 | L | 02:31PM | 2.8 | H | 09:00PM | 0.8 | L |
| 11/03/2009 | Tue | 01:20AM | 3.3 | H | 09:44AM | -0.3 | L | 03:17PM | 2.7 | H | 09:35PM | 0.8 | L |
| 11/04/2009 | Wed | 01:46AM | 3.4 | H | 10:28AM | -0.3 | L | 04:08PM | 2.6 | H | 10:12PM | 0.9 | L |
| 11/05/2009 | Thu | 02:18AM | 3.4 | H | 11:15AM | -0.3 | L | 05:07PM | 2.5 | H | 10:52PM | 0.9 | L |
| 11/06/2009 | Fri | 02:57AM | 3.4 | H | 12:05PM | -0.2 | L | 06:10PM | 2.5 | H | 11:40PM | 1.0 | L |
| 11/07/2009 | Sat | 03:47AM | 3.2 | H | 01:01PM | -0.1 | L | 07:13PM | 2.5 | H | | | |
| 11/08/2009 | Sun | 12:45AM | 1.0 | L | 04:55AM | 3.0 | H | 02:03PM | 0.0 | L | 08:13PM | 2.5 | H |
| 11/09/2009 | Mon | 02:14AM | 0.9 | L | 06:50AM | 2.7 | H | 03:10PM | 0.2 | L | 09:07PM | 2.5 | H |
| 11/10/2009 | Tue | 03:43AM | 0.8 | L | 08:36AM | 2.6 | H | 04:14PM | 0.3 | L | 09:54PM | 2.6 | H |
| 11/11/2009 | Wed | 04:56AM | 0.6 | L | 10:06AM | 2.5 | H | 05:13PM | 0.4 | L | 10:35PM | 2.7 | H |
| 11/12/2009 | Thu | 05:55AM | 0.4 | L | 11:25AM | 2.6 | H | 06:06PM | 0.5 | L | 11:11PM | 2.9 | H |
| 11/13/2009 | Fri | 06:48AM | 0.1 | L | 12:29PM | 2.6 | H | 06:54PM | 0.6 | L | 11:45PM | 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

- Mon, Nov 2: Report Cards
- Thurs, Nov 5: Great Gators, 9:30 a.m.
- Mon, Nov 9: No School
- Wed, Nov 11: Veterans' Day Ceremony 8:30 a.m.
- Thurs, Nov 19: SAC, Media Center, 3:00 p.m.
- Nov 25-27: Thanksgiving break



From Savannah's Eyes

Oh man, it seems like I just started volleyball practice but now it is over. It is really sad because I love volleyball and I know I am going to miss it a lot. The last volleyball game this year was on Thursday, Sept. 22nd. It was a really close game against S.W.F.C., but they finally won the game. It was a really fun game; we all tried very hard for the last game of the season.

After the game all of the volleyball players and some of their parents went to the cafeteria to have a pizza party. It was so much fun; we took pictures, ate pizza, and talked to everyone. One time we all sat down and made up funny raps for everyone's name on the volleyball team. I got really full of pizza that night lol!

Since volleyball season is over now cheerleading is going to start! Yay, I can not wait until I start cheerleading! Cheerleading starts Sept. 27th at 3:00 p.m. in the cafeteria at the school. I have been practicing my splits for cheerleading! I am getting a lot better lol.

Halloween is coming up very soon, and I can't wait! I love it when it is Halloween because everything is so scary. And I love to go to people's houses and get free candy! Another thing is that I like to see my friends in their costumes and walk around with them. Plus, every year we have a water balloon fight at the park and it is a lot of fun! Can't wait till Halloween!

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

BOOK FAIR

The school is holding its annual "Around the World" Book Fair from **October 30 to November 6** in the Media Center. Doors are open on weekdays from 7:45 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. with special late opening until 4:30 p.m. on November 2 & 4.

The public is welcome. Come along to do your holiday shopping early for your kids and grands. The profits go to the school. For info, phone Trina at 695-2561.



Thanks to Trina Mitchell for reports & photos



Ms. Dalto's fourth grade class had a guest last week, Captain Bobby Johnson (husband of our 1st and 2nd grade assistant Denise) who works at Captain Doug's Air boats. He spoke to the class about the seafood industry and how you can make a living in Everglades City.



Bob Blow, John Kenney, and Wayne Purvis, from the Sunrise Rotary Club of Marco Island donated a set of new Webster dictionaries to Mr Jones on behalf of the school. They will be available for students to check out at the Media Center.

SAC REPORT

Officers for the new scholastic year have been elected to the School Advisory Council:

- Chair: Pam Drake
- Vice-Chair: Paul Tribble
- Secretary: Beth White

The next SAC meeting is on **Thursday, November 19**. Interested parents and residents are welcome.

HELP US at the FALL FESTIVAL on November 7
Let us know if you can volunteer or donate a cake.
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Recipe for Good Eating

Pumpkin Roll

by Sunny Burke



- | | |
|---------------|-------------------|
| 3 eggs | 1 tsp baking soda |
| 1 cup sugar | ½ tsp cinnamon |
| ¾ cup pumpkin | ¾ cup flour |

Mix all ingredients. Use a 15x10-inch jelly roll pan, line with wax paper and grease the top of the wax paper. Pour batter into pan and spread evenly. Bake for 10-15 minutes at 375°.

Remove from oven and turn out on a damp dish cloth sprinkled with sugar. Roll up and let cool. Unroll and spread with 8 oz. cream cheese and ¾ cup powdered sugar. Roll up again and serve pinwheel slices. Alternatively, it can be filled with whipped cream or jelly.

Sunny Burke is a full-time resident on Plantation Island and is known for her baking. She is a regular contributor to the Rapper.

HOUSEHOLD TIPS

**Uses for Distilled White Vinegar
(environmentally-friendly, versatile and economical)**

submitted by Barbara Shands

- Clean the microwave: mix 1/2 cup each vinegar and water in a microwave-safe bowl. Bring it to a rolling boil inside the microwave. Wipe clean.
- Renew sponges and dishrags: Soak overnight in enough water to cover and add 1/4 cup vinegar.
- Natural fabric softener: Add 1/2 cup of vinegar to the rinse cycle of a load of laundry.
- Make your car extra shiny by adding a few drops of vinegar to your bucket of water.
- Polish brass and copper with a mixture of ketchup and vinegar. Rub on with a clean cloth until dry and shiny.
- Clean wood paneling with a solution of 1/4 cup olive oil, 1/2 cup vinegar and 2 cups warm water applied with a soft cloth.
- Clean grout: Let full-strength vinegar sit on it for a few minutes, then scrub with an old toothbrush.
- Stop insect stings and bites from itching: Dab them with a cotton ball saturated with undiluted vinegar.
- Soothe sunburn with sprays of vinegar. Ice-cold vinegar will feel even better, and may prevent blistering and peeling.
- Remove labels, decals, price tags and bumper stickers; cover overnight with a vinegar-soaked cloth.
- Room deodorizer: Add your favorite herbs and spices to a gallon of vinegar and let it sit for about a month. Strain through a fine cloth, then transfer to a spray bottle. This solution can be used as a hand softener, too, after washing dishes or working in the garden.
- Increase the acidity of soil by adding vinegar to your watering can.
- Discourage ants by spraying vinegar outside doorways and windowsills, around appliances and wherever you find the pests coming in.
- Wash fresh vegetables with a mixture of 1 TBS of vinegar in 1 1/2 quarts of water.
- Scouring cleanser: Combine 1/4 cup baking soda with 1 TBS liquid detergent and just enough vinegar to give it a thick but creamy texture.

WANTED: The Culinary Class at the School would like donations of butter vegetable oil, flour, sugar, powdered milk and eggs. Contact Stacia at 695-2561



Fishing Report

by Captain Bill Lindsay

November is one of the best months to fish in the Everglades. Water levels in the backcountry start to drop, concentrating Redfish and Snook. Mosquitoes are manageable and because 90-degree mid-day temperatures are a thing of the past, Snook will feed well all day long. Approaching cold fronts push Cobia, Mackerel, Pompano, and Bluefish into our area. Don't let windy weather keep you at home; you can always find protected shorelines in the backcountry. As a general rule, any shoreline in the large back bays that are holding bait could produce Snook. Redfishing was great all during the month of October and should continue during the month of November. Mackerel fishing has also been excellent. Captain Bruce Hitchcock found a huge school just three miles off Pavilion Key. The fish were so concentrated that as soon as the lure hit the water, the fish took all his terminal tackle. He finally gave up and fished for something else. When running from one spot to another, look for Pompano "skipping" in your boat wake. I stop and cast a small jig into the area.

Capt. Bill Lindsay lives in Chokoloskee and has been fishing in the Everglades National Park for 29 years. In 1992 he was Master Angler of the MET Tournament.

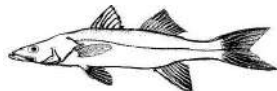


COASTAL CLEANUP

On September 19, 2009 Everglades National Park, Gulf Coast District participated in the International Coastal Clean-up Day. There were five volunteers and two Park Rangers that participated in the clean-up. Tiger Key, Picnic Key and Indian Key were all targeted in the clean-up event. Fifteen bags of trash ranging from plastic bottles to old boating and fishing lines were collected from the three Keys. Shown above on Picnic Key; Grant Skaggs, Bobbi Skaggs, Richard Traverse, Park Ranger Shauna Cotrell, Richard Brant, Judy Brant.

SNOOK RULES

1. slot limit 28 to 33 inches
 2. one fish per person per day
 3. valid fishing license with current Snook stamp
- Open season: September-November, March-April.



PLAN AHEAD FOR BOAT PARADE

Boats decorated for the holiday season will make a procession up the river and under the bridge to the Seafood Depot on Saturday, December 5. For info, phone Debbie at 695-2429.

Glades Daze

by Patricia Huff



Experiencing the Everglades' natural beauty from the water is one of the best things about living in this area. However, there are many who do not have access to a boat for cruising the islands. An alternative is to see the "glades" by foot or bicycle: take a walk along the Boardwalk at Big Cypress Bend (7 miles west of Carnestown) in the Fakahatchee Strand or at Kirby Storter (13 miles towards Miami) in the Big Cypress. If you don't mind getting a little wet and closer to nature, check with the Parks about a swamp walk (see our website for a list).

By bicycle, ride down Janes Scenic Drive just north of Copeland in the Fakahatchee Strand. It's a beautiful trail but more for fat tires than road bikes. Many people from around the world are venturing out along US-41 on the Trail to bike from coast to coast. Recently I met a gentleman riding his bicycle from Key West to SR-92. He stopped here for lunch and was planning a day trip to the Marco Island beaches while camping at Collier Seminole.

This photo by Maureen Bonness caught the Muhly grass as the sun was setting. With anticipated funding, we plan one day to have the River of Grass Greenway (ROGG) built which will be a pathway (separate from the Trail) from Naples to Miami allowing a safer trip. The Greenway would also be for pedestrians, bird-watchers, fishermen, and others who want to enjoy the Everglades in a leisurely fashion. For info, see www.evergladesrogg.org and become a FROGG (Friends of the River of Grass Greenway).

LOOP ROAD CLOSED

Big Cypress National Preserve announced that Loop Road south of Gator Hook Strand and west of the Education Center will be closed to vehicles from November 2, except for landowners and guests, because it has washed away. Maintenance work will be done during the dry season and may last until May or later. If you do travel on the road, a high-clearance vehicle is suggested to navigate the deep potholes. For info, call 695-1107.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP ANIMALS

If you can drive small injured wild animals into the Conservancy in Naples (near Coastland Mall), phone Jessica at 262-2273.



As part of the Ten Thousand Islands Refuge Week program, there was a kids' fishing clinic on October 17 at Port of the Island. The youngsters learned about knots, flies, and the rules of saltwater fishing.



LOCAL HISTORY

Thanks to Virginia Klotz of the Sea Gull Gallery for the gift of this commemorative plate that was issued for the 50th Anniversary in 1973 of the founding of Collier County. The plate has sketches of historic buildings such as the old Courthouse (now City Hall).

Ms Klotz also donated the calendar that was issued for the same event. The items will be kept safe in the Historical Library that is operated in City Hall by the Everglades Society for Historic Preservation (ESHP).

The ESHP board will meet on **Monday, November 9**, at 9:00 a.m. The agenda will include plans for restoring the Bula Mission in Copeland and events for the season. Members are welcome to attend. For info, phone Marya at 695-2905.

Take a ride in Florida's time machine.

Ten thousand years of colorful and captivating history comes to life at the Old Florida Festival. Go back in time to meet the people, feel the drama, and savor the cultures that shaped our state. History repeats itself...

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- Civil War Camp
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- Live Folk Music
- Cannon Firing
- Blacksmith
- World War II Soldiers
- Food
- Crafts
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Sat. & Sun. • November 7 & 8 • 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 Tickets: Adults \$5.00 • Ages 8 to 18: \$2.00 • Children under 8: FREE
 Parking is free. The Museum is handicapped accessible. For more information: (239) 252-8476

OLD FLORIDA FESTIVAL

The Collier County Museum in Naples will hold its annual historical festival on the weekend of **November 7/8** from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day with activities for all the family. For info, see www.colliermuseums.com or phone 252-8476.

MUSEUM NEWS

The new artist in the Pauline Reeves Gallery for the month of November is photographer Angie Chestnut whose exhibit is titled “The Ever-Changing Everglades”. There will be a reception to meet her on **Saturday, November 7**, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome!



Exhibits in the Pauline Reeves Gallery at the front of the Museum are on display for a month. Members of the public can visit on Tuesday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and on Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. There is no admission charge but donations are welcome. For info, phone 695-0008.

The FME Board Meeting will be on **Wednesday, November 4**, at 9:00 a.m. in the Museum. All members are welcome.

The next Friends of the Museum trip will be a “Walkabout in the Fakahatchee” on **Thursday, November 12**. For info, phone Patty at 695-2397. The full schedule of members’ activities is posted on the Friends’ website www.evergladesmuseum.org on the Events page.

The Board of County Commissioners voted unanimously at the meeting on October 27 to reject the TDC’s recommendation to phase out funding to the Museums. Among the speakers was FME president Patty Huff.



Off the Shelf – Book Review

“Naples’ Oldest Tradition, Swamp Buggy Days”
by Lila Zuck

reviewed by Patricia Huff

This year marks the 60th Anniversary of the Swamp Buggy Days which were first held the weekend of November 12-13, 1949, with Senator Claude Pepper in attendance and representatives from the Governor’s office. A big parade at noon on that first Saturday included the Fort Myers High School Band, the Naples Scout troops, and the Seminole Indians among others. The Swamp Buggy Days celebrated then, as it does now, the early pioneers of Collier County who would take their buggies into the woods to hunt.

The idea of the first celebration originated during a Florida Outdoor Writers Association meeting. Stuart Rabb, then Editor/Publisher of the *Collier County News* (now the *Naples Daily News*), and others started working a plan for a “steeplechase” with swamp buggy races, a big parade and a fish fry. This was just the beginning of “Naples’ Oldest Tradition”.

This interesting history book is about much more than just Swamp Buggy Days, the parades, the crowning of the Swamp Buggy Queens. It’s about a small town pulling together to organize an event, a tradition. It’s about a sport and its culture.

The book has 368 pages packed with nostalgic pictures of all the races and parades over 60 exciting years period. There is also an index and list of all the queens and kings. Copies are available for sale at WinCar TrueValue Hardware and at the Everglades Seafood Depot. You can also order online at www.collierhistorical.org.



Paws to Reflect

by a Squeedilifferous Pusslet



We're now having Native American Summer. It's been so warm I wanted to take off my beautiful silky coat, but I couldn't find the buttons. Guess I need to go back to the manufacturer and enquire. Leaves are coming down off the trees by the bushel – nearly up to my belly in parts of the yard. Yesterday, I came across the tail of a garter snake. When I nuzzled it gently, the leaves rustled ever so slightly and the tail disappeared.

Dad's been out selling greeting cards for Christmas. I suggested he illustrate pusslets drawing Santa in his sleigh. I mean, pusslets have been around as long as reindeer. Some animals think they ought to get all the credit. Can you imagine a reindeer trying to get himself down your chimney? Santa's way too tubby, of course, for such athletic activities any more, so somebody has to do it. We pusslets could go down a chimney as easy as dropping a mouse down a laundry chute. And pusslets don't have antlers. Antlers, I hear, are forever getting caught up in the damper.

Even as I speak, pusslets at the North Pole are making up little packages of catnip, and tallying lists of good little kittens everywhere round the world.

Pusslet lives in Connecticut and is assisted by "Constant Waterman" whose book about boating is available for sale around town.



FLORIDA FLORA

by Patricia Huff

Firebush (*Hamelia patens*)

This beautiful wildlife plant with its orange-red leaves attracts both butterflies and hummingbirds. The Firebush will grow in partial shade or sun (but its green leaves may fade somewhat in full sun). The fruit is rounded and dark purple, and the leaves oval in shape, 5 to 8 inches long. Its trunk is usually multi-stemmed and will grow like a shrub up to 10 feet high. You can enjoy the blooms year round with this Florida native.

CHAMBER REPORT

Everglades Area Chamber of Commerce members met at the Seafood Depot on October 19. Steve Hunt of Artype spoke to the group about the next printing of the Chamber brochure. Steve will be calling on members to review their ads. A letter from Big Cypress Preserve on the topic of campgrounds within the Preserve was read and discussed.

President Gene Wooten reminded those present that it will soon be time to elect a Board of Directors. Anyone interested in being a candidate should contact Winnie at 695-3172 or any Board member.



SHORT FIELD LANDINGS

"Ground School"

by Mike Klein

The Collier County Sheriff's Office will be conducting a teen driver safety training class in Everglades City on the weekend of November 7. There will be a four hour classroom session and a series of vehicle operations that will give students hands-on experience with various unanticipated driving conditions. Mayor Sammy has requested that the airport be made available for the practical driving skills practices and the Airport Authority voted unanimously to agree with the mayor's request. It is no simple task by any means. The airport management will have to post a Notice To Airmen (NOTAM) with the FAA; a notice will also be posted on the AIRNAV web site, and the runway will have temporary X-markers set up. To further complicate matters, the Common Traffic Advisory Frequency (CTAF) is scheduled to change to 123.075 Mhz on November 1 and airport personnel will need to monitor both the old and the new frequencies to advise any pilots who may have neglected to check the NOTAMs before their flight.

Normally the Sheriff's Department would set up their driving course at a large parking lot that may be closed for the day, but the City and the Airport Authority felt that it is important for the training to be made available for local teen drivers. Depending upon how many drivers sign up, the airport may be closed from about 8:00 AM until 3:00 PM.

In other news, the hangar assemblies have been delivered and contractors will shortly be pouring the concrete slabs for the hangar floors. It looks like the project is right on schedule for the December completion estimate. Other developments include requesting the County Commissioners for support in obtaining FEMA funds to reconstruct the accessory building that was destroyed by Hurricane Wilma. The new building will have multi-use office space, meeting areas, and there has been interest expressed for locating a U.S. Coast Guard Aviation Search and Rescue facility at Everglades Airport which the new building may be able to accommodate.

RESTAURANT NEWS



- Backcountry Cafe (695-2552):**
6:00 am - 3:00 pm.; daily
- Camellia Street Grill (695-2003):**
12 noon – 8:00 pm; Mon – Sat
12 noon – 5:00 pm; Sun
- City Seafood (695-4700):**
11:00 am - 6:00 pm; daily
Fish Market also open
- Everglades Seafood Depot (695-0075):**
10:30 am - 9:00 pm; daily
Seafood Buffet, 4:00-9:00 pm; Thurs
- Everglades Scoop (695-0375):**
11:00 am – 5:00 pm; Mon - Sat
- Gator Express (695-3937):**
6:30 am - 8 pm; Mon, Tues
6:30 am - 9 pm; Wed, Thurs, Sun
6:30 am - 10 pm; Fri, Sat
- Glades Haven Deli (695-2746):**
6:00 am – 9:00 pm; daily
Food service stops 1 hr before close
- Grimm's Stone Crab (695-3222):**
8:00 am – 3:00 pm; Mon - Sat
Fish market (grouper/pompano)
- Havana Cafe (695-2214):**
8:00 am – 3:00 pm; daily
- Ivey House (695-3299):**
6:30 – 9:30 am; daily
Cold breakfast buffet
- Joanie's Blue Crab Cafe (695-2682):**
11:00 am - 5:00 pm; Thurs - Sun
- JT's Cafe & Gallery (695-2630):**
gallery & gift shop open
- Leebo's Rock-Bottom Bar:**
3:00 pm; Mon - Sat
noon; Sunday
live music every Sat at 8:00 pm
- Oyster House Restaurant (695-2073):**
11:00 am – 9:00 pm; Sun-Thurs
11:00 am – 10:00 pm; Fri, Sat
- 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
- Susie's Station:**
11:00 am - 5:00 pm; daily
- Triad Seafood (695-0722):**
10:30 am – 3:00 pm; daily
Fish Market also open



Halloween will be celebrated on **Saturday, October 31**, in McLeod Park. The schedule is:
5-9 pm: Trick or Treat
5-6 pm: Kids' Party (12 and under)
6-8 pm: Free Hot Dogs & Fixin's
9-10 pm: Water Balloons
 The event is hosted by the City and Reach Out. For more info, phone 695-3781.

CCSO deputies will be on hand to conduct crime prevention contests for the kiddies with oodles of prizes and to give out goodie bags.

Leebo's will have a mullet fry starting at 2:00 p.m. and a costume party starting at 8:00 p.m. with live music.

Camellia Street Grill will have costume party with a DJ, door prizes, bar appetizers, and other fun from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m.

SWAMP WALKS

Everglades National Park is holding two swamp walks at Shark Valley on **Saturday, October 31**. For info and reservations, phone 305-221-8776.

Teens' Driving Challenge



The CCSO advanced course for young drivers in ECity starts on **Thursday, November 5**, with classroom sessions at the school at 5:00 p.m. and practical lessons on **Saturday, November 7**, from 8:00 a.m. Among the maneuvers are figure-of-8, backing up, and skids.

Students must bring their own cars and sign waiver forms which are available at www.colliersheriff.org or at City Hall. For info, phone Lt. Mulligan at 253-5031.

SEMINOLE FESTIVAL

The American Indian Arts Celebration will be held at the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum at Big Cypress Reservation on the weekend of **November 5/6/7**. It features Native American arts, dance, and music. For info, call (877) 902-1113 or see www.ahthathiki.com.

OBITUARY

Our sympathy to Tony and Jan Brock whose daughter **Kathryn Brock McLellan**, 39, passed away suddenly at home on October 14. A service celebrating her life was held on October 25.

The *Rapper* received this letter of appreciation:
They say there's nothing like Small Town Friends and, after this past Sunday, I can say without any doubt that this is as true as the sky is blue.

Jan and I had this proven to us last Sunday when we held a "Celebration of Her Life" for our deceased daughter, Kathy Brock. We were overwhelmed by the turnout and the warm, sincere, and heartfelt condolences from our wonderful friends from Everglades City, Plantation, Chokoloskee, Copeland and Ochopee. We were grateful and humbled by the outpouring of love and sadness for our loving and beautiful daughter. I know she was smiling in Heaven and, for this fact alone, I am deeply indebted to and very proud of our wonderful friends in this unique and beautiful area.

*We love you all,
 Tony and Jan Brock*



**Nancy Hosts
 Maggi Knits**

Nancy Camposano's Naples knitting store at 3804 Tamiami Trail East is proud to host Maggi Jackson over the weekend of **November 6/7/8** for a fashion show and workshops. For info, phone "Knitting with Nancy" at (239) 793-8141..

MEDICINE CABINET

Get rid of old drugs and other medical items on **Saturday, November 14**, from 10:00 am to 2:00 p.m. at the front of City Hall For info, phone Sue Gentry of CCSO at 252-0708.



If you've been wondering what they're doing along the Trail, a new fiber optic cable is being installed for the School.

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/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: Lot on Plantation Island with Boat Ramp and Dock, \$75,000. 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

HOME for SALE by Owner: Beautiful sunset views on the River, 2 bedrooms and 2 baths, Wrap around porch, 2-1/2 car garage, \$495,000. For info, call (239) 571-5929.

FOR SALE: Two deeded waterfront homes for the price of one. Located on quiet canal with direct gulf access in Everglades City. 2 bed, 2 bath. Dock & Lift for each home. \$598,000 for both or \$299,000 each. (Owner licensed realtor) Call 239-229-8682.

*Snook Classified is only \$10 per issue ...
Phone 695-2397 or email us.*



Congratulations to Jürg ("George") Furrer who is having an exhibit in Lenzburg, Switzerland, and has just celebrated his 70th birthday. This cartoon with City Hall and Ochopee Post Office in the background was on the invitation. He is a frequent visitor to this area where he enjoys hiking.

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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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