

The MULLET RAPPER

What's Happening in the Everglades City Area

DECEMBER 25, 2009 – JANUARY 7, 2010

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P O Box 617, Everglades City, FL, 34139

Volume III • Issue #97



Real “Wrappers” volunteered at the Reach Out gift handout on December 19 when parents could select presents for their children, thanks to our neighborhood charity. President Carol Foss, seen above right, is grateful for all the contributions of items and funds, as were the parents. For info, phone her at 695-2277. *Photos by Helen Bryan.*



Santa was mobbed when he came to town on December 18. The mountain of gifts organized by the Mayor & his helpers was distributed to local kids. *Photos thanks to Helen Bryan.*

CCSO and the Police Activities League took 33 youngsters plus parents to “Shop with a Cop” on December 12 at the KMart in Parkshore Plaza. They also had breakfast with Santa and the Chic-Fil-A Cow. *Photos & report thanks to Sue Gentry.*

SHERIFF'S REPORT

There have been several burglaries or attempted burglaries of residences during December. In one case on Plantation Island, fishing gear was stolen from a shed; in another, a resident discovered someone attempting to gain entry to his garage. In Everglade City, a firearm was taken from a private house.

Lt. Mark Milligan reminds everyone to phone 695-2007 to report suspicious activity as soon as you see it – calling in after the fact is too late for the deputies to act.

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FEATURE: REVIEW OF 2009, p.10

*Best Wishes
to our Readers
for a
Joyous Holiday Season!*

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

DECEMBER 2009 / JANUARY 2010

<u>SUN</u>	<u>MON</u>	<u>TUES</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THURS</u>	<u>FRI</u>	<u>SAT</u>
20	21 Hour of Prayer Everglades Community Church 7 pm School Recess	22 Kids' Clinic	23 Ladies Coffee Backcountry Cafe 8 am	24 Live Nativity & Candlelight Service <i>see p.3</i>	<u>RAPPER 25</u> <u>Merry Christmas</u>	26 Miccosukee Arts Festival <i>see p.3</i>
27	28 Hour of Prayer Copeland Baptist Church, 7 pm	29 Kids' Clinic 5-7 pm <i>see p.11</i>	30 Ladies Coffee Gator Express 8 am	blue moon ● 31 New Year's Eve Watch <i>see p.11</i>	JAN 1 <u>Happy New Year</u>	2 Kids' Clinic <i>see p.11</i>
3	4 Hour of Prayer Chokoloskee Church of God 7 am ESHM mtg City Hall, 9am <i>see p.9</i>	5 Back to School Coletta Visit Congressional Visit City Council <i>see p.11</i>	6 Ladies Coffee Havana Cafe 8 am FME mtg Museum, 9 am <i>see p.9</i>	7 Great Gators School, 9:30 am	<u>RAPPER 8</u> Deaconess Talk Museum, 2 pm <i>see p.9</i> Film-Land in the Glades City Hall, 5:30 pm <i>see p.9</i>	9 Pet Vet <i>see p.11</i> Kids' Clinic <i>see p.11</i>
10	<u>MLK Day 11</u> Hour of Prayer Holy Family Catholic Church 7 am OFCB Bd Fire Sta, 6 pm	12 Museum Talk "Gladesmen"	13 Ladies Coffee Backcountry Cafe 8 am Drug Free Meeting <i>see p.11</i>	14	new moon ○ 15 Spaghetti Dinner ECC, 5-7 pm	16 Kids' Clinic <i>see p.11</i> Class Reunion
17	18 Hour of Prayer Everglades Community Church 7 pm	19 Reach Out mtg City Hall, 8:30 am	20 Ladies Coffee Gator Express 8 am	21 SAC School, 3 pm Lions Club Depot, 5:30 pm Copeland Civic 7 pm	<u>RAPPER 22</u>	23 Kids' Clinic <i>see p.11</i> Airport Fly-In Art-in-the- Glades

Feb 6-8: Seafood Festival Feb 13/14: Collier Seminole BlueGrass Feb 23-26: MSD Festival
 Feb 27: Art-in-the-Glades, Historic Homes Tour, Medicine Cabinet
 Mar 20: Art-in-the-Glades, NPC bike tour

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; 10:00 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: 12/29, 1/2, 1/9, 1/16, 1/23, 1/30

SHERIFF AT CITY HALL: Thurs, 12/17 (9-10 am) Wed, 1/6 (9-10 am)

Christmas Eve Celebrations

Everglades Community Church will have a special service on Christmas Eve, **Thursday, December 24**, at 7:00 p.m. The celebration will feature the singing of carols, communion, and the lighting of candles.



Before that at 6:00 p.m. there will be a Live Nativity on the Church lawn when real people will re-enact the Nativity in front of the Manger. All are welcome.

CHRISTMAS MASS

Holy Family Catholic Church will hold mass on Christmas Day, **Friday, December 25**, at 10:30 a.m.

CITY HALL CLOSED

City Hall will be closed on **Thursday and Friday, December 24 and 25** and on New Year's Day, **January 1**.

Other offices in City Hall such as Shamrock Bank, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Collier County Public Library will also be closed on those days.

SKATING RINK CLOSED

The Skating Rink in the Community Center will be closed on Christmas Day, **December 25**, and New Year's Day, **January 1**.

MORE News & Events on page 11.



A smiling "Santa" in the form of Andrew Hanson of the Florida League of Cities presented the Mayor with an insurance check on December 23 for the restoration of the Everglades City Hall building.



INDIAN ARTS FESTIVAL

The Miccosukee Tribe is holding its 35th Annual Indian Arts Festival from **Saturday, December 26**, through **Sunday, January 3**, at the cultural center on US-41 about 40 miles east of SR-29. This family event includes displays of Native American crafts, singing, and dancing. The gates are open from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. For info, see their website www.miccosukee.com or phone (305) 223-8380.

BUTCHER GALLERY CLOSED FOR HOLIDAYS

The Big Cypress Gallery in Ochopee will be closed on **Thursday and Friday, December 24 and 25** and on New Year's Day, **January 1**. For more info, see www.clydebutcher.com or call 695-2428.

OCHOPEE FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT

12/09/09: Emergency Medical, Copeland
 12/09/09: Emergency Medical, Everglades City Fire Station
 12/10/09: Vehicle Accident, 72mm on I-75
 12/10/09: Emergency Medical, Ochopee
 12/10/09: Power Line, Everglades City
 12/11/09: Emergency Medical, Plantation Island
 12/12/09: Emergency Medical, Ochopee
 12/12/09: Vehicle Accident, 54mm on I-75
 12/13/09: Emergency Medical, Chokoloskee Island
 12/13/09: Emergency Medical, Chokoloskee Island
 12/13/09: Emergency Medical, Copeland
 12/14/09: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
 12/14/09: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
 12/16/09: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
 12/16/09: Vehicle Fire, 81mm on I-75
 12/16/09: Chest Pains, Everglades City
 12/17/09: Vehicle Accident, 54mm on US-41
 12/17/09: Vehicle Fire, 61mm on I-75
 12/17/09: Emergency Medical, Ochopee
 12/17/09: Vehicle Accident, 50mm on I-75
 12/18/09: Unknown Medical Problem, Chokoloskee Island
 12/18/09: Power Line Down, Plantation Island
 12/18/09: Broken Water Line, Port of the Islands
 12/19/09: Vehicle Accident, 80mm on I-75
 12/19/09: Vehicle Accident, US-41 and SR-29
 12/19/09: Emergency Medical, Janes Scenic Drive
 12/19/09: Vehicle Accident, 61mm on I-75
 12/20/09: Emergency Medical, Plantation Island
 12/21/09: Power Line Down, Chokoloskee Island

NO DUMPING, PLEASE!

Keep our town looking tidy. Do not put out garden refuse or trash items over the holiday weekends when the City workers are taking a well-earned break.


TIDES FOR BARRON RIVER

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

12/25/2009	Fri	04:10AM	0.4	L	09:16AM	1.8	H	03:29PM	0.6	L	08:56PM	2.5	H
12/26/2009	Sat	05:10AM	0.2	L	10:44AM	1.8	H	04:31PM	0.7	L	09:39PM	2.5	H
12/27/2009	Sun	06:04AM	-0.1	L	12:00PM	1.9	H	05:32PM	0.8	L	10:25PM	2.7	H
12/28/2009	Mon	06:54AM	-0.2	L	12:59PM	2.1	H	06:29PM	0.8	L	11:13PM	2.9	H
12/29/2009	Tue	07:43AM	-0.4	L	01:47PM	2.2	H	07:23PM	0.8	L	11:59PM	3.1	H
12/30/2009	Wed	08:31AM	-0.6	L	02:30PM	2.3	H	08:15PM	0.8	L			
12/31/2009	Thu	12:46AM	3.2	H	09:18AM	-0.6	L	03:10PM	2.3	H	09:05PM	0.7	L
01/01/2010	Fri	10:03AM	-0.7	L	03:47PM	2.4	H	09:56PM	0.6	L			
01/02/2010	Sat	02:24AM	3.3	H	10:47AM	-0.6	L	04:27PM	2.5	H	10:46PM	0.5	L
01/03/2010	Sun	03:18AM	3.1	H	11:31AM	-0.5	L	05:07PM	2.5	H	11:39PM	0.4	L
01/04/2010	Mon	04:18AM	2.8	H	12:15PM	-0.3	L	05:47PM	2.5	H			
01/05/2010	Tue	12:36AM	0.3	L	05:28AM	2.5	H	01:01PM	0.0	L	06:28PM	2.5	H
01/06/2010	Wed	01:41AM	0.2	L	06:44AM	2.2	H	01:49PM	0.3	L	07:10PM	2.5	H
01/07/2010	Thu	02:53AM	0.2	L	08:08AM	1.9	H	02:45PM	0.5	L	07:57PM	2.5	H
01/08/2010	Fri	04:07AM	0.1	L	09:51AM	1.7	H	03:49PM	0.7	L	08:50PM	2.5	H

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SCHOOL NEWS

Everglades City School

phone: 377-9800 or 695-2561

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

IMPORTANT DATES

Dec 21-Jan 4: Winter Recess
 Thurs, Jan 7: Great Gators, 9:30 a.m.
 Thurs, Jan 7: Basketball HOME, 4:00 p.m.
 Tues, Jan 12: Basketball HOME, 4:30 p.m.



From Savannah's Eyes

Wow! This month has kept me so busy. With every thing that is going on like Christmas and cheerleading plus Christmas parties and speaking of parties on December 12 was a party for the Lions Club members at the lighthouse. And it was a lot of fun. During the party my friends Tori, Haleigh and I sang each a song then we all sang a song together! It was very fun!

Also on December 14 was one of our home games for basketball. And we won the game against Evangelical Christian! It was a very good game; Home was 39 and Visitors were 36. It was so amazing! And then right after that was the Youth Groups Christmas party which was very fun! We all got to play games, talk with each other, and eat! And we also got to play a game where we exchanged gifts. I had a blast!!! Our Youth leader Shannon is so awesome!!! And so are my friends in Youth Group.

My mom just came in the door from the garden and had collard greens and tomatoes from her garden. We are going to have some good dinner tomorrow night! For Christmas last Friday we got Riley and Kailey plus Lashaun and it was a lot of fun! I love my nieces and nephews. It is such a joy to have them around me! Well I hope everyone has an excellent Christmas because I have a feeling I am going to have an awesome one!

Merry Christmas,
 Savannah
 Ho ho ho:)

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

SUN-N-FUN LAGOON OPEN FOR WINTER RECESS

If you are looking for something to do or a location for a party, the pool complex at North Collier Recreation Park on Livingston Road is open from December 19 to January 4 (except for Christmas Day). Hours are 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. There are water slides, a tadpole lake, and a 1200-foot-long Lazy River. Special rates apply if you bring a Florida driver's license. For info, phone 252-4021 or see www.collierparks.com.



Family and friends were treated to a feast of Middle Eastern food as the students in Mrs Ihle's class prepared (with the help of Stacia Ferguson) dishes from Russia, Madagascar, India, Iraq and Afganistan. The students chose the countries they wished to study and visitors were invited to read the history and admire the elaborate exhibits.



Mr. Paul D'Agostino took his sixth grade science class for a field trip at the Big Cypress on December 14,. They were joined by head park ranger Erin, volunteer Sarah, and Mrs. Debbie our bus driver to go trekking through three ecosystems: the Cypress Swamp, Prairie Lands, and the Pinelands. Students were responsible for calculating dissolved oxygen, relative humidity, wind speed, and the pH of the water. They explored the various vegetation and animal life even tracking a panther! Mr. D'Agostino wants to extend a special thanks to Lisa Andrews who is in charge of the swamp program. Students enjoyed touching and smelling the mud, catching fish, and soaking their pants past their knees. According to one sixth grader, "It was the best field trip ever!" Thanks to Trina Mitchell for report & photos.

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Recipe for Good Eating



Eggplant Parmesan by Havana Cafe

2-3 eggplants, depending upon size
flour, salt & pepper, egg (beaten), bread crumbs (plain)
tomato sauce
grated parmesan cheese
grated mozzarella cheese (whole milk, low moisture)

Peel and slice eggplants 1/4", dip in mixture of flour, salt & pepper, then in egg wash, then in bread crumbs. Deep fry at 350° or pan fry in very hot oil so as to make crisp, not soggy.

In a deep pan, add tomato sauce and grated parmesan cheese. Layer the following: eggplant, sauce & parmesan, then mozzarella, then repeat for 4 to 5 layers, depending on what size you want. Top with parmesan, mozzarella, then tomato sauce. Cover with parchment paper, then tin foil. Bake in a preheated oven at 325° for 35-40 minutes. Let cool before serving.

If you've ever tasted this dish at Havana Cafe on Friday or Saturday nights, you'll know how wonderful it is.

“Four Friends and a Turkey ...”

by Julia Bright



When Marya invited me over with some other old friends to celebrate a proper American Thanksgiving holiday, there was no choice. England in November is gloomy to say the least – rain, fog, wind and cold is our usual menu. I'd often turned down Marya's invitations because I thought Everglades City must be a sprawling, urban development with shopping malls – that's what “City” says to me. How wrong could I be! On my second day (I slept thru' most of the first after traveling 20 hours from London), I felt pure joy as my surroundings became clear: the space, the vast green swathes of grass, the tropical trees, the beautiful historic buildings, the warmth on my face – and everything bathed in sunlight. To see buzzards wheeling above in the blue sky, pelicans and herons perched by the river, was magical. And then the way you live – laid-back, community-minded, friendly, stress-free (it seems). It's all so RELAXING.

One day we went out in a boat, weaving through the islands: we picnicked and beat a way through the undergrowth to a tiny cemetery. Then we headed off to a pure-white, fine-sand beach that to me sang out “Robinson Crusoe” – only the footprints were ours. On another day we did “the boardwalk” at Fakahatchee's Big Cypress Bend, a truly wonderful experience – although no alligators were brave enough to face us that day.

But, onto the main reason for our get-together: Thanksgiving Dinner. How would four independent women, who all live on their own and have set ideas about cooking, manage together in a small kitchen without falling out? Well, it happened! As I was only responsible for the gravy and the pudding, I counted myself lucky. Whether the turkey should be turned over or not were others' decisions – only a tiny spat there. With some of us pitching for potatoes roasted in olive oil and rosemary rather than “done” with the bird, (as well as sweet potato), the dash to the grocer's to buy last-minute ingredients – “we must have cranberry sauce!” – “and we've GOT to warm the plates!” – it was with a great sense of achievement that we sat down to a memorable Thanksgiving Dinner and toasted each other with a delicious, cool glass of Chardonnay. And yes, we're going to do it all over again next year. Make sure the Thrift Shop is still there: my suitcase was loaded with fantastic purchases sold by “the lovely ladies”.

Julia Bright is a British journalist whose columns have appeared in major newspapers and magazines. She obviously took home a different picture from the Florida she envisioned.



Glades Daze

Skinny Water Paddling

by Linda Williams

Nine ladies from the surrounding area, and including one from Naples, gathered for their initial kayak trip on Thursday, December 10. The nine ladies – Mardi Kjartansson, Alli Shurr, Kris Mol, Jo Ludford, Rudy Oglesby, Karen Cabral, Sue Turner, Jean Schultz and Linda Williams – kayaked around the beautiful Chokoloskee island, and learned about the island's history.

It was a perfect morning to spend a little over an hour kayaking, and for some, it was their first time on a kayak. Our thanks to Justin and Alli of Shurr Adventures Kayaking for giving us a quick kayak lesson and for helping those in need with their initial launching. And thanks to Justin again for being available at the end of our trip to help us out of the kayaks – no embarrassing falls! Thanks also to Parker Oglesby for being available at the end of the trip to help load the kayaks.

Thursday mornings at 9:00 a.m. has been designated as Skinny Water Paddling day, and we welcome lady kayakers (and first-timers). If you own a kayak, and/or can get your hands on one, come join us on the waters of the Everglades. Be sure to bring your own lifejacket, hat and protective clothing, sunscreen, bug spray, and water.

The next Skinny Water Paddling day will be on **Thursday, January 7** – launching location not determined as of this publication. For info, phone Jean Schultz at 695-0202.

PYTHONS

We don't know how many are lurking out there and they are so well camouflaged that you can be standing very near one without seeing it, according to Larry Perez from Everglades National Park who gave an illustrated lecture to some 65 people at the Friends of Fakahatchee dinner on December 13.

These mammoth snakes can devour our native wildlife with ease, even killing alligators, and do not belong here at all. It is thought the potentially 20-foot-long serpents were introduced into south Florida through the accidental or intentional release of captive individuals.

If you see any unusual or exotic plant or animal, you can report it to the Everglades Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (ECISMA), an umbrella group comprised of State and Federal agencies. Sightings can be reported via the ECISMA website www.EvergladesCISMA.org.



A Christmas Message

by Kathryn Donev



This year marks ten years since I left home for Lee University in Cleveland, Tennessee. It was then that I met my husband, Dony Donev, a minister from Bulgaria who earned his doctoral degree in Cleveland at the same time as I was studying there. Two years later, he asked my family for my hand in marriage and we were married in 2002. Since then, we have been traveling to Bulgaria for several months every year and completing various ministry projects as part of our missions work there.

The country of Bulgaria is located in south-eastern Europe and borders five other countries: Romania to the north, Serbia and the Republic of Macedonia to the west, and Greece and Turkey to the south. The entire country is only about the size of the state of Tennessee. And being a southern girl, we make our base location down south in a town called "Yambol" where Dony was born and raised. This way, we don't get all of the tremendous snow that hits the country which can begin as early as November. At least until this year ...

Last week was our first snow in Yambol with a forecast for much more to come around the holidays. We have posted some pictures on our ministry's website at: www.cupandcross.com. The following is an excerpt from our December newsletter, *Christmas in Bulgaria: Appreciating the Simple Things in Life*.

Roasting chestnuts over an open fire and Jack Frost nipping at your nose are comforting carols which brings many pleasant feelings around the holidays. These are two features which are not only common to the States, but to Bulgaria as well. This is the season of chestnuts being roasted, however it is not like we picture being over a cozy fire place in a warm home. In Bulgaria it would be on the street side to sell in order to bring in some income for your family. And the Jack Frost is not just a nip for some, but it is a bone chilling cold due to not being able to afford the electric bill.

For some there will be no gift under the tree and for others there will not even be a tree. This is not said to bring you sorrow, but for you to appreciate the simple things in life. Enjoy family, friendships, a warm home, a hot meal, your health. Enjoy the time the Lord has given you and use it for His Glory and not for bickering or complaining over the small angst.

So when you wake up on the 25th begin your day, not consumed with what you didn't get or what didn't happen to your liking, but in silence remembering the silent and holy night over 2000 years ago. Remember those less fortunate in order not to take for granted with what you have been blessed. And most of all thank Him for His gift to you. Let these thoughts bring you comfort this holiday season.

Kathryn Donev is the daughter of Donny & Judy Barton.

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.

LOCAL HISTORY



photo Florida State Archives

Film-Land in the Glades

Hollywood glamour came to Everglades City when Gypsy Rose Lee, Burl Ives, Peter Falk, and a youthful Christopher Plummer filmed "Wind Across the Everglades" in the winter of 1957/58. They all bunked down in the Rod & Gun Club while shooting on location in the swamps, islands, and town. Seen above are Burl Ives and hermit Roy Ozmer on Pelican Key.

Movie-making is not new to Florida. It goes back to the early 1900s when emerging cities tried to attract producers with the lure of a perfect climate and real scenery. Between then and now, crews have invaded for "Distant Drums", "Gone Fishing", "Just Cause", and "Adaptation". Even Woody Woodpecker got in the act for "Everglade Raid".

You can learn more and share your memories at a Nostalgia Night illustrated lecture on **Friday, January 8**, at 5:30 p.m. in historic Everglades City Hall. The guest speaker is Rob Davis, Director of the DeSantis Center for Motion Picture Industry Studies at Florida Atlantic University.

This free event is hosted by the Everglades Society for Historic Preservation. For information, see website www.evergladeshistorical.org or phone Marya at 695-2905.

ESHP will hold a board meeting on **Monday, January 4**, at 9:00 a.m. in the office upstairs in City Hall. Members are welcome to attend the meeting.

Don't throw it out!

The Historical Library operated by ESHP in City Hall welcomes old books, photos, and documents. Phone 695-2905.

MUSEUM NEWS

We will celebrate the official Feast Day for Deaconess Harriet Bedell on **Friday, January 8**, with an illustrated lecture in the Museum at 2:00 p.m. This energetic little woman lived in Everglades City from 1933 until 1960, helping the local Indians and taking part in our community. The Friends of the Museum will provide refreshments before the talk and everyone is invited to come along. For info, phone Patty at 695-2397.

The Gladesmen exhibit continues in the Pauline Reeves Gallery at the front of the Museum which is open 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.

The new FME Board of Directors will meet on **Wednesday, January 6**, at 9:00 a.m. in the Museum to elect officers and make plans for the rest of the season. Members are welcome to attend.



photo Florida State Archives



Off the Shelf – Book Review

“Stones into Schools” by Greg Mortenson

Reviewed by Patricia Huff

If you read Greg Mortenson's *Three Cups of Tea*, then this is a must read. Greg established the non-profit Central Asia Institute 16 years ago in order to raise funds to continue the building of schools in Pakistan, and now he has written this book about his efforts to do the same in Afghanistan. A few years ago, several of us attended a presentation in Naples where Greg Mortenson was invited to speak. He is relentless in traveling around this country to talk about his program. He is so dedicated to helping the underprivileged children of war-torn countries, and his emphasis is on the education of girls. Greg quotes the African proverb he learned as a child in Tanzania: "If you teach a boy, you educate an individual; but if you teach a girl, you educate a community." He talks about the success stories of some of the young women he has helped educate and who are now serving in their own villages to help others. He discusses the difficulties after 9/11 and the hardships after the 2005 earthquake in Pakistan. Greg says, "To my honor, *Three Cups of Tea* is now required reading for all officers enrolled in counterinsurgency courses at the Pentagon." In the forward, Khaled Hosseini (author of *The Kite Runner*) states "No wonder the U.S. military has recruited Greg as a consultant on how to fashion better relationships with tribal leaders and village elders."

At this time of year, it is good reading for Peace on Earth and Good Will towards Men.

Paws to Reflect

by a Squeediliferous Pusslet



We had this email from Constant Waterman explaining that Pusslet is taking a break:

The Squeedler is curled up by the wood stove in the kitchen. 9 degrees this morning and not up to freezing, yet. Big pot of carrot, parsnip, ginger soup warming on wood stove for my lunch. Promised the Squeedler a bowlful if she'd bring in an armload of wood. Guess she doesn't like soup ...

Nearly bought her a ticket to Florida so you could have a proper snuggle, but she said then there'd be no one here to hold down the rug. Good point. That rug by the wood stove gets a mite restless some mornings and Miss Pye is too lazy to even get off the bed. Pusslets ain't as energetic and responsible as they was when I was a lad.

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

REVIEW OF 2009



Mayor Sammy Hamilton welcomed the new kids' clinic operated by Dr. GB and Kathy Barnard (1/9/09).



Local performers played at a music festival at the school (3/6/09).



A branch of the Shamrock Bank opened in City Hall (3/20/09).



A group from Ladies' Coffee took a bus trip to Miami (3/20/09).



A community BBQ was held to thank our emergency workers (5/15/09).



"Aunt Bea" Rogers celebrated her 90th birthday with family and friends at the Everglades Seafood Depot (6/12/09).



The Independence Day parade had beautifully decorated floats (7/10/09).



Art work by ECity School students was on display in the Museum (7/24/09).



A group of Reach Out summer campers went to Wannado City (7/24/09).



Local youngsters took part in the CCSO "Build-a-Boat" project (8/21/09).



The blessing of the crab fleet took place at the Rod & Gun before the season started (10/16/09).



Fran Tiff was named "Citizen of the Year" (10/16/09).



New hangars at the Everglades Airpark were almost finished (11/13/09).

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

- Kent Orner (1/9/09)
- Yvonne Ballance (1/23/09)
- Ricardo (Loco) Concepcion (1/23/09)
- Maria Stone (2/20/09)
- Zachery Wells (3/20/09)
- Roy Pomeroy (3/20/09)
- Gail Torres-Staples (4/3/09)
- Bob Carter (4/17/09)
- Charley Fogle (4/17/09)
- E. Glenn Tucker (5/29/09)
- Sue Mitoff (7/24/09)
- Glen Simmons (7/24/09)
- L.C. Harris (8/7/09)
- Red Rodgers (8/7/09)
- Frank Braman (8/7/09)
- Theresia Ann Butler (8/21/09)
- Ken Abrams (8/21/09)
- Homer Cox (8/21/09)
- Margaret Babinec (9/4/09)
- Barry Birdwell (9/4/09)
- J. Wray Connelly (10/2/09)
- Kathryn Brock McLellan (10/30/09)
- Everett Reeves (11/27/09)

RESTAURANT NEWS



- Backcountry Cafe (695-2552):**
6:00 am - 3:00 pm.; daily
- Camellia Street Grill (695-2003):**
12 noon – 8:00 pm; Sun – Thurs
12 noon – 9:00 pm; Fri, Sat
- 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; daily
- 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 – 6:00 pm; Mon - Sat
Fish market (grouper/pompano)
- Havana Cafe (695-2214):**
8:00 am – 3:00 pm; daily
5:00 – 9:00 pm; Fri, Sat
- Ivey House (695-3299):**
6:30 – 9:30 am; daily
Cold breakfast buffet
- Joanie's Blue Crab Cafe (695-2682):**
10:00 am - 5:00 pm; Thurs - Mon
- 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



The Christmas Tree in front of City Hall was decorated on December 11 by children of all ages who enjoyed cookies & punch after the work was done. Photo thanks to Pat Fingeroff.



Ladies Coffee was held at Jan Brock's home in Ochopee on December 16, a festive tradition when Jan serves her sausage & biscuits. Ladies Coffee is held every Wednesday at 8:00 a.m. at various restaurants around town (see our calendar) and all ladies in the area are welcome.

New Year's Eve Dinner



Camellia Street Grill is having a special "Surf-n-Turf" dinner on **Thursday, December 31**, with live music.

New Year's Eve Service



Everglades Community Church will hold a Night Watch Vigil and Covenant Renewal on **Thursday, December 31**, at 7:00 p.m. The service includes communion. Everyone is welcome.

New Year's Day Mass



Holy Family Catholic Church will hold a special mass at 10:30 a.m. on **Friday, January 1** to welcome the New Year.



CHAMBER

Pedro Ramos, the Superintendent of Big Cypress National Preserve, spoke at the Annual Meeting of the Everglades Area Chamber of Commerce at the Everglades Seafood Depot on December 14.

New Chamber directors and officers for 2010 are: Myrna Baier (Secretary & Treasurer), Howie Grimm, Sammy Hamilton, Orlo Hilton, Bob Miller, Billy Potter, Bob Wells (Vice-President), Gene Wooten (President), and Charles Wright.

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 every **Saturday** in January from 9:00 a.m. to noon. There are no drugs at the clinic but prescriptions can be written.

The clinic does not treat pregnant girls or give vaccinations. Spanish speakers should bring a translator.

MOBILE PET VET



Dr Baker will be here on **Saturday, January 9**, 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, January 10**, by previous appointment only. Phone her at 777-PETS (7387). For info, see www.naplesmobilepetvet.com.

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, January 5**, at 3:00 p.m. For info, phone 348-1620.

COLETTA VISIT

Collier County Commissioner Jim Coletta will be in Everglades City on **Tuesday, January 5**, from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., to meet with constituents at City Hall For info, phone 252-8097.

CITY COUNCIL

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

SNOOK CLASSIFIED

FOR SALE: House and Barn on 1.02 Acres. Zoned (A). Sale price \$139,000 (\$59,000 below appraised value). Owner Financing. For 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.

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.

FOR SALE: Mosquito Magnet, used, only \$200 (original value \$1600). Call 695-2397.

FOR SALE: Fakahatchee History book & DVD gift set, \$30. Phone 695-2905.

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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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