

The MULLET RAPPER

What's Happening in the Everglades City Area

FEBRUARY 19 – MARCH 4, 2010

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P O Box 617, Everglades City, FL, 34139

Volume IV • Issue #101



Most people agree that Seafood Festival didn't have as many visitors in 2010 as in previous years but the music was great. Photo thanks to Helen Bryan.



Volunteers at the ESHP booth handed out order forms for engraved pavers to be laid in front of City Hall. The DEADLINE to return your order is February 28. Forms are available at City Hall or at www.evergladeshistorical.org or by phone at 695-2905.

CITY COUNCIL REPORT

by Marya Repko

Mayor Sammy Hamilton thanked the Beautification Committee for all their hard work and said that grants would be available to implement their plans.

He reported that Seafood Festival went well and was enjoyed by the VIPs who attended, including the new Miccosukee Chairman Colley Billie. However, he is upset at how parked cars left deep gouges in the medians of our streets.

He said that when he took office as Mayor in November 1995, the grass was 6-feet high and there were mosquitoes everywhere. His goal is to “keep the City clean from bridge to bridge” and outsiders have remarked to him about what a tidy little town we have. He commented that he achieved this without raising our taxes.

Councilor Elaine Middelsteadt reported that five charities that she knows about made over \$12,000 from parking and sales. Councilor Johnnie Potter added that the kids had also raised money for school extra-curricular activities & athletics by selling soft drinks and Tshirts.

The next Council meeting will be on **Tuesday, March 2.**



NOTICE ABOUT OUR WATER

Tests by the DEP in September and December 2009 showed that our drinking water had high levels of TTHM and HAA5 contaminants which are formed by disinfectants combining with organic or inorganic matter in the water. To correct this, the DEP has approved the introduction of chlorine and ammonia at the booster station. The water will be tested again in March. It is suggested that, if you are concerned, you use bottled drinking water until the situation is corrected.

SHERIFF'S REPORT

Lt. Mark Milligan said that there had been several thefts from automobiles along US-41 and that a couple from the East coast had been arrested. There was also the theft of gasoline from a boat in Glades Haven. He said Seafood Festival was calm with only minor disturbances.

Lt. Milligan also reported that Crime Prevention Officer Sue Gentry is conducting Neighborhood Watch sessions at Fisherman's Cove and will be at Operation Medicine Cabinet on February 27 (see page 3).

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FEATURE: "MORE Events", p.10

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2010

<u>SUN</u>	<u>MON</u>	<u>TUES</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THURS</u>	<u>FRI</u>	<u>SAT</u>
new moon ○ 14 Valentines Day Blue Grass Festival Muck-About	15 Presidents' Day Hour of Prayer Everglades Community Church 7 pm	16 Reach Out mtg City Hall, 8:30 am Congressional Visit Coletta Visit City Council City Hall, 5:30 pm	17 Ash Wednesday Ladies Coffee Linda Williams' Home 8 am Book Group	18 SAC School, 3 pm Lions Club Depot, 5:30 pm Copeland Civic 7 pm	RAPPER 19	20 Pet Vet <i>see p.11</i> Kids' Clinic <i>see p.11</i> Fly-In Yard Sale BigC mtg <i>see p.3</i>
21 Pet Vet <i>see p.11</i>	22 Hour of Prayer Copeland Baptist Church, 7 pm	23 MSD Festival <i>see p.9</i>	24 Ladies Coffee Ruth Hefflefinger's Home 8 am MSD Festival <i>see p.9</i>	25 MSD Festival <i>see p.9</i>	26 MSD Festival <i>see p.9</i>	27 Kids' Clinic <i>see p.11</i> ORA Bazaar Medicine Cabinet SAFARI Wild Hog BBQ <i>see p.3</i>
full moon ● 28 DEADLINE Brick Orders <i>see p.1</i>	MAR 1 Hour of Prayer Chokoloskee Church of God 7 pm	2 Congressional Visit Coletta Visit City Council City Hall, 5:30 pm	3 Ladies Coffee Jan Brock's Home 8 am FME mtg Museum, 9 am	4 Great Gators School, 9:30 am	RAPPER 5	6 Museum Reception <i>see p.9</i>
7	8 Hour of Prayer Holy Family Catholic Church 7 pm ESHP mtg City Hall, 9 am OFCD Bd Fire Sta, 6 pm	9	10 Ladies Coffee Havana Cafe 8 am	11 Music Fest School, 7pm	12	13 Homes Tour <i>see p.11</i>
14 Clocks Change	15 Hour of Prayer Everglades Community Church 7 pm	16 Reach Out mtg City Hall, 8:30 am	17 Ladies Coffee Backcountry Cafe 8 am	18 SAC School, 3 pm Lions Club Depot, 5:30 pm Copeland Civic 7 pm	RAPPER 19	20 Art-in-Glades <i>see p.11</i> Bike Ride <i>see p.10</i>

Apr 4: Easter Sunday Apr 20: BigC ORVs Apr 24: Museum Birthday

THRIFT SHOP: daily except Sunday; 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 ANON: Wed; 5:30 pm & Sat; noon, Comm Church

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

LITTLE GATOR CLINIC: 2/20, 2/27

SHERIFF AT CITY HALL: Thurs, 2/18 (10-11 am) Tues, 2/23 (1-2 pm) Thurs, 2/25 (1-2 pm) Fri, 2/26 (2-10 am)

YARD SALE

Everglades First Baptist Church opposite the school is holding a Yard Sale on **Saturday, February 20**, from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. There will also be hotdogs and baked goods for sale. For more info, phone Sue at 695-4273.



Smiles at our Festival despite the dark sky.

BigC Meeting

Landowners within Big Cypress National Preserve will meet with the NPS on **Saturday, February 20**, at 1:00 p.m. at preserve headquarters in Ochopee. For info, phone 695-1153.

MISSIONARIES VISIT

Ruth & Barry Johnson, founders of Lighthouse of Hope Ministries, will be featured at Everglades Community Church. Ruth will lead a Women's Retreat at 10:00 a.m. on **Saturday, February 20**, and Ruth & Barry will speak at morning worship services at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. on **Sunday, February 21**. All women are invited to the Saturday retreat and everyone is invited for Sunday.

ORA BAZAAR

Chokoloskee will be buzzing with activity on **Saturday, February 27**, when Outdoor Resorts holds its annual Bazaar from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Besides fresh produce for sale, there will be used items for just pennies, silent auction, raffle, local vendors, and lunch in the Tiki Hut. For more info, phone 695-2281.

The SAFARI

Join a SAFARI into the Fakahatchee on **Saturday, February 27**, for swamp walks, birding, photo workshops, tram rides, exhibits, Clyde Butcher, optional swamp buggy rides and Cracker Dinner.

For info, phone 695-2905 or book online at www.friendsoffakahatchee.org.

60TH WILD HOG BBQ

The Wild Hog BBQ will be held by the Everglades Conservation & Sportsman's Club on **Saturday, February 27**, on Loop Road. Gates open at 11:00 a.m. and tickets are \$20 each. See www.wildhogbbq.org or phone 786-390-0009.

MEDICINE CABINET

Bring your old prescription drugs to City Hall on **Saturday, February 27**, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. so that CCSO can dispose of them safely.

PANCAKE FLY-IN

Join Chuck Gretzke of Wings 10,000 Island Aero Tours for another pancake fly-in at the Everglades Airpark on **Saturday, February 20**, from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Everyone is welcome!

OCHOPEE FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT

- 02/04/10: Vehicle Accident, I-75 50mm
- 02/04/10: Fire Alarm, Ochopee
- 02/05/10: Unknown Medical Problem
- 02/05/10: Emergency Medical, Port of Islands
- 02/05/10: Emergency Medical, Chokoloskee
- 02/05/10: Emergency Medical, Janes Scenic Dr
- 02/06/10: Emergency Medical, ECity Fire Sta.
- 02/06/10: Emergency Medical, ECity Fire Sta.
- 02/06/10: Emergency Medical, ECity Fire Sta.
- 02/07/10: Emergency Medical, ECity Fire Sta.
- 02/07/10: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
- 02/07/10: Emergency Medical, Plantation Island
- 02/07/10: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
- 02/07/10: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
- 02/07/10: Emergency Medical, Copeland
- 02/07/10: Emergency Medical, Copeland
- 02/08/10: Dumpster Fire, Everglades City
- 02/10/10: Powerline Down, Plantation Island
- 02/11/10: Vehicle Accident, US-41 56mm
- 02/13/10: Medical Emergency, 32020 Tamiami Trail
- 02/13/10: Emergency Medical, Plantation Island
- 02/13/10: Vehicle Accident, I-75 68mm
- 02/13/10: Median Fire, 50110 Tamiami Trail
- 02/14/10: Emergency Medical, Chokoloskee
- 02/14/10: Call Box, I-75 58mm
- 02/15/10: Emergency Medical, I-75 63mm
- 02/16/10: Emergency Medical, ECity Fire Sta.
- 02/16/10: Emergency Medical, ECity Fire Sta.
- 02/16/10: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
- 02/16/10: Call Box, I-75 66mm

THRIFT SHOP NEEDS

The Thrift Shop, behind the fire station, is looking for donations of clothing, books, and household goods that it can sell to raise money for Reach Out, our neighborhood charity.

The shop is open every day except Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. when you can leave off your donations. It is a great place to find bargains.


TIDES FOR BARRON RIVER

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

02/19/2010	Fri	12:35AM	0.1	L	05:34AM	1.9	H	11:56AM	0.4	L	04:54PM	2.5	H
02/20/2010	Sat	01:30AM	0.0	L	06:47AM	1.7	H	12:14PM	0.5	L	05:26PM	2.5	H
02/21/2010	Sun	02:40AM	0.0	L	08:23AM	1.5	H	12:34PM	0.7	L	06:12PM	2.5	H
02/22/2010	Mon	03:56AM	-0.1	L	07:22PM	2.5	H						
02/23/2010	Tue	05:07AM	-0.2	L	12:11PM	1.7	H	04:37PM	0.8	L	09:19PM	2.5	H
02/24/2010	Wed	06:08AM	-0.3	L	12:40PM	1.9	H	05:59PM	0.8	L	10:50PM	2.6	H
02/25/2010	Thu	07:02AM	-0.4	L	01:06PM	2.1	H	07:00PM	0.6	L	11:55PM	2.8	H
02/26/2010	Fri	07:52AM	-0.5	L	01:33PM	2.3	H	07:53PM	0.4	L			
02/27/2010	Sat	12:49AM	3.0	H	08:37AM	-0.5	L	02:01PM	2.4	H	08:43PM	0.2	L
02/28/2010	Sun	01:40AM	3.0	H	09:20AM	-0.4	L	02:29PM	2.5	H	09:31PM	0.0	L
03/01/2010	Mon	02:30AM	3.0	H	10:00AM	-0.3	L	02:58PM	2.6	H	10:18PM	-0.2	L
03/02/2010	Tue	03:21AM	2.8	H	10:39AM	-0.1	L	03:29PM	2.7	H	11:06PM	-0.3	L
03/03/2010	Wed	04:14AM	2.5	H	11:17AM	0.2	L	04:02PM	2.8	H	11:55PM	-0.3	L
03/04/2010	Thu	05:11AM	2.2	H	11:53AM	0.4	L	04:38PM	2.7	H			
03/05/2010	Fri	12:48AM	-0.2	L	06:15AM	1.9	H	12:29PM	0.5	L	05:20PM	2.6	H

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SCHOOL NEWS

Everglades City School

phone: 377-9800 or 695-2561

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

IMPORTANT DATES

- Thurs, Feb 18: SAC, 3:00 p.m.
- Thurs, Feb 25: Baseball, HOME, 4:30 p.m.
- Tues, Mar 2: Interim Report Cards
- Thurs, Mar 4: Great Gators, 9:30 a.m.
- Thurs, Mar 4: Early Dismissal



From Savannah's Eyes

The cold weather has been nice in Everglades City but I am so ready for it to be summer. Valentine's Day is tomorrow and my family and I are going to a restaurant called Fujiyama's which is a Japanese steak house. And it is such a cool place because the chefs cook right in front of you with a big fire and stuff but sometimes I get scared that I will come home with no eyebrows! But you get to eat with chop sticks (my dad is very good at eating with chop sticks and he is not even Chinese) and also if the chef cooks shrimp he will take one tiny little shrimp and he will pick it up on his spatula and fling it in his pocket then to his hat! It is so much fun to watch it! Then after we eat we are going to come back home and watch a funny movie.

Last week on Wednesday my cousin Cody and I went to the Collier County Fair with our parents. We both had a blast! The rides were so much fun. We rode rides called Tidal Wave, Indy 500, Orbiter, and also other rides. My favorite ride was the Indy 500! Because it was like a version of a small roller coaster. It was very cold that night! I was freezing on the rides even with tons of clothes on! I also got a tee shirt from the fair and it was specially made too; it had my name on it and it also had a volleyball, and my number in volleyball #5! Plus it had my school colors. I had so much fun at the fair!!

Baseball is going on at our school and if you want to come to one of our games you can pick up a schedule at the school in the office. 7th grade and up is going to go bowling on February 19 because we have kept our school a C school on the FCAT. I cant wait to go bowling!!

Hope everyone had a sweet Valentines day,
Love, Savannah♥

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

WANTED

The Culinary Class at the School would like donations of butter, vegetable oil, flour, sugar, powdered milk, chocolate chips, and peanut butter.
The Yearbook Class needs re-chargeable AA batteries.
Contact Stacia at 695-2561

GREAT GATORS, JANUARY



Grades 5 & 6 with Mrs. H. Mitchell: Kiley West, Lilian Pablo-Jeronimo, Logan Foss, and Kevin Maley



Grade 4 with Ms. Dalto: Tori Wells, Bryce Kish, Jasmine Lucas, and Ashlyn Goff



Pre-K with Mrs. Wells: Carl Nicholson, Gregory Bee, Brandon Purvis, and Melanie Lopez-Alvarado



Grade 3 with Mrs. Jones: Stephanie Pablo-Ramirez, Kalen Kibodeaux, Tyler Richardson, and Macky Collins



Grade 1 & 2: Alexis Rain, Savannah Weeks, and David Fogle



K with Ms. Ryan: Faith Brown, Reyvan Cifuentes, Trenton Mayberry, and Lindsey Lamphere

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Recipe for Good Eating

Bavarian Apple Torte by Patricia Huff



On these cold winter days, this is a great "comfort" dessert to serve to your guests and easy to make.

CRUST: 1/4 c. butter, 1/3 c. sugar, 1/4 tsp. vanilla, 1 c. flour
Cream butter, sugar and vanilla. Blend in flour. Spread dough into bottom and half way up sides of a small spring-form pan.

MIDDLE: 1 (8-oz) pkg. cream cheese, 1/4 c. sugar, 1 egg, 1/2 tsp. vanilla
Cream softened cream cheese and sugar. Mix well. Blend in egg and vanilla. Pour into pastry lined pan

TOP: 1/3 c. sugar, 1/2 tsp. cinnamon, 1/4 c. sliced almonds, 4 c. apples, peeled & sliced
Combine sugar and cinnamon. Toss apples in sugar mixture. Spoon mixture over cream cheese layer. Sprinkle with almonds.

Bake at 450° for 10 minutes. Reduce to 400° for 25 minutes. Cool and remove rim of pan before serving in pie slices.

Paws to Reflect by a Squeedilifferous Pusslet



Seeing as how it was Valentine's Day, I jumped on Dad's head at six o'clock to let him know it was time to go outside. I know he appreciates this as he nearly always gets out of bed when I do it. If this doesn't work, I jump up onto the bureau and start knocking things onto the floor. This invariably gets results. I figure that I have him nearly trained, but it's been an arduous battle. Some days I despair of his learning anything at all. I've already explained to him numerous times that I don't like snow in the yard when I need to go out, but he pays me no attention. I've snarled at him and even threatened to bite him, but he just doesn't get the message.

I've come to the conclusion that if you want your servants well trained, you have to begin when they're young. Mom is hardly better. She won't even let me lie on her when she's sleeping. However, they continue to go out hunting and bring me home cans of tuna, and when they get out the old red brush and take me on their laps, I know that the time I spent training them was certainly worth while.

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

FOOD NEWS FROM THE COUNTY

Market-in-the-Park is now at Naples' Freedom Park (1515 Golden Gate Parkway, near the Coastland Center Mall) each Friday from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Items for sale include organic & traditional produce, home-baked artisan breads, native plants, home-made salsas and chips, organic candles, soaps, pet products, wood carvings, Fair Trade items, and more. Vendor fees benefit children in the Collier County area. For info, phone Nancy Olson at (239) 252-4060 or Cynthia Piper at (239) 438-5682.

Collier County Extension Services is offering its annual "Ag Tour" on **Wednesday, March 10**, with a trip to several farms, including an organic one, and the Pepper Ranch. The trip leaves from Immokalee Road. Cost is \$55 per person and includes lunch. For info, phone 353-4244.

This 14-foot long African Python (a new species in our area) was found just east of Krome Ave and south of US-41 during a survey on January 12. The python weighed in at 138.8 lbs.



Thanks to Dennis Giardina for this report and to Nester Yglesias with the South Florida Water Management District for the photo.

“Amazing Adventures”

A series of lectures is presented at 6:30 p.m. on the first Friday of each month during the winter/spring season at Rookery Bay. The next talk will be on **Friday, March 5**, about “Our National Parks” by Renee Wilson. To register, see www.rookerybay.org or phone 417-6310.

FWC NEWS

FWC is considering the use of crossbows for hunting deer and welcomes comments on the proposed changes to the regulations. To learn more, see www.myfwc.com/deer where you can leave feedback until March 31.



Spring turkey hunting season runs from March 6 to April 11. In the Big Cypress WMA you will need a hunting license, a WMA permit, and a check station pass. In the Deep Lake unit, only bows and muzzle-loading guns may be used.

DID YOU KNOW? It is illegal to sell alligator meat or frog legs without permits and illegal to sell game fish at all. Each charge is a second-degree misdemeanor and carries a maximum penalty of 60 days in jail and \$500 fine.

See www.myfwc.com for more news and regulations.

Thanks to Phill Lawry for this email:

New Florida law. Boats not stored at a marina or permanently docked must be registered. This is intended to cut down on boats abandoned on Florida waterways. If you have sold a boat you should check that your name has been removed as registered owner.

NEW BOATS AT GLADES HAVEN

Sundance 19-foot skiffs with 70hp Yamaha motors are now available for rent or for sale at Glades Haven Marina opposite the National Park. Bobby Miller told the *Rapper* that there is also a Yamaha mechanic on their staff who can be seen by appointment. For info, phone 695-2628.

SAWFISH REPORTS

If you see a sawfish, please report it to:

* Online at: www.flmnh.ufl.edu/fish/sharks/sawfish

* By phone: (352) 392-2360 or (352) 871-8230

* By e-mail: sawfish@flmnh.ufl.edu

The smalltooth sawfish is a protected species.



VIP Report

Manatee Protection Zone Work
by Shirley Leonard



Everglades National Park is pleased to announce that new regulatory markers are being installed in Chokoloskee Bay near Chokoloskee Island. Sixteen (16) markers will be installed along with signs that identify new boating speed zones. The purpose of these zones is to improve manatee protection in this area of the park.

This area was designated an “Area of Inadequate Protection” (AIP) by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) as part of a settlement agreement reached between the USFWS and The Save the Manatee Club in 2001.

This settlement required the USFWS to:

- 1) improve or enlarge manatee protection zones;
- 2) erect channel markers clearly designating areas where boaters must observe speed limits; and
- 3) enforce the limits.

The designation of the bay as an AIP had a number of outcomes that included stoppage of construction projects in the bay until this designation was removed. When the new markers are installed, the National Park Service expects the AIP designation will be removed and construction projects in the bay could proceed and that manatees will be better protected through implementation of additional protection zones.

The park engaged in a comprehensive and public planning process to develop new manatee protection zones. This planning effort included consideration of several proposed alternatives, two public meetings, stakeholder meetings, and written public feedback. The alternative selected is based on a proposal provided to the park by a group of park users, spearheaded by Max Schultz from the “Everglades For Everyone” group. Other members of this group include David Hack, Larry Weber, Richard Fitzgerald, and Capt. Tony Polizos, Capt. Charles Wright, Quin Kurth and Adam Gelber.

Turrell, Hall & Associates, Inc., a Marine and Environmental Consulting firm from Naples, Florida offered to take on the installation process and through the generosity of several donors and the staff at Turrell, Hall & Associates, Inc. the contract to install the markers was recently awarded. The work is expected to be completed by the end of February 2010.

Boaters are advised to exercise caution in this area both during the installation process and to be vigilant of the new speed zones. The park is developing maps and information handouts for the public that will clearly explain the new zones. Two poster size maps of the zones are available for viewing in the Gulf Coast visitor center.

Questions should be directed to Gulf Coast Park Rangers at (239) 695-4217.

Shirley Leonard is a member of the “Volunteer in Parks” program during the winter season. She was a journalist in Quincy, Massachusetts, on The Patriot Ledger for over 20 years and is a regular contributor to the Rapper.

MEMORIES

JEANNE WEIMER

Someone must really love the Everglades to have their family's ashes or themselves scattered into it. Jeanne got upset last year when a park ranger ordered her off of the bank where she was fishing at the location where her family's ashes had been placed.

The Shealy's told me she was quite a character. She showed off her snook tattoo. She was kind of a flirt. On the phone she told me, "You're all grown up kid". She was my friend in childhood. I visited her and Ken's peanut farm in Alabama with my family and she would give me candy behind my mom's back. She was such a great person, a strong woman, and like none else.

Ken Weimer came to the Everglades in the 1940s when he purchased over 400 acres of land which he used to create a tomato farm, employing members of the Miccosukee tribe. In the 1950s Ken created a water company and put in water lines for surrounding businesses including Wooten's famous airboats. He had the canals dug and made plans for a subdivision. In the 1960s Ken sold Daniel Whichello (my dad) the plot of land where the Golden Lion would be built.

Ken was married to Jeanne Weimer in 1972 in Ohio. Jeanne was born there. They built a house together in the planned subdivision off of the canals. They built a beautiful boat dock.. She sure loved that dock. She could catch her dinner from her dock and bring it in and cook it.

The government went after their land and livelihoods so Ken and Jeanne, both rugged souls with no fear of battle, spent five years in the courts, taking their case all the way to the Supreme Court. They lost the case. The Weimers eventually moved out of the Everglades to a 26-acre peanut farm near Montgomery, Alabama.

Thanks to Jeff Whichello for this tribute to Jeanne Weimer who passed away recently.

OBITUARY

Bobbie Dianne Braman Mitchell, born 3/17/1956, died at her home in Rhine, GA, from medical complications on the morning of February 1st this year.

She was a long-time native of Everglades City and leaves behind her mother Barbara Daniels, three brothers, and two sisters.

We loved her and will miss her terribly.

MSD Festival

Highlights of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas Festival at the Museum of the Everglades are:

Tuesday, February 23

11:00 "Everglades Culture & History"
by Dr Laura Ogden

12:00 Luncheon

1:00 Fashion Show (1880s to 1920s)

Wednesday, February 24 (Big Cypress DVD)

presented by Elam Stoltzfus, Sammy Tedder, & Rick Cruz

10:00 Behind the Scenes

11:00 Music in the Swamp

12:00 Buffet Luncheon

1:00 Filming the Swamp

2:00 Sounds of the Everglades

Thursday, February 25

8:30 Guided Tram Tour or Guided Canoe Tour

9:00 "Discover Big Cypress" by Lisa Andrews

11:00 Otter John & his Wild Animal Show

12:00 "Invasion in the Everglades" by Gail Fox

12:30 Swamp Walk or Guided Tram Tour

2:00 "Brief History of the Fakahatchee" by Marya Repko

Friday, February 26

8:30 Guided Canoe Trip

10:00 Photo Workshop, Part I, by Rick Cruz

11:00 "Discover the Fakahatchee" by Mike Owen

1:00 Guided Fern Walk or Photo Workshop, Part II

2:00 "Plants with a Purpose" by Erin Foley

Reservations are required for many of the activities and some of them are already full. Phone the Museum at 695-0008 to find out what is still available.



MUSEUM NEWS



are welcome.

The "Artist-of-the-Month" for February in the Pauline Reeves Gallery is photographer Jeff Ripple. The Museum is open 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

There will be a reception on **Saturday, March 6**, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. for the next artist, Mary Ellen Rand, whose exhibit is titled "The Ever-Changing Colors of the Everglades". Everyone is welcome to come along and meet the artist.

The next FME Board meeting is at 9:00 a.m. on **Wednesday, March 3**. All members are invited to attend. If you would like to join the Friends of the Museum, stop by and complete an application form or visit website www.evergladesmuseum.org.

"POLICE ACADEMY"

If you want an insider's look at the Collier County Sheriff's Office, then Citizens' Academy is for you. During the six-week course you will meet some of the men and women of the Collier County Sheriff's Office and learn about what they do to keep you & your family safe, tour the Naples Jail Center, see live demonstrations by SWAT and the Bomb Squad.

Citizens Academy begins **Monday, March 8**, and takes place each Monday from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. through April 12. Classes are held in the CCSO Professional Development Center at 615 Third Avenue South, Naples.

To enroll, go to www.colliersheriff.org or phone (239) 793.9145. Applications must be turned in by **Monday, March 1**.



EXOTIC PLANTS

Melaleuca (*Melaleuca quinquenervia*)

Brazilian Pepper ("Florida Holly")

(*Schinus terebinthifolius*)

Australian Pines

(*Casuarina equisetifolia* and *Casuarina glauca*)

by Patricia Huff

These three non-native invaders are among the most known of Florida's exotic trees in our area. Although the Florida holly may be beautiful (and our bears love the red berries), they are very fast growing and tend to take over certain areas, crowding out the native plants. The Melaleuca trees were brought here to help "drain" the Everglades so it has become a real nuisance spreading throughout our area. In the past ten years there has been a conscious effort to eliminate this invasive species in the Everglades. The tall Australian pines spread either by their seeds (coastal type) or by root suckers (inland windbreak form) and cover large areas. Over time these non-native plants can be very destructive. Many landscape designers and gardeners are planting native species which do well in conserving our water resources and demand less maintenance. For more about invasive exotics, see www.floridiainvasives.org and www.evergladescisma.org.

PANTHER FUNDRAISER

The "Panther Prowl Road Rally, Scavenger Hunt, and Poker Run" takes place on **Sunday, February 28**, and wanders from the Panther Refuge to Ava Maria, Punta Gorda, Ft Myers Beach and Ft Myers.

All "street-legal" vehicles are welcome, entry fee \$15. For more info, contact Friends of the Florida Panther Refuge president Lisa Ostberg at (239) 642-5472.



NEUTER/SPAY CLINICS

Collier County Domestic Animal Services is offering reduced-rate neuter/spay for 5 days, **February 22-26**, to coincide with the Humane Society "National Spay Day" on Tuesday, February 23. For info, phone 1-877-781 SPAY (7729).

FLEA MARKET ON MARCO

St. Mark's Episcopal Church is holding a Giant Flea Market on **Thursday, February 25**, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Besides donated items (everything from clothing to household goods) there will be strawberry shortcake, hotdogs, soda, coffee, and donuts for sale. For info, phone (239) 394-7242.

Everglades Bicycle Ride



Come join us for a fun day of biking and enjoy the beauty of the Everglades. Continental breakfast, snacks and lunch will be provided. Stay for the weekend and take advantage of the many activities available in the area: arts-and-craft show, panther refuge week, kayaking, hiking, air boat rides, museums and much more. Friday night (March 19) before the event there will be music and dinner at a local restaurant.

- WHEN: Saturday, March 20
- WHERE: McLeod Park on the Circle, Everglades City
- CHOICE OF MILES: 8, 16, 23, 50, 62 and 82 with rest stops
- SPONSORED BY: Naples Pathway Coalition
- BENEFIT: Everglades River of Grass Greenway (ROGG) and Reach Out Everglades (our neighborhood charity)
- MORE INFO: www.evergladesROGG.org or phone Patty Huff on 239-695-2397

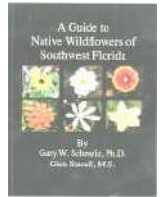
Free Panther Month Events

Save-the-Florida-Panther Month kicks off on **Saturday, March 6**, with a day at the Naples Zoo and continues during March with a number of free events ending up on March 21 with a day at the Panther Refuge (on SR-29 just north of I-75).

The *Rapper* will have a full schedule in the next issue. For info, see www.floridapanther.org and click on the Calendar button at the top of the screen.

NATIVE WILDFLOWERS

Learn all about "The Native Wildflowers of Southwest Florida" on **Wednesday, March 3**, at 1:00 p.m. in a presentation given by Gary W. Schmelz and Glen Stacell high-lighting their newly published book by the same title.



Whether you love to see wildflowers on roadsides and wild places or blooming in your own backyard butterfly garden, your appreciation of these wonders of Florida (the land of flowers) will grow and grow the more you know about them. Books will be available for purchase and the authors will be signing them. The event is free and refreshments will be served. It takes place at the Hedges Family Eco-Center at the corner of US-41 and Fleischmann Blvd in Naples. For info, phone 261-4290.

The "Wildflowers" book is for sale locally at the Chamber of Commerce Welcome Center (corner of SR-29 & US-41), WinCar Hardware, and the Ivey House B&B.

BigC Preserve at BigC Market

Don't just smell the flowers, eat them! Big Cypress National Preserve Ranger Erin Foley will talk about "Plants with a Purpose" on **Friday, February 19**, at 10:30 a.m. at Big Cypress Market (on US-41 several miles south of CR-951).

Another presentation "Among the Cypress: Northern Hardwoods in Big Cypress Swamp" will be given by Ranger Garrick Landsberg on **Friday, March 5**. Retirees aren't the only "northerners" who have learned to love the heat and humidity of south Florida.

There is no charge for the talks which are open to the public.

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):**
10:00 am - 7:00 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 - 9 pm; Sun - Thurs
6:30 am - 10 pm; Fri, Sat
- Glades Haven Deli (695-2091):**
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
Hot breakfast buffet
- Joanie's Blue Crab Cafe (695-2682):**
10:00 am - 5:00 pm; Thurs - Mon
- Leebo's Rock-Bottom Bar:**
3:00 pm; Mon - Sat
noon; Sunday
"mike night" Wed
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
- 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 (695-2580):**
11:00 am - 5:00 pm; daily
- Triad Seafood (695-0722):**
10:30 am - 5:00 pm; daily
Fish Market also open

Camellia Street Grill has line-dancing on Wednesday nights.
Glades Haven Deli & Liquor Store has a new telephone number: 695-2091.

BBQ Chicken Dinner

Everglades Community Church is holding a fundraiser on **Friday, March 5**, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. The menu includes BBQ Chicken, salad, bread, dessert, and drink. Tickets are \$10 (\$5 for kids under 10).

SWAMP BUGGY RACES

The Spring Championship will be held on **Sunday, March 7**, after the time trials on **Saturday, March 6**. For tickets, see www.swampbuggy.com.

HOMES TOUR

ESHHP is organizing an Everglades Homes Tour on **Saturday, March 13**, from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.



Ticket booklets are for sale at \$20 in City Hall or can be bought with a credit card at www.evergladeshistorical.org. For info, phone 695-4642 or 695-0202.

ART-IN-THE-GLADES

There will be an arts & crafts sale with live music and hotdogs for lunch on **Saturday, March 20**, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in McLeod Park. Vendors are welcome to set up a table. For info, phone Marya at 695-2905.

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 **Saturday, February 20 and 27**, 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. There are no qualifying criteria and the service is free, thanks to Dr GB & Kathy Barnard.

MOBILE PET VET



Dr Baker will be here on **Saturday, February 20**, 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, February 21**, by previous appointment only. Phone her at 777-PETS (7387). For more info, see www.naplesmobilepetvet.com.

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New Rules for 2009 Income



Mike the Tax Guy

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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, \$459,000. 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.

HOUSE FOR SALE BY OWNER: Waterfront 2/2 home on Dupont with boat lift and floating dock. Well constructed home built to last. Priced to sell at \$595,000. Visit www.h4sale.com for details, and/or call (239) 588-0560.

FOR SALE: Tohatsu 50 hp Motor, Trailer reworked - spare tire, Southern Skimmer 1990 16'2" Boat, Awning - extras \$2,900.00, See Jim Landrum; call 695-2741.

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



Chocolate-Covered Frozen Key Lime Pies, a favorite at Seafood Festival, were sold by volunteers at Reach Out, our neighbor charity.

JOBS VACANT

FULL-TIME hotel maintenance person with pool qualifications. Position opens for training in April. Please leave your resume at the Captain's Table Hotel office or fax it to 239-695-2697 or email it to info@captainstablehotel.com. For info, phone hotel at 695-4211.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR sought for Everglades Association which supports the National Park Service. Send resume and covering letter with 3 references to miami-employment@hotmail.com.

PUT YOUR JOB ADS IN THE RAPPER no charge! phone us at 695-2397

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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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