

The MULLET RAPPER

What's Happening in the Everglades City Area

MARCH 19 – APRIL 1, 2010

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P O Box 617, Everglades City, FL, 34139

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Sheriff Gone

Aubrey Rogers, 83, passed away peacefully on March 10. He served as Collier County Sheriff from 1975 to 1989, bringing the office into modern times.

Rogers was born in 1926 in Fort Myers and was posted by Sheriff Hendry to Everglades City in 1957.

Lt Mark Milligan sent us this email and photo taken during a visit last year by Sheriff Rogers to Carnestown.

Both Sgt. Todd Taylor and myself from District 7 Substation have fond memories of Sheriff Aubrey Rogers. Sheriff Rogers hired both of us as we began our Law Enforcement Careers with the Collier County Sheriff's Department. He was a highly respected individual whose contributions helped make Collier County a safer place to live. We will miss him, but his legacy will go on forever!



CROWDS AT HOMES TOUR

Over 550 visitors from Naples, Marco Island, Fort Myers, and further afield flocked to the Everglades Homes Tour on March 13. Organizer Jean Schultz, helped by Jane Rackley, was swamped by people waiting for tickets at the Rod & Gun. This was the first time this event had been held; and, due to the success of the tour, it will be repeated. Local businesses reported that they also had a good day with greatly increased customers.

Thanks from the Everglades Society for Historic Preservation to Pat Rinkevich, the owners of the nine buildings on view, and to the docents.



Short Field Landings

by Mike Klein

Everglades Airpark is what the FAA calls an 'uncontrolled field', but that doesn't mean there is no control over flight activities. Like thousands of airports across the country, the Everglades airport has some very strict FAA procedures which are posted in official directories, charts, and other government publications.

In addition, there is a Common Traffic Advisory Frequency (CTAF) on which you must broadcast your position and request airport advisories. This is where Al (Big Al to some) provides some very important information including wind speed & direction, runway in use, and any other reported traffic in the area. Al records the tail number of arriving aircraft and gives fueling & parking instructions. Inside the terminal he provides insight to Everglades City, may rent out a bike or two, or phone a restaurant or other business for passenger pick up.

Al has been in, around, and observing hundreds of aircraft, from his own J3 Piper Cub back on the farm, to the latest and greatest Cirrus SR22's - one of which went through our fence some months ago - but you can ask Al about that, plus dozens of other tales from the hangar. Al is on duty Saturdays and Sundays, so stop in and pay him a visit some fine weekend.

CONTENTS

Calendar	p. 2	VIP Report	p. 8
Tides	p. 3	Glades Daze	p. 8
Events	p. 3	Museum	p. 9
School	p. 5	Local History	p. 9
Recipe	p. 7	Florida Flora	p.10
Paws	p. 7	Restaurants	p.11

FEATURE: "TAXING THINGS", p.10

BEFORE YOU LEAVE ...



The Community Food Pantry is glad to have canned goods or unopened packages of dry food. You can drop them off in the breezeway behind the Community Church on the Circle; the screen doors are always open.

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

MARCH/APRIL 2010

<u>SUN</u>	<u>MON</u>	<u>TUES</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THURS</u>	<u>FRI</u>	<u>SAT</u>
<p>14 <u>Clocks Change</u></p>	<p>new moon ○ 15 Hour of Prayer Everglades Community Church 7 pm</p>	<p>16 Reach Out mtg City Hall, 8:30 am</p>	<p>17 Ladies Coffee Backcountry Cafe 8 am</p>	<p>18 SAC School, 3 pm Lions Club Depot, 5:30 pm Copeland Civic 7 pm</p>	<p><u>RAPPER</u> 19</p>	<p>20 Kids' Clinic <i>see p.11</i> Bike Ride <i>see p.10</i> Art-in-Glades Fly-In Reunion <i>see p.3</i></p>
<p>21</p>	<p>22 Hour of Prayer Copeland Baptist Church, 7 pm</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 Ladies Coffee Pat Rinkevich's Home 8 am</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 Pet Vet <i>see p.11</i> Kids' Clinic <i>see p.11</i> Fish Fry <i>see p.3</i></p>
<p>28 <u>Palm Sunday</u> Pet Vet <i>see p.11</i></p>	<p>29 Hour of Prayer Chokoloskee Church of God 7 pm School Spring Recess</p>	<p>full moon ● 30</p>	<p>31 Ladies Coffee Havana Cafe 8 am</p>	<p>APRIL 1 <u>Maudy</u> <u>Thursday</u> Great Gators School, 9:30 am Comm Church 7 pm, <i>see p.11</i></p>	<p><u>RAPPER</u> 2 <u>Good Friday</u> Holy Family 12 noon, <i>see p.11</i> Comm Church 7 pm, <i>see p.11</i></p>	<p>3</p>
<p>4 <u>Easter Sunday</u> Sunrise Service 7 am, <i>see p.11</i></p>	<p>5 Hour of Prayer Holy Family Catholic Church 7 pm</p>	<p>6 Congressional Visit Coletta Visit City Council City Hall, 5:30 pm</p>	<p>7 Ladies Coffee Backcountry Cafe 8 am FME mtg Museum, 9 am</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10 Museum Reception</p>
<p>11</p>	<p>12 Hour of Prayer Everglades Community Church 7 pm ESHP mtg City Hall, 9 am OFCD Bd Fire Sta, 6 pm</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>new moon ○ 14 Ladies Coffee Havana Cafe 8 am</p>	<p>15</p>	<p><u>RAPPER</u> 16</p>	<p>17</p>

Apr 20: BigC ORVs Apr 24: Museum Birthday May 6: National Day of Prayer

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; 5:00 pm & Sat; noon, Comm Church
 SHAMROCK BANK: Tues, Thurs; 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. LITTLE GATOR CLINIC: 3/20, 3/27, 4/24, 5/1

SHERIFF AT CITY HALL: Fri, 3/19 (9-10 am) Mon, 3/22 (10-11 am) Wed, 3/24 (1-2 pm) Fri, 3/26 (9-10 am) Tues, 3/30 (1-2 pm)

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. For info, phone Marya at 695-2905.

PANCAKE FLY-IN



A pancake breakfast, hosted by Wings 10,000 Islands Tours, will take place on **Saturday, March 20**, from 10:00 a.m. to noon at Everglades Airpark. For info, phone Chuck at 695-3296.

REUNION

If you lived in the ECity area in the 1930s, 1940s, or 1950s you are invited to a reunion on **Saturday, March 20**, in the Seafood Depot at 11:00 a.m. For info, phone June at (239) 394-5604.

Bicycle Ride

To read more about the ROGG event on **Saturday, March 20**, see page 10.



FISH FRY



Chokoloskee Church of God is holding a Fish Fry on **Saturday, March 27**, at 12:00 noon in the Church Annex. The menu includes baked beans, coleslaw, corn bread, and iced tea. Desserts are also available for a donation. Cost is \$10 (or \$5 for kids). The Women's Ministry Missions are the sponsors. For info, phone Martha at 695-3735.



The second annual Music Fest held at Everglades City School was a tremendous success, with 270 people attending and enjoying the music of 35 artists from our community and the winter residents. Refreshments were served at intermission and were provided by the School's culinary class. Tickets were free but \$1,000 in donations was received and given to the Art and Music Programs at the School. A special thanks to the entertainers, the stage crew, and particularly to the school staff for all their work and support. Jean Schultz

OBITUARY

Odalph Stokes, 81, passed away on March 10. He moved to Chokoloskee from Moniac, GA, in 1942 when his father became pastor of Chokoloskee Church of God and married Laverne Brown who survives him. He also leaves daughter Hazel (Danny) Mitchell, sons Ervin (Lynn) Stokes, Mike (Tracy) Stokes, Brett (Debbie) Stokes, Bart (Barbara) Stokes, and numerous other relatives. A memorial service was held on March 13.

OCHOPEE FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT

- 03/04/10: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
- 03/04/10: Brush Fire, US-41 mm 58
- 03/05/10: Structure Fire, Port of the Islands
- 03/05/10: Vehicle Accident, SR-29 and I-75
- 03/05/10: Emergency Medical, Chokoloskee
- 03/05/10: Emergency Rescue, Turtle Key
- 03/06/10: Emergency Medical, Port of the Islands
- 03/06/10: Emergency Medical, Chokoloskee
- 03/06/10: Emergency medical, Union Road
- 03/07/10: Vehicle Accident, Loop Rd
- 03/07/10: Vehicle Accident, 74mm on I-75
- 03/08/10: Vehicle Accident, US-41 and Collier Seminole State Park
- 03/08/10: Vehicle Fire, 1 Mile East of Port of the Islands
- 03/08/10: Brush Fire, Big Cypress Bend
- 03/08/10: Vehicle Accident, Kirby Storter Park & US-41
- 03/09/10: Emergency Medical, Port of the Islands
- 03/10/10: Call Box, 57mm on I-75
- 03/10/10: Person Fell, Copeland Ave & Plantation Parkway
- 03/10/10: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
- 03/11/10: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
- 03/11/10: Emergency Medical, Copeland
- 03/12/10: Emergency Medical, Copeland
- 03/12/10: Vehicle Accident, 59mm on I-75
- 03/13/10: Assault, Copeland
- 03/13/10: Person Fell, Everglades City
- 03/14/10: Vehicle Accident, 56mm on I-75
- 03/14/10: Emergency Medical, Chokoloskee
- 03/14/10: Emergency Medical, Copeland
- 03/16/10: Vehicle Accident, US 41 mm 56

New Welcome Center

The new Big Cypress Swamp Welcome Center in Ochopee will be officially opened by NPS Director Jonathan Jarvis from 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. on **Saturday, March 20**. The event includes a free BBQ at 1:00 p.m. For info, phone (305) 665-4769.


TIDES FOR BARRON RIVER

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

03/19/2010	Fri	12:28AM	-0.2	L	05:37AM	2.2	H	12:04PM	0.5	L	04:36PM	2.7	H
03/20/2010	Sat	01:13AM	-0.2	L	06:35AM	2.0	H	12:25PM	0.6	L	05:04PM	2.7	H
03/21/2010	Sun	02:06AM	-0.1	L	07:50AM	1.8	H	12:48PM	0.7	L	05:44PM	2.7	H
03/22/2010	Mon	03:12AM	-0.1	L	09:17AM	1.7	H	01:16PM	0.8	L	06:38PM	2.6	H
03/23/2010	Tue	04:27AM	-0.1	L	10:55AM	1.8	H	02:23PM	0.9	L	08:02PM	2.5	H
03/24/2010	Wed	05:38AM	-0.2	L	12:13PM	1.9	H	05:36PM	0.8	L	10:16PM	2.5	H
03/25/2010	Thu	06:40AM	-0.2	L	12:52PM	2.1	H	06:49PM	0.7	L	11:45PM	2.6	H
03/26/2010	Fri	07:35AM	-0.2	L	01:21PM	2.3	H	07:48PM	0.4	L			
03/27/2010	Sat	12:52AM	2.7	H	08:24AM	-0.2	L	01:49PM	2.5	H	08:40PM	0.2	L
03/28/2010	Sun	01:48AM	2.8	H	09:09AM	-0.1	L	02:17PM	2.6	H	09:29PM	-0.1	L
03/29/2010	Mon	02:39AM	2.8	H	09:52AM	0.0	L	02:44PM	2.8	H	10:16PM	-0.2	L
03/30/2010	Tue	03:28AM	2.8	H	10:32AM	0.2	L	03:13PM	2.9	H	11:02PM	-0.4	L
03/31/2010	Wed	04:17AM	2.6	H	11:11AM	0.3	L	03:44PM	3.0	H	11:48PM	-0.4	L
04/01/2010	Thu	05:07AM	2.5	H	11:48AM	0.4	L	04:16PM	3.0	H			
04/02/2010	Fri	12:34AM	-0.4	L	06:01AM	2.2	H	12:23PM	0.6	L	04:52PM	2.9	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, Mar 18: SAC, 3:00 p.m.
- Thurs, Mar 25: Baseball HOME, 4:00 p.m.
- Mar 29 – Apr 5: Spring Recess
- Tues, Apr 6: Pre-K/K registration, 4:30 p.m.
- Thurs, Apr 8: Baseball HOME, 4:30 p.m.



From Savannah's Eyes

This past weekend my parents and I went to Outward Bound for a tour of the island. We went by boat and a couple of our friends joined us. When we got to the island, the guide was telling more people about the little houses there. Outward Bound is a survival school that teaches people how to survive on the islands. The guide showed us how they put canoes together at night and put boards on the canoes, then they put their tents on the boards and go to sleep (*see photo below*). And, he showed us all of the supply houses and where they sleep plus where they put their muddy shoes. Then, after all that, we went to the cemetery where there were four tombstones. Three were made from stone but there was one that was made from metal and had been there since the 1800s. That is a very long time! Then we went into the main house and had some snacks like tuna sandwiches, sweet tea, chips, salsa, and sweets. It was so much fun!

FCAT is finally over. I think I did very well! Gymnastics is still good and we have been learning a lot. St. Patrick's Day is already gone. Hope everyone has a green St. Patrick's Day!

Love, Savannah♥

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



Pre-K & K EARLY REGISTRATION

Register your little ones on **Tuesday, April 6**, in the Media Center at the school from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. if you want them to be in Pre-K or Kindergarten next year.

THANKS TO TRINA MITCHELL FOR GREAT GATORS

GREAT GATORS, FEBRUARY



Pre-K: Daneli Alvarado-Lopez, James Collins
Absent: Sienna Dungan, Ashton Humphreys



Grades 5 & 6 Kiley West, Sindy Cifuentes, Alicia Martinez, Madelyn Mitchell



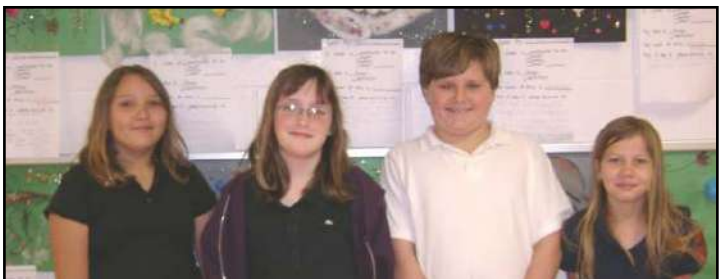
K: Ivan Kibodeaux, Tyler Bruscini, Taylor Richards, Alycia Kibodeaux



Grades 1 & 2: Evan Richards, Savannah Weeks, Emma Brown (who won twice)



Grade 3: Bailey Richards, George Brummett, Samantha Bruscini, Seth Hooks standing behind



Grade 4: Emily Brown, Haleigh Ellington, Bryce Kish, Ashlyn Goff



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Recipe for Good Eating

Melon Salad with Yogurt-Honey Dressing by Karen Cabral



- 1 cup plain yogurt
- 1/4 cup honey
- 2 T. orange Muscat dessert wine or other sweet, fruity wine
- 1/4 sm. ripe honeydew melon, seeded
- 1/2 sm. ripe cantaloupe melon, seeded
- 3/4 cup seedless green grapes, halved
- 1/2 cup unsalted pistachio nuts, coarsely chopped

To make the dressing, the night before, place the yogurt in a sieve lined with a double layer of damp cheesecloth (muslin) set over a bowl and refrigerate overnight. Whisk the drained yogurt, honey and wine together in a small bowl. Set aside. Using a large spoon, scoop out the honeydew and cantaloupe melon and cut into 3/4-inch pieces. In a serving bowl, combine the melon pieces and the grapes and toss together gently. Drizzle the dressing back and forth across the fruit. Scatter with the chopped pistachios and serve.

Recipe from *WHAT'S COOKIN' in the EVERGLADES* by Reach Out Everglades, our neighborhood charity. Copies of the book are available at the bargain price of \$10 around town (Thrift Shop, Right Choice Supermarket, City Hall).

Paws to Reflect

by a Squeedilifferous Pusslet



It rained so hard yesterday that, after I came back inside, Dad had to wring out my tail. It was a tad bit breezy, too. I talked to a flying squirrel who lives in New Haven, fifty miles to the west. He said he flew out to get his morning paper and, Whoosh! – next thing he knew, here he was in Old Mystic, clinging to our big maple by the garage. He'll never be able to fly all the way to New Haven against this wind. I suggested he glide into town and ride the Amtrak Acela train back home. The wind was so strong that I climbed the windward side of the ash tree all the way to the top without using my claws. It blew so hard that I saw a finch with all his feathers blown off. The wind roared down our chimney and out through the fireplace. It picked up the logs from the wood hoop, blew them out the kitchen door, and restacked them in the woodpile. I've been working with Dad on our computer where he writes his stories and he's been giving me lessons in how to lie.

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

Angel of the Swamp

by Patricia Huff



Although she may be the daughter of one of our previous Angels of the Swamp, she still had to earn her wings. I first met this Angel many, many years ago when she would come to Ladies Coffee while visiting her Mom. Then, she moved here and started writing articles for the Everglades Echo. She became knowledgeable about the town and even interviewed her future husband for an article. He was active in the Lion's Club and she followed. Since then our Angel has not stopped being involved in community activities. She is secretary and in charge of communications for the Everglades Community Church, secretary of their Ladies Auxiliary and secretary of the Missions project which works closely with the Adopt-a-Chaplin program in sending boxes overseas to our Armed Forces. This program also sponsors the canned food drive for the community food bank. She is on the renovation task force for the Community Church which is instrumental in developing future structural changes. Our Angel is very involved with the local CSO and is now proposing parenting classes.

In her role as the Water Department Clerk, this Angel keeps her finger on the pulse of the community and updates the community TV channel. Lisa Marteeny is our Angel and one of Fran Tiff's seven children (the middle child, as she refers to herself).



Glades Daze

by Patricia Huff

Lazy Days, perfect for going out with the girls on a morning kayaking trip up the Turner River. That's just what we did when the weather was just cool enough to start the day and warm in the bright sunshine. On Thursday mornings a group of "girls" have been taking their kayaks and exploring all around our islands, south and around Chokoloskee, the Barron River, over to Sunset Island, and the Turner River. The trips are only a few hours long but, you see and experience so much of the wonders of the Everglades: the water, the birds, the flora and, of course, the gators. It's so beautiful and peaceful gliding our kayaks through the still waters of the river, away from the sounds of traffic and people. You only hear the osprey and other birds chirping. It's hard to imagine that there are wars and fighting and hatred in this world which holds so much beauty. We are so fortunate to live in this area; yet so many of us, including myself, do not often take advantage of what we have available in our own back yard. There are several boating companies in town that rent out kayaks and canoes and offer guided services if you like. On this particular day we had Alli Shurr of Shurr Adventures take the "girls" out. She was very knowledgeable about the wildlife, plants and trees. It was a very pleasant quiet morning in the glades.

SHELL MOUND TRIPS

Special tours to the Turner River shell mound to celebrate Florida Archeology Month are being offered by the National Park on **Saturday, March 27**, and **Sunday, March 28**, from the Gulf Coast Visitor Center. There is a choice of small motorized boats or canoes on Saturday and a large motorized boat on Sunday. Cost ranges from \$26.50 to \$35 per person. Places are limited. For info and reservations, call the Park at 695-3311.

LOOP ROAD REPAIRS

The deadline for comments on the proposed Loop Road repairs is **Thursday, March 25**. For info, see www.parkplanning.nps.gov or phone 695-2207.

VIP Report

State Firearms Laws Now Apply When You Enter A National Park.

by Shirley Leonard



As of February 22, 2010, a new federal law allows people who can legally possess firearms under federal and state law to possess firearms in national parks in that state. Before February 22, 2010, firearms have generally been prohibited in national parks – except in some Alaska parks and those few parks that allow hunting.

The new federal law makes possession of firearms in national parks subject to the firearms laws of the state and communities where the parks are located. State and local firearms laws vary. Everglades National Park has posted a link to the State of Florida's firearms laws on their website (www.nps.gov/ever). The park encourages visitors who may wish to bring firearms to a national park to do research ahead of time and ensure that they are aware of, and abide by, the laws that apply.

When visiting National Parks outside of Florida, visitors need to become familiar with the firearms laws of the states where those parks are located. Like Everglades, all national parks have posted information about their state's firearms laws on their website (www.nps.gov).

Federal law continues to prohibit possession of firearms in designated "federal facilities" in national parks, for example, visitor centers, offices, or maintenance buildings. These places are posted with "Firearms Prohibited" signs at public entrances.

The new federal law does not affect existing laws and regulations prohibiting the use of firearms in national parks. The new federal law does not affect existing laws and regulations regarding hunting in national parks. Where hunting was allowed, it still is; where hunting was prohibited, it still is. Hunting is prohibited in Everglades National Park

There is no change in the National Park Service mission. As National Park Service Director Jon Jarvis said, "We will administer this law as we do all others – fairly. For nearly 100 years, the mission of the National Park Service has been to protect and preserve the parks and to help all visitors enjoy them. The parks belong to all Americans, and our commitment to the American people is to ensure the safety of our visitors and the special places that have been entrusted to our care."

Questions regarding this new legislation or park policy regarding firearms should be directed to the park law enforcement headquarters at 305-242-7731, please leave a message and someone will return your call as quickly as possible

If you have questions about Florida gun laws please feel free to contact the Florida State Attorney General's Office at 1-866-966-7226. More information can be found on the state's web site. <http://www.leg.state.fl.us/index.cfm?Mode=View%20Statutes&Submenu=1&Tab=statutes>.

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.



LOCAL HISTORY

A small group from the Everglades Society for Historic Preservation were treated to a delightful morning at Sunset Lodge on the west side of the Barron River, now headquarters for North Carolina Outward Bound. The launch picked us up from Riverside Drive for a tour of the extensive premises. We learned that the property had been used as a bed & breakfast with a "bring your own bottle" bar called the "Hook, Line, and Sinker" in the little building at the end of the pier. Outward Bound bought the complex in 1987 and use it to organize forays into the outback.

Perhaps the highlight was a trek to the old cemetery which contains graves of the Brown family, seen below with Audrey Brown Hancock.



Photos in this column thanks to Helen Bryan.

NAPLES HISTORY

"If These Walls Could Talk!" is a series of short films recording oral history that can now be seen at the Cottage Theater at the Naples Historical Society. The little theater is behind Palm Cottage near the pier. For info, phone (239) 261-8164 or see www.napleshistoricalsociety.org.



MUSEUM NEWS

The art exhibit for the month of March in the Pauline Reeves Gallery at the Museum of the Everglades features Mary Ellen Rand's oil paintings (Mary Ellen in long scarf seen here with her family during the March 6 reception). Refreshments were served with senior student Peyton Beebe greeting visitors.

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 are welcome.

The next FME Board meeting is at 9:00 a.m. on **Wednesday, April 7**. All members are invited to attend and help to plan the Birthday Party on **Saturday, April 24**. If you would like to join the Friends of the Museum, stop by and complete an application form or visit website www.evergladesmuseum.org.

Gift Shop Sale

The Sea Gull Gallery is having a Giant Sale starting on **Friday, March 19**. Ms Klotz says "everything must go" and she is pricing items to move fast because she is planning to retire and join family in northern Florida. The gift shop is open from 10:00 a.m. to noon and from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. but closed on Thursday and only open in the afternoons on Sunday.



LADIES' FISHING DAY

FWC is holding a fishing course for women on **Saturday, March 20**, at Naples Harbour Yacht Club from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The normal fee of \$145 will be reduced to only \$125 if you mention the *Rapper*. For info, see www.ladiesletsstofishing.com where you can also become a member of the Naples chapter.

QUILTING QUEEN

by Helen Bryan



Margaret Mannon was a winner at Stitches In Time 2010 Quilt Show, presented by the Naples Quilters Guild on March 6/7 at Community School of Naples. Margaret of ORA Chokoloskee, being a member, was able to show off her quilting talents. Over 250 quilts were on display. Margaret's division had 38 on entry, with her quilt "Tropical Reflection of N.Y. Beauty" winning 1st place, Blue Ribbon, and "Viewers Choice Award". Her second quilt entry was "Chokoloskee Seminole" winning 3rd place in a group of 8 entries. This quilt was made especially for a special friend, Kenny Brown, manager of Outdoor Resort of Chokoloskee. We're very proud for Margaret's achievements.



Everglades Bicycle Ride

It's not too late to sign up for the annual Everglades Bike Ride on **March 20**. Just come by our McLeod Park on the circle to join the group riding anywhere from 8 to 82 miles (shortest ride is just to Chokoloskee and back with special treats at JT's). Registration starts at 7:30 am with a continental breakfast, rest stops along the way with snacks and water, and returning to the park for lunch catered by Havana Cafe. We promise lots of fun and good exercise. The ride is sponsored by Naples Pathway Coalition with proceeds going to the River of Grass Greenway (www.evergladesrogg.org) and Reach Out Everglades (www.reachouteverglades.org). For more information, contact Patty Huff at 239-695-2397.

FLORIDA FLORA

Pond Apple (*Annona glabra*)

by Patricia Huff



This Florida native plant is related to other small fruit trees, such as cherimoya, sugar-apple, and atemoya, and its yellow fruit is enjoyed primarily by raccoons. The pond apple prefers our swampy area but can adapt to dry sites as well. It has pale yellow flowers with six petals and oval, leathery dark green leaves. The trunk is rough and develops character as it ages, sometimes becoming distorted and gnarled. The pond apple does best in full sun and will grow to a height of 35 feet.

Learn About Computers & Photos

Clyde Butcher writes "I have become very much aware of how much photographers depend on PhotoShop. Because I believe photographers need to be in control of their photograph from the moment it is taken until it is printed, I have created a DVD on the techniques I use in PhotoShop. I would prefer that photographers use a darkroom, but PhotoShop allows us to do the next best thing."

The 3-hour, 2-DVD set costs \$95 and will be shipped by the end of March. The contents are: Introduction, Tools – Overview, Histogram, Images in Layers, Darken Layers, Eraser, Gradient, History Brush, Changing Color to B&W, and B&W Negatives. See www.clydebutcher.com to order online or phone the gallery at 695-2428.

The Big Cypress Gallery in Ochopee is open from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily.



Taxing Things

by Mike the Tax Guy

"Times are tough for many people, and the IRS wants to do everything it can to help people who have lost their job or face financial strain," IRS Commissioner Doug Shulman said. "We continue to make adjustments to key programs and expand ways for people to get help. We're doing everything we can to help ease the burden on struggling taxpayers."

For some taxpayers, an offer in compromise — an agreement between a taxpayer and the IRS that settles the taxpayer's debt for less than the full amount owed — continues to be a viable option. IRS employees will now have additional flexibility when considering offers in compromise from taxpayers facing economic troubles, including the recently unemployed. Specifically, IRS employees will be permitted to consider a taxpayer's current income and potential for future income when negotiating an offer in compromise. Normally, the standard practice is to judge an offer amount on a taxpayer's earnings in prior years. This new step provides greater flexibility when considering offers in compromise from the unemployed. The IRS may also require that a taxpayer entering into such an offer in compromise agrees to pay more if the taxpayer's financial situation improves significantly. These immediate steps are part of an on-going effort by the IRS to ensure the availability of the Offer in Compromise program for taxpayers.

In addition, IRS will hold hundreds of special Saturday open houses to give struggling taxpayers more opportunity to work directly with IRS employees to resolve issues. The offices will be open on March 27 and three additional Saturdays in the spring and early summer. Dates, times and locations will be announced shortly.

During the expanded Saturday hours, taxpayers will be able to address economic hardship issues they may be facing or get help claiming any of the special tax breaks in last year's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, including the:

- Homebuyer tax credit
- American Opportunity Credit
- Making Work Pay credit
- Expanded Earned Income Tax Credit

Besides these special Saturdays, taxpayers can take advantage of toll-free telephone assistance and regularly scheduled hours at local Taxpayer Assistance Centers. Taxpayers can find the location, telephone number and business hours of the nearest assistance center by visiting the Contact My Local Office page on www.irs.gov.

SPREADER SWALES ON US-41

The National Park Service has announced that the second phase of the spreader swales pilot project along US-41 (Tamiami Trail) is going ahead with the purpose of improving water deliveries to Everglades National Park. Working with the Army Corps of Engineers and South Florida Water Management District, two spreader swales will be constructed and monitored.

As specified in the Environmental Assessment, each spreader swale will be 1000 feet in length with a bottom width of 30 feet. Currently, it is anticipated that construction of the swales will begin in late Summer and be completed by late Fall.

For info, contact Dave Sikkema at 305-224-4214.

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
line dancing on Wed
live music 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; Sun - Thurs
10:30 am – 9:00 pm; Fri, Sat
Fish Market also open

Right Choice Supermarket (695-4535) is open daily from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. except on Saturday when it opens early at 8:00 a.m.



Holy Family Catholic Church was honored to have the Most Rev. Frank J. Dewane, Bishop of Venice in Florida, offer Mass on Sunday, March 14. The Bishop is seen here with Father Tim Navin, Pastor of San Marco Church in Marco Island. Refreshments were served after the Mass.

EASTER SERVICES



Holy Family Catholic Church will hold a Veneration of the Cross on **Good Friday, April 2**, at 12:00 noon. Mass on **Easter Sunday, April 4**, is at the usual time of 10:30 a.m.

Everglades Community Church will have services at 7:00 p.m. on **Maundy Thursday, April 1**, and on **Good Friday, April 2**. On **Easter Sunday, April 4**, there will be a Sunrise Service in the National Park at 7:00 a.m. and normal worship at 11:00 a.m.

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 from 9:00 a.m. to noon, on **Saturday, March 20 and 27**. 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. The service is free, thanks to Dr GB & Kathy Barnard.

MOBILE PET VET



Dr Baker will be here on **Saturday, March 27**, 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, March 28**, by previous appointment only. Phone her at 777-PETS (7387). For more info, see www.naplesmobilepetvet.com.

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Contact Martha at 695-0008

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
NEW HOURS

Wednesday at 5:00 p.m.
Saturday at 12:00 noon
at Everglades Community Church

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.



Belated congratulations to Tammy Smith Smallwood and Ronald Gervais on their marriage. They are seen above at the ceremony on January 9.

SNOOK CLASSIFIED

LOST CAT: Black & brownish gold, long hair, Smallwood Drive area. Reward. If you see him, please phone Joyce at 695-2998 or 259-7105.

FREE ITEM: An *emachine* computer monitor, Model 1772ED, August 2007. Please call Sue at 695-4273, if interested.

FOR SALE: Two teak futons, \$75 each. Call 239-860-6369

FOR SALE: 5-weeks of Nutri-System Meals. Paid \$270. Make Offer. Call 695-2055.

FOR RENT: 10 x 10 Storage units at 103 S. Storter, \$60 a month. Call Paul at (727) 430-3460.

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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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www.evergladesmulletrapper.com

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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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