

# *The MULLET RAPPER*

## What's Happening in the Everglades City Area

**JANUARY 7 - 20, 2011**

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### SAVING WATER

The official ribbon-cutting of the new plantings in the median on East Broadway across from the Captain's Table Hotel took place on January 4.

Seen above with Mayor Sammy Hamilton are Jean Schultz and Pat Rinkevich of the Beautification Committee and Clarence Tears of South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) which sponsored this show piece to demonstrate that native trees and shrubs can exist happily in our environment without watering.

The aim of the sustainable landscape project was to conserve our natural resources, thereby saving tax dollars. SFWMD cooperated with a number of different agencies and companies to produce this demonstration site.

### CITY COUNCIL REPORT

by Marya Repko

Mayor Sammy Hamilton announced at the meeting on January 4 that the new manager of the water plant had visited last week and inspected the installation. He suggested several changes and will be working diligently on making our water the best ever.

The Mayor reported that restoration of the Chokoloskee bridge is underway and he will get daily reports. He summed up by saying that he is working on other projects and "Everything I said would happen, will be done".

Resolution 2011-01 was passed by the Council supporting the Everglades River of Grass Greenway, a non-motorized path parallel to the Trail for bikers and walkers to encourage environmental tourism and make traffic safer.

During the Planning & Zoning report, council members were enthusiastic about the Ivey House addition but asked for more detail before giving approval.

Councilor Tammy Smallwood, who is chair of the Betterment Association, said that the Seafood Festival had good support from local people who were volunteering to provide fun activities over the weekend. The Mayor said he was glad that the Festival had more "down-home" participation.

The next meeting will be after Seafood Festival on **Tuesday, February 8.**

### PANCAKE FLY-IN

### *Antique Air Aficionados*



The free pancake breakfast on **Saturday, January 22**, will be a special one because "Antique Air Aficionados" have been invited to come along. The event is hosted by Wings 10,000 Islands Tours and the Everglades Society for Historic Preservation from 10:00 a.m. to noon. For info, phone Chuck at 695-3296 or Mike at 695-2244.

Drop in by air, road, or sea and share your memories of vintage flying.

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**FEATURE MORE NEWS & EVENTS p11**

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

# JANUARY 2011

<u>SUN</u>	<u>MON</u>	<u>TUES</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THURS</u>	<u>FRI</u>	<u>SAT</u>
2	3 Hour of Prayer Chokoloskee Church of God 7 pm	new moon ○ 4 Median Dedication <del>Congressional</del> Visit City Council	5 Ladies Coffee Havana Cafe 8 am	6 Booster Club 6:30 pm	<u>RAPPER</u> 7	8 Pet Vet <i>see p.11</i> Deaconess Feast Day <i>see p.9</i>
9 Pet Vet <i>see p.11</i>	10 Hour of Prayer Holy Family Catholic Church 7 pm ESHP mtg City Hall, 8:30 am OFCD Bd Fire Sta, 6 pm	11 Festival Plans Island Cafe, 6 pm <i>see p.1</i> Kids'Clinic 5-7 pm, <i>see p.11</i> 1	12 Ladies Coffee Pat Rinkevich's Home 8 am Red Cross Class <i>see p.7</i>	13 Museum Lecture 2-3:30 pm <i>see p.9</i>	14 Red Cross Class <i>see p.7</i> Lasagna Dinner <i>see p.3</i>	15 Copeland Cleanup <i>see p.3</i>
16 Pot Luck at Holy Family <i>see p.3</i>	17 Hour of Prayer Everglades Community Church 7 pm	18 Reach Out City Hall, 8:30 Kids'Clinic 5-7 pm, <i>see p.11</i>	full moon ● 19 Ladies Coffee Island Cafe 8 am	20 SAC mtg School, 3 pm Lions Club Depot, 5:30 pm	<u>RAPPER</u> 21 Neal Boortz <i>see p.3</i>	22 Pancake Fly-In Antique Air <i>see p.1</i> Art-in-the- Glades <i>see p.3</i> Fak Cruise <i>see p.8</i>
23	24 Hour of Prayer Copeland Baptist Church 7 pm	25 Reach Out City Hall, 8:30 am Kids'Clinic 5-7 pm, <i>see p.11</i>	26 Ladies Coffee Havana Cafe 8 am Red Cross Class <i>see p.7</i>	27	28 Red Cross Class <i>see p.7</i>	29
30	31 Hour of Prayer Chokoloskee Church of God 7 pm	FEB 1	2 Ladies Coffee Island Cafe 8 am	new moon ○ 3	<u>RAPPER</u> 4 Seafood Festival	5 Seafood Festival

Feb 8: City Council    Feb 12/13: Jammin' in the Hammock    Feb 22-25: MSD Festival    Feb 23: BigC ORVs    Feb 26: Fak SAFARI  
Mar 12: Art-in-the-Glades, Homes Tour

THRIFT SHOP: Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri, Sat; 11:00 am to 3:00 pm  
MUSEUM: Tues-Fri; 9:00 am to 5:00 pm; Sat; 9:00 am to 4:00 pm  
FOOD PANTRY: Sat, 8:30 to 10:30 am, Holy Family Catholic Church  
ALCOHOLICS ANON: Wed, 5:00 pm, Community Church

SKATING RINK: Fri & Sat, 7:00 to 10:00 p.m.  
SMALLWOOD STORE: Daily, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm  
LITTLE GATOR CLINIC: 1/11, 1/18, 1/25  
NARCOTICS ANON: Sat, 11:00 am, Community Center

SHERIFF AT CITY HALL:    Tues, 1/11 (9-10 am)    Fri, 1/14 (10-11 am)  
  Mon, 1/17 (10-11 am)    Wed, 1/19 (1-2 pm)    Thurs, 1/20 (9-10 am)

SHERIFF: 695-2007    CITY HALL: 695-3781    PUBLIC LIBRARY: 695-2511    CHAMBER OF COMMERCE: 695-3941  
CURBSIDE TRASH PICKUP (FRIDGES, WASHING MACHINES, TVS): 252-2380    COLLIER COUNTY: 252-8999

**LASAGNA DINNER**



Enjoy a Lasagna Dinner on **Friday, January 14**, at the Everglades Community Church from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. The menu includes salad, drink and desert. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children under 10 years old. The event benefits the Ladies' Auxiliary. For info, phone Virginia at 695-2223 or see Lisa Marteeny at City Hall.

**REVIVAL!**



There will be a Revival on **Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, January 20-22**, at 7:00 p.m. and on **Sunday, January 23**, in the morning at 10:00 a.m. in the large room behind the Island Cafe. Former pastor Clifton Tomes is coming from his home in Kentucky for the event. Everyone is welcomed for some good preaching and local musicians. For info, phone Larry at 695-4417.

**OCHOPEE FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT**

- 12/22/10: Emergency Medical, 80mm I-75
- 12/22/10: Brush Fire, Burns Lake Rd
- 12/22/10: Vehicle Accident, Janes Scenic Drive
- 12/22/10: Smoke Investigation, Chokoloskee Island
- 12/22/10: Brush Fire, Ochopee
- 12/22/10: Emergency Medical, Oasis Ranger Station
- 12/23/10: Vehicle Accident, US-41 and SR-29
- 12/24/10: Vehicle Accident, 54mm I-75
- 12/24/10: Illegal Burn, Copeland
- 12/25/10: Vehicle Accident, 73mm I-75
- 12/25/10: Vehicle Accident, 83mm I-75
- 12/25/10: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
- 12/26/10: Emergency Medical, 59mm I-75
- 12/26/10: Vehicle Accident, 79mm I-75
- 12/27/10: Brush Fire, SR 29 and I-75
- 12/28/10: Emergency Medical, Ochopee
- 12/28/10: Emergency Medical, Rabbit Key Pass
- 12/30/10: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
- 12/30/10: Emergency Medical, Copeland
- 12/31/10: Emergency Medical, Port of the Islands
- 12/31/10: Vehicle Accident, 48mm US-41
- 01/01/11: Vehicle Accident, 51mm I-75
- 01/01/11: Smoke Investigation, Copeland
- 01/02/11: Vehicle Accident, Port of the Islands
- 01/03/11: Emergency Medical, Everglades City



**COPELAND CLEANUP**

Dumpsters will be available in Copeland Lee Cypress on **Saturday, January 15**, for construction debris, yard waste, furniture, appliances, and hazardous materials such as paint, oil, or gas. For info, phone Jim Sebasty at 252-2975.

**Pot Luck at Holy Family**

Holy Family Catholic Church will have a pot-luck dinner after Mass on **Sunday, January 16**. For info, phone Elaine at 695-2695.



**NEAL BOORTZ HERE**



Talk-show host Neal Boortz will be the dinner speaker at Everglades Isle Lighthouse Club on **Friday, January 21**. Dinner begins at 6:00 p.m. Tickets are on sale for \$75 per person. Anyone interested in having dinner with Neal Boortz should call 695-2600 or stop by the Lighthouse Club.

**ART-IN-THE-GLADES**



There will be an arts & crafts sale on **Saturday, January 22**, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in McLeod Park under the pavilion with live music and hotdogs for lunch. There is no charge to set up a table. Join us if you want to have a bake sale or other fundraiser. For info, call 695-2905.

**DOCTOR'S CLINIC**



Dr Kirk Demartino of Marco Island now has an office in Everglades City in the clinic behind the fire station. He will see patients on Friday afternoons from 12:30 to 5:00 p.m. The doctor accepts Medicare and insurance. For info, call (239) 642-5552.

**FREE PARKS**

In honor of Martin Luther King, Jr., Day the National Park Service is waiving entry fees over the weekend of **January 15-17**.



This would be a good time to go to Shark Valley or the Ernest Coe Visitor Center near Homestead.

*MORE News & Events on page 11.*

**EVERGLADES CITY**  
 Lat: 25.87°N Long: 81.37°W  
 see [www.weather.gov](http://www.weather.gov) for weather

**TIDES FOR BARRON RIVER**


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

01/07/2011	Fri	03:25AM	2.6	H	11:29AM	-0.2	L	04:48PM	2.3	H	11:38PM	0.5	L
01/08/2011	Sat	04:09AM	2.5	H	12:03PM	-0.1	L	05:24PM	2.4	H			
01/09/2011	Sun	12:21AM	0.4	L	04:58AM	2.3	H	12:35PM	0.2	L	06:01PM	2.4	H
01/10/2011	Mon	01:12AM	0.4	L	05:57AM	2.0	H	01:06PM	0.3	L	06:40PM	2.4	H
01/11/2011	Tue	02:14AM	0.4	L	07:07AM	1.8	H	01:34PM	0.5	L	07:21PM	2.4	H
01/12/2011	Wed	03:24AM	0.3	L	08:27AM	1.6	H	01:58PM	0.6	L	08:07PM	2.4	H
01/13/2011	Thu	04:31AM	0.2	L	09:58AM	1.6	H	02:59PM	0.7	L	09:01PM	2.4	H
01/14/2011	Fri	05:31AM	0.1	L	11:32AM	1.7	H	04:50PM	0.8	L	10:00PM	2.5	H
01/15/2011	Sat	06:24AM	-0.1	L	12:39PM	1.8	H	05:57PM	0.8	L	10:55PM	2.5	H
01/16/2011	Sun	07:12AM	-0.3	L	01:19PM	2.0	H	06:53PM	0.8	L	11:44PM	2.7	H
01/17/2011	Mon	07:57AM	-0.4	L	01:53PM	2.1	H	07:43PM	0.7	L			
01/18/2011	Tue	12:28AM	2.9	H	08:40AM	-0.5	L	02:26PM	2.2	H	08:30PM	0.6	L
01/19/2011	Wed	01:09AM	3.0	H	09:21AM	-0.6	L	02:59PM	2.3	H	09:16PM	0.5	L
01/20/2011	Thu	01:52AM	3.1	H	10:02AM	-0.6	L	03:32PM	2.4	H	10:02PM	0.4	L
01/21/2011	Fri	02:37AM	3.0	H	10:42AM	-0.5	L	04:07PM	2.5	H	10:49PM	0.3	L



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# SCHOOL NEWS

Everglades City School

phone: 377-9800 or 695-2561

website: [www.collier.k12.fl.us/evg](http://www.collier.k12.fl.us/evg)

## IMPORTANT DATES

Thurs, Jan 6: Basketball HOME, 5:00 p.m.  
 Thurs, Jan 6: Booster Club, 6:30 p.m.  
 Mon, Jan 17: MLK Day, no school  
 Tues, Jan 18: Teacher Workday  
 Thurs, Jan 20: SAC, 3:00 p.m.  
 Fri, Jan 21: Basketball HOME, 5:30 p.m.



## From Savannah's Eyes

Happy New Year 2011!!! Wow, it's finally 2011! I can't wait to see the exciting things that are going to happen this year! School is back from winter break and everyone is ready to learn. I'm also still doing cheerleading and we are preparing for Homecoming!!

Homecoming is coming up soon on the 21st of January. I am so excited for the dance, too!! This year the theme is going to be a Masquerade dance! I still haven't found my dress yet, but I am looking for the perfect one! All the girls in Middle and High school are still trying to find their dresses, too. I want my dress to match my mask that I'm going to wear! The cool thing about wearing masks is that people won't know who you are, and when they recognize you they will be surprised! I can't wait till Homecoming!

Also next week Middle school is going to have a Science fair! I'm still trying to decide what I should do, but everyone is excited! Can't wait till Homecoming!

Love, Savannah

*Savannah Oglesby is in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade at Everglades City School and is a regular contributor to this paper.*

## CALLING ALL PARENTS!

We are trying to start an after-school program on Mondays and need adult volunteers to help out. The children will be divided into groups by age. If you can spare a few hours, please phone Patty at 695-2397.



**ORDER YOUR YEARBOOKS** at the school office or with a credit card online at [www.jostensyearbooks.com](http://www.jostensyearbooks.com) for \$45 or \$50 with your name imprinted on the front.

**WANTED:** The Culinary Class at the School would like donations of flour, sugar, butter, vegetable oil, Crisco, powdered milk, unsweetened cocoa (for baking), white distilled vinegar, cream cheese, shredded cheddar cheese, shredded mozzarella cheese, dishwashing liquid. Contact Stacia at 695-2561.



## ART CONTEST

Students in grades 9 through 12 are eligible to submit a piece of manatee artwork to Fish and Wildlife for display on vehicle decals which will be available for purchase to support manatee protection. Everglades City students should coordinate their entry through Mr. Tribble, our school's art teacher. To view previous manatee decals, go to [www.MyFWC.com/Manatee](http://www.MyFWC.com/Manatee). For more information, contact Bonnie Abellera at [bonnie.abellera@myfwc.com](mailto:bonnie.abellera@myfwc.com) or call her at 850-617-6052.

## From Haleigh's Heart



Hi Everyone! About 1-2 weeks ago it was Christmas and everyone was so busy. (Like almost every holiday) Everyone was out of school for Christmas and I'm sure we all had a great time. It is also 2011! Yay! I'm so happy. 2010 went by so fast. January 4th, Tuesday (today) was our first day of school from Winter Break. We all got our chance to go have fun with friends and family for the holidays and I hope you all had a great time! Until next time!

*Haleigh Levingston, a 5<sup>th</sup> grader at Everglades City School, is our junior reporter for the elementary school.*

## GREAT GATORS

- PK - Camden Smallwood
- K - James Collins
- 1 - Faith Brown
- 2, 3 - Alexis Rain
- 4 - Kalen Kibodeaux
- 5 - Damian Strickland
- 6 - Travis Daniels
- 7 - Dalton Stokes
- 8 - Mackynzie Redmond
- High School - Patrick Ridgway



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Sunday Worship Service 11:00 am

[www.evergladescommunitychurch.com](http://www.evergladescommunitychurch.com)



**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
School Street, Everglades City  
telephone: 695-3871  
[www.1stbaptisteverglades.com](http://www.1stbaptisteverglades.com)

Sunday School: 9:45 AM  
Children, Youth, Adults  
Sunday Morning Service: 11:00 AM  
Sunday Evening Service: 6:00 PM  
Tuesday Bible Study: 7:00 PM

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*Recipe for Good Eating*



**Steak Fajitas**  
 by Patricia Huff

- |   |                             |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 1 lb Skirt steak                            | 1/4 cup Key lime juice      |
| 1/4 cup virgin olive oil                    | 2 cloves of garlic, crushed |
| 1 TBS vegetable oil                         |                             |
| 4 flour Tortillas, warmed                   |                             |
| 4 oz Cheddar cheese, shredded               |                             |
| 1 cup shredded lettuce                      | 1 tomato, chopped           |
| 2 green onions, sliced                      | 2 avocados, sliced          |
| 1 small green bell pepper, sliced very thin |                             |

Sour cream, salsa

Slice steak into 1/2 inch strips. Mix lime juice, olive oil and garlic together. Add meat and refrigerate for at least one hour or overnight. Heat vegetable oil in skillet and saute meat over medium heat until browned. Remove and fill each tortilla with about 3/4 cup steak. Add cheese, lettuce tomato, green pepper, onions and avocado. Serve with sour cream and salsa. Easy to fix and enjoy during the upcoming football games!

**DON'T FLUSH MEDS**

If you are clearing up old medicines, there are four drop-off points in the County. Flushing meds down the toilet may have dire consequences for the environment and wildlife.



**Collier County Sheriff's Office**

government center, Bldg J, Mon-Fri, 7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

**Marco Island Police Department**

51 Bald Eagle Drive, Mon-Fri, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

**Collier County Medical Examiner's Office,**

3838 Domestic Ave. Mon-Fri, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

**Naples Recycling Center**

2640 Enterprise Ave, Tues-Sat, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**ALLEY RADIO**

As you drive along Alligator Alley (I-75) through the "River of Grass," tune in to the Everglades Radio Network on 98.7 WFLP-LP and FM 107.9 WFLU-LP. You'll hear about the history, heritage, natural beauty and environmental challenges facing the Everglades, as well as the creatures that live there.

**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. To see what the Conservancy do, see their website [www.conservancy.org](http://www.conservancy.org).

**RED CROSS CLASSES**



The Collier County chapter of the American Red Cross is offering classes in Everglades City this winter. They will take place at 3:30 p.m. in the Community Center. The schedule during January is:

- Wed, Jan 12 – First Aid for Children
- Fri, Jan 14 – Babysitter Training (\$60)
- Wed, Jan 26 – CPR for Professional Rescuer, Healthcare Provider (\$75)
- Wed, Jan 26 (at 6:30 p.m.) – CPR/AED for Adult, Infant & Child (\$60)
- Fri, Jan 28 – Standard First Aid (\$45)

If you take CPR/AED for Adults and Standard First Aid, the combined cost is only \$75. For info, phone (239) 970-2426 or email [rgill@colliercountyredcross.org](mailto:rgill@colliercountyredcross.org).





## Fishing Report

by Captain Bill Lindsay

Fishing in cold weather can be challenging, sometimes just getting out of the marina can be difficult when the water levels are low.

Some fishing improves at this time of year. Sheepshead move into shallow water and stack up on the oyster bars and in deep holes. This week Captain Huston Brown, Captain Ray Culver and Captain Mike Merritt all brought in great catches of sheepshead. Redfishing has been very good and even though most fish were small, many fishermen caught "keepers." Captain Herb Kehoe caught lots of slot size reds on the oyster bars out front using shrimp on the incoming tide. Snook fishing is still slow. Most anglers report catching only a few small fish each day. Cobia fishing is not great right now but that could change. Mackerel and bluefish can be found anywhere in the open Gulf. If you want to try something different, work a small jig around the sandy areas near the grass beds for pompano.

*Capt. Bill Lindsay lives in Chokoloskee and has been fishing in the Everglades National Park for 31 years. In 1992 he was Master Angler of the MET Tournament.*



## FWC News

The recreational and commercial harvest of shallow-water groupers is prohibited from January 1 through April 30 in all state and federal Atlantic Ocean waters and Monroe County state waters off Florida

Gulf state waters (from shore out to nine nautical miles) will remain open for recreational gag grouper harvest until February 1. There is a temporary closure in Gulf federal waters (beyond nine nautical miles from shore) for six months while long-term measures to improve populations are being developed.

Manatees suffered in the cold weather last year. There were 767 manatee carcasses in state waters in 2010, more than double the yearly average of the past five years. Biologists attribute at least 35 deaths in December to the weather plus at least 244 to the prolonged freeze at the beginning of 2010. There were also 214 "undetermined" deaths that could have been caused by the cold.

For general wildlife info, see [www.myfwc.com](http://www.myfwc.com).  
Wildlife Alert Hotline: 888-404-FWCC (3922)

## SAWFISH REPORTS

The sawfish research team have tagged specimens and would like to hear from you.

If you see a sawfish, please report it to:

Online at:

[www.flmnh.ufl.edu/fish/sharks/sawfish](http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/fish/sharks/sawfish)

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

By e-mail: [sawfish@flmnh.ufl.edu](mailto:sawfish@flmnh.ufl.edu)

The smalltooth sawfish is a protected species.



## Fakahatchee Cruise

The Friends of Fakahatchee are sponsoring a Coastal Cruise to Fakahatchee Island on **Saturday, January 22**. An Everglades National Park Boat Tours craft will transport the group to the island where they will walk up to the cemetery, observing the many rare plants along the path. Cost is \$75 per person which helps the Friends to support the state park. For info, phone 695-2905 or see [www.orchidswamp.org](http://www.orchidswamp.org) where you can book online with a credit card. Places are limited.



## NATIONAL PARK NEWS



Snake Bight in Everglades National Park has been declared a "pole and troll" zone for boaters as of January 1. The reasons for this designation are to protect aquatic vegetation, improve flats fishing, and enhance wildlife viewing opportunities. Internal combustion motors can only be used in the channels.

Ranger-guided programs have started for the season and include canoeing, biking, nature walks, and educational talks. For a full schedule, stop in at the Gulf Coast Visitor Center or see [www.nps.gov/ever](http://www.nps.gov/ever) and click on Plan Your Visit. The phone number is 695-3311.

Dry Tortugas National Park, south of Key West, is celebrating its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a special trip on **Saturday, January 15**. It was first created as Fort Jefferson National Monument and renamed in 1992. For info, phone 305-242-7700.

## Big Cypress Adventures

There are also a number of ranger-led activities at Big Cypress National Preserve. Besides the guided boardwalk tours, wet swamp walks, and campfire programs, there are talks at the new Big Cypress Swamp Welcome Center only a few miles east of SR-29 on the Trail. For info, phone 695-1201 or see [www.nps.gov/bicy](http://www.nps.gov/bicy) and click on "Plan Your Visit".

## MORE SWAMP WALKS

If you want to get wet and get out in the swamp, you can join guided walks at Clyde Butcher's Big Cypress Gallery every Saturday. To make reservations, call 695-2428 or see website [www.clydebutcher.com](http://www.clydebutcher.com).

The Friends of Fakahatchee also lead walks into our state park on the first three Saturdays in the month. Reservations are required. Phone Pam at 695-1023 or see [www.orchidswamp.org](http://www.orchidswamp.org) where you can watch a walk on YouTube.

## FISHING SEMINAR

Anglers might be interested in the Salt Water Sportsman National Seminar Series, which will be held in Fort Myers on **Saturday, January 15**, at Bishop Verot High School's Performing Arts Theater. To register, phone 1-800-448-7360.





Miami, Fla. Bridge, New Royal Palm, Biscayne Bay, and Brickell Point  
image courtesy Florida State Archive, Photographic Collection

## LOCAL HISTORY

### FREEZE HELPS MIAMI

The Big Freeze that Chester Keene heard about from his grandfather (*see page 10*) is what got Miami going.

Henry Flagler had honeymooned in St. Augustine in 1884 and then built his huge Ponce de Leon hotel there. He had made his money with John D. Rockefeller at Standard Oil where rail transportation was a key to the business and started buying up small rail lines in northern Florida. His next move was to extend the track to Palm Beach and build two grand hotels, the Breakers and the Royal Poinciana.

Julia Tuttle had visited Florida with her father Ephriam Sturtevant from Cleveland and eventually moved in 1891 to the mouth of the Miami River into the old Fort Dallas which had served as a garrison during the Seminole Wars. There were a few hardy settlers nearby including William Brickell who had a store on the north side of the river.

Julia went to St. Augustine to talk with Flagler and persuade him to extend the rail to Miami. He wasn't convinced. Then, in 1894 the fortunes of central and northern Florida changed when the crops froze. Julia sent a box with an orange blossom to tempt Flagler and promised some of her land if he would build a resort hotel.

The train arrived and the Royal Palm (left in post card above) was built in 1896. Also in that year, the city with a voting population of 424 was incorporated. Julia died two years later at age 49 and is remembered because of her persistence as the "Mother of Miami" – all because of the weather.

### ESHP Meeting

The next meeting of the Board of the Everglades Society for Historic Preservation will be at 8:30 a.m. on **Monday, January 10**. Members are welcome to attend. For info, phone Marya at 695-2905.

## MUSEUM NEWS

The Feast Day for Deaconess Harriet Bedell is **Saturday, January 8**, and the Friends of the Museum will host a reception from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. with cookies and punch to mark the day. Everyone is welcome. Don't be surprised if the "Deaconess" is also there and reads the invocation she gave in front of President Harry S Truman in 1947 at the opening of the Everglades National Park.

The current exhibit (through January) in the Pauline Reeves Gallery is "Murder and Mayhem, the Life and Times of E. J. Watson." This year is the 100th anniversary of the death of the notorious Mr. Watson and you're sure to learn something new while visiting this interesting exhibit. There will be an illustrated presentation and reception on **Thursday, January 13**, from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m.

In February the drawing for the beautiful Seafood Festival T-shirt Quilt will take place; a great keepsake so don't wait for the last minute to purchase your winning ticket. The quilt is on display in the Museum where you may buy tickets at \$10 a piece or 3 for \$25.

The Museum is open on Tuesday through Friday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm and on Saturday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. There is no admission charge but donations appreciated. For info, phone 695-0008 or see [www.evergladesmuseum.org](http://www.evergladesmuseum.org).



### Off the Shelf – Book Review

#### “Painted Ladies” by Robert B. Parker

reviewed by Marya Repko

The Spenser novels are a winning combination of suspense, rough stuff, faithful love, and a dog. In this one, it's the dog who falls in love! The detective hero and his companion Susan, with whom doggie Pearl lives, are walking on Boston Common when Pearl meets a visiting hound that she really likes playing with. The owners email to arrange trysts for their pets who bound around the park in glee.

But, that's not really part of the plot. Spenser is a detective hired by a Museum after an old Dutch painting is stolen and ransom is demanded. However, the handover goes amiss and our hero follows the trail of art and money and insurance fraud until the bad guy gets his due.

This is the last of over 35 Spenser books that author Robert B. Parker wrote before he passed away a year ago in January 2010 at age 77. He is also the creator of several other characters who chase crime and even of a few Westerns.

Parker was born in Springfield, MA, and completed a PhD on the detective fiction of such classics as Raymond Chandler whose own last novel *Poodle Springs* Parker finished. Parker wrote his first Spenser novel in 1971 while a professor at Northeastern University and lived in the Boston area. In 1985 Spenser was made into a TV series.

If you haven't delved into Parker's novels, there are enough to keep you reading for a long time. Unfortunately, if you already know them all, we'll have to wait until a new author finds a fragment and finishes it for him. You can read about Parker at his website [www.robertbparker.net](http://www.robertbparker.net).

### Marco Society Visits ECity

The Marco Island Historical Society heard a lecture by Patty Huff about Everglades area history at their regular monthly meeting at 7:00 p.m. on **Tuesday, January 4**, and are following this with a field trip to Everglades City on **Friday, January 7**, which includes the Museum and City Hall with lunch at Camellia Street Grill.

The new museum at 180 South Heathwood Drive (next to the Collier County Public Library) is now open on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.. See [www.themihs.org](http://www.themihs.org).



## SHERIFF'S REPORT

On December 27 a burglary was again reported at a dwelling on Janes Scenic Drive. The burglary occurred sometime between 10:30 a.m. and 10:30 p.m. This same residence was burglarized back in November. In both burglaries a large screen TV was taken.

On January 3 deputies took a residential burglary report from Singletary Street in the Copeland / Lee Cypress area. This burglary occurred sometime between December 31 and January 3. Electronic equipment was taken.

At the City Council meeting on January 4, Lt. Mark Milligan said that crime in 2010 was down substantially although there had been a spike of activity in December, particularly in forced entries. He also reported that there had been three cases of "doctor shopping". When the Mayor complimented him on keeping our area relatively free of crime, Lt. Milligan replied that the deputies had great help from the community which was very much appreciated.

If you have information about criminal activity or see anything suspicious, call 695-2007 right away, no matter what the hour. In emergencies, call 911.

## Florida Tales

### The Big Freeze, 1894-95

by Chester Keene



Today it's cold and windy and it reminded me of when I was a small child about the time I started to retain the bedtime stories my grandfather would tell me. He talked about the railroad, old boats, wagons, prairie schooners, and hunting. I remember him telling me about how it snowed in Florida (Pensacola had 3 inches, Tallahassee had 2 inches). Maybe that's why I remembered it.

Grandfather was born in 1878 in Desoto County. He was two years old in the 1880 census in Pine Level, the county seat which was later moved to Arcadia.

He told me that it got so cold that the animals were dying off and birds fell from the sky. A light layer of snow fell and all the citrus trees were frozen. It was so cold that the trunks of the trees split and sounded like small guns going off. The cold killed everything. They had plenty of firewood and a stove to keep them warm and they slept under handmade duvets. When it finally warmed up again they pick up and started all over. Those "crackers" were a tough bunch. You had to be then in order to survive.

I remember many more stories from "back in the day" which I will be telling.

*Chester Keene is a retired law enforcement officer and Florida native. He retains the copyright to this article.*



## FLORIDA FLORA

by Patricia Huff

### *Phalaenopsis*

There are many varieties of native orchids thriving in our Everglades area that I have highlighted in previous issues, but there are also a number of non-native species that continue to do well even during the recent cold spell we've been having. I've loved orchids ever since I was young when we were given orchids to wear on our wrists for formal dances in high school or pinned on our new Easter dresses going to Church. When I was older I would buy orchids in pots for my desk at work or at home in my living room. After I moved to Florida I was thrilled to find out I could grow orchids everywhere in my yard. While living in the Keys I would often just put a potted orchid in a Bottlebrush tree with filtered light. Here in the Everglades, I continue to grow orchids in pots under my Royal Poinciana tree but also have attached them to any rough bark tree where they seem to thrive better on the nutrients provided by nature.

*Phalaenopsis* is derived from the Greek *phalaina* (a moth) and *opsis* (looks like), referring to how the orchid is shaped like a moth (as seen in this photo of an orchid attached to my tree). The genus has some 50 species. These orchids prefer low light (filtered) and need to be protected from the hot afternoon sunlight. If the light is too strong, the dark green leaves will turn a lime or yellow color. The ideal temperature is between 60° and 85°; however, my orchids have so far survived these cold nights but will not do well for a prolonged period of low temperatures. The orchids should be watered on a regular basis, especially in the dry season. The leaves and stem store water; the roots should not be allowed to dry out completely, nor should they be soaking wet. It's amazing how tolerant these orchids are to our climate; a real joy for orchid lovers!



**RESTAURANT NEWS**



- Camellia Street Grill (695-2003):**  
12:00 noon – 9:00 pm; daily
- City Seafood (695-4700):**  
10:00 am - 6:00 pm; daily  
Fish Market also open
- Everglades Seafood Depot (695-0075):**  
10:30 am - 9:00 pm; daily
- Everglades Scoop (695-0375):**  
11:00 am – 5:00 pm; daily
- Gator Express (695-3937):**  
6:30 am – 8:00 pm; Mon - Thurs  
6:30 am – 9:00 pm; Fri, Sat, Sun
- Glades Haven Deli (695-2091):**  
6:00 am - 9:00 pm; daily  
Food service stops 1 hr before close
- Havana Cafe (695-2214):**  
7:00 am – 3:00 pm; Sun – Thurs  
7:00 am – 9:00 pm; Fri, Sat
- Island Cafe (695-0003):**  
6:00 am – 9:00 pm; daily
- Ivey House (695-3299):**  
6:30 – 9:30 am; daily  
Continental breakfast, box lunches
- Joanie's Blue Crab Cafe (695-2682):**  
11:00 am - 5:00 pm; daily
- Leebo's Rock-Bottom Bar (465-9521):**  
3:00 pm; daily  
"mike night" Wed  
live music every Fri-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  
4:30 -6:30 pm – Early Bird Specials
- Port-of-the-Islands (239-394-3101):**  
7:00 - 11:30 am; daily (breakfast)  
11:30 am – 3 pm; daily (lunch)  
5:00 – 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 (695-2273):**  
11:00 am - 5:00 pm; daily
- Triad Seafood (695-0722):**  
10:30 am – 5:00 pm; Sun - Thurs  
10:30 am – 8:30 pm; Fri, Sat

- Right Choice Supermarket:**  
9:00 am – 7:00 pm, Mon-Sat  
9:00 am – 6:30 pm, Sun



**Grimm's Stone Crab (695-3222)** is open from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Monday through Saturday.



Jan Brock said her granddaughter Taylor and friend Sierra were the youngest ever to attend Ladies Coffee when they had breakfast at the Island Cafe on December 29. Everyone is welcome to come along each Wednesday at 8:00 a.m., whatever age. The group will meet on January 12 at Pat Rinkevich's home on North Storter Avenue. See the calendar on page 2 for other venues.



**SEAFOOD FESTIVAL**

The full schedule of performers is posted up on the door of the office in Everglades Island Properties and is now on the Festival website.

The next meeting of the Festival Planning Committee is on **Tuesday, January 11**, at 6:00 p.m. in the Island Cafe. For info call Tammy at 695-4100.

**PERFORMERS AT CAMELLIA**

You can get a preview of the Jessie Thompson Project before the Festival when they play live at Camellia Street Grill on **Friday, January 14**, from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. There is a new stage near the water and the grill will have special bar prices. For info, phone 695-2003.

**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 Tuesday in January from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. There are no drugs at the clinic but Dr. Barnard can prescribe if necessary.

**MOBILE PET VET**



Dr Baker will visit the area on **Saturday, January 8**, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in McLeod Park and from 2 to 4 p.m. in Copeland. There will be surgery on **Sunday, January 9**, by previous appointment only. For info, phone her at 777-PETS(7387) or see [www.naplesmobilepetvet.com](http://www.naplesmobilepetvet.com).



In Loving Memory  
Joseph Wendell Wooten  
12/18/69 – 12/20/2010  
Loving Husband, Daddy  
Son and Brother  
"Rest Easy Wendell"  
Leece, Ashley, Kendell,  
Aulbrey, Mama, Tina

**A Limb Fallen**

A limb has fallen from the family tree  
I keep hearing a voice that says  
"Grieve not for me."

Remember the best times, the laughter,  
the song, The good life I lived while I  
was still strong. Continue my heritage,  
I'm counting on you. Keep smiling and  
surely the sun will shine through. My  
mind is at ease, my soul is at rest.

Remembering all, how I truly was  
blessed. Continue my traditions, no  
matter how small. Go on with your life,  
don't just stare at the wall. I'll miss you  
all dearly, so keep up your chin.  
Until the day comes we're together again.

**Spending Christmas with Jesus**

I see the countless Christmas trees around  
the world below. With tiny lights like  
heaven's stars reflecting in the snow. The  
sight is so spectacular. Please wipe away  
that tear for I'm am spending Christmas  
with Jesus Christ this year.

I hear the many Christmas songs that  
people hold so dear, but earthly music  
can't compare with the Christmas choir  
up here. I have no words to tell you the  
joy their voices bring, for it's beyond  
description to hear the angels sing.

I know how much you miss me, trust  
God and have no fear, for I am spending  
Christmas with Jesus Christ this year. I  
can't tell you of the splendor or the peace  
here in this space. Can you imagine  
Christmas with our Savior face to face?  
May God uplift your spirit as I tell him of  
your love, then pray for one another as  
you lift your eyes above. So let your  
hearts be joyful and let your spirits sing  
for I am spending Christmas in Heaven  
and I am walking with the King.

The Wooten family would like to thank  
*The Mullet Rapper* for re-doing this  
obituary for us.

Alicia & Kids & Janice & Tina

*Editor's Note: The Mullet Rapper apologizes  
to the Wooten family for publishing the wrong  
photo in the last issue.*

**The MULLET RAPPER**  
What's Happening in the Everglades City Area

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Patricia A. Huff, Snook Publications  
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**EDITORS**

Patty Huff & Marya Repko

**CONTRIBUTORS**

Helen Bryan, Bill Lindsay  
Lisa Marteeny, Chester Keene  
Savannah Oglesby, Haleigh Levingston, Trina Mitchell

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

**FOR SALE BY OWNER:** 3 lots in Chokoloskee, 2 on Calusa Dr, Lot M-4; Lot M-5 (filled); Lot by cemetery. Phone owner at (419) 441-2068 or at (740) 864-2179

**FOR SALE:** 916 Dupont, Zoned Commercial Fishing, 2,500 +/- sq ft concrete building. High ceiling; land 90 x 190 +/- ft in Enterprise Zone. Building needs updating. \$125,000. Brokers welcomed. Call Owner/Broker at 239-340-4770.

**FOR RENT:** 1 bed/1 bath condo in Captain's Table Villa, \$850/mon plus utilities. Shed with washer/dryer and extra fridge & freezer. Free pool, cable, water. 1 to 2 year lease required. Will consider prime time at \$1450/mon plus utilities. Call Dave 612-282-2443.

**FOR SALE:** Truck-bed Toolbox (with locking lid) Diamond Plate; like new (just a few months old). \$200. For info, call 695-8497.

**FOR RENT:** Live-aboard Slip, Naples, starting at \$300/mon. For info, phone 239-289-3143.

**FOR SALE:** 19' Gumman Canoe, square transom for outboard. Excellent condition, \$900 or best offer. Call 954-778-4339.

**SNOOK CLASSIFIED**  
only \$10 per issue ...



**PET PICS**

Thanks to Diana Curry for this photo of "Mama Mia" who has settled into her new home as if she had grown up there. The little cat was a stray and Diana would like to thank Barbara Lewinski, "the cat lady", who was very helpful. If you would like to donate to the cat charity, you can drop some money into the jars around town or send a check to Feral Felines, P.O. Box 564, Chokoloskee, FL, 34138.

*Send us your Pet Pics by email or post.*

*Capt Bill Lindsay*

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\_\_\_ JAN \_\_\_ FEB \_\_\_ MAR \_\_\_ APR \_\_\_ MAY \_\_\_ JUN \_\_\_ JUL \_\_\_ AUG \_\_\_ SEP \_\_\_ OCT \_\_\_ NOV \_\_\_ DEC

1/7/11