

The MULLET RAPPER

What's Happening in the Everglades City Area

MAY 13 – 26, 2011

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P O Box 617, Everglades City, FL, 34139

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MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Sammy Hamilton called the *Rapper* to report that he had talked to Clarence Tears; the grant for a new well was approved and the City is now working with the state to get better land to drill the well. The Mayor also wanted residents to know that the reuse waste water system for our lawns is now in full operation as of 5/9/11.

Big Cypress

Lightning strikes on April 26 started the fire which has burned 36,350 acres in the heart of Big Cypress National Preserve. As of May 11, 70% of the fire had been contained. Smoke has filled the air many days in the Everglades City area as 350 personnel were involved in fighting the fire with the assistance of helicopters, fire swamp buggies and engines. The Preserve has been closed west of Oasis Visitor Center to Turner River Road, south of I-75 and north of U.S.41. This closure includes the Florida National Scenic Trail within the area and the Oasis ORV access. Drivers on U.S. 41 and I-75 should exercise extreme caution due to smoke and fire vehicle traffic. Jarhead Fire Information, call: 239-695-0031 or visit website



www.nps.gov/fire or www.inciweb.org



Mamie Street

Florida-Georgia Grove LLP, property owners adjacent to the historic Smallwood Store, have been working over the past 10 days on their planned marina, enlarging the boat basin, removing mangrove trees and bulldozing the intact Indian mound. According to archaeologist Bob Carr, Executive Director of the Archaeological and Historical Conservancy, Inc., in a letter to the Collier County Attorney's office, "Chokoloskee Island is designated by the state as 8CR1, one of Florida's most significant sites, and is recorded as having documented human burials. Any disturbance of human remains is subject to Florida Statute 872.05, the Unmarked Human Burials Act.... In my thirty years of experience documenting archaeological sites in south Florida this is the first major destruction of a site that I have witnessed taking place without proper documentation by professional archaeologists." The State's Division of Historical Resources requested Collier County to investigate. According to Code Enforcement, the developer is now hiring an archaeologist that will be meeting with them at the site during the week of May 16.

At the Collier County BCC meeting on Tuesday, May 10, the Collier County Commissioners voted 3 to 2 to direct county attorney, Jeff Klatzkow, to start proceedings and file suit against Florida-Georgia Grove LLP for the removal of the county road Mamie Street in Chokoloskee and preventing access to the historic Smallwood Store and to residences.

Diamonds of the Everglades



Diamonds of the Everglades Tea, hosted by ReachOut at the Rod & Gun Club, honored the most gracious and lovely Beatrice Rogers, 90 plus, awarding her a certificate. Carol Foss, President of ReachOut, was credited for organizing this annual event to celebrate our local ladies.

Mother's Day Outing



Once a year, the gentlemen of Everglades Community Church treat all the mothers and ladies attending church out for lunch. Approximately 28 people enjoyed a wonderful Mother's Day treat of "ham & chicken" at the Everglades Seafood Depot after the Sunday morning worship with Pastor Bob Wallace.

Thanks to Helen Bryan for the photos

CONTENTS

Calendar	p. 2	Florida Flora	p. 7
Tides	p. 3	Local History	p. 8
Events	p. 3	Museum News	p. 8
School	p. 5	Sheriff's Report	p.10
Recipe	p. 7	Florida Tales	p.10
Book Review	p. 7	Obituaries	p.11

FEATURE Panther Country p.10

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

MAY 2011

<u>SUN</u>	<u>MON</u>	<u>TUES</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THURS</u>	<u>FRI</u>	<u>SAT</u>
Mothers' Day 8	9 Hour of Prayer Everglades Community Church 7 pm OFCD Bd Fire Sta, 6 pm	10	11 Ladies Coffee City Seafood 8 am	12	RAPPER 13	14 Pet Vet <i>see p.3</i> Museum Reception <i>see p.9</i> 911 Cookout <i>see p.3</i>
15	16 Hour of Prayer Holy Family Catholic Church 7 pm Little League Banquet <i>see p. 5</i>	full moon ● 17 Reach Out City Hall, 8:30 am Kids' Clinic <i>see p.3</i>	18 Ladies Coffee Island Cafe 8 am	19 Sports Banquet <i>see p. 5</i>	20	21 Plantation Cleanup <i>see p.3</i>
22	23 Hour of Prayer Copeland Baptist Church 7 pm	24	25 Ladies Coffee City Seafood 8 am	26	RAPPER 27	28 Pre-K Fundraiser BBQ <i>see p. 5</i>
29	30 Memorial Day Hour of Prayer Chokoloskee Church of God 7 pm	31	JUNE 1 Ladies Coffee Island Cafe 8 am	2	3 Graduation School	4
5	6 Hour of Prayer Everglades Community Church 7 pm	7	8 Ladies Coffee City Seafood 8 am	9	RAPPER 10	11

June 13-17: Build-a-Boat June 23: BigC ORVs June 27: Summer Camp starts
 July 2: Independence Day Parade/Fireworks July 28: Summer Camp ends

THRIFT SHOP: Thurs, Sat; 11:00 am to 3:00 pm SKATING RINK: Fri, Sat; 7-10 pm DR DEMARTINO: Fri, 1:30-4:30 pm
 LITTLE GATOR CLINIC: Tues, 5:00-7:00 pm, 5/17 FOOD PANTRY: Sat, 8:30-10:30 am, Holy Family
 ALCOHOLICS ANON: Wed, 5:00 pm, Holy Family Catholic Church NARCOTICS ANON: Sat, 11:00 am, Community Center
 MUSEUM: Tues-Fri; 9:00 am to 5:00 pm; Sat; 9:00 am to 4:00 pm SMALLWOOD STORE: closed

SHERIFF AT CITY HALL: Tues, 5/17 (10-11 am) Fri, 5/20 (10-11 am) Mon, 5/23 (9-10 am) Wed, 5/25 (10-11 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

911 Cookout



The community cookout to thank our emergency workers will take place on **Saturday, May 14**, at 5:00 p.m. in McLeod Park. Members of the fire department, EMS, and Sheriff's Office will be there (emergencies permitting) to join us for a fish fry and cake. For info, call Dotty at 695-3781. Everyone is welcome!

Little Gator Clinic



The free walk-in clinic (behind the Fire Station) for youngsters age 18 and under will be open on **Tuesday, May 17**, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. This is the last chance for area children to get their **FREE** pre-school examinations for both Pre-K and physicals for sports. Don't miss this opportunity to see Dr. Barnard since his office will be **CLOSED** for the months of June, July and August. There are no drugs at the clinic but Dr. Barnard can write prescriptions.



PLANTATION CLEANUP

The Collier County Sheriff's Office and Collier County Code Enforcement will team up with residents to clean up their community on **Saturday, May 21**. Volunteers will be out picking up trash and debris, including old appliances, tires and car parts. Dumpsters will be available to help haul away unwanted items. The cleanup begins at 9 am at 128 Flicker Lane on Plantation Island. For more info, contact the Collier County Sheriff's Office Substation at 252-9900.

Operation Medicine Cabinet



Photo of Chief Scott Salley, Sgt Ed Wozniak, Cpl Eddie Adkin taken by Sue Gentry.

The Everglades City / Copeland area collected approximately 8.5 lbs of pharmaceuticals on April 30 at City Hall during Collier County's Operation Medicine Cabinet! Thanks to everyone who stopped by.

National Day of Prayer



Locals celebrated at City Hall on May 5 with area churches participating as well as Florida House of Representative District Secretary John Norman and Collier County Commissioner Jim Coletta.

OCHOPEE FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT

- 04/26/11: Brush Fire, Everglades Blvd & I-75
- 04/27/11: Emergency Medical, Ochopee
- 04/27/11: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
- 04/28/11: Good Intent, 54 Mile Marker I-75
- 04/28/11: Brush Fire, 75 Mile Marker I-75
- 04/28/11: Vehicle Accident, Wagon Wheel
- 04/28/11: Emergency Medical, Janes Grade
- 04/28/11: Grass Fire, Ochopee
- 04/28/11: Emergency Medical, Chokoloskee
- 04/30/11: Emergency Medical, Ochopee
- 04/30/11: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
- 05/02/11: Emergency Medical, Port of the Is
- 05/03/11: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
- 05/04/11: Emergency Medical, Chokoloskee
- 05/05/11: Vehicle Accident, 60 Mile Marker I75
- 05/05/11: Vehicle Accident, 69 Mile Marker I75
- 05/08/11: Fire Alarm, Port of the Islands
- 05/08/11: Emergency Medical, Ochopee
- 05/09/11: Brush Fire, Big Cypress Nat'l Pres
- 05/09/11: Call Box Activation, 66 MM I-75

DOCTOR'S CLINIC



Dr. Kirk Demartino of Marco Island will see patients in Everglades City on Friday afternoons from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. in the clinic behind the fire station. He accepts Medicare and insurance. For info and appointments, call (239) 642-5552.

MOBILE PET VET



Dr Baker will visit the area again on **Saturday, May 14**, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in McLeod Park and from 2 to 4 p.m. in Copeland. There will be no surgery this month. Next visit will be **June 25 & 26**. For info, phone Dr. Baker at 777-PETS (7387) or see www.naplesmobilepetvet.com.

EVERGLADES CITY
Lat: 25.87°N Long: 81.37°W
 see www.weather.gov for weather


TIDES FOR BARRON RIVER

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

05/13/2011	Fri	06:45AM	0.3	L	11:59AM	2.7	H	07:29PM	0.1	L
05/14/2011	Sat	12:52AM	2.5	H	07:36AM	0.4	L	12:37PM	2.9	H
05/15/2011	Sun	01:53AM	2.5	H	08:25AM	0.5	L	01:14PM	3.1	H
05/16/2011	Mon	02:47AM	2.5	H	09:12AM	0.6	L	01:51PM	3.3	H
05/17/2011	Tue	03:38AM	2.5	H	09:58AM	0.6	L	02:29PM	3.4	H
05/18/2011	Wed	04:29AM	2.5	H	10:43AM	0.7	L	03:10PM	3.4	H
05/19/2011	Thu	05:20AM	2.4	H	11:28AM	0.7	L	03:53PM	3.3	H
05/20/2011	Fri	12:24AM	-0.4	L	06:11AM	2.3	H	12:13PM	0.7	L
05/21/2011	Sat	01:12AM	-0.3	L	07:02AM	2.2	H	01:03PM	0.7	L
05/22/2011	Sun	02:02AM	-0.1	L	07:51AM	2.2	H	02:01PM	0.8	L
05/23/2011	Mon	02:54AM	0.1	L	08:38AM	2.2	H	03:13PM	0.7	L
05/24/2011	Tue	03:51AM	0.2	L	09:25AM	2.3	H	04:32PM	0.7	L
05/25/2011	Wed	04:48AM	0.4	L	10:12AM	2.4	H	05:42PM	0.6	L
05/26/2011	Thu	05:43AM	0.5	L	10:56AM	2.5	H	06:39PM	0.4	L
05/27/2011	Fri	06:33AM	0.6	L	11:38AM	2.5	H	07:28PM	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

IMPORTANT DATES

Thurs, May 12:	HS Awards & Scholarship Dinner
Mon, May 16	Little League Sports Banquet Cafetorium, 6:00 pm
Thurs, May 19:	Early Dismissal
Thurs, May 19:	Sports Banquet, Depot, 7:00 p.m.
Fri, May 27	Senior's Last Day of School
Mon, May 30:	Memorial Day
Fri, June 3:	H.S. Graduation, 7:00 pm
Wed/Th June 7-9:	Early Release Days, 12 noon
Thurs, June 9:	Last Student Day



From Savannah's Eyes

The Sports Banquet is coming up soon! On May 19, 7 pm, at the Everglades Seafood Depot in the banquet room is when and where it is! You can buy tickets right now at the school or from the Booster club. Also a few people are going around selling them so you can buy either way. I'm so excited for the Sports Banquet and so is everyone else. We are excited because we get to dress up and most people have what they are going to wear already and are anticipating the day. I'm excited for the awards! I hope I get one this year; last year I got a volleyball trophy and a cheerleading medal! Can't wait!!

We have a new Science and Math teacher at school for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade. Her name is Ms. Adkins and she is very nice. She is going to be with us for the rest of the school year.

Also I would like to thank all the people who write me e-mails, thanks for all the nice comments about my articles in the paper. I appreciate it a lot!! If you want to write a comment to me about my article write to me at parkerrudyo@yahoo.com Thanks!

With love,
Savannah

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

LITTLE LEAGUE



The First Annual Little League Sports Banquet will be held on **Monday, May 16**, at 6:00 pm in the School Cafetorium. A pot-luck dinner will be served. Children are asked to dress appropriately, no shorts or t-shirts. Recognition and Awards will be given following dinner. Please call Pam Drake at 695-2843 or Candi Hendrickson at 695-0422 for additional information.

SAC NEWS

There will be a special meeting to vote on the uniforms for next year on **Thursday, May 26**, at 6 pm in the Media Center. The next scheduled SAC meeting will be August 18 at 6 pm. SAC meets the 3rd Thursday of each month.



There will be a Pre-K Fundraiser on Saturday, May 28, BBQ at McLeod Park from 10 am to 2 pm. Everyone Invited!

Arbor Day Celebration



Ms. Teresa Ryan's kindergarten class made "tree hats" and learned about the importance of trees on how they help produce oxygen for us to breathe, produce fruit to eat, shade, and even gum is made from their sap!

Summer Camp



The Reach Out Summer Camp runs from June 27 to July 28. Parents of kids between ages 4 (must be entering our pre-K program) to 12 can register by phoning Carol Foss at 695-2277. There is no charge for the camp but children must be dropped off and collected from the school. More details about the upcoming exciting activities planned will be included in the *Rapper* next month. Registration forms will be sent out to students in their backpacks; please return to Beth White at the school.

Donations to help the kids can be made to Reach Out, P O Box 894, Chokoloskee, FL, 34138.

GREAT GATORS

Pre-K – Pallas Pike, Wyatt Sylvest
K – Christian Keefe, Cayla Starr
1 – Reyvan Cifuentes
2, 3 – Brandy Bowen, Evan Richards
4 – Natalie Thompson, Cameron Foss
5 – Jasmine Lucas, Bryce Kish
6 – Travis Daniels, Sindy Cifuenes
7 – Lilian Pablo Jeronimo, Madelyn Mitchell
8 – Trevyr Daniels, Mackynzie Redmond
High School – Skylar Prickett, Elvira Pablo-Ramirez

Award Winning Video

A student entry from Everglades City School has been submitted to the Florida School Boards Association as one of the district's two winners in the FSBA's video PSA production contest. The video will also be played on The Education Channel, and will be shared with the Superintendent and School Board Members. Congratulations to Mr. Grossi and his students!

If you want to receive the School Newsletter by email, contact gilmorgi@collier.k12.fl.us or phone Mrs Gilmore at 239-377-9823 or see website

<http://www.collier.k12.fl.us/evg/docs/Newsletter.pdf>

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Congratulations to Ashley Wooten, a finalist for the 2011 Winged Foot Award which recognizes the best scholar-athlete from each Collier County High School. Former Florida football star Tim Tebow will be the keynote speaker at the May 26 banquet. For more information, visit www.wingedfootaward.com

Recipe for Good Eating

Marshmallow Surprise by Taylor McClellan and Sierra Wolfe

Ingredients

- Marshmallows (4 per person)
- Chocolate Sauce or Calamondin Marmalade or a topping of your choice

Jan Brock shared this recipe with the *Rapper*. Her granddaughter Taylor came to visit with her friend over this past weekend and they decided to do an experiment with their favorite foods. They took 4 marshmallows and put them inside a container and covered with their preferred topping (girls liked the chocolate sauce; Jan decided on the marmalade). Cook in the microwave for less than 30 seconds. Both were a big success! Try with your grandkids sometime.

If you have a favorite recipe to share, please phone or email us.

Off the Shelf – Book Review



“The Saucier’s Apprentice” by Bob Spitz reviewed by Marya Repko

By the time you read this, I’ll be on my way to Paris. I got into the mood for my trip by vicariously indulging in the author’s food foray in France. I certainly learned some of the basics that apply anywhere. For example, he quotes “flavor on flavor on flavor” to enhance the end result – use fish stock in a fish soup, fry chops or steak in the fat from the animal (horror, cholesterol!). Did you know the French for “grouper” is “mérout”? It’s not just a Florida fish but is eaten around the world. And, the next time you make an apple pie, try a bit of fresh tarragon in it.

The sub-title of this book is “One Long Strange Trip through the Great Cooking Schools of Europe”. The author is introspective and a bit long-winded in his writing. Skip over his agonizing love life and depressing disappointments (not all the schools were that great) to find morsels of gastronomic glory and detailed recipes. You can borrow a copy from our library by requesting it from www.collier-lib.org or asking the librarian to get it for you.

FLORIDA FLORA

Aloe by Patricia Huff



When I see the aloe plant, I think of all the medicinal purposes it provides. As a child I would visit Florida with my parents and bask in the beautiful sunshine. The first few days I would always get burned, and the locals in the Florida Keys would immediately start applying the aloe “goo” on my skin. Right away the burning pain would subside and within a day the bright red would fade. I enjoy a lot

of aloe plants in my yard and find it handy whenever I happen to burn myself on my stove. Before Marya Repko left on vacation this month, she took a picture in her garden of this beautiful flowering aloe. *Aloe* is a genus containing 400 hundred species of flowering succulent plants. Because they are able to store water in their fleshy stems and leaves, they are able to survive in arid climates. *Aloe* is a native of Africa but thrives in many areas around the world.



KIDS SWAMP BUGGY SAFARI

by Lyle McCandless, President
Big Cypress Sportsmen's Alliance



The Big Cypress Sportsmen's Alliance joined with Reef or Rack Outdoors to provide an all day Kids Swamp Buggy Safari in the Big Cypress National Preserve on April 30 2011. The day began by assembling about

a dozen privately owned hunting swamp buggies at the Concho entry point into the Turner River unit of the Preserve. The 580,000 acre Preserve is divided into several connected units. These dedicated folks deserve a hardy thanks for donating their time and swamp buggies to make this great Kids Day possible.

The kids arrived at 9 am and eagerly piled onto the buggies. Most kids were joined by one or both of their parents; I think the parents had as much or more fun than the kids. Then it was off for a three hour buggy ride through the Preserve. The Safari returned in the middle of the day to a beautiful Oak Tree shaded private hunting camp for a Hamburger and Hot Dog pig out. After about an hour of fun, food and romping in the private hunting camp it was back on the buggies for the afternoon leg of the Safari.

About 3:00 in the afternoon the sky started clouding over. Shortly a light rain started and escalated into a full blown gale by the time the buggies got back to the starting point around 4:30 pm. Everyone had heeded our advice and brought rain gear and the buggy drivers provided large tarps to shield folks from the bulk of the storm. Be assured throughout the entire day including the rain storm there was a continuous smile on every face.

Much thanks to Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission for their endorsement of the event. A special thanks to Jeff Weakley of the Florida Sportsman magazine for his personal involvement and expert coverage of the event. Thanks to Michael Cox of Swamp Buggy Florida for his input into helping make the great event happen. Thanks also to Steve Markley of Steves Swamp Buggy Tours. Watch for articles coming up on the Florida Sportsman web site and Magazine as well as Woods and Waters Magazine and other media outlets. *Photo courtesy of Jeff Weakley of Florida Sportsman Magazine*



FWC News

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) began accepting applications on May 4 for permits to participate in the statewide alligator harvest. Applications will be accepted through May 17. More than 6,000 alligator harvest permits will be available. People can submit an application online at www.fl.wildlifelicense.com, at any county tax collector's office or license agent.

For wildlife info and regulations, see www.myfwc.com. Wildlife Alert Hotline: 888-404-FWCC (3922).

SAWFISH RESEARCH

by Dana M. Bethea, NOAA Fisheries
Panama City Laboratory, Panama City, FL

The cooperative acoustic tagging project between Florida State University's Coastal and Marine Laboratory and the NOAA Fisheries is off to an excellent start in 2011. Researchers on the Smalltooth Sawfish Abundance Survey have captured and tagged nine immature animals since the end of March.

The project is slated to continue through fall 2011 in the backcountry waters from Turner River to Lopez River and inside Chokoloskee Bay. During this project, young-of-the-year and juvenile (less than 150 cm or 59 in stretch total length) smalltooth sawfish will be fitted with acoustic transmitters in order to study movement and habitat utilization. The tag is attached to the first dorsal fin.

In March, five smaller young-of-the-year animals were caught in Everglades National Park. They were all under 75 cm stretch total length (30 in) and too small to tag with an acoustic transmitter. Smalltooth sawfish grow very fast in their first year of life. Data suggests that they grow up to 10 cm (4 in) in one month. In April, four young-of-the-year smalltooth sawfish (all over 85 cm or 34 in) were caught tagged with acoustic transmitters in Mud Bay, Everglades National Park. The Florida State University graduate student working on the project was able to get a 19 hour manual track of three of the four animals.

With the approval from the Everglades National Park Wilderness Committee, the current acoustic station array will be expanded from 16 receivers to 32 at the end of May. Acoustic stations, which record the acoustic tag number as the individual swims by, will now be anchored on the east and west sides of Chokoloskee Island and along Turner River, Hurdles Creek, Mud Bay, Cross Bays, Crooked Creek and the Lopez River. These stations consist of an acoustic receiver attached to a cinder-block and are indicated with a single white float. Please stay clear of all acoustic stations.

As everyone in Everglades City, FL, is well aware, this winter was very different than last winter. In 2010, researchers collected data on only 6 juvenile smalltooth sawfish in 10 months of field sampling and believe the low capture rate and lack of reported encounters was likely due to the unusually cold temperatures in January and February.

Researchers with the Smalltooth Sawfish Abundance Survey will be back in Everglades City at the end of May.

If you see or encounter a smalltooth sawfish, please contact the National Sawfish Encounter Database at (352) 392-2360. Be prepared to give the date, time, and location of the encounter. Input and cooperation from the general public is greatly valued.

This research follows permits EVER-2011-SCI-0010 and ESA-13330 and is funded through the NOAA Fisheries Service Southeast Regional Office in St. Petersburg,.

FSU graduate student, Lisa Hollensead, NOAA fisheries biological technician, Kelcee Smith, and intern, Drew Foley, prepare to work up a young-of-the-year smalltooth sawfish in Mud Bay, Everglades National Park on April 25, 2011.

Photo courtesy of Dana M. Bethea





LOCAL HISTORY

The Smallwood Store

by Alvin Lederer

In 1887 Adolphus and Augustino Santini along with their parents visited John Weeks who owned Chokoloskee. He offered half the Island to them if they would stay and keep him company because he was lonely and had no one to talk to. In the year 1900 the Santini Family sold their half of the island to Ted Smallwood along with three houses and alligator pear trees, orange trees, and key lime trees some of which are still on the island today. The wooden house on the left was built on the high water mark by the Santinis after the great 1889 hurricane. Ted & Mamie (née House) Smallwood lived in this home and in 1906 they opened the first floor as a trading post and notions store. C.G. McKinney wrote in the *Estero American Eagle* that month about the great need for a store on the Island to serve the locals, fishermen, and hunters. Ted learned to speak the Indians' language and gained their trust and respect. There were always a group of Indians camping on his property trading pelts and hides.

Ted did a brisk business and built the current store that stands at the water's edge to accommodate the increased traffic. In 1925 he raised the store and put it on stilts and not a moment too soon because not long after that the great hurricane of 1926 hit the island and did massive damage.

The Smallwood Store & Post Office was run by the Smallwood daughters after Ted passed away. Lynn McMillin, Ted's granddaughter, later took over the store and in 1982 it was transformed into a Museum. The road leading to the Smallwood Store has been there since the store opened regardless of whether it was paved or not.

Alvin Lederer is a South Florida historian who often contributes to the Rapper. The old photo was restored by Judy Caseley.

MUSEUM NEWS

Linda Apriletti is the featured artist for the month of May in the Pauline Reeves Gallery. Her exhibit is entitled "The Uncommon Beauty of the Everglades" and she states in her website that her "goal as an artist is to communicate the uncommon beauty found in nature... the best way to convey the authentic environment and the atmosphere of a moment in a painting is to paint it from life." Linda works primarily in oils, focusing on the Florida environment that she grew up with. Linda is originally from Miami and now lives in Miami Springs. Primarily self-trained, Linda gets her inspiration from her surroundings with her love of nature and the outdoors that come through in her paintings.



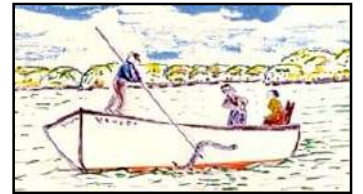
Come meet Linda at the reception on **Saturday, May 14**, from 1 to 3 pm, hosted by the Friends of the Museum of the Everglades. Also, visit her website www.lindaapriletti.com to learn more about her exquisite work.

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. For info, phone 695-0008.

The Friends of the Museum of the Everglades Board will adjourn for the summer with the next meeting to be held on **Wednesday, September 7**, at 9:00 a.m. in the Museum. Members are welcome. For events, see the FME website www.evergladesmuseum.org.

Marco Island News

Pictures from the Storter Collection can be seen at the Marco Island Historical Museum. The Museum at 180 South Heathwood Drive (next to the Collier County Public Library) is now open on Tuesday through Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For info about monthly programs and exhibits, see www.themihs.org.



Rob Storter was born in Everglades in 1894, son of R. B. (Bembery) Storter and nephew of George Storter who lived on the river where the Rod & Gun now is. Rob moved to the even-smaller outpost of Naples as a young man but remembered what he'd seen growing up in the Ten Thousand Islands and, in his later years, sketched his memories.

The Friends of the Museum of the Everglades initiated the purchase of his works and later donated them to Collier County Museum. If you haven't seen these wonderful historical reminiscences, visit the Museum on Marco Island.

Recognize Anyone?

This photo from 1955 is being published with permission from the Collier County Sheriff's Office. Thanks to Chester Keene who submitted the picture to *The Rapper*. If you can identify anyone in this photo, call Patty at 695-2397 or email the *Mullet Rapper*.

Please send us your old photos for publication.





SHERIFF'S REPORT

On April 29th Southwest Power Corp advised that several of their work trucks at a job site on SR_29 near the old prison were burglarized. Vehicle batteries and fuel was the target of the thieves. No other property crimes in the area have been reported recently.

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.

FWC urging motorists to slow down in panther country



Four nights; 9 officers; 84 citations resulting in costly fines. Forty-six warnings issued, and hundreds of motorists educated. These are the significant results of the recent "Save a Panther" detail, conducted by officers with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's (FWC) Division of Law Enforcement. From April 18-22, FWC officers patrolled and enforced panther speed zones on SR 29 and US41. Most of the citations written were to motorists

driving more than 20 mph above the posted speed limit. To help protect the large cats from increasing traffic threats, FWC officers and their law enforcement partners regularly patrol panther speed zones. These zones are well-marked, with speed limits reduced to 45 mph at night.

So far this year, 5 Florida panthers have died on roads and highways in Collier County. On Saturday, April 30, the body of what appears to be a young male was recovered on U.S. 41 at 50-Mile Bend in Big Cypress National Preserve. The animal was likely struck and killed by a vehicle. A necropsy will confirm the cause of death. The panther population has grown five-fold since the 1980s, when its numbers had dwindled to 20-30. Its increase to a current estimate of 100-160 adult panthers is a success story, but one tempered with the knowledge that an increasing population means a greater chance for vehicle collisions.

"The increase in panther numbers also means that more panthers are crossing roadways," said Capt. Jayson Horadam, supervisor of the FWC's Collier County law enforcement office. "The vehicle collisions that have occurred to date this year were all outside of panther speed zones. We urge drivers to slow down and watch for panthers on all rural roads in panther country." Motorists should be aware that violators often receive fines exceeding \$200 for their first offense, and any violation of more than 29 mph over the posted limit will result in a mandatory court appearance.

To learn more about the Florida panther, visit www.FloridaPantherNet.org.

Editor's Note: During the Big Cypress National Preserve fires on May 3, Preserve personnel verified that a known Florida panther den, with four cubs, were lost due to wildfire activity.



Short Field Landings

by Mike Klein

Everglades Airpark was the very first airport chartered - X Zero One - in the Florida Everglades. Airborne visitors arrive at the airport in the town built by Barron Collier for construction of the Tamiami Trail across the Everglades. They stop over on the way to the Florida Keys or stay in town to visit our great restaurants, ride the airboats, tour the National Park, go out with one of our fishing guides, or just put their feet up for a night or two and enjoy the serenity of an Everglades City starlit night. Enterprise Rent A Car will deliver a car within 24 hours if called in advance at 239-642-4488. And, for those continuing on to the Keys, it is worth checking out the highly competitive 100LL fuel price before leaving.



photo courtesy Philip Kosanke

Florida Tales

Hole in One by Chester Keene



In a cypress swamp in southwest Florida there is an old cypress tree that has a hollow in it. It was spared by the loggers after they cut into it and found it to be hollow. You can still see the saw marks. The tree is still growing. It is estimated to be 500-800 years old. It was probably used by hunters, Indians, and others to keep supplies in as it was reported by some old-timer that worked for the logging company at Lee Cypress. He's passed on but the legend is still alive. These trees were safe havens for the people and some large animals like panther, bear, and bobcats. These holes were used like line shacks during the plume trade and were well-known by the hunters. Philip Kosanke sent me the one of him in it. Let's keep this a secret as long as we can so further generations can enjoy it.

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

RESTAURANT NEWS



- Camellia Street Grill (695-2003):**
Closed for the Season
- City Seafood (695-4700):**
6:00 am – 6:00 pm; daily
Fish Market also open
- Everglades Seafood Depot (695-0075):**
10:30 am - 10:00 pm; daily
- Everglades Scoop (695-0375):**
Closed for the Season
- 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):**
Closed for the Season
- 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):**
Noon – 4:00 pm; Mon, Wed, Th, Fri
11:00 am - 5:00 pm; Sat, Sun
- Leebo's Rock-Bottom Bar (465-9521):**
3:00 pm; daily
live music all the time
- 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):**
4:00 – 10:00 pm; Thurs-Fri-Sat
in the Lounge
- Right Choice Pizzeria (695-3663):**
5:00 – 8:30 pm; Thurs- Sun (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 or 695-2662):**
Closed for the Season

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



Grimm's Stone Crab (695-3222). Open 8 am to 6 pm Monday through Saturday if seafood available. Call in advance.

Stone crab season closes May 15.

OBITUARY

Earlie B. Smith



Earlie B. Smith passed away on May 6, 2011, at the good age of 100 years and 8 months. He was featured in the recent April 29 issue of the

Mullet Rapper. To his friends and family he was known as E.B., born in Tampa, FL, September 28, 1910.

Growing up as a teenager, he worked in a donut shop in Tampa and learned the business well. Later he opened his own donut business in Miami. In 1929 he moved to Collier County where his uncles were tomato farmers in Ochopee and Copeland. E.B.'s job was to maintain (sometimes build) the mechanical and electrical equipment in the packing houses. E.B. married Bobbie in 1937 in Everglades, FL. They had two children, Virginia Benfield ("Ginger") of Naples, FL, and Marvin Smith (wife: Sheila) of Cheyenne, WY. As a boy, E.B. built his own radios, and when television came along, he jumped in and studied on his own. He and Bobbie opened a shop where he sold and repaired radios and televisions. They had the first television set in the county, a seven inch black and white set that attracted everyone in the neighborhood! In the 1970's E.B. retired and moved to Ashford, AL, where they built a house not far from the spot where Bobbie grew up. They enjoyed many good years of long walks together, gardening, visits with wonderful family and friends nearby, and the joyous fellowship with their SDA church family. E.B. was always ready to help others and his church when he was needed.

E.B. remained in good health for much of the 100 years. In February 2010, however, declining health meant a move back to Collier County, FL; this time to live with their daughter, Virginia.

Grandchildren include: Karen (Randy) Shell of Florence, SC, Timothy Williams of Naples, FL, Susan Smith of Australia, and Jane Smith of Oregon.

Great grandchildren: Lauren and Kristina Shell, Jarrah and Zane Smith-Taylor. Also, several special step-family members: Melanie, Roger, Bee, and Matthew Benfield, Jenny Smith, Laura Ashley and Cody Mulhern.

OBITUARY

Marjorie Gooch Collins



We wish to express our sympathy to the family of Marjorie Collins, our "Jewel of the Glades" who passed away on Friday, April 29, after a long battle with cancer. She was well

known in our little community for her kindness, her sweet personality and her incredible creativity working as a jeweler alongside her husband Dennis. So many people in the community, including our winter residents, enjoyed dropping by their little shop in the Glades Realty Building across from the Rod & Gun Club just to browse around to see what new pieces of jewelry Marjorie and Dennis had designed. Their expertise and craftsmanship was always very professional. Marjorie liked creating new items. If you didn't find what you were looking for, she would make something just for you. Visitors coming to town were amazed to discover this little jewel of a store in our midst. Not only did Marjorie carry beautiful silver and gold jewelry but also enticing handmade gifts that her sister had created. She also offered the opportunity to locals to sell their own crafts. Marjorie enjoyed spending her winters in south Florida where she had Dennis lived at Port of the Islands. When they were not working in their shop, they would travel around the state displaying their jewelry at art festivals. They opened their store "Jewel of the Glades" during the 2007-08 winter season (see *Rapper* issue 12/28/07). In the summer months they would return to their home in Massachusetts where they continued making jewelry and going to art shows.

Marjorie was born on May 14, 1955, in New England and grew up in Berkley, MA, along with her two sisters and two brothers. She married Dennis in 1977 and in 1981 their daughter Hillary was born. Hillary is now married to Nicholas Rezendes and they live in Port St. Lucie with their daughter Emaline Marjorie.

Marjorie will be missed by her many friends here in the Everglades area. Donations may be made in her name to the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network at www.pancan.org.

SNOOK CLASSIFIED

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: Fishermen's Paradise Lovely Duplex, 2 beds, 2 baths each unit. Lower level completely redone. Live in one unit; rent out the other. Located in Chokoloskee on a canal, deeded waterfront. \$465,000. Call Bonnie Woodward, Keller Williams Realty 239-860-6369.

FOR RENT: Office at 102 Buckner Ave South, phone 695-4535.



PET PICS

This adult female diamondback terrapin was rescued by residents of Chokoloskee when it was stranded on the wrong side of the newly installed fence surrounding Mamie Street. She was searching for a way back to the water after being covered in mud as the bulldozers were working on the new marina. Nesting season began in late April and many species are threatened due to loss of habitat. Thanks to Carole Starr for this photo.

SNOOK CLASSIFIED

GOODLAND: 3/4 acre on deep water with rental income from 7 cottages, \$2.2 million. Please call Vince Colace, Caruso Team, RE/MAX Results Realty, (239) 389-3233.

FOR SALE: 3/2 Stilt home Glades Haven Resort. Fantastic amenities, great rental opportunities, fully furnished with boat slip for \$198,000. Call Alicia Cushman, Caruso Team, RE/MAX Results Realty at 239-289-7540.

FOR SALE: 1974 Airstream travel trailer. Hunters and fisherman camp in style and comfort. Perfect for your hunting camp. 31 feet long. Will deliver. \$1,750. Clear title. 695-2159.

FOR SALE: Refrigerator: About 8 cubic feet. Works great. \$100.00. Call 695-2159.

JOBS VACANT

Port of the Islands Resort & Marina is hiring multiple FT and PT positions for room attendants. Visit website to apply www.sunstream.com/employment or in person at 25000 Tamiami Trail E, Naples, FL 34114.

ORA of Chokoloskee needs PT help: maintenance & janitorial, approx. 25 hrs/wk including weekends, possibly 40 hrs/wk in peak season. Must have valid driver's license, good English skills and be able to lift 50 lbs. overhead. Send resume or letter to PO Box 55, Chokoloskee, FL 34138 or leave message at 239-695-2666.

The MULLET RAPPER
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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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