

The MULLET RAPPER

What's Happening in the Everglades City Area

JULY 4 - JULY 17, 2014

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P O Box 617, Everglades City, FL, 34139

Volume VIII • Issue #214



BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Right Choice Supermarket

This summer Petra (shown below) has added new items to the shelves and upgraded the parking areas.



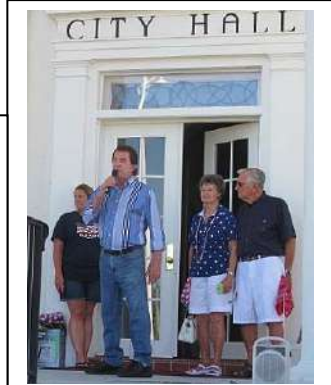
Check out the new “Cow Belle” ice cream, travel size beauty products, “Father’s Table” cheesecake, and ethnic food choices. For your outside cooking needs, you’ll find small propane gas, charcoal, pork and beef tenderloin and much more.

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FEATURE: Joy of Life, p.7

EVERGLADES CITY CELEBRATES INDEPENDENCE DAY “Celebrating Our Heritage”



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

JULY 2014

<u>SUN</u>	<u>MON</u>	<u>TUES</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THURS</u>	<u>FRI</u>	<u>SAT</u>
29 Operation Dry Water	30 Summer Camp Hour of Prayer Everglades Com. Church, 7 pm	JULY 1 Summer Camp Congressional Aide Visit	2 Ladies Coffee City Seafood 8 am Summer Camp	3 Chuck E Cheese	<u>RAPPER</u> 4 <u>Independence</u> <u>Day</u> City and County Offices closed	5
6	7 Hour of Prayer Copeland Baptist Church, 7 pm	8	9 Ladies Coffee Island Café, 8 am Smallwood Mtg <i>see p.3</i> Food Bank 11 am – 1 pm Museum on TV <i>see p.9</i>	10	11	full moon ● 12
13	14 Hour of Prayer Chokoloskee Church of God, 7 pm	15	16 Ladies Coffee City Seafood 8 am Build-a-Chair <i>see p.5</i> Museum Movie <i>see p.9</i> Panther Mtg <i>see p.3</i>	17 Build-a-Chair <i>see p.5</i>	<u>RAPPER</u> 18 VA Support <i>see p.3</i> Build-a-Chair <i>see p.5</i> Hot Summer Nights <i>see p.5</i>	19
20	21 Hour of Prayer Holy Family Catholic Church, 7 pm	22	23 Ladies Coffee Island Café 8 am Museum Movie	24 Summer School Ends	25	new moon ○ 26 Book Signing <i>see p.3</i>
27	28 Hour of Prayer Everglades Com. Church, 7 pm	29	30 Ladies Coffee City Seafood 8 am Museum Movie Chokoloskee Post Office Mtg <i>see p.3</i>	31	AUG 1 <u>RAPPER</u> VA Support <i>see p.3</i>	2

Aug 5: City Council

Aug 14: Food Bank

Aug 30-Sept 2: Clyde Butcher Open House

Sept 27: Blessing of Crab Fleet

THRIFT SHOP: Saturday, 11:00 am to 3:00 pm
 DR DEMARTINO: *Closed for the summer*
 FOOD PANTRY: Sat, 8:30 to 10:30 am, Community Church
 AL-ANON: Thurs, 12 noon, Community Church
 MUSEUM: Mon – Fri, 9 am to 5 pm; Sat, 9 am to 4 pm
 VA SUPPORT: Fri, July 18, 10 am
 CARNESTOWN Recycle and Trash: 2nd Sat, 9 am to 1 pm

SKATING RINK: Fri, Sat, 7-10 pm
 LITTLE GATOR CLINIC: *Closed until October*
 AA: Wed, 5:00 pm, Community Church
 NA: Sat, 11:30 am, Community Center (Skating Rink)
 SMALLWOOD STORE: Daily, 11 am to 4 pm
 WEIGHT LOSS: Tues, 5 to 6 pm, Community Church

SHERIFF AT CITY HALL: TBA (look at hours and times on office door in City Hall)

POST OFFICE HOURS: Everglades City 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 to 4:30 p.m.; Sat: outside pick-up 3:30 p.m.; Chokoloskee 9 a.m. to 12 noon; 1 to 3 p.m. Sat: outside pick-up 3:30 pm; Ochopee 8 to 10 a.m.; 12 noon to 4 p.m. Sat: Open for service 10 to 11:30 a.m.

SHERIFF: 252-9300
 AIRPORT: 695-2778
 CURBSIDE TRASH PICKUP (FRIDGES, WASHING MACHINES, TVS): 252-2380

CITY HALL: 695-3781
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PUBLIC LIBRARY: 695-2511
 BIG CYPRESS: 695-2000

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE: 695-3941
 EVG NATIONAL PARK: 695-3311
 COLLIER COUNTY: 252-8999

SMALLWOOD STORE

The next meeting of the Smallwood Fundraising Committee will be on **Wednesday, July 9**, at 9 a.m. in City Hall (ESHP office). Everyone is invited.

Florida Panther National Wildlife Refuge seeks Public Input

An open house meeting has been scheduled at the Comfort Inn & Suites (2nd floor Conference Room), 3860 Tollgate Blvd, in Naples on **Wednesday, July 16**, between 5 and 8 p.m. to give the public an opportunity to speak with managers and biologist about their ideas for future refuge management. For information about current management goals and objectives, visit the website: www.fws.gov/refuge/Florida_Panther/. To engage in the discussion happening now, visit www.floridapantherplan.com.

BOOK SIGNING

Meet Jeff Whichello at a book signing for "What Happened to Ochopee" on **Saturday, July 26**, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Trail Lakes Campground in Ochopee. Enjoy hot dogs, cold soda, and activities by Everglades Adventure Tours. For more information, go to www.jflu.org or call 695-2275.

CHOKOLOSEE POST OFFICE

There will be a meeting at 5:00 p.m. at the Chokoloskee Church of God on **Wednesday, July 30**, to discuss the future of the Chokoloskee Post Office.

NEW DISTRICT AIDE

Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart announced that Enrique Padron will serve as his Congressional Aide in the Southwest Florida District Office.

Enrique previously served as the CEO and President of Viva Florida Magazine/Mi Voz Radio 770 AM, where he was responsible for sales, general operations, and hosting a radio program that focused on local and political issues. He has also been involved as an activist and community director for Florida organizations. Enrique will be meeting with constituents in Everglades City the first Tuesday of each month in City Hall from 3 to 5 p.m. (**Tuesday, August 5**). For an appointment, call 348-1620.

T-Shirt Contest

Win an "Adventure" valued at \$1,200

at Big Cypress Gallery
Contest ends **August 15**

For more information, visit

ClydeButchersBigCypressGallery.com

Big Cypress Gallery Annual Labor Day Weekend Open House

Saturday & Sunday, August 30-31

Meet Clyde and Niki Butcher

Clyde Butcher will be unveiling his new photographs of Florida, and he, Niki, and Jackie will be giving gallery talks. Clyde will also be available for book signings. Special guests will be the Big Cypress National Preserve Rangers for the Preserves' 40th Anniversary. Telephone 695-2428 or visit clydebutcher.com.

HURRICANE SURVIVAL KIT

Every home should have a 72-Hour Disaster Survival Kit. Prepare a minimum three-day (72 hour) supply for each person and don't forget the pets.

Your 72-Hour Disaster Survival Kit should contain the following:

- Food** - enough for 3 days per person;
- Water** - at least 1 gallon /day per person;
- Blankets/Pillows; Cash; Cell Phone Car Chargers; Clothing; First Aid Kit** (including medicines and prescription drugs); **Flashlight /Batteries; Keys** - extra set of home and car keys;
- Mosquito Spray; Radio** - Battery operated and NOAA weather radio;
- Special Items** for babies and the elderly;
- Toiletries** (hygiene items/moisture wipes); **Toys** (books and games); **Tools** - keep a set with you during the storm.

Important Documents (in a waterproof container) - insurance, medical & financial records, bank account & credit card numbers, Social Security card, deeds, etc. Keep documents in a protected place, ready to take with you. You may also scan them and email them to yourself to retrieve later. **Pet care items:** proper identification /immunization, records / medications, ample supply of food and water, a carrier or cage, muzzle and leash; **Vehicle fuel tanks filled.**

For the online edition of the brochure "All Hazards Guide," visit website www.colliergov.net/index.aspx?page=2422

OCHOPEE FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT

- 06/17/14: Emergency Medical, Copeland
- 06/17/14: Vehicle Accident, I-75 and SR 29
- 06/18/14: Fire Alarm, Everglades City
- 06/18/14: Power Line Down, Ochopee
- 06/18/14: Vehicle Accid., Everglades City
- 06/19/14: Vehicle Accident, US 41 East
- 06/19/14: Fire Alarm, Chokoloskee Island
- 06/19/14: Emergency Medical, Copeland
- 06/20/14: Emergency Med, Port of Islands
- 06/21/14: Smoke Investig., MM47/ US41
- 06/21/14: Emergency Med, Everglades City
- 06/21/14: Fire Alarm, Chokoloskee Island
- 06/22/14: Emergency Med, Everglades City
- 06/22/14: Emergency Medical, Ochopee
- 06/22/14: Emergency Med, 63 MM I-75
- 06/23/14: Emergency Medical, Copeland
- 06/23/14: Vehicle Accident, 71 MM I-75
- 06/23/14: Possible Brush Fire, Pt of Islands
- 06/24/14: Brush Fire, 70 Mile Marker I-75
- 06/24/14: Vehicle Accident, 79 MM I-75
- 06/26/14: Emergency Med, Everglades City
- 06/26/14: Emergency Medical, Chokoloskee
- 06/27/14: Vehicle Accid., Loop Rd /US 41
- 06/28/14: Emergency Medical, Ochopee
- 06/28/14: Vehicle Accident, Ochopee
- 06/29/14: Vehicle Accident, 51 MM I-75
- 06/29/14: Vehicle Accident, 55 MM I-75

The OFCD Advisory Committee will not be meeting during the summer months. The next meeting will be **October 13** at 4 p.m. in the Port of the Islands Fire Station, 525 New Port Dr #C, in Naples.

DOCTOR'S CLINIC

Dr. Kirk DeMartino's clinic in Everglades City is closed for the summer. Call (239) 642-5552.

THRIFT SHOP HOURS

The Thrift Shop, located behind the Fire Station, is open on **Saturday** only from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

THE SHELTER FOR ABUSED WOMEN & CHILDREN

If you are in an abusive relationship, call the 24-hr crisis line: 775-1101/TTY or (239) 775-4265; the Shelter provides all services free of charge. Visit www.naplesshelter.org for more info.

Veterans Support Group


Meetings are held every other Friday at 10 am. The **July 4th** meeting is cancelled due to the holiday. The next meeting will be **July 18**. Veterans and family members of veterans meet in the Jinkins Fellowship Hall at the Everglades Community Church. Please come join us & thank you for your service!

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SCHOOL NEWS

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IMPORTANT DATES

June – July Summer Programs (see column right)
July 24 Summer School Ends



TAYLOR'S CORNER

It is finally summer! My dad, my brother and I took a road trip to Ohio, Indiana, and Kentucky to visit all of our family and some cousins we haven't even met until now! It was so fun getting to meet everyone. While we were there, we went to a baseball game too; it was the Cincinnati Reds versus the Los Angeles Dodgers. We were all rooting for the Reds; sadly, the Dodgers won but the game was so fun to watch. We also got to go to the Cincinnati Zoo. They had panthers, white tigers, manatee (although we can just walk outside of our house and see one) but the zoo was awesome. They even had a polar bear that did a back stroke!

Summer school has begun; and let me just tell you that it is amazing, educating and fun. My class is doing research on slavery. We do all sorts of cool stuff like make posters, listen to music while we work, and more. That would not be without Miss Secory, Mrs. Parsons, Mr. Spano and Mrs. Candi so thank you for being there for us and helping us with our work and inspiring us. And Happy 4th of July to everyone!! Have a safe and fun summer!

Taylor Dahlke is 10 years old and will be entering the 5th grade at Everglades City School in the fall.

Say Good-bye

by Leanne Bedford

When it's time to say good-bye,
 Sometimes you just wanna cry.
 Keep your head up and try to smile.
 Know your friendship will last a while.
 As we go, the years will end.
 But what never will, is a true friend!
 So it's okay to say good-bye,
 As long as you know, you can still say hi.
 People move, it's okay.
 We knew it wouldn't stay this way.
 Live your life, remember each other!
 Let them know, you'll never find another.
 Make some memories, times to remember.
 Remember the times you had together.
 Just say good-bye, don't let it bother you.
 And hope good times will pull you through!



LeAnne Bedford is 16 yrs old and will be entering the 11th grade at Everglades City School.

HONOR ROLL

High School Honors: Mark Brown, Haylee Ellison, Savannah Oglesby, Ana Roldan, Brandon Steffen, Cristen Steffen
Middle School Honor Roll: Ashlyn Goff, Bryce Kish
Elementary School Straight A: Alexis Hendrickson

CCSO Build-A-Boat Project

Photos by Sue Gentry



We love ReachOut Summer Camp!
 — with Amy Fouchea, Sierra Dungan, Kathy Forbes, Shaina Zatz, Pamela Brookbank Hilton, Carol Foss and Brittney Morris.

THANK YOU!!

Mr. Tribble

Mr. Tribble had a mild medical set back. He is well and would like you to keep him in your prayers.

2014 SUMMERFEST PROGRAMS

Collier County Sheriff's Office

July 16 – 18 Build-a-Chair, Everglades Com. Ctr., 8 am – 2 pm
July 18 Hot Summer Nights, McLeod Park, 6 to 9 pm

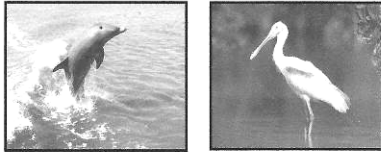
FREE SUMMER MOVIE DAYS

June 24 – July 31 – All Ages

Tuesdays & Wednesdays, Hollywood 20 Theater, 9 am – noon
 Thursdays, Paragon (Pavilion) Theater, 9 am – noon

For more information, visit CCSO website, Click on "Kids Zone"
<http://www.colliersheriff.org/index.aspx?page=2784> or
 call the Youth Relations Office at 252-0144

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Jürg "George" Furrer Ambassador for Joy of Life

In George's paintings we feel how he enjoyed life. In the last years the focus of his art was Florida. He leaves a rich and a wide variety oeuvre of cartoons, illustrations and drawings. He often talks through his drawings without words. But together with friends he was a good story-teller. His humor was very infectious. As a young man he started a career with Swiss Railways. At that time he married Elsie. They have two children. Their daughter Eva is also an artist, and their son Samuel is a doctor in biology and works in the zoo of Zurich.

Since 1973 Jürg was a self-consistent artist. During 30 years he belonged to the hard core of the best satiric journal "Nebelspalter" in Switzerland. So he became omnipresent: "Aargauer Tagblatt," "Süddeutsche Zeitung," "Tagesanzeiger," "Pardon," "Playboy," "Neutralität," "Underground," ... Diverse publications of books, books for kids, and co-author drawings followed.

His humor was not for loud laughter but for a pretty smile. With about 30 exhibitions all over Europe, Jürg pleased so many people as an ambassador of humor and joy of life. That gave him a lot of appreciation like "The Golden Pen Belgrad," the "Golden Diana Novi Sad," the "Golden Date" and the "Golden Palm" at the Salone Internationale del'Urismo in Bordighera, Italy.

He concerned himself with all kinds of animals and he was one of the best connoisseurs of orchids in Switzerland.

In 1983 he visited for the first time the Everglades. Since then the Everglades had become more and more his home away from home. In 2005 he received honorary citizen of Everglades City. As previously reported, Jürg passed away in May. This is a tribute sent to *The Mullet Rapper* from his good friend Urs Erni. It was given during the Celebration of his life in Seon, Switzerland. The photo was displayed at the Church and in the newspaper.

Recipe for Good Eating

QUINOA SUMMER SALAD

submitted by Patricia Huff

During the summertime we like to fix something easy, light and healthy. This salad takes less than 30 minutes to put together and it is oh so tasty!

Ingredients:

2 cups boiling water	2 TBS olive oil
1 cup quinoa	½ red bell pepper (thick slices)
3 oz pre-washed spinach	½ yellow bell pepper (thick slices)
1 handful fresh mint	1 mango (cut into chunks)
2 scallions (cut, include white ends)	1 avocado (cut into chunks)
Feta cheese	olive oil and lime

Cook quinoa according to directions, boiling 8-10 minutes or until water is absorbed. Set aside. Combine spinach, mint and scallions and "chop" in a blender or "pulse" in Cuisinart. Heat olive oil and add bell peppers, sauté until tender. When quinoa is done, spread on a platter; cover with spinach mixture, bell peppers, feta cheese, mango and avocado. Drizzle olive oil and lime to taste.

If you'd like, add cooked chicken (sautéed with seasoning or buy roasted at the market).

If you have a favorite recipe to share, please email us at mulletrapper@gmail.com.

TAXING THINGS

by Mike the Tax Guy



Get Credit for Child and Dependent Care This Summer

Many parents pay for childcare or day camps in the summer while they work. If this applies to you, your costs may qualify for a federal tax credit that can lower your taxes. Here are 10 facts that you should know about the Child and Dependent Care Credit:

1. Your expenses must be for the care of one or more qualifying persons. Your dependent child or children under age 13 usually qualify.

2. Your expenses for care must be work-related. This means that you must pay for the care so you can work or look for work. This rule also applies to your spouse if you file a joint return. Your spouse meets this rule during any month they are a full-time student. They also meet it if they're physically or mentally incapable of self-care.

3. You must have earned income, such as from wages, salaries and tips. It also includes net earnings from self-employment. Your spouse must also have earned income if you file jointly. Your spouse is treated as having earned income for any month that they are a full-time student or incapable of self-care. This rule also applies to you if you file a joint return.

4. As a rule, if you're married you must file a joint return to take the credit. But this rule doesn't apply if you're legally separated or if you and your spouse live apart.

5. You may qualify for the credit whether you pay for care at home, at a daycare facility or at a day camp.

6. The credit is a percentage of the qualified expenses you pay. It can be as much as 35 percent of your expenses, depending on your income.

7. The total expense that you can use for the credit in a year is limited. The limit is \$3,000 for one qualifying person or \$6,000 for two or more.

8. Overnight camp or summer school tutoring costs do not qualify. You can't include the cost of care provided by your spouse or your child who is under age 19 at the end of the year. You also cannot count the cost of care given by a person you can claim as your dependent. Special rules apply if you get dependent care benefits from your employer.

9. Keep all your receipts and records. Make sure to note the name, address and Social Security number or employer identification number of the care provider. You must report this information when you claim the credit on your tax return.

10. Remember that this credit is not just a summer tax benefit. You may be able to claim it for care you pay for throughout the year.

For more on this topic, see Publication 503 on IRS.gov. You can also call 800-TAX-FORM (800-829-3676) to have it mailed to you.

Mike, The Tax Guy, provides income tax services. His phone number is 695-0595.



Fishing Report

by Captain Bill Lindsay

Usually, I spend more time writing about the fishing in the backcountry and the bays, coves and points along the edge of the coast. The

fishing on the shallow Gulf wrecks has been so good that I thought we should spend a little more time talking about it. Permit fishing has been great out on these wrecks. Live silver dollar size blue crabs do the trick every time they are presented well. Cobia have been showing up in good numbers and can be caught with live bait or lures. Great big snook are also being caught and released out there. Of course, these areas also hold snapper and grouper. Inshore redfishing has been slow for the majority of the fishermen I spoke with. Trout fishing has also been just average. These fish are being caught on the grass flats and oyster bars. Big black drum are showing in good numbers and a lot of fun to catch.

Capt. Bill Lindsay lives in Chokoloskee and has been fishing in the Everglades National Park for over 35 years. In 1992 he was Master Angler of the MET Tournament. Capt. Lindsay's number is 695-0314.



FLORIDA FISH & WILDLIFE

FWC biologists recently provided an update regarding Florida panther research and conservation programs.

Due to the success of panther-conservation efforts over the past 40 years, the panther population has grown significantly since the 1970s when the panther was federally listed as Endangered. Biologists have updated their "population range estimate" to reflect an increase to 100-180 adult panthers in Florida. Based on this estimate and habitat availability, panthers likely have reached their carrying capacity south of the Caloosahatchee River. Historically, panthers ranged throughout Florida and into seven other southeastern states. Today, most panthers are found south of the Caloosahatchee River in Florida.

The FWC and partners such as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are preparing for the natural expansion of the increasing population. Because large tracts of land are needed to sustain a healthy panther population, private landowners will be crucial to range



expansion. With the increasing number of panthers, there also are increasing interactions and conflicts with people. The FWC and partner agencies currently are working with landowners to address the challenges they may face in having panthers on their lands.

People can help with panther research by reporting sightings at FloridaPantherNet.org. This can help biologists address panther conservation needs by identifying the areas used by these large cats. Florida residents can support panther conservation efforts by purchasing a Protect the Panther license plate, available at BuyAPlate.com. Fees from license plate sales are the primary funding source for the FWC's research and management of Florida panthers.

To report dead or injured panthers, call the FWC's Wildlife Alert Hotline at 888-404-FWCC (3922) or #FWC or *FWC on a cell phone. For more information on Florida panthers go to FloridaPantherNet.org. See page 3 for the **July 16** Open House.

Note: The above photo of a panther walking in the underpass on SR29 just north of Everglades City was taken by FGCU Panther Posse and submitted to The Rapper by Craig Woodward.



Living Gulf Coast

by Charles Sobczak

Florida Panther National Wildlife Refuge

3860 Tollgate Blvd., Suite 300, Naples, FL 34114 / Phone: 239-353-8442 / Fax: 239-353-8640 / E-mail: floridapanther@fws.gov / Website: www.fws.gov/floridapanther / 26,400

acres / Admission is free.

Until 1989 the vast majority of the Florida Panther National Wildlife Refuge's 26,400 acres was used for private hunting and cattle grazing. Once owned by the Collier family, the property is part of the Big Cypress Basin. The Lee-Tidewater Cypress Company logged most of this area from 1944 to 1957, at about the same time the adjacent Fakahatchee Strand was being logged. By the time U.S. Fish and Wildlife acquired the land in 1989, all of the virgin stands of bald cypress were gone, but there were still expansive stands of slash pine, immature cypress domes, wet prairies, hardwood hammocks, and marshes. Soon after acquisition, U.S. Fish and Wildlife biologists began a regimen of prescribed burns. Every year several different sites are burned on three- to four-year rotations. The objective of these 5,000- to 7,000-acre burns is twofold: primarily to increase browsing areas for white-tailed deer, which, along with feral hogs, are the primary prey of Florida panthers; second, to rid the forest understory of invasive plants such as Brazilian pepper, melaleuca, cogongrass, and Old World climbing fern.

It is important to understand that the Panther Refuge is not designed with the eco-tourist in mind. This is a true refuge, for not only the endangered panther, but also a host of other wildlife that struggle beneath Florida's unending growth and urban sprawl. These include the threatened indigo snake, wood stork, limpkin, swallowtail kite, snail kite, Big Cypress fox squirrel, Florida black bear, and the very rare Everglades mink. Therefore, access is limited to two short hiking trails located approximately one-quarter mile north of I-75 along the southeastern edge of the refuge. A sign directs visitors into the parking lot where two gates lead to the trails. The shorter trail (0.3 mile) is improved and wheelchair accessible. The second trail is 1.3 miles long and takes you through a nice mixture of habitats. After a brief stroll through a hardwood hammock, you find yourself walking on limestone bedrock beside saw palmetto and vast, open stands of slash pine. The highway noise coming from I-75 is a distraction, but this is probably why this region was chosen for the trails in the first place. The nearby I-75 underpass, connecting the Florida Panther Refuge to the Fakahatchee Strand to the south, is one of the most frequently used underpasses by panthers. They are definitely around, but only five to 11 radio-collared panthers use the property every month, and given the refuge's immense size, you are not likely to see one during your 30-minute hike. If you are lucky, you might find a panther track left in the mud beside the numerous deer tracks you will see.

Though you might not glimpse a panther, you may well see wild turkeys, swallow-tailed kites, northern parula warblers, eastern diamondback rattlesnakes, and white-tailed deer along the trail. A total of 126 bird species, 46 reptile and amphibian species, 22 mammal species, dozens of fish species, and more than 700 plant species inhabit the preserve. The drainage ditches found on either side of SR 29 on the eastern border of the refuge abound with wading birds, alligators, and freshwater fish.

The drive along Highway 29, heading north from I-75, is an example of how far Floridians are willing to go to protect panthers. A 12-foot-high security fence straddles both sides of this roadway, which is considered the world's deadliest stretch of highway for Florida panthers. Expensive underpasses allow the animals to cross safely between the refuge and Big Cypress National Preserve to the east and Fakahatchee to the south.

An excellent 20-page brochure about the refuge is available on its website (<http://www.fws.gov/floridapanther/>). Although you can traverse only a tiny section of this sanctuary, it is a hike you will never forget.

This article is from Living Sanibel - A Nature Guide to Sanibel & Captiva Islands. Charles Sobczak lives and writes on Sanibel Island. Visit www.indigopress.net.



Florida Tales

"Bless this old house"

by Chester Keene



When we were cleaning this old house out, we ran across about every bug you had in Florida and this poem reminded me of those days.

Bless this house oh Lord we cry
 Please keep it cool in mid-July
 Bless the walls where termites dine
 And ants and roaches march in time
 Bless our yard where spiders pass
 Fire ant castles in the grass
 Bless the garage, a home to please
 Carpenter ants, ticks and fleas
 Bless the lovebugs, two by two
 The sand gnats and mosquitoes that feed
 on you
 Millions of creatures that fly or crawl
 In Florida, Lord, you've put them all
 But this is home and here we'll stay
 So thank you Lord for Insect Spray
 Author Unknown

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



MUSEUM of the Everglades

The art of the Everglades City students continues through August in the Pauline Reeves Gallery. Don't miss this exhibit of our children's work!

Jennifer Perry and her family (shown right) participated in the annual Independence Day Parade in Everglades City (swamp buggy provided by Jim and Helen Bryan). Be sure to watch Fox 4 Paradise TV on July 9 to see highlights of our Museum.



On Wednesday, July 16, at 1:00 p.m. the Museum will feature the 1951 feature film "Distant Drums" as part of the summer Movie Matinees. This film is a nonstop action adventure with Gary Cooper storming the Florida Everglades to put down the Seminole Indian Rebellion of 1840. For a complete listing of the movies, visit the Friends' website www.evergladesmuseum.org.

The Museum, located at 105 West Broadway, is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 695-0008 for information.



Off the Shelf Book Review

"The Popping Cork Murder" by Mitch Grant
 reviewed by Marya Repko

Did Barron Collier stash away gold in Pine Island Sound before the 1929 Depression? Before he discovered the Everglades area, Collier developed a luxury resort on the island of Useppa and built a support infrastructure on neighboring islands off Fort Myers. He had his fatal heart attack in 1939 at his Useppa retreat.

Here's a new book by a new author which uses that legacy and explores the older history of Cuban fishermen in the area. The narrator is a retired banker who moves to St. James City at the tip of Pine Island to indulge in his passion for fishing. When a Spanish colleague comes for a visit, he is found shot in the head while trying to dig up the past and avenge a wrong done in Cuba over a century before. Gold coins seem to appear on the scene in several incidents - was the friend looking for buried treasure?

The author lives in St. James City and enjoys the laid-back friendliness of the small "olde Florida" town. There is a lot of fishing and good local color in this story before the mystery is solved in a dramatic confrontation, on the water.

This is the first book in the "St. James City, Florida, Mystery" series and a second one is already available. They are published by CreateSpace, the print-on-demand company, and can be purchased at Amazon.

RESTAURANT NEWS

Biff Williams has re-opened his restaurant with a new menu, and a new name. "Step Back In Time" Museum and Restaurant - Everglades City Gift Shop and Ice Cream Parlor is located on the Circle in downtown Everglades City and offers the only drive-thru window in town. Now open on the weekends - Friday - Saturday - Sunday from 11 am to 8 pm until December 26, 2014.

Sit on the porch or eat inside with a/c (take-out available). Call in your order at 695-0611 - or sit in your car and order beer, subs, lunch and dinner combos starting at \$8.95. Sodas, ice, snacks, ice cream cones, homemade Key lime pie and chocolate mousse are also on the menu. Then, just like the old days, from 4 pm to 8 pm Biff is making his meatball subs and pizza again.

Also, on the weekends Biff's new museum - "Step Back in Time Museum" (relive America's past) gift shop and ice cream parlor will be open as well. The gift shop theme is "YOU'RE HERE IN SKUNK APE TERRITORY" offers new SKUNK APE T-shirts, plus Biff Williams' and the Sawgrass Cowboys' new single CD - EVERGLADES CITY.

Now in 2014, Biff is making a new start. Use the drive-thru window and save yourself some walking. Stop by for some good food, beer and pizza, ice cream cones and some fun conversation with an old football player, world traveler and music outlaw any Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.



Look for sign Dec 26



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 Chocolate Mousse



From Savannah's Eyes

It's officially summer 2014 and I am so ready for all the fun adventures that I'm going to have! I've always wanted to make a bucket list for summer so I finally sat down to make one (which is about three feet long). It ranges from going to the Miami Zoo, to snorkeling in the Keys. I've already accomplished three of them

so far and one of them was going to visit the Dome Houses on Cape Romano Cove!

My parents and I have always wanted to go see them but just never got the time to do it until a few weeks ago. I was sitting in the room when all of a sudden I ran into my dad's office and said "Dad! Let's go see the Dome Houses today, right now!" So we packed snacks and sunscreen and headed out on the boat. It started getting rough as we got closer and closer to them, but we slowed down so that it would be a little bit smoother sailing as they say. I could see from miles away and as we approached, a big, bright, white dome shape hiding behind the trees on the island; I then knew that it had to be one of them. Finally, we reached the other side of the island and there they stood: five large, and somewhat sideways, dome houses. When you see them in photos it looks amazing, but in real life it literally will take your breath away. When we turned that corner of the island, my mom and I both gasped at the same time at the sight. Many boats and even Jet Ski tours were surrounding them, as we all wanted to take in the view. All you could hear on the boat was the clicking noise from both my mom's and my camera on our phones.

Looking at the architecture from both up close and far away was amazing. On the outside you could see people's names and initials from where they wanted to leave their mark on this masterpiece. We then drove around the other side when a boat decided to leave, and it was even more breathtaking on the other side! Because they're in a crescent line, so on the side we were on was where it curves in towards us. The whole time I kept trying to look at each house to see if at least one of them had a floor where I could climb up; and we finally found one! We pulled up very close; and as my dad held the boat against one of the houses, I started climbing into it. I was afraid that the floor might fall through so I was cautious where I stepped, but it was amazing inside. There were windows all around and it looked as if I were in a bubble. I was looking all around the walls when all of a sudden I stumble across writing. I was in shock when I read "Happy Birthday Savannah" on the wall! My name was even spelled the same way! I then got a smile from ear to ear and proceeded with the rest of my exploration around the house.

Outside the other door on the other side was one that only had large columns holding it up with no floor. It was really amazing because when you looked down you could see fish that was trapped inside, waiting for the high tide to take them out and rescue them. After that I climbed back into the boat and we headed back home.

The Dome houses were breathtaking and when they finally wash away someday, I'll be glad that I had the chance to see them and actually walk in one. I highly recommend that everyone go to see them! Because one day they won't be there anymore; they'll just be a part of Florida's history.

Can't wait to finish my bucket list!

Love, Savannah

Savannah Oglesby is 16 yrs old and will begin the 12th grade at Everglades City School.

My Little Slice of Paradise

by Kathy Brock

What's "Bugging" My Palms?

For the most part, palm trees are pretty easy to grow. Florida Royals, Cabbage Palms and Coconut Palms frame our landscape and remind us every day that we live in a beautiful, subtropical climate.

About two years ago, I started getting a black moldy substance in my driveway, on my roof and on our cars that were parked by two coconut palms in front of our house. I'd bleach the surfaces to remove the black mold, and it would reappear within a matter of two to three weeks. On the underside of the palm leaves, you could see a white waxy substance; and if you looked skyward, you could also see the culprits; Spiraling Whiteflies.

They are aptly named because they fly in a spiral type pattern...and they were everywhere. Concerned that they would kill the palms, I attended the school of "Google" to find out what could be done. The first thing I learned was that healthy trees will not be killed. It can affect photosynthesis if the leaves are covered in sooty mold, but the trees will survive. I was relieved.

Personally, I don't like applying pesticides so I tried Dawn soap...it works for some other types of plant pests so I thought I'd give it a whirl. My test failed as I was left with sudsy, sooty mold and the same amount of spiraling whiteflies. Then my neighbor, Kenny, told us about the treatments they do at a resort in Naples, injecting the trees so that the pesticide acts systemically. We did this and the whiteflies were gone for almost 12 months.

Now they have returned and they also fancy our Gumbo Limbo trees. This season I will treat the trees that are by our driveway and cars (to keep the mold off of them) and let the rest run their course. According to the University of Florida Extension Service, spiraling whiteflies are at their worst when they first appear, which was about two years ago here...and then they start to thin out as native predators take their toll on them. Hopefully, this means they will be all but forgotten in a couple of years, but until then, here are a few things you can do:

1. Do nothing – if they don't bother you, chances are they will not kill your palms or trees.
2. Treat them with a systemic pesticide – we opted for the type that is injected into the trees, there are also systemic pesticides that you can apply to the soil. If you choose this method, keep kids and pets inside until the treatment is completely absorbed and dry.

Don't plant susceptible plants by your driveway and house. We learned this the hard way. The Gumbos out in the lawn have some whiteflies and they are doing fine. If I want a clean driveway, I'll have to treat the palms until the whiteflies disappear (if ever).

If you do treat the trees as we did, remember that the coconuts should not be eaten. Whenever systemic pesticides are used, it gets absorbed into the fruit (coconuts), leaves and all parts of the palm...so do not eat them or drink the coconut water (or any other fruit from plants that are treated systemically). The good news is, according to the experts at the Univ. of FL, the spiraling whitefly population is on the decline....here's to hoping they are right!

Next time in *My Little Slice of Paradise*: "Plants that Attract Hummingbirds"

Kathy Brock and her husband Tim have been spending weekends in their Everglades City home for over 20 years.



RESTAURANTS



- Camellia Street Grill (695-2003):**
5 pm – 9:00 pm; Tues – Sat
Closed Sunday - Monday
- City Seafood (695-4700):**
6:00 am – 6:00 pm; daily
- Everglades Seafood Depot (695-0075):**
10:30 am - 9:00 pm; daily
- Glades Haven Deli (695-2091):**
6:00 am – 9:00 pm; daily
(Marina- Fri-Sat-Sun 6 am - 12 noon)
- Havana Café (695-2214):**
Closed for the summer
- Island Café (695-0003):**
6:00 am – 9:00 pm; daily
- Ivey House (695-3299):**
6:30 – 9:30 am; daily
- Joanie's Blue Crab Café (695-2682):**
11:00 am – 5 pm; *Closed Tues-Wed*
- Oyster House Restaurant (695-2073):**
11:00 am – 9 pm; Sun thru Thurs
11:00 am – 10:00 pm; Fri, Sat
- Rod & Gun (695-2101):**
11:30 am - 9:00 pm; daily
- Step Back in Time (695-0611):**
11:00 am – 8 pm; Fri-Sat-Sun only
- Subway at Gator Express (695-3937):**
7:00 am – 7:00 pm; daily
- Sweet Mayberry's Café (695-0092):**
8:00 am – 3:00 pm; Tues-Sat; Wifi
Closed Sunday - Monday
- The New Angler's Cove, Port of the Islands (239-642-1025):**
Re-opening in July (call for hours)
- Triad Seafood (695-2662):**
10:30 am – 4 pm; Mon- Sat
Closed on Sunday
- Right Choice Supermarket (695-4535):**
9:00 am – 7:00 pm; daily
- Grimm's Stone Crab (695-3222):**
Closed until October 15
- Loco's Fresh Produce (239-462-7050):**
Closed until October



Mike Sutton took this recent photo of a bobcat crossing the 10,000 islands while Mike was fishing with Captain Jim Conley.

TIDES FOR BARRON RIVER

Lat: 25.87°N Long: 81.37°W

<http://TIDESANDCURRENTS.NOAA.GOV>

07/04	Fri	02:46am	0.4	L
07/04	Fri	08:33am	2.5	H
07/04	Fri	03:44pm	0.6	L
07/04	Fri	08:29pm	2.1	H
07/05	Sat	09:18am	2.6	H
07/05	Sat	04:55pm	0.5	L
07/05	Sat	09:50pm	2.0	H
07/06	Sun	04:29am	0.7	L
07/06	Sun	10:06am	2.6	H
07/06	Sun	05:58pm	0.4	L
07/06	Sun	11:13pm	2.0	H
07/07	Mon	05:31am	0.8	L
07/07	Mon	10:56am	2.8	H
07/07	Mon	06:54pm	0.2	L
07/08	Tue	12:27am	2.1	H
07/08	Tue	06:31am	0.8	L
07/08	Tue	11:45am	2.9	H
07/08	Tue	07:47pm	0.0	L
07/09	Wed	01:27am	2.2	H
07/09	Wed	07:27am	0.8	L
07/09	Wed	12:31pm	3.1	H
07/09	Wed	08:36pm	-0.2	L
07/10	Thu	02:17am	2.3	H
07/10	Thu	08:20am	0.8	L
07/10	Thu	01:16pm	3.3	H
07/10	Thu	09:24pm	-0.4	L
07/11	Fri	03:02am	2.4	H
07/11	Fri	09:12am	0.7	L
07/11	Fri	02:00pm	3.5	H
07/11	Fri	10:11pm	-0.5	L
07/12	Sat	03:44am	2.5	H
07/12	Sat	10:02am	0.7	L
07/12	Sat	02:45pm	3.6	H
07/12	Sat	10:56pm	-0.5	L
07/13	Sun	04:27am	2.6	H
07/13	Sun	10:52am	0.6	L
07/13	Sun	03:32pm	3.6	H
07/13	Sun	11:41pm	-0.4	L
07/14	Mon	05:10am	2.7	H
07/14	Mon	11:41am	0.5	L
07/14	Mon	04:24pm	3.4	H
07/15	Tue	12:26am	-0.3	L
07/15	Tue	05:54am	2.7	H
07/15	Tue	12:33pm	0.4	L
07/15	Tue	05:22pm	3.2	H
07/16	Wed	01:11am	-0.1	L
07/16	Wed	06:39am	2.7	H
07/16	Wed	01:29pm	0.4	L
07/16	Wed	06:27pm	2.9	H
07/17	Thu	01:59am	0.1	L
07/17	Thu	07:26am	2.8	H
07/17	Thu	02:32pm	0.4	L
07/17	Thu	07:37pm	2.5	H
07/18	Fri	02:50am	0.3	L
07/18	Fri	08:14am	2.8	H
07/18	Fri	03:42pm	0.3	L
07/18	Fri	08:52pm	2.3	H

OBITUARIES

Barrett (Barry) McVey Morris, of Chokoloskee, died June 27 after a short illness in Lexington, KY, where he also resided with his wife Louise D. Morris.



Born in Lexington, Barry was the son of the late James Edward and Virginia McVey Morris. He was a graduate of Woodberry Forest Prep School and the University of Virginia. He was a grandson of the late Frank L. McVey, third President of UK.

Barry's vocation was owning college book stores but his avocation was flying and fishing. He was a private pilot and had logged over 6000 hours in his plane as command pilot. Barry's fishing prowess had produced several fishing tournament championships, and he held two world records in fly fishing. His passion was fly-fishing for snook, bonefish and tarpon, but he also loved to hunt and sail and he successfully raced thoroughbreds. He was known for his support of our country and his love of adventure.

Besides his wife Louise, Barry is survived by two children, two step-children, a sister, three grandchildren, and two step-grandsons. Services were held on July 1 at the Aviation Museum of Kentucky, followed by a private burial in the Lexington Cemetery.

Memorials are suggested to the Aviation Museum of Kentucky, 4029 Airport Rd, Lexington, KY 40510.

Carol Beck

Carol Anne (Jorgensen) Beck, 74, native of Newark, NJ, passed away on June 14. Born on September 22, 1939, Carol began her family in 1959 when she met her husband, Paul, on a blind date. They made their home in Newton, where Carol was a devoted wife and became a loving mother of three daughters. Carol was a dedicated Girl Scout Leader, involved with the Newton Volunteer First Aid Squad, at one time a dancer, and an avid traveler. In her later years Paul and Carol found their oasis in Everglades City, surrounded by the ocean and by the company of friends. Their favorite hobby was fishing, and Carol regularly out-fished Paul.

Carol and Paul ultimately took residence in Effort, PA, to be close to family, as well as their six grandchildren. Services were held at Kresge Funeral Home in Brodheads ville, PA., on June 19.

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

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We aim to provide local news of interest to the extended community of Everglades City, Chokoloskee, Plantation Island, Lee Cypress, Copeland, Jerome, and Ochopee.

We strive to present the facts accurately with no political bias or personal opinion.

The views expressed in signed articles are not necessarily those of the editors or publisher.

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SNOOK CLASSIFIEDS

WANTED: Vacant Lot for Lease

Lot wanted in Everglades City to use for training my dog when we are in town. Dog will NOT be there unsupervised. Will provide fencing if needed with one year lease. Contact Becky (407) 257-4950 or metro9@aol.com.

FOR SALE: National Wild Turkey Federation prints, new and used hunting gear, airboat & a four wheeler; Clyde Butcher photos, and much more. Call (239) 695-4150.

FOR RENT: One & two bedroom apartments in Glades Building. FREE dock space & guide service discount with Capt. Tony with apartment rental. Call 695-4150.

OFFICE / SHOP SPACE RENTAL: One unit available for \$550/month located in the Glades Building at 207 W. Broadway across from the Rod & Gun Club. Call (239) 695-4150.

FOR SALE: Chicks & Chickens (assortment of breeds) and farm fresh eggs. Bedford Farms, call 695-0500.

FOR SALE: Lot #26 in Fisherman's Cove; dock included. \$38,000. Call (239) 300-7077 or (239) 682-6025.

FOR SALE: Deeded dock at Captain's Table (#10). Great location, use of pool & boat ramp. \$21,500. Call (954) 662-7003.

FOR SALE OR RENT TO OWN House & Barn on 1.02 Acres in Fakahatchee Strand State Park, \$139,000 purchase or \$1200 monthly Rent to Own. Call Don at (321) 439-7635. See more info & pictures at www.DonsHouse.com.

WANTED: All Motor Homes, 5th wheels and travel trailers. Any condition. Cash paid on the spot. Call Paul at (941) 347-7171.



PET PICS

This kitten at the Captain's Table Lodge may look ferocious but he was just posing for the camera. Really a sweet little cat.

Send us your Pet Pics by post or email.

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