

The MULLET RAPPER

What's Happening in the Everglades City Area

NOVEMBER 7 - 20, 2014

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CITY COUNCIL REPORT

by Marya Repko

Mayor Sammy Hamilton said at the meeting on November 4 that he always liked Halloween when he was a child in Chokoloskee and was pleased at how well our celebrations went this year. He thanked Dottie Joiner for organizing the festivities, particularly the water balloons, and said that 400 hot dogs had been served. He also thanked the Sheriff's deputies for their participation.

The good news is that there will be an official ribbon-cutting in January for the new water plant. We will announce the date and time in the Rapper.

Lt. Mark Milligan reported four thefts in Chokoloskee during the past month, some of them from premises which were not locked. He said there are extra patrols in the area and asked us to report suspicious activity immediately. He also reminded us to secure our premises. He thanked the City for holding a Halloween celebration that was uneventful, except for all the fun.

John M. Wilson, during Public Comment, said he and Vicky Nagle liked the way the water looks now and congratulated the Mayor for improving it.

Collier County Commissioners Accept \$30,000 Gift from the Friends of the Museum of the Everglades to Purchase Parking Lot for Museum



The Board of Collier County Commissioners unanimously voted on Tuesday, October 28, to accept a \$30,000 donation from the Friends of the Museum of the Everglades and to appropriate \$36,000 to purchase a paved parking lot adjacent to the Museum of the Everglades, 105 W. Broadway St., Everglades City, Florida 34139.

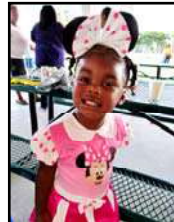
Visitor parking at the Museum of the Everglades is currently limited to nine passenger vehicles and is difficult to access due to the close proximity of the Museum building and wheelchair ramp. As a result, parking often overflows onto the lawn and grassed medians along Broadway Street and Storter Avenue and is a recurring safety concern and eyesore for Everglades City.

Acquisition of this new lot will add 28 additional parking spaces for visitors and provide a separate, more convenient and safer access to the Museum. The property will also be useful as a staging area for the Museum and after-hours community events, including the bicycle safety class held annually by the Collier County Sheriff's Office.

"I would like to thank the Friends of the Museum of the Everglades for their generous donation, which will greatly benefit the Museum," said Commissioner Tim Nance. "I want to thank them for giving us this opportunity to help us make the Museum of the Everglades a better, safer facility for the residents and visitors."

Note from the Friends of the Museum: We would like to express our appreciation to Mayor Sammy Hamilton and to Commissioner Tim Nance, both of whom assisted in expediting the purchase of this parking lot to meet the needs of our museum and our visitors.

Halloween Photos



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NOVEMBER 2014

<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 ESHP Mtg City Hall, 8:30 am	4 ELECTION DAY FME Meeting Congressional Aide Visit City Council	5 Ladies Coffee City Seafood 8 am	full moon ● 6 Everglades Arts Opening Reception <i>see p.3</i>	7 <i>RAPPER</i> Harry Chapin Food Bank <i>see p.5</i> VA Support <i>see p.3</i>	8 Museum Reception <i>see p.9,10</i> Art in the Preserve <i>see p.9</i>
9	10 OFCD Advisory Meeting <i>see p.3</i> Hour of Prayer Holy Family Catholic Church 7 pm	11	12 Ladies Coffee Island Café 8 am	13 Lions Club 6 pm, Oyster House	14	15 Yard Sale <i>see p.3</i> Book Discussion <i>see p.3</i>
16	17 Hour of Prayer Everglades Community Church 7 pm	18 Reach Out 9:30 am City Hall Little Gator Clinic <i>see p.3</i>	19 Ladies Coffee Sweet Mayberry's Café 8 am Wine Wednesday Driftwood Spa	20 Everglades Book Club <i>see p.3</i> SAC Meeting <i>see p.5</i>	<i>RAPPER</i> 21 VA Support <i>see p.3</i> ESHP Historical Talk <i>see p.3</i>	new moon ○ 22
23 "Homecoming Sunday" Everglades Community Church	24 Hour of Prayer Copeland Baptist Church, 7 pm	25	26 Ladies Coffee Havana Café 8 am	new moon ○ 27 Thanksgiving Day 5k Fun Run for Everyone <i>see p.5</i>	28	29
30	DEC 1 ESHP Mtg Hour of Prayer Chokoloskee Church of God, 7 pm	2 Congressional Aide Visit City Council	3 Ladies Coffee City Seafood 8 am	4	<i>RAPPER</i> 5 Big Cypress 40 th Anniversary <i>see p.3</i>	full moon ● 6 Swamp Heritage Festival <i>see p.3</i>

Dec 10: River of Grass Greenway Public Presentation
Dec 19: Santa Arrives at City Hall

Dec 13: Fakahatchee Talk; Christmas Tree Lighting & Parade and Glow Run
Dec 20: Art-in-the-Glades
Jan 31: Smallwood Music Fest

THRIFT SHOP: Tues, Sat, 11 am – 3 pm
REACH OUT: 3rd Tues, 9:30 am, City Hall
LIONS CLUB: 2nd Thurs, 6 pm, Oyster House Restaurant
Everglades AFG: Tues, 8 am, and Thurs, 12 noon, City Hall
VA SUPPORT: Alternate Fridays; 10 am, Community Church
MUSEUM: Mon – Sat, 9 am to 4 pm
CARNESTOWN Recycle and Trash: 2nd Sat, 9 am to 1 pm

SKATING RINK: Fri, Sat, 7-10 pm
LITTLE GATOR CLINIC: Nov 18 and Dec 16, 5-7 pm
AA: Wed, 5:00 pm, Community Church
NA: Sat, 11:30 am, Community Center (Skating Rink)
WEIGHT LOSS: Tues, 5 to 6 pm, Community Church
SMALLWOOD STORE: Daily, 10 am to 5 pm
FOOD PANTRY: Wed, 12 noon to 2 pm, Community Church

SHERIFF AT CITY HALL: 1st Tuesday (4:30-5:30 pm), other Tuesdays (10-11 am)

POST OFFICE HOURS: Everglades City 9:30 am to 1 pm and 2 to 4:30 pm; Sat: outside pick-up 3:45 pm; Chokoloskee 9:30 am to 1 pm and 2 to 4:30 pm; Sat: outside pick-up 3:30 pm; Ochopee 8 to 10 am; 12 noon to 4 pm; Sat: Open for service 10 to 11:30 am.

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

CITY HALL: 695-3781
FAKAHATCHEE: 695-4593

PUBLIC LIBRARY: 695-2511
BIG CYPRESS: 695-2000

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE: 695-3941
EVG NATIONAL PARK: 695-3311
COLLIER COUNTYGOV'T: 252-8999

**EVERGLADES ARTS -
VARICK NILES STUDIO**

Everglades Arts Studio, located at 110 Camellia Street, is hosting an Opening Reception on **Thursday, November 6**, from 1 to 3 p.m. The studio is open on Thursdays and Fridays each week from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The November exhibit will feature Varick's own work in oils, watercolors and acrylics entitled "Glades Images." Stop by for a visit.



**Art in the Preserve
Fakahatchee Strand**

The first of two "En Plein Air" sketching and painting session this winter will be held from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm on **Saturday, November 8**. Reservations are required. Phone Karen at 695-2886 or email lizardart@gmail.com.

FREE PARK ENTRANCE

In honor of Veterans Day, there will be free entry for everyone at all Florida State Parks on **Tuesday, November 11**. The Park Service encourages residents and visitors to celebrate veterans and active military personnel by bringing them to one of the 171 state parks and trails to enjoy outdoor activities.

YARD SALE

Saturday, November 15

8:00 am to 3:00 pm

402 North Storter Avenue

Lots of variety – blankets to drill press, office chair, and much more

BOOK DISCUSSION

Meet the Author Jeff Whichello
"What Happened to Ochopee"

Saturday, November 15, 5:00 pm

Trail Lakes Campground in Ochopee will have a cozy fire and a book discussion. Bring food and gear. Jeff will also be available at a booth for book signing from 10 am to 4 pm in Goodland at their annual Bazaar Saturday and Sunday. For more information on the book, go to WWW.JFLU.ORG.

EVERGLADES BOOK CLUB

On **Thursday, November 20**, the Everglades Book Club will meet at Patty Huff's home on 207 North Storter at 9:30 a.m. to discuss Jeff's book "What Happened to Ochopee."



Lost Photos of the Seminoles

Journalist and folk musician Pete Gallagher will present rare photographic images during an illustrated presentation on **Friday, November 21**, at 5:30 p.m. in the Jinkins Fellowship Hall at the Everglades Community Church. This free event is sponsored by the Everglades Society for Historic Preservation and open to the public. Reservations are required; phone 695-2905 or email ESHPhotomail.com.

**Big Cypress National Preserve
40th Anniversary Events**

Big Cypress Birthday Bash

Friday, December 5, 7:00 – 10:00 pm
(food & drink, live music & dancing)

Collier County Museum in Naples

Reservations required

Tickets \$75 pp (cash bar); \$125 (open bar)

Tickets include Clyde Butcher Calendar

For tickets go to website

<http://big40birthdaybash.eventbrite.com>

Swamp Heritage Festival

Saturday, December 6, the history and culture of the Big Cypress Swamp will be celebrated. There will be music, demonstrations, guest speakers, storytellers, local food vendors, as well as Clyde Butcher to autograph calendars.



**River of Grass
Greenway Presentation**

An open house will be held in the Everglades City Hall Chambers on **Wednesday, December 10**, 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm with exhibits and displays. There will be a one-hour presentation at 7 pm to inform the general public, various professionals and elected officials of the ROGG conceptual plans and benefits. Everyone is invited!

Art in Big Cypress

"Fletcher Sketches Big Cypress" by Mark Fletcher now on exhibit in the Big Cypress Swamp Welcome Center and the Oasis Visitor Center. Both centers are open daily from 9 am to 4:30 pm.

OCHOPEE FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT

- 10/28/14: Public Assist, Everglades City
- 10/29/14: Vehicle Accident, 75 MM I-75
- 10/30/14: Vehicle Accident, 55 MM I-75
- 10/31/14: Emergency Med, Plantation Island
- 10/31/14: Emergency Med, Copeland
- 10/31/14: Vehicle Accident, 76 MM I-75
- 10/31/14: Public Assist, Copeland
- 10/31/14: Emergency Med, Port of Islands
- 10/31/14: Structure Fire, Copeland
- 11/01/14: Emergency Med, Plantation Island
- 11/02/14: Emergency Med, Everglades City
- 11/02/14: Emergency Med, Everglades City
- 11/02/14: Vehicle Accident, US 41 & SR 29
- 11/03/14: Vehicle Accident, Copeland

The next meeting of the OFCD Advisory Committee will be held on **Monday, November 10**, at 4 p.m. in the Port of the Islands Fire Station, located at 525 Newport Drive #C, in Naples.

DOCTOR'S CLINIC

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

Little Gator Clinic

The free walk-in clinic (behind the fire station) for youngsters will be open **Tuesday, Nov 18 and Dec 16, from 5 to 7 pm**. There are no drugs but Dr. Barnard can write prescriptions.

THRIFT SHOP

The Thrift Shop, located behind the Fire Station, is open every Tuesday and Saturday from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Veterans Support Group

Meetings are held every other Friday at 10 a.m.: **Nov 7 and 21**. Veterans and family members of veterans meet at Everglades Community Church.

AL-ANON Changes

Two Al-Anon Everglades meetings have been combined into one and name changed to Everglades AFG. Meetings will now be held in the City Hall, First Floor. Everglades AFG is now meeting Tuesday mornings at 8:00 am and on Thursdays at noon. Call 263-5907 for 24/7 meeting information and helpline.


FOOD PANTRY

The Community Food Pantry will now be open on Wednesday from 12 Noon to 2 pm at Everglades Community Church. It will have fresh and frozen foods from Harry Chapin.

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SCHOOL NEWS

Everglades City School

phone: 377-9800

www.evg.collierschools.com

IMPORTANT DATES

Friday, Nov 7	Harry Chapin Bank, 1:00 to 2:30 pm
Thurs, Nov 13	Superintendent's Virtual Town Hall Mtg
Thurs, Nov 20	SAC Meeting, 6 pm, Media Center
November 26-28	Fall Break – No School



TAYLOR'S CORNER

I love October! Literacy dress up day was on Thursday the 30th I dressed up as the wolf that ate granny from *Little Red Riding Hood*. My friend Charlie dressed up as Fiona from *Fiona and Cake*, Candice was Sally from the *Nightmare before Christmas* and Morgan was Huckleberry Finn.

Elementary school basketball has begun. My whole class and I are playing and some other 4th and 3rd graders are, too. Next practice will be on the 10th, it starts at 3:00 and ends at 4:00 just in time to catch the after school bus. The first game is at the gym on Thursday the 20th and will start at 3:10 and end at 4:00.

The Osprey are back over at the power plant. The mother and father are coming back to nest so you should stop by and check it out. Sometimes when we stop, I wave to them and they will look down and squawk at me. There will be no school on the 26th 27th and 28th of November to celebrate Thanksgiving. We're going to fry our turkey and make homemade pumpkin pie, too. That's all for now, I'll see you around the corner.

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

YEARBOOK ADS

Help support our yearbook by purchasing an advertisement in the 2015 Everglades City Yearbook. Full Page: \$150.00; Half Page: \$75.00; Quarter Page: \$50.00; Business Card: \$35.00. Please submit checks payable to Everglades City School by **January 30, 2015**. Photos and text can be submitted in paper or electronic format. Digital text and photos need to be emailed to Mrs. Owen at owenm3@collierschools.com. Digital photos must be 300 .dpi resolution or 1 MB or larger to be accepted digitally. Pictures that need to be scanned must be submitted to Mrs. Owen and will be returned by the end of the school year.

Adult Education Classes

Everglades City School is now offering classes on Tuesday and Thursday of each week from 6:00 – 8:30 p.m. The purpose of these classes is to teach non-English speakers our English language. For more info, contact Marlene Dimas at 377-9800.

Volunteers Needed

Everglades City School is seeking volunteers for the classrooms, media center and general office assistance. If you would like to assist, please contact Angela Nicholson at 377-2852 or 377-9800. Your assistance is both appreciated and needed!

Letter from the Principal

Dear Parents, Students, and Community,

Let's begin by welcoming two new employees to our school. Donna Glann-Smith has joined us as a substitute teacher and is wonderful at filling in whenever and wherever needed. We also want to welcome Liz DeLeon, a former tutor/secretary from Mike Davis Elementary School. Liz is joining us as a full-time tutor and will be assisting with our growing English Language Learners student population. We feel they are both great additions to our school and our students.

We recently recognized 56 of our secondary students for their efforts to earn a high Grade Point Average (G.P.A.). We had 46% of these students earn a Gold Card which means they had a 3.5 G.P.A. or higher for the last grading period. We also had 41% earn a Silver Card for obtaining a 3.0 – 3.5 G.P.A. Congratulations to all of these students and a big thank you to the following local businesses who supported our Renaissance Program: Triad - Win-Car - Havana Café - Island Café.

I would like to reach out and send another great big "Thanks" to the following organizations who have supported our school and our community. Harry Chapin for providing food to our needy families, Laces of Love for providing shoes and Angels Undercover for providing socks, underwear, shirts and shorts to students. We can't begin to thank all of these organizations for their assistance, time, and support!

Some activities coming up soon are: Pennies for Pasta, The Superintendent's Virtual Town Hall Meeting on November 13 at 6:00 pm, Girls Basketball season begins on November 10 and the Boys tip off on November 17. We also want to wish our Office Manager, Candi Hendrickson, a Happy Birthday on November 11!

Gratefully yours, Bob Spano, Principal

Everglades Area Youth Soccer



Practice on Tuesdays from 3:30 to 4:30 pm at the Community Center. Please bring a water bottle with something to drink. For more information, call Shannon Snyder at 695-8462.



SPORTS SCHEDULE

Basketball Schedule – HOME Games

For complete schedule, visit www.evg.collierschools.com
Click on "Sports"

BOYS Varsity: Nov 20 at 6:00 pm vs Jesuit Preparatory School
Nov 21 at 6:30 pm vs Donahue Academy

BOYS JV: Nov 20 at 4:30 pm vs Belen Jesuit Preparatory
Nov 21 at 5:00 pm vs Donahue Academy

GIRLS: Nov 10 at 6:00 pm vs St John Neumann Catholic HS
Nov 18 at 5:00 pm vs Donahue Academy



Everglades City Gobble Gobble 5k Fun Run

November 27, Thanksgiving Morning
McLeod Park, meet at 7:30 am

Feel free to run, walk, bike, or ride along. It's all just for fun! No sign up required. For more information, call Shannon Snyder at 695-8462. Hope to see you there!



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Upcoming Auction

**Sat., Nov. 15, 2014 * 10:00 AM * ABSOLUTE
 AUCTION * 62+ Acres in Ross County**
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 Abundant Road Frontage on Both Sides of St. Rt 41
 & Moon Road* 2 Story Farm House * Machinery
 Shed * Wooded Creek Line * Baxla-Holste, Owners

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ean M. Snyder Trust, Janet S. Morris, Trustee
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TAXING THINGS

by Mike the Tax Guy

**TAX DEDUCTIONS FOR FISHERMEN**

- **Fishing Fuel Tax Credit**

A fisherman may be eligible to claim a credit or refund of excise tax paid on fuel used in certain boats.

- **Commercial Fishing Boats**

Boats used in commercial fishing include only watercraft used in taking, catching, processing, or transporting fish, shellfish, or other aquatic life for commercial purposes, such as selling or processing the catch, on a specific trip basis. Boats used for both sport fishing and commercial fishing on the same trip are not included. Fuel used in aircraft to locate fish is not fuel used in commercial fishing.

- **Fuel**

Gasoline - A credit or refund may be allowed for gasoline used for supplies for vessels/boats used in commercial fishing.

Special Motor Fuels - A credit or refund may be allowed for special motor fuels used for supplies for vessels and boats used in commercial fishing. Special motor fuels generally include any liquid other than gasoline, diesel fuel, kerosene, gas oil, or fuel oil.

Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) - A credit or refund may be allowed for CNG used for supplies for vessels and boats used in commercial fishing.

Diesel Fuel - A credit or refund may be allowed, depending on the type of diesel fuel used:

- **Undyed** - A credit or refund is allowed for tax paid on undyed diesel fuel that is used for a nontaxable purpose.
- **Dyed** - No credit or refund is allowable for the use of dyed diesel fuel since this fuel is purchased tax-free.

Reminder: If you use the cash method of accounting, the amount of the fuel tax credit reported on your last year's tax return must be reported as income on your current return.

- **Bad Debt from Bankrupt Fish Buyer**

Occasionally, a fish buyer will go bankrupt without paying for the fish.

The loss you have experienced is considered a business bad debt. Whether or not you can deduct the bad debt depends upon whether you have previously included the fish sales in your business income.

Under the cash method, an expense paid in advance can be deducted only in the year to which it applies. Since you did not receive the fish sale income, if you are using the cash method of accounting you would not have previously included this in your business income. As a result, when the income isn't received, there is no deductible business bad debt. You still have experienced a loss and have a bad debt; it just isn't a type of bad debt that can be deducted on your tax return.

An accrual method taxpayer would normally have included the fish sales in their business income in the year the fish were sold. Assuming that you were on the accrual method and assuming you actually did include these fish sales in your income in the year of the sale, then a business bad debt is allowed in the year the debt becomes worthless.

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

Favorite Meal

**Shrimp & Veg** by Marya Repko

I buy shrimp by the pound and freeze in portions so I always have an instant, healthy meal. This is my favorite and I can now buy zucchini at our local grocery store or from Frank, the veggie man near ECity Post Office.

Defrost frozen shrimp in plastic bag placed in bowl of warm water. Sauté chopped up zucchini and onions (could be scallions or boiling onions or pieces of big onions) in enough olive oil to cover bottom of pan. Can also add chopped-up sweet pepper, baby tomatoes, other soft veggies. Take out when cooked, briefly, to keep them crisp, and put in warmed metal bowl on stove top.

Then, in same pan on higher heat, quickly (about 1 minute per side) sauté shrimp in shells with a bit of spicy powder (Taco seasoning from Badia, but could be jerk or blackening). I use tongs to flip over and take out on plate to cool.

Peel shrimp (give shells to cats/dogs for snacky protein and glucosamine against arthritis).

Serve shrimp with veggies and garlic mayo (do this in advance and keep in fridge: scoop out some mayo into small plastic container, chop up garlic fine, stir into mayo with herbs such as tarragon).

Enjoy with toasted Publix French Hamburger Buns or other crisped up bread, laced with butter or spread cheese.

Cooking time about 10 minutes!

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

**Health, Wellness, and Green Living**

by Shannon Snyder

I never knew "pesto" was such a generic name in the food world. When I hear that word I think of the delicious basil based sauce you would eat on pasta or with chicken. But recently after looking for an updated pesto recipe, I was amazed at all the different kinds of pesto sauces that you can make. They are all quick, easy, and good for you. Not to mention the ones I have tried are delicious. Here is one:

Spinach Pesto

Makes about 2 cups

- 1 1/2 ounces goat cheese
- 1 1/2 ounces whole-milk ricotta (or 3 ounces of either goat cheese or ricotta)
- 2 cloves garlic, peeled with root end trimmed off
- 1 tablespoon extra virgin olive oil
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 10 to 12 ounces spinach, washed and spun dry
- Salt and pepper to taste

Add the cheeses, garlic, olive oil, and lemon juice to the bowl of a food processor and mix until combined. Add the spinach and run the food processor until the mixture has formed a thick paste. If the spinach won't fit all at once, add it in batches. Taste for seasonings, adding salt, pepper, and lemon juice as needed.

Shannon Snyder lives in Everglades City with her husband Billy, their two sons and their dog Ruby. She is the owner of Driftwood Spa offering massage therapy and spa services. Call Shannon at 695-0069 for an appointment.

2014 Smalltooth Sawfish Abundance Survey, October Report & End of the Year Summary

by Dana M. Bethea, Research Ecologist

NOAA Fisheries Panama City Laboratory Panama City, FL



In October, for the first time in 9 years, the field crew for the NOAA Smalltooth Sawfish Abundance Survey was stationed in both Chokoloskee and Flamingo.

In the northern portion of Everglades National Park, scientists captured and tagged two new young-of-the-year smalltooth sawfish (one on the west-side of Chokoloskee Island, 130 cm STL, and one in Mud Bay, 140 cm STL). The team also recaptured one young-of-the-year in Mud Bay that was originally tagged in Mud Bay on April 4; it grew from 77 to 124 cm STL in six months.



© Dana M. Bethea

Using social media and a sightings report from a hiker on the Guy Bradley Trail, scientists sampled behind the amphitheater at the Flamingo Campground and captured one young-of-the-year smalltooth sawfish (78.5 cm STL). This animal is the only animal to have an open umbilical scar in the 6 years that the survey has been underway. An open umbilical scar means the animal was likely born in the previous 1-2 weeks. Unfortunately, inclement weather kept the scientists from finishing out the remainder week at Flamingo; however, there are plans to continue sampling in the southern portion of Everglades National Park next year.

The October Survey was the last trip for this year. Thirty-seven young-of-the-year and 5 juvenile smalltooth sawfish were captured and tagged in 2014 in all areas combined. The survey will begin again in February 2015.

Smalltooth sawfish were listed as endangered in 2003 under Section 9 of the Endangered Species Act. Remember, it is illegal to "take" (harass, harm, pursue, target, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap or capture) this animal. The current core population is limited to waters off the coast of southwest Florida and incidental encounters between smalltooth sawfish and fishermen do occur. If you incidentally hook or net a smalltooth sawfish, do not remove the animal from the water, cut the line or gear as close to the animal as possible, and release the animal immediately. Please exercise caution and never remove the saw. If you see or encounter a smalltooth sawfish, please contact the International Sawfish Encounter Database at (352) 392-2360. All input and cooperation from the public is greatly valued.

If you are driving around southwest Florida, look for the smalltooth sawfish educational billboard on I-75 southbound just before you drive over the Caloosahatchee Bridge. The billboard is designed to promote the safe handling of this endangered elasmobranch.

This research follows permits EVER-2014-SCI-0009 and ESA-17787. Funding is provided through the NOAA Fisheries Service Southeast Regional Office in St. Petersburg, FL.

Photo caption: (L to R): Field team members prepare to release a young-of-the-year smalltooth sawfish (78.5 cm STL) behind the amphitheater at the Flamingo Campground on October 21, 2014.

Photo credit:

Dana M. Bethea, NOAA Fisheries Panama City Laboratory



Living Gulf Coast

by Charles Sobczak

Atlantic Spotted Dolphin

(*Stenella frontalis*)

Other names: mottled dolphin, spotted dolphin / Status: FL=stable, IUCN=insufficient data to determine status / Life span: to 50 years / Length: 7.5-7.6 ft (2.26-2.29 m) / Weight: 290-310 lb (130-140 kg) / Reproduces: in the Gulf and the Atlantic / Found: Gulf, offshore starting at 15 nautical miles.

In his book *The Nature of Things on Sanibel*, naturalist George Campbell's list of marine mammals includes Gervais beaked whale, goose-beaked whale, Atlantic killer whale, false killer whale, bottlenosed dolphin, Curvier's porpoise, spotted porpoise, Atlantic dolphin, pilot whale, little piked whale, and Atlantic right whale. In 25 years of offshore fishing, I personally have seen only two of these: the very common bottlenose dolphin and the Atlantic spotted dolphin. The others may well be out there, but actually finding and seeing one may take a lifetime; therefore, only these two common dolphins are included in Living Sanibel. The false killer whale (*Pseudorca crassidens*) was actually a fairly common sighting in the 1970s. In July 1976 a pod of 20 of these small whales were seen off the beaches of both Sanibel and Captiva only to later strand themselves on a barrier island to the north. To my knowledge there has never been a sighting of a false killer whale since. Over the past decade, sightings of the spotted dolphin have become a fairly common occurrences. Starting at roughly 18 miles from shore and extending into the deep Gulf, the chances of seeing one are very good. You are not likely to spot one from shore or in any of the estuaries however.



A spotted dolphin is smaller than the bottlenose. It is also far more curious and will sometimes come flying over to a moving boat from up to a mile away. It loves swimming in the bow, as well as jumping and diving in the wake of the boat, especially if you slow your vessel down to create a massive wake. It will sometimes come up to an anchored boat and roll on its side, as if to see what you are doing. It travels in pods of between 10 and 50 animals.

Sadly, the Pacific spotted dolphin has a bad habit of swimming with yellowfin tuna, a behavior that has resulted in the loss of more than 4 million of this species in the past 30 years. When the giant seine nets are set by commercial fisherman, the spotted dolphin swimming above the yellowfin tuna are also entrapped, often resulting in death. Today there are special devices that allow most of these dolphins to escape alive, and their numbers are recovering worldwide.

(Author's note: Recently, on June 12, 2014, two Atlantic spotted dolphin stranded themselves off of Ft. Myers Beach. After spending hours trying to save this male and female dolphin, both animals died. The reasons behind this incident and many other dolphin and whale strandings remain a complete mystery. Some theories involve the interference by Navy sonar, which disorients the animals. Others attribute these events to diseases, underwater seismic activity, magnetic field anomalies among a host of other causes. Sadly, the vast majority of these events prove fatal to the animals involved.)

This article is from *Living Gulf Coast – A Nature Guide to Southwest Florida*. Charles Sobczak lives and writes on Sanibel Island. Visit www.indigopress.net.



LOCAL HISTORY

by Patty Huff

Chokoloskee residents call them “alligator pears” and they are plentiful throughout the island.

Last weekend, while visiting the Smallwood Store, I noticed a bucket full of avocados with a sign stating that these were from the same trees planted by the Santini family over 120 years ago.

It was Aldolphus Santini who settled on the island in the late 1870s. He was soon joined by his brother and parents. The family owned most of the land on Chokoloskee, and by 1882 there were five families living on Chokoloskee, the Santini brothers being two of those families.

In the late 19th century when the Santinis immigrated to Florida, it is reported that they brought the avocado trees with them, planting rows of them in Chokoloskee. Residents say that the very tasty Florida “alligator pears” now growing throughout the island are from the same trees.



According to legend, the name dates back to 1763 when an early English description of “avocado” called it the “avogado pear,” leading to the misunderstanding of “alligator pear.” It seems appropriate for the Everglades and Chokoloskee which is an ancient Indian shell mound – avocados don’t like to get their feet wet!

In 1899 the Santini brothers sold their property to Ted Smallwood and left Chokoloskee for the Florida Keys (the Dolphin Research Center in Grassy Key was originally called “Santini’s Porpoise School” where I would swim with *Mitzi* in the late 1950s and 60s).

Although hurricanes have reduced the number of these fruit trees, there are still enough around to feed the locals and provide a lot more to the rest of us in Everglades City.



MUSEUM of the Everglades

Pauline Reeves Gallery

In November the Museum will host “*Through the Eyes of Locals*,” an exhibit by local photographers Helen Bryan, Kathy Daniels, and Tommy Owen. Please join us as we



explore the unique Everglades landscape through the lens of three longtime area resident artists as we enjoy their view of the place they call home, its people and the amazing sunsets that should not be missed.



The artists’ reception, hosted by the Friends of the Museum, will be held **Saturday, November 8**, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Pauline Reeves Gallery. The Museum is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and located at 105 W. Broadway.



From Savannah’s Eyes

Volleyball season is officially over and this means the beginning of basketball and cheerleading season. But, unfortunately, it is also the end of something that means so much to me. Volleyball has been my favorite sport for as long as I can remember, even as a child watching the games at our school I always wanted to become a player; and now my volleyball years for high school are over. It’s been an awesome 4 years being on varsity, growing as an athlete, finding my strengths and weaknesses, setting goals and reaching them. I never thought I’d miss something so much until that last game we played; then it hit me that it’s over. After the game, I told my coach that I didn’t want to ever take off my uniform, as tears filled my eyes. I looked at my co-captain, Ana, whom I have known since Pre-K and who is also my best friend; she too was crying. I never thought this would end; I was oblivious to the fact that it was over, and you have to try your best to leave a legacy for people to look up to and say “I hope to be as great as she.” I keep thinking of new ways to help our team and new tactics, and even imagining plays in my head where I spike the ball on the other team making an ace. But, then I remember that I’m done; I can’t step another foot on the court as a senior for my school and play the sport that I have the greatest passion for. Ana says she feels the same way. And, of course, the other girls had tears in their eyes as they thanked us captains for an amazing season. This, of course, made me super happy to know that they will miss us and they really do care about us leaving since we’ve all basically known and have grown up with each other. After our coach had our last talk with us as a team, we all stood up and formed a circle with our arms wrapped around each other in a group hug. We then said a prayer, thanking the Lord for an amazing season, with the best people, and for keeping us safe and unharmed. We then proceeded to sway from the right to the left, arms still around each other in the circle, chanting “G. A. T. O. R. S. GOOO GATORS!” I grabbed my bag and walked out of the team room, passing by the volleyball carts filled with the volleyballs, Carolina blue, white, and navy. Past them on the court was of course the volleyball net; I stared at it as tears were streaming down my face. Out the gym door I finally made my way to my car. When I was inside I lost it. In the midst of sobbing and trying to catch my breath, I would look up and see my teammates exiting the gym, some crying, others walking with their families laughing. At that point I then reached a conclusion. This moment, this last game, this feeling, was nothing more than bittersweet. I then turned on my car and proceeded to drive out of the parking lot. I took one last look at the gym, knowing in the back of my mind that this was my last time ever wearing my volleyball uniform and looking at my gym. The blood, sweat, tears, memories, trials, failures, wins, goals, all of them I was leaving behind in that gym. And all I felt was nothing but bittersweet.

I have so many memories with this team and the ones before I was captain that I know will last a lifetime. Congratulations to the new upcoming captains and the team, I love you girls with all my heart and I already miss you terribly. I wish the best of luck for all of you in these next upcoming seasons.

Love, Savannah

Savannah Oglesby is 17 years old and a senior at Everglades City School.

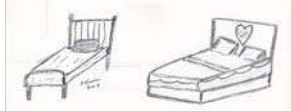
Florida Tales



"Down with the New" by Chester Keene

Got a call on the 3-11 shift about an alarm going off on the inside of a two story home. A car horn was blowing and the lights were flashing through the garage window and water running out of a car garage into the street. This was on the south end of town. The caller said he went over and tried to get someone to respond but to no avail. We did not have a key holder so we entered the house. Back then the doors on most of the homes were left unlocked.

This old house was built back in the 1920s or 30s out of wood and had a guestroom built over the garage. The owner was letting this young couple stay there to house-sit for him while he was living up north during the summer. While he was gone, and the couple was getting the room ready to live in, they purchased a waterbed to replace the old single bed in the room. They filled the water bed up and went out to dinner and were going to finish making it up when they got back, not thinking about how much the bed would weigh when filled and it being on the second floor. The floor gave away not too long after they left. With all that weight it fell through the floor and onto the owner's car, setting off the alarm.



The couple returned after a while, the owner was notified and the couple spent the next few nights in a motel. Later on the owner said he had no idea they were replacing the old feather bed with a waterbed.

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



New IGFA Record

Congratulations to Ward Michaels for the confirmation by the International Game Fish Association (IGFA) that his 62-lb Pacific black snook caught on a bait casting reel in Costa Rica is a new World Record!



SHERIFF'S REPORT

Between October 20-23 a residence on Plantation Parkway was entered and property removed: tools, fishing equipment, air compressor, weed eater and an 8000 watt "Titan" generator which is yellow in color. There were no signs of forced entry. Sometime between April 15 - October 23 an "Interstate" 8-volt battery was removed from a golf cart at Outdoor Resorts. On October 25 between 4 pm and 5:15 pm a vehicle was burglarized while parked at the "Big Cypress Bend" boardwalk off of US 41. Force entry was gained by shattering a window and taking property from inside. Between October 29 and the 30th person(s) unknown stole fishing rods and reels from an unlocked lanai at Chokoloskee Island Park. Taken were 2 "Saint Croix" Tidemaster fishing rods. Also taken was a Battle 4000 and Conquer 4000 fishing reels. On November 1, a resident of Chokoloskee Island Park reported that on October 29 between 5:30 and 8 pm someone entered their unlocked residence and removed cash.

Please remember to always secure your valuables. Should you have any information concerning these thefts or any other suspicious activity, please contact the Collier County Sheriff's Office immediately at 252-9300.

Glades Daze

by Patty Huff

For years now Helen Bryan has provided *The Mullet Rapper* with a countless number of incredibly beautiful photographs. She has become our unofficial "official" photojournalist, attending events all over the community and capturing the essence of life in the Everglades. The photos shown below were taken on Thursday evening, October 23, the night of the solar eclipse. Many of us witnessed this spectacular sight; and although I tried to photograph the same scene, Helen timed the moment perfectly.

Helen will be exhibiting her work at the Museum of the Everglades during the month of November with two other locals Kathy Daniels and Tommy Owen. Everyone is invited to meet the photographers on **Saturday, November 8**, in the Pauline Reeves Gallery from 1:00 to 3:00 pm.



Porsche - Everglades City Stone Crab Rally at Triad Seafood Market & Café



America met for their semi-annual Stone Crab Rally at Triad Seafood on the Barron River.



The Porsche shown on the left is a 1969, 912 model, owned by Kevin Brooks of Parkland, FL. It is one of the many that were on display on School Drive. The Club has been coming to Everglades City for several years to enjoy great seafood at Triad.

Top two photos by Helen Bryan.

RESTAURANTS



- Angler's Cove, Port of the Islands**
(239-642-1025): 11:30 am – 9 pm;
Tues-Sunday *Closed Monday*
- Camellia Street Grill (695-2003):**
12 noon – 9:00 pm; daily
- City Seafood (695-4700):**
6:00 am – 6:00 pm; Mon thru Wed
6:00 am – 9:00 pm; Thurs thru Sun
- Glades Haven Deli (695-2091):**
6:00 am – 9:00 pm; daily
(Marina: 6 am - 4 pm; daily)
- Havana Café (695-2214):**
7:00 am to 3:00 pm; Sun thru Wed
7:00 am to 8:00 pm; Thurs-Fri-Sat
- 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 – 5:00 pm; Wed thru Mon
- Lucky's Loop Rd Outpost (695-2550):**
12 noon – 6:00 pm; Sat, Sun
- 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
- Subway at Gator Express (695-3937):**
7:00 am – 7:00 pm; daily
- Sweet Mayberry's Café (695-0092):**
8:00 am – 5:00 pm; Tues thru Thurs
10 am – 4 pm; Sunday. *Closed Mon*
- Triad Seafood (695-2662):**
10:30 am – 5:00 pm; daily

Right Choice Supermarket (695-4535):
9:00 am – 7:00 pm; daily

Grimm's Stone Crab (695-3222):
8:00 am – 6:00 pm, Mon-Sat

Loco's Fresh Produce: (239-462-7050)
(next to the ECity Post Office)
7:00 am – 4:00 pm; Thurs thru Sun

SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES

- Chokoloskee Church of God**
10 am Sunday School, 11 am Sun Worship
- Copeland Baptist Church**
10 am Sunday School, 11 am Sun Worship
- Everglades Community Church**
11 am Sunday Worship
9:45 am Adult Sunday School
- Everglades First Baptist Church**
9:45 am Sunday School, 11 am Worship
- St. Finbarr Catholic Church**
8 am (Spanish) and 10 am Mass
- San Marco Catholic Church**
8 am and 10:30 am, 6 pm Sunday Mass



Bill Roth photographed this American Avocet on the beach at Pavilion Key

TIDES FOR BARRON RIVER

Lat: 25.87°N Long: 81.37°W
<http://TIDESANDCURRENTS.NOAA.GOV>

11/07	Fri	01:34am	3.4	H
11/07	Fri	09:38am	-0.3	L
11/07	Fri	03:06pm	2.9	H
11/07	Fri	09:45pm	0.7	L
11/08	Sat	02:08am	3.4	H
11/08	Sat	10:21am	-0.3	L
11/08	Sat	03:49pm	2.8	H
11/08	Sat	10:26pm	0.8	L
11/09	Sun	02:43am	3.3	H
11/09	Sun	11:05am	-0.2	L
11/09	Sun	04:35pm	2.6	H
11/09	Sun	11:07pm	0.9	L
11/10	Mon	03:21am	3.2	H
11/10	Mon	11:49am	-0.1	L
11/10	Mon	05:23pm	2.5	H
11/10	Mon	11:50pm	0.9	L
11/11	Tue	04:05am	3.0	H
11/11	Tue	12:35pm	0.1	L
11/11	Tue	06:15pm	2.5	H
11/12	Wed	12:40am	1.0	L
11/12	Wed	05:03am	2.7	H
11/12	Wed	01:25pm	0.2	L
11/12	Wed	07:08pm	2.4	H
11/13	Thu	01:45am	1.0	L
11/13	Thu	06:22am	2.5	H
11/13	Thu	02:23pm	0.4	L
11/13	Thu	08:02pm	2.4	H
11/14	Fri	03:05am	0.9	L
11/14	Fri	07:43am	2.4	H
11/14	Fri	03:24pm	0.5	L
11/14	Fri	08:55pm	2.5	H
11/15	Sat	04:19am	0.8	L
11/15	Sat	09:00am	2.3	H
11/15	Sat	04:24pm	0.5	L
11/15	Sat	09:46pm	2.6	H
11/16	Sun	05:18am	0.7	L
11/16	Sun	10:12am	2.3	H
11/16	Sun	05:18pm	0.6	L
11/16	Sun	10:32pm	2.7	H
11/17	Mon	06:06am	0.5	L
11/17	Mon	11:15am	2.4	H
11/17	Mon	06:05pm	0.7	L
11/17	Mon	11:12pm	2.8	H
11/18	Tue	06:48am	0.3	L
11/18	Tue	12:07pm	2.5	H
11/18	Tue	06:48pm	0.7	L
11/18	Tue	11:48pm	2.9	H
11/19	Wed	07:27am	0.2	L
11/19	Wed	12:52pm	2.6	H
11/19	Wed	07:27pm	0.7	L
11/20	Thu	12:20am	3.0	H
11/20	Thu	08:06am	0.0	L
11/20	Thu	01:33pm	2.6	H
11/20	Thu	08:05pm	0.8	L
11/21	Fri	12:49am	3.2	H
11/21	Fri	08:45am	-0.1	L
11/21	Fri	02:13pm	2.7	H
11/21	Fri	08:43pm	0.8	L



OBITUARY

Bethany Suzanne (Eastham) Johnson, age 49, was called home to the Lord on October 29 at Jackson Memorial Hospital in

Miami after a hard fought battle with breast and brain cancer.

Beth was born August 28, 1965, in Colorado Springs, CO, to Kenneth and Suzanne Eastham. She is a 1983 graduate of South Park High School in Fairplay, CO, and 1987 graduate of Liberty University in Lynchburg, VA. In 1987 she married her wonderful husband of 27 years, David Johnson.

Beth spent over 20 years teaching high school English and Reading in Collier County, including Everglades City where she was loved by many and will be truly missed. Her most recent venture was caring for her students at Lely High School. Her passion was representing Christ through her service to her family and others. She enjoyed travelling with her daughters for athletics and was an avid fan of volleyball. Beth also loved gardening, especially orchids, and cooking delectable food for the people she was always so generously hosting.

Beth is survived by her husband, her daughters Jessica and Alyssa, her parents Ken and Suzanne, her grandmother Ivanell McFarland, her brother Jeff Eastham and his wife Melonie, as well as many family and friends whose lives she has touched over the years. Celebration of life was held November 4 at First Baptist Church Naples.

MUSEUM OF THE EVERGLADES



105 West Broadway, Everglades City
OPEN: Monday – Saturday
9:00 am – 4:00 pm
(239) 695-0008
www.evergladesmuseum.org

SERVING EVERGLADES CITY SINCE 1998



4735 Tamiami Trail East, Naples, (239) 417-5000

SNOOK CLASSIFIEDS

FREE PIANO: Everglades Community Church has an upright piano for free. Please contact 695-2009 Anne Mitchell.

FOR SALE: Jacuzzi, 2-seater, used but never used; it costs \$4,995; get in now for \$495. Call 695-0611 for more information.

FOR SALE: Waterfront 3 BR/2 BA mobile home, one lot away from Halfway Creek, 150' on the water, with dock and boat ramp. 2 1/2 lots, large fenced yard and 10' x 40' screened decked porch. Furnished. Must see to appreciate! \$225,000. Call 340-4770.

FOR SALE: Lot #26 in Fisherman's Cove; dock included. \$40,000. Call (239) 300-7077 or (239) 682-6025.

FOR SALE OR RENT-TO-OWN House & Barn on 1.02 acres in Fakahatchee Strand. \$139,000 purchase or \$1200/mo. Rent to Own. Call Don (321) 439-7635. See 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.

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

**See the Rapper in full color!
Visit our website.**

PET PICS



Kitten mask has been found! If you lost on Halloween night, call 695-2397. Send us your Pet Pics by post or email.

JOBS & SERVICES

Cashiers Needed

Joanie's Blue Crab is looking for reliable (retired) individuals who enjoy working with the public. Call 695-2682 for more info.

Volunteers Wanted

Everglades National Park is looking for volunteers to help out (to paddle in canoes or kayaks) on ranger-led canoe trips this winter. Please contact Andy Webb at 695-3311.

Front Desk Position Open Ivey House B&B

Immediate Front Desk position open
Seasonal, Part-time
Contact ASAP at (239) 695-3299 or email
resume to info@iveyhouse.com

Maintenance Position

Maintenance position ORA at Chokoloskee; must have good English skills including reading / writing, able to lift 50 lbs overhead, driver's license and able to obtain a CPO pool license. Full time, year round starting mid-November. Send resume to ORA, PO Box 55, Chokoloskee, FL 34138.

CAREGIVER

Looking for experienced CNA/HHA and companion caregivers for in-home senior care. Call Visiting Angels at (239) 561-7600.

The MULLET RAPPER

What's Happening in the Everglades City Area

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