

The MULLET RAPPER

What's Happening in the Everglades City Area

JULY 31 – August 13, 2015

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P O Box 617, Everglades City, FL, 34139

Volume IX • Issue #242

BACK-TO-SCHOOL!

This year there will be a “Back to School Bash” on **Friday, August 14**, from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. when students and families are invited to meet their teachers and walk through their classrooms. The event will include a cookout with hot dogs, popcorn, and soft drinks as we gather to celebrate the start of the new school year!

NEW TEACHERS are:

Third Grade: Ms. Ashlyn Farrar, formerly of Mike Davis Elementary

Fifth Grade: Mrs. Susan Baumler formerly of Tommie Barfield Elementary

Middle School Math: Mr. John Whitcomb formerly of East Naples Middle School

Inclusion/INSS: Mr. Nathan Poteet, formerly of Golden Gate Elementary

Music: Ms. Tami Fessenden, shared with Lake Park Elementary

Reading Coach: Ms. Shana Secory, our former MS English teacher

Math Coach/Resource: Mr. Todd Zuk, our former 5th grade teacher

Assistant Principal: Mrs. Michele Wheeler, our former Reading Coach

NEW SUPERINTENDENT FOR BIG CYPRESS



Big Cypress National Preserve announced the selection of Tammy Whittington to be its new superintendent. She has served as the associate regional director of resource stewardship and science for the National Park Service Intermountain Region in Denver since 2011.

Ms. Whittington has a 27-year career of service to the public with both the NPS and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS). She began her career as a supervisory engineer and project manager with the FWS in Denver in 1987. In 1997 she transitioned to the NPS as a restoration program manager,

also in Denver. In 2007 she became the deputy chief of the NPS Environmental Quality Division (EQD), located in Denver. She became the chief of EQD in 2009 and served in that capacity until 2011, when she joined the Intermountain Region.

Tammy was born and raised in Colorado, and holds a bachelor's degree in engineering from the Colorado School of Mines in Golden, Colorado. Her hobbies include scuba diving, hiking, biking, tennis, kayaking, wildlife watching and photography, and caring for her pet cats.

"I am extremely honored to be selected to serve as superintendent of Big Cypress National Preserve," Ms. Whittington said. "The uniqueness of the Preserve's resources and the issues therein will prove to be challenging and exciting. I am inspired by the NPS Centennial goal of 'connecting with and creating the next generation of park visitors, supporters, and advocates.' I will work with the Preserve's exceptional staff and partners to make that goal our compass towards success."

In a recent email, Tammy added "I look forward to understanding the local culture and resources within the community." She anticipates that she will be at Big Cypress National Preserve around the middle of October."

Welcome to our new Superintendent!

CONTENTS

Calendar	p. 2	Hurricane Tips	p. 8
Events	p. 3	Gulf Coast	p. 8
School	p. 5	Taxing	p. 9
FL Tales	p. 7	Museum	p. 9
Recipe	p. 7	Chiropractic	p. 9
Book Review	p. 7	Glades Daze	p.10
Fishing	p. 8	Sunset Photos	p.11

TIDES & RESTAURANTS p.11 **CLASSIFIED** p.12

FEATURE: Bear Management, p. 10

JULY / AUGUST 2015

<u>SUN</u>	<u>MON</u>	<u>TUES</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THURS</u>	<u>FRI</u>	<u>SAT</u>
26	27 Hour of Prayer Everglades Community Church 7 pm Tennis Camp Bible School	28 Tennis Camp Bible School	29 Ladies Coffee Island Café 8 am Tennis Camp Bible School	30 Tennis Camp Bible School	full moon ● 31 RAPPER Bible School ORV Trails Open <i>see p.3</i>	AUGUST 1
2	3 Hour of Prayer Copeland Baptist Church 7 pm OFCD Meeting <i>see p.3</i>	4 Congressional Aide Visit <i>see p.3</i> City Council Meeting <i>see p.3</i>	5 Ladies Coffee City Seafood 8 am	6	7 Tax Free Holiday <i>see p.5</i>	8 Tax Free Holiday <i>see p.5</i>
9 Tax Free Holiday <i>see p.5</i>	10 Hour of Prayer Chokoloskee Church of God, 7 pm Tax Free Holiday <i>see p.5</i>	11 Tax Free Holiday <i>see p.5</i>	12 Ladies Coffee Island Café 8 am Tax Free Holiday <i>see p.5</i>	13 Tax Free Holiday <i>see p.5</i>	new moon ○ 14 RAPPER Tax Free Holiday <i>see p.5</i> Back-to-School Bash <i>see p.1,5</i>	15 Tax Free Holiday <i>see p.5</i>
16 Tax Free Holiday <i>see p.5</i> NPS Comment Deadline <i>see p.3</i>	17 School Starts <i>see p.5</i> Hour of Prayer Holy Family Catholic Church 7 pm	18	19 Ladies Coffee City Seafood 8 am	20	21	22
23	24 Hour of Prayer Everglades Community Church 7 pm	25	26 Ladies Coffee Island Café 8 am	27	RAPPER 28	full moon ● 29

Aug 31: Deadline for Recipes
Sept 26: Blessing of the Fleet

Sept 3 and 9: City Council Meeting Reading of the Budget
Oct 24-25: RedSnook Tournament

THRIFT SHOP: *closed until the Fall*
LIONS CLUB: *meetings to resume in September*
DR DEMARTINO: *closed until the Fall*
FOOD PANTRY: Wed, 12 noon to 2 pm, Community Church
EVERGLADES AL-ANON: Thurs, 12 noon, City Hall
MUSEUM: Mon – Sat, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
CARNESTOWN Recycle and Trash: 2nd Saturday, 9 am to 1 pm

SKATING RINK: Fri, Sat, 7-10 pm
REACH OUT: *meetings to resume in October*
LITTLE GATOR CLINIC: *closed until October*
AA: Wed, 5:00 pm, Community Church
HEALTHY EATING: Tues, 5 to 6 pm, Community Church
SMALLWOOD STORE: Daily, 11 am to 4 pm

SHERIFF AT CITY HALL: 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 CITY HALL: 695-3781 PUBLIC LIBRARY: 695-2511 CHAMBER OF COMMERCE: 695-3941
AIRPORT: 695-2778 FAKAHATCHEE: 695-4593 BIG CYPRESS: 695-2000 EVG NATIONAL PARK: 695-3311
CURBSIDE TRASH PICKUP (FRIDGES, WASHING MACHINES, TVS): 252-2380 COLLIER COUNTY: 252-8999

ORV Trail Closure Lifted

Big Cypress announced that the annual 60-day ORV closure has been lifted as of **Friday, July 31**. All areas of the preserve that allow for off-road vehicle use will be accessible via marked designated trails; this includes airboat access into Zone 4. The Recreational ORV Management Plan calls for a seasonal closure to allow a period free from resource pressures related to ORV use. For more information, contact the ORV Office at 695-1205.

Congressional Aide Visit

Enrique Padron, Aide to Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart, will be coming to visit with constituents on **Tuesday, August 4**, in City Hall from 3:30 to 5:00 pm. Please call 348-1620 to schedule an appointment.

City Council Meeting

The first meeting of City Council members after the summer break will be on **Tuesday, August 4**, at 5:30 p.m. Anyone wishing to speak will need to sign up before the meeting.

Gulf Coast Canoe Trips

Every **Tuesday through August**.

Canoes available free; kayaks rented at the visitor center. For more information or to make reservations please call 695-3311 or visit website www.nps.gov/ever.

Big Cypress Extends Comment Period on Oil and Gas Plan

The National Park Service is extending the public review and comment period on the Nobles Grade 3-D Seismic Survey/Plan of Operations (Plan) within Big Cypress National Preserve through **August 16**. The plan may be viewed on the NPS Planning, Environment, and Public Comment (PEPC) website at <http://goo.gl/pQMUvJ>. Anyone interested is encouraged to provide written comments through the website or mail to the Office of the Superintendent, Big Cypress National Preserve, 33100 Tamiami Trail East Ochopee, FL 34141 or entered in the PEPC system website. Copies are available by contacting Big Cypress National Preserve Environmental Specialist Don Hargrove by phone at (239) 695-1150; via email at Don_Hargrove@nps.gov; or by mail at Big Cypress National Preserve, 33100 Tamiami Trail East, Ochopee, FL 34141.

ENP SEEKS PROPOSALS

The National Park Service's deadline for receiving business proposals for commercial visitor services in the Flamingo District and Long Pine Key areas of Everglades National Park is **September 2**. The prospectus is available online at concessions.nps.gov/ever001-16.htm. Hardcopies are available upon request for \$40. Make checks payable to the National Park Service and send to Bill Stevens, Chief of Concessions, National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office AFC, 1924 Building, 100 Alabama Street SW, Atlanta, GA 30303.

City Notices

City Council Meetings

September 3 and September 9

first and second reading of the budget

Election on November 24

for Mayor and 2 councilors

August 22 - first notice; **September 21** - qualifying begins (nominations); **Oct 2** - qualifying ends (nominations)

Notice: Everglades Bait & Tackle is closed until September 4

ROOKERY BAY

Through **September 23**

Kirsten Hines' Birds and Gardens
Photography Exhibit

For more information, call (239) 530-5972 or visit www.rookerybay.org/calendar.

ROMP IN THE SWAMP FISHING TOURNAMENT

The "Rompin' in the Swamp" fishing tournament at the Port of The Islands Resort will be held **October 2-3**. Anyone who like to donate to the event, contact Robert Walczak at (239)777-4519. Order your Fishing Tournament tickets before **September 4**. For more info, visit www.rompintheswampnaples.com.

REDSNOOK TOURNAMENT

October 24-25

The RedSnook Tournament benefits the Conservancy of Southwest Florida to support its clean water initiatives. For more information, visit website www.conservancy.org/redsnook/schedule.

OCHOPEE FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT

07/13/15: Brush Fire, 80 Mile Marker I-75
07/15/15: Vehicle Accident, 78 MM I-75
07/16/15: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
07/17/15: Vehicle Accident, 68 MM I-75
07/17/15: Emergency Medical, Ochopee
07/17/15: Emergency Medical, Copeland
07/18/15: Vehicle Accident, 74 MM I-75
07/20/15: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
07/20/15: Vehicle Accident, 73 MM I-75
07/20/15: Emergency Medical, Copeland
07/21/15: Emergency Medical, 63 MM I-75
07/21/15: Emergency Medical, Chokoloskee Island
07/21/15: Public Assist, US-41 & SR-29
07/21/15: Emergency Medical, Chokoloskee Island
07/23/15: Emergency Medical, Chokoloskee Island
07/24/15: Vehicle Accident, 80 MM I-75
07/24/15: Vehicle Accident, Ochopee
07/24/15: Emergency Medical, 58 MM I-75
07/24/15: Emergency Medical, 65 MM I-75
07/24/15: Emergency Medical, Port of Islands
07/25/15: Emergency Medical, Everglades City

The next Ochopee Fire Control District Advisory Committee will meet at 4 p.m. on **Monday, August 3**, in the Port of the Islands Fire Station, located at 525 Newport Drive #C, Naples, Florida 34114.

DOCTOR'S CLINIC

Dr. Kirk DeMartino will return to Everglades City in the fall. To schedule an appointment in his Marco Island office, please call (239) 642-5552.

SPORTS PHYSICIAN

Dr. John Martin, a certified Chiropractic Sports Physician, will be in Everglades City and Chokoloskee on **Tuesdays and alternate Fridays**. To schedule an appointment, call (813) 787-9738 or 261-9199 or email martinjohndr@gmail.com.

THRIFT SHOP

The Thrift Shop is **closed** for the summer. Please do not leave items outside the door.

Weight Loss and Healthy Eating

Weight Loss and Healthy Eating Group meets every Tuesday from 5 to 6 pm at Everglades Community Church.

For public announcements to be listed in *The Mullet Rapper*, email two weeks in advance to mulletrapper@gmail.com.

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SUMMER VACATION NEWS

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IMPORTANT DATES

July 27-31	Church of God Bible School
August 7-16	Tax Free Holidays
August 14	Back-to-School Bash, 3:30 – 5 pm
Aug 17	Back to School for students

Message from the Superintendent

The summer break is certainly flying by, but I hope everyone is getting some much needed quality time with your families. So far this summer we have been busy reenergizing for the upcoming school year with lots of renovation projects as well as academic improvements. All of these upgrades are crucial for us to embark on yet another successful year.

Speaking of success, we are encouraged by the many school and overall district improvements shown in test results released last month by the Florida Department of Education (DOE). The District outperformed the state in four out of five state assessed areas. As always, thank you to our dedicated teachers and administrators, supportive parents, and our enduring community partners. We are also excited to share the next phase in our online, centralized student registration system launch. This change affects all new students entering the district. Instructions to complete the process are available on our website.

I wish all of our staff, students, and parents a safe and productive summer and I look forward to seeing everyone on the first day of school. ~ Dr. Kamela Patton



Florida's back-to-school tax-free holidays

The back-to-school tax holiday will begin **August 7** and run through **August 16**. Items that will be tax-free

include; clothing, footwear, wallets, and bags that costs \$100 or less, school supplies that cost \$15 or less, and the first \$750 of the cost of personal computers and related accessories.

Ways You Can Get Involved in Your School!

- Volunteer in our Schools
- Join a School Advisory Council
- Send us your e-mail address
- Adopt a School (Become a Business Partner)
- Participate in a CEO Briefing
- Get involved with Career & Technical Education
- Principal for a Day Program

Visit website <http://www.collierschools.net/Domain/129> for more information

The Mullet Rapper is looking for students to write articles for the elementary and for the middle / high school levels. Please email mulletrapper@gmail.com for more information.



LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Anticipation....

We are quickly approaching the start of school and there are some exciting changes in store for our students and families when they return in August. Our school will now have an athletic trainer that is provided in conjunction with Naples Community Hospital. This has been an ongoing effort and we appreciate the support from the school district and NCH to provide quality care for our athletes as they practice and compete during each season.

Our building is being cleaned and prepared for the upcoming year as well. It is looking great and we are on schedule to welcome back our teachers on August 10. A number of our teachers have already been on campus making preparations for the arrival of students on August 17. A special thanks to our Plant Manager, Mr. Patt, as he has worked tirelessly with our custodians to make the school shine for our teachers and students!

Another exciting change will occur on **Friday, August 14**, from 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm. This year we are having a **"Back to School Bash"** where students and families can meet their teachers and our secondary students can pick-up their schedules. We are planning on cooking hot dogs on the grill and serve along with popcorn and soft drinks to celebrate the start of another exciting school year. Detailed information will be mailed to families the week of August 3; and, if anyone has questions, please don't hesitate to call the school. This is our first year providing a cookout, but we believe it is an exceptional opportunity to welcome back our staff, students and families. Thanks for all your support as we are blessed to serve such a wonderful community.

Jim Ragusa Go Gators!

SUMMER CAMP



1st Lt Drew Lee with CCSO stopped in for story time at Reachout Everglades & COPS Summer Camp. After reading *Llama, Llama, a Time to Share*, Lt Lee talked to the kids about the importance of sharing and being kind to others.



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UPCOMING AUCTIONS!

Sat., Aug. 29, 2015 * 10:00 AM * Commercial Bldgs. &
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Wellston, OH 45692 w/ Frontage on St. Rt. 327 * Exline Trust

Thurs., Sept. 3, 2015 * 6:00 PM * \$15,000 Min. Bid !!!
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RCPC Case No. 2014-CI-541

Sat., Sept. 26, 2015 * 5:00 PM * Benefit Auction
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Florida Tales



"1892 Expedition"

by Chester Keene

Continued from the July 17th issue....

Camp#6 Tues. March 22. All hands up before daybreak and the routine which will probably be followed began with the surveying party starting out at 6 A.M. immediately after a hasty breakfast. While the balance packed up the boats and got away at 7 A.M., following the stakes which were driven every 1,000 feet. Two of the party left for the cypress timber on foot, in sight to the southwest and for this day's march of one to four miles from our course. An hour or so after starting an Indian approached them on foot, accompanied by three dogs. He introduced himself as "Billy Fiewel" and in good English said "Good morning". He understood English sufficiently to make himself readily understood that he was acquainted to the Hendry's of Ft. Myers. After some palaver he agreed to go with us today for a consideration. Shortly after he said "Wait, will get canoe". Leaving us and going to get a fine cypress dugout canoe he said he made with his son "Little Billy" whose age was 20. All got into the boat, seated themselves in the bottom and Billy stood on the stern and poled and pushed, when the water was too shallow for poling following the rest of the crowd who by this time were a mile and a half ahead. Overtaking them, we proceeded to a point about 4 miles from camp # 6 where we lunched; the Indian joining us upon invitation and conducting himself very politely. About one mile beyond our lunch we stopped for the day at Camp #7, having made 5 miles in all today through some of the worst bog imaginable; all tired but cheerful.

to be continued....

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

Recipe for Good Eating

Simple Egg Soufflé
Casa Coquina Del Mar
Bed & Breakfast

Ingredients: 3 eggs
1/4 cup heavy cream (or half & half)
1 TBS sun dried tomato pesto
goat (or feta) cheese
Parmesan cheese
Bacon or sausage, crumbled (optional)
Salt & pepper to taste



Whisk together (lightly) eggs and half & half, add pesto, cheese and put into small oven-proofed bowls that have been sprayed with canola oil. Bake at 350° for 30 minutes or until golden brown and puffed up. May be made the day before; just whisk (again lightly) before pouring into bowls. Easy and delicious.! Serves 2 to 3.

Note by Patty: My grandson Liam (pictured above) asked that I include this recipe in The Mullet Rapper so that his sister could prepare it for him. We enjoyed this breakfast at the Titusville B&B where we stayed before touring the Kennedy Space Center. For more information about the B&B, visit their website <http://www.casacoquina.com>.

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

RECIPES NEEDED

ReachOut Everglades is publishing another cookbook and requesting recipes. The deadline for the NEW Everglades Cookbook is **August 31**. Send to ReachOut Everglades & COPS, Inc., P.O. Box 894, Chokoloskee FL 34138, or email Cheryl at underwoodcheryl@gmail.com or GerrieFowler@mac.com. ReachOut is a non-profit organization committed to helping our community.

Off the Shelf - Book Review
"SKY WALKING,
an Astronaut's Memoir"

by Tom Jones and reviewed by Patty Huff

Thirty-five years ago I took my daughter to Cape Canaveral to learn about NASA. This year my grandson Liam from California was my traveling companion. He said this was his favorite of all the Florida places we visited. We had lunch (along with 100 others) with former Astronaut Tom Jones. Liam was captivated by the explorer's tales of his four space shuttle missions so I purchased his book about his experiences.

Thomas D. Jones, PhD, is a scientist, author, pilot, and former NASA astronaut. He holds a doctorate in planetary sciences, and spent more than eleven years with NASA. On his last flight, Dr. Jones led three spacewalks to install the centerpiece of the International Space Station, the American Destiny laboratory. He has spent fifty-three days working and living in space.

I think every child should visit the Kennedy Space Center but, if unable to do so, at least read about the astronauts' journeys into space. Tom Jones was an excellent speaker, bringing "down to earth" the jargon of scientists so everyone (even kids) would understand what it's like to become a spaceman. He conveys this skill in his book. The details of what it is like to live for months at a time on the International Space Station are captured in Tom Jones' description of life out there. You learn about why one chooses, and is chosen, to become an astronaut, the extensive training involved, the various missions, and finally "sky walking."

To learn more about Tom Jones, visit his website www.astronauttomjones.com. His book may be purchased through Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and other bookstore outlets.





Fishing in the Ten Thousand Islands in August

by Captain Mike Merritt

August is typically a great month here. The water temperatures can be in the mid 90's on most days so it is important once again to fish moving water. The incoming tide will give you your best chance out in the islands. Mullet will be the best live bait due to the fact that there are plenty of mullet moving along the shorelines. The fish may not be very aggressive till later in the tide when the water cools slightly. Redfish should start showing up in greater numbers and we should start catching bigger fish. Usually about the 3rd week in August the big schools start showing up. These fish will be feeding very aggressively on the incoming tide also and can be taken easily on the jig. Tarpon can be caught out in about 10ft. of water. If they are there you will see them unless the chop is too much. It is best early or late in the day and outgoing tide works for these. Try live baits or DOA Baitbusters. Trout are still on the grass flats and a Cajun Thunder with a DOA shrimp is my favorite. There are lots of other opportunities with Jacks, Sharks, Pompano, Permit, and Jewfish. Sometimes you just have to be an opportunist and catch what's biting. Enjoy the fishing, stay cool, and watch out for lightning. Good Luck! Capt. Mike Merritt

Captain Mike Merritt fishes artificial lures, live bait, or both out of a 22ft. Pathfinder boat powered with a 150hp Yamaha 4 stroke. Contact Capt. Merritt at (561) 795 3437 or email: snookfishing1@juno.com. Website: www.everglade-angler.com.

More TIPS for Hurricane Season

by Patricia Huff



Hurricane season in Florida officially began on June 1 and will end on November 30. So far things have been quiet in our southwest region. However, disasters can occur quickly and require you to evacuate your home with just a few days' notice. Being prepared is the key to protecting yourself and your possessions.

One system I have used for years is to have all of my important records and accounts together in one large notebook binder. This helps me have everything together in one location, something small enough to take with me in the event that we need to vacate our home. This helps to avoid problems if my home is damaged. Important items include copies of photo IDs, birth certificates, Social Security cards, financial records, insurance information, etc. By having this information on hand with you, you will be able to continue paying bills and maintaining financial obligations. Keeping this information organized also allows family members to have the documents should you need emergency assistance.

For more information, visit The Florida Division of Emergency Management's flgetaplan.com or Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) ready.gov on how to create your Financial Readiness Kit.

To submit articles, please email to mulletrapper@gmail.com two weeks prior to publication.



Living Gulf Coast

by Charles Sobczak

Eastern Mole (*Scalopus aquaticus*) Other names: Common Mole / Status: FL = stable, IUCN = LC / Length: 5-6.5 in. (12.7-16.5 cm) / Height: n/a / Weight: 2.6 oz (75 g) / Life span: to 3 years /

Reproduces: one liter a year / Found: All Counties, near coast, mainland / Months found: **JFmamJJASOND** (lower case indicates nesting and breeding season).

In Florida the eastern mole rarely builds the characteristic molehill. Instead it prefers to make long continuous tunnels just beneath the surface of the earth. A single tunnel was once measured to be more than 3,300 feet long! The eastern mole is extremely good at digging in Florida's dry, sandy soil, which is the habitat it prefers. A healthy mole can dig a hole and bury itself in five seconds. The chances of actually seeing an eastern mole in Florida are extremely slim since it spends its entire life underground.



Its underground life also makes it difficult to study. We do know it is virtually blind, able only to distinguish dark from light with what remains of its eyes. It is a prodigious insectivore and can eat from 25 percent to 100 percent of its own body weight in a day. Its diet consists of earthworms, slugs, snails, centipedes, larvae, scarab beetle grubs, and ants. When an insect accidentally breaks through into an open tunnel, the mole senses the intrusion and scurries over to devour the intruder.

The mole we find in South Florida tends to be smaller and darker than those found in the East and Midwest. It ranges all the way into the very southern sections of Ontario. When the mole comes into contact with any of Florida's many golf courses, it is, for obvious reasons, not very welcome. Most of these nuisance moles are trapped or poisoned.

The mole has a single litter of two to seven pups per year, which suffer from a high mortality rate. As many as two-thirds of its offspring are unable to find suitable habitat in time to avoid predation. The mole pups must leave their mother's tunnel territory and travel above ground in search of their own two- to five-acre range. The young, defenseless moles are taken by coyotes, foxes, snakes, and shrews. Take a good look at the photo in this article because, in all likelihood, it's the only mole you will ever actually see.

Charles Sobczak is a Sanibel author. For more information, go to www.indigopress.net. Books are available at the Big Cypress Swamp Welcome Center, ENP Gulf Coast Visitor Center, Right Choice Supermarket and WinCar Hardware.

Panther Death



The remains of a 2-3 year-old uncollared male panther (UCFP247) were collected on 7/13/2015 on SR80 approximately 5 miles west of LaBelle in Hendry County. The cause of death was collision with a vehicle. This is the 25th panther mortality and the 16th road mortality for 2015.

Buy a Florida Panther license tag which funds the Florida Panther Research & Management Trust Fund to support FWC's panther conservation efforts. To buy a panther license plate visit your local tax collector's office or go to <http://buyaplate.com>.

TAXING THINGS

by Mike the Tax Guy



Keep Track of Miscellaneous Deductions

Miscellaneous deductions can cut taxes. These may include certain expenses you paid for in your work if you are an employee. You must itemize deductions when you file to claim these costs. If you usually claim the standard deduction, think about itemizing instead. Here are some IRS tax tips you should know that may help you reduce your taxes:

Deductions Subject to the Limit. You can deduct most miscellaneous costs only if their sum is more than two percent of your adjusted gross income.

These include expenses such as:

- Unreimbursed employee expenses.
- Job search costs for a new job in the same line of work.
- Some work clothes and uniforms.
- Tools for your job.
- Union dues.
- Work-related travel and transportation.
- The cost you paid to prepare your tax return. These fees include the cost you paid for tax preparation software. They also include any fee you paid for e-filing of your return.

Deductions Not Subject to the Limit.

Some deductions are not subject to the two percent limit. They include:

- Certain casualty and theft losses. In most cases, this rule applies to damaged or stolen property you held for investment. This may include property such as stocks, bonds and works of art.
- Gambling losses up to the total of your gambling winnings.
- Losses from Ponzi-type investment schemes.

You claim allowable miscellaneous deductions on Schedule A, Itemized Deductions. There are many expenses that you can't deduct. For example, you can't deduct personal living or family expenses. For more, see Publication 529, Miscellaneous Deductions on IRS.gov/Forms.

Mike, The Tax Guy, provides income tax services. For more information or to talk to Mike, phone him at 695-0595.



MUSEUM of the Everglades

Note from Jennifer Perry, Manager

The lazy days of summer brings a time of great reflection. Last summer every Wednesday, like clockwork, Sunny Burke would come through the Museum of the Everglades doors and greet our visitor for her "shift". She was every bit that her name implied. It will be one year of her loss coming this September. However, her presence is still here, especially in one spot that is "Sunny's Garden". Every one that walks by or enters the Museum's front entrance will be graced with a memorial of our beloved volunteer and friend. Sunny will always be in our hearts and those of us lucky enough to have the pleasure of knowing her will always treasure the memories we have. Please feel free to stop by and enjoy the little shady spot in front of the Museum of the Everglades known as Sunny's Garden!



Pauline Reeves Gallery: Student Art Exhibit

August is the last month to see the students' art exhibit at the Museum of the Everglades. If you have not had an opportunity to stop by the Museum, please do so. The Museum is open to the public Monday through Saturday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Marco Island Historical Museum



The upcoming exhibit at the Marco Island Historical Museum features Collier County artists who create 2-D and 3-D works as paintings, jewelry, photographs, and quilts. Contributing artists are: Carolyn Burger, Rob Eder, Jim Freeman, Liz Granger, Claire Keery, Pat Kimicich, Lindy Kowlaczyk, Linda Kropp, R. Clark Lindberg, Georgia Lohmeyer, Cathy Marshall, Alissa Mittl, William Ward Moseley, Betty Newman (her art work is pictured above), Barbara Parisi, Joe Parisi, Joan Scherer, Peter Sottong, Karen Swanker, and Judy Whittwer.

Naples Depot

The Naples Depot Museum will present "Through My Eyes, Paintings of Naples and the Everglades" by Naples artist Kevin O'Brien from **August 5** through **October 24**. The free wine and cheese reception, sponsored by the Friends of the Collier County Museums, will be open to the public and held on **Thursday, September 17** at the Depot from 6 pm to 8 pm. Everyone is invited!

2016 CALENDAR

Order one of Clyde Butcher's 2016 calendar of the Florida National Parks by visiting www.clydebutcher.com/gift/827. In recognition of the National Parks Centennial Celebration - Clyde introduces his Special 2016 Florida National Parks Edition Calendar - featuring 12 beautiful photographs taken inside Big Cypress National Preserve, Everglades National Park, Key Biscayne National Park, and National Seashore Cape Canaveral.

THE FUNGUS AMONG US

by Dr. John Martin

Do you experience chronic fatigue, frequent toxic headaches, depression, or gastric reflux disorder, or other unresolved digestive upset? Do your kids express hyperactivity, unexplained aches and pains, even learning disorders? This may not be something you have to put up with. Some literature reports that up to 61% of the North American population has too much yeast in their digestive system.

Often times referred to as the "great mimic-er" there are dozens of common ailments in addition to those listed above, that are a nutritional imbalance. Therefore, there is most often a nutritional remedy! Many milder symptoms are exaggerated and made much worse by the toxic effect that *Candida albicans* (in excess) has on the human body. It takes (only) two weeks to remedy most cases.

It costs \$25 for the test, and just \$65 for the herbal remedy. Should you or anyone you know suffer from any of the above referenced ailments, call Dr. John for a screening appointment at (813) 787-9738. See you again on Tuesday.

More on Bear Management

by Patty Huff

As previously noted in the July 3 issue of *The Mullet Rapper*, at its June 24 meeting, the Fish and Wildlife Commission (FWC) approved of a bear hunting season. The dates are October 24 through October 25 (but may be extended through October 30) within four (East Panhandle, North, Central and South) of the state's seven Bear Management Units (BMUs) which contain the largest bear populations and include all three national forests as well as southern Florida (not permitted in Big Cypress for 2015). For info, visit <http://www.myfwc.com/media/3004350/Bear-Hunting-Draft-Rule-Summary.pdf>.

Bear hunting permits will cost \$100 for residents and \$300 for nonresidents; hunters will be limited to buying only one permit and one bear per permit. To harvest a bear, both the hunter and bear must be more than 100 yards away from any game feeding station. Hunters will be required to take harvested bears to an FWC check station within 12 hours. Information will be collected at the check stations from each bear that will be used to inform the FWC about the local bear population. The new rule also makes it illegal to sell any parts of a bear or its hide.

The above information states the decision by FWC to approve of a new bear hunting season and the criteria. Readers have pointed out that this does not address all of the facts. The decision to open bear hunting season was made even though there was overwhelming opposition by Floridians who attended, wrote emails and letters and signed petitions. However, the FWC biologists felt that a bear hunt would be one of the methods to help control a growing bear population in several areas of Florida. FWC openly admitted that opening bear hunting would **NOT** solve the nuisance bear problem.

The Florida Wildlife Federation (FWF) believes that education, being responsible and respectful of the wildlife are better alternatives to bear hunting. They wrote a letter to FWC summarizing their recommendations. Among these were:

Public education and non-lethal strategies:

1. Increase educational focus on living with bears...
2. Work to require developments...to incorporate "living in bear country" materials in sales & homeowner agreements
3. Explore sources of funding for purchase of "bear proof" garbage containers...coordinate with counties, WMA...
4. Advocate not putting garbage cans out the night before...

In regard to the proposed bear hunt season, they suggested:

1. Insure law enforcement is patrolling the open areas
2. Hunting quota is part of total mortality count that includes road kills and euthanized nuisance bears
3. For public safety, do not allow hunting in neighborhoods...

Bear Food Source Issues: Saw palmetto is the single most important food source for the Florida Black Bear... protection of this food source would keep bears in the woods and out of neighborhoods.*

*Note: FWF was finally able to get the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services (DACS) and Florida Forestry Service to stop the picking of the saw palmetto berries from public state lands. The berries are an extremely important food for black bears, deer and about eighty other species of wildlife.

MyFWC.com/Bear provides information about Florida black bears and how to avoid conflicts with them. Please report any threatening bear behavior to the FWC Wildlife Alert Hotline at 888-404-FWCC (3922).

GLADES DAZE

THE OSPREY – SAVIOR OF FISHERMEN

by Kitty Greenleaf

The Osprey, or fish hawk, is a large and regal bird with a high-pitched cry that circles over open water, searching for fish to eat. Often mistaken for an eagle because of his mostly white head, the Osprey can live to 20 years of age or longer. He feeds by expertly dive-bombing his prey, freefalling from a height of up to 120 feet and building up to speeds of 30 mph before crashing feet first into the water to deftly grab up a fish for dinner.

This winged messenger has ancient ties harkening back to the Incas. Peruvians believed a nesting pair of Ospreys close to one's home symbolized good luck and good fortune. These peoples also believed the Osprey was a harbinger of plentiful fishing.

The Osprey was well known for centuries as the "savior of fishermen," due to the bird's large nests built high above the ground along the edge of the water. In times past, these nests often served as the only navigational aid for fishing boats in dangerous weather. The Osprey's piercing cry was heralded as a warning of rocky shores in fog or pouring rain.

Osprey nests can reach very large proportions, sometimes achieving a weight of several hundred pounds. These nests have been found to contain popsicle sticks, soda cans, cardboard, plastic toys, sneakers and even cell phones.



Everglades City has its own famous Osprey. Nicknamed "Sparky" by locals, this Osprey prefers to make her nest each year in the high-voltage electrical substation located at the corner of Camellia Street and Copeland Avenue, just 200 feet from the Barron River. To this date, Sparky has apparently been able to fledge her nest of young safely without being electrocuted.

According to some Native American legends, seeing an Osprey in your dreams means you have been granted great power as a spiritual leader. If you hear the cry of an Osprey, it is a message to hold fast to your emotional moorings and embrace the blessings of home and family in your life. Don't lose spirit. Appreciate the small things. While the grass may look greener on the other side, it actually is not.

One of the important symbols of the Osprey is mastery. If you are attempting to master some new skill, remember the 10,000 Hour Rule. It takes 10,000 hours of practice to truly master any skill, whether it be race car driving or playing the fiddle. As a young juvenile, the Osprey tries, again and again, to hone his skills in diving and catching his prey. The Osprey represents an individual who keeps his focus and his senses sharpened.

If the Osprey is your totem animal, then be prepared for things to happen fast, whether it be closing on a property, being hired for a job, or falling in love. The Osprey doesn't waste any time. This bird migrates 4,500 miles in a mere 30 days, soaring on geo-thermals from the northeastern United States to El Salvador, Honduras, Costa Rica and Argentina in winter. You will want to be careful in your dealings with others, if the Osprey is your totem. You may have the urge to react and strike out quickly, but prudence is called for in how you treat the people who love you and care about you. Because of the Osprey's amazing vision, you will always have strong intuition about what is going to happen next in your life. Don't doubt that tug in your gut. It will not lead you astray.

Culled from various books, articles and internet sites

PHOTO: Sparky, the famous Everglades City Osprey, tends to her nest at Camellia Street while a curious Mockingbird looks on.

Kitty Greenleaf and her husband Tony count Everglades City as one of their favorite places to visit. They live in New Hampshire for most of the year.

RESTAURANTS



- Angler's Cove, Port of the Islands**
(642-1025): Tuesday thru Sunday,
Noon - 9 pm; bar open until 11 pm.
closed Monday
- Camellia Street Grill (695-2003):**
5:00 pm - 9:00 pm; Thurs thru Mon
closed Tues and Wed
- City Seafood (695-4700):**
6:00 am - 6:00 pm; daily
- Glades Haven Deli (695-2091):**
6:00 am - 6:00 pm; Sun - Thurs
6:00 am - 9:00 pm; Fri - Sat
- Havana Café (695-2214):**
closed until October 15
- 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; Fri thru Tues
closed Wed-Thurs
- 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):**
11 am - 8 pm; Wed thru Sun
closed Monday & Tuesday
- Triad Seafood & Café (695-2662):**
closed until October
- Right Choice Supermarket (695-4535)**
9:00 am - 7:00 pm; daily
- Grimm's Stone Crab (695-3222):**
closed until October
- Loco's Fresh Produce: (239-462-7050)**
will return in the fall

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
- Everglades First Baptist Church**
9:45 am Sunday School, 11 am Worship
6 pm Sunday, 7 pm Wed Bible Study
- St. Finbarr Catholic Church**
8 am (Spanish) and 10 am (English) Mass
- San Marco Catholic Church**
8 am and 10:30 am Mass



Helen Bryan took this photo of bicyclists enjoying the sunset.

TIDES FOR BARRON RIVER

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

07/31	Fri	03:42AM	2.6	H
07/31	Fri	10:08AM	0.6	L
07/31	Fri	02:55PM	3.5	H
07/31	Fri	10:57PM	-0.3	L
08/01	Sat	04:19AM	2.7	H
08/01	Sat	10:55AM	0.5	L
08/01	Sat	03:39PM	3.5	H
08/01	Sat	11:39PM	-0.3	L
08/02	Sun	04:58AM	2.8	H
08/02	Sun	11:43AM	0.4	L
08/02	Sun	04:28PM	3.4	H
08/03	Mon	12:22AM	-0.2	L
08/03	Mon	05:39AM	2.8	H
08/03	Mon	12:33PM	0.3	L
08/03	Mon	05:23PM	3.1	H
08/04	Tue	01:05AM	0.0	L
08/04	Tue	06:22AM	2.9	H
08/04	Tue	01:27PM	0.3	L
08/04	Tue	06:27PM	2.9	H
08/05	Wed	01:50AM	0.2	L
08/05	Wed	07:08AM	2.9	H
08/05	Wed	02:29PM	0.3	L
08/05	Wed	07:39PM	2.5	H
08/06	Thu	02:41AM	0.5	L
08/06	Thu	07:59AM	2.9	H
08/06	Thu	03:39PM	0.3	L
08/06	Thu	08:57PM	2.3	H
08/07	Fri	03:42AM	0.7	L
08/07	Fri	08:57AM	2.9	H
08/07	Fri	04:53PM	0.2	L
08/07	Fri	10:28PM	2.1	H
08/08	Sat	04:51AM	0.8	L
08/08	Sat	10:02AM	2.9	H
08/08	Sat	06:04PM	0.2	L
08/09	Sun	12:19AM	2.1	H
08/09	Sun	06:01AM	0.9	L
08/09	Sun	11:10AM	3.0	H
08/09	Sun	07:07PM	0.1	L
08/10	Mon	01:45AM	2.2	H
08/10	Mon	07:05AM	0.9	L
08/10	Mon	12:12PM	3.0	H
08/10	Mon	08:02PM	0.0	L
08/11	Tue	02:26AM	2.3	H
08/11	Tue	08:00AM	0.8	L
08/11	Tue	01:05PM	3.1	H
08/11	Tue	08:51PM	0.0	L
08/12	Wed	02:47AM	2.3	H
08/12	Wed	08:49AM	0.8	L
08/12	Wed	01:48PM	3.2	H
08/12	Wed	09:34PM	0.0	L
08/13	Thu	03:05AM	2.4	H
08/13	Thu	09:33AM	0.7	L
08/13	Thu	02:26PM	3.2	H
08/13	Thu	10:13PM	0.0	L
08/14	Fri	03:27AM	2.5	H
08/14	Fri	10:12AM	0.6	L
08/14	Fri	03:02PM	3.2	H
08/14	Fri	10:50PM	0.0	L

TENNIS CAMP

About 30 kids enjoyed the first of four days on July 27, thanks to Coach Denny of the Players' Club & Spa at Lely Resort and to local volunteers. The gang started out in the Skating Rink and then moved to the courts when the rain stopped. After lunch, they went for a swim to cool off.



Articles/Announcements

Deadline to submit for the next issue of *The Mullet Rapper* is Friday, August 7, at 10 a.m. Please call (239) 695-2905 or email mulletrapper@gmail.com.

EVERGLADES CITY

Lat: 25.87°N Long: 81.37°W
see www.weather.gov for weather
and www.nhc.noaa.gov for storms

See the Rapper in full color!
Visit our website.

SNOOK CLASSIFIEDS

FOR RENT: 5th wheel / camper lot in Copeland, minutes to Everglades City. Lovely location w/ large Poinciana tree across from a park. Hook ups installed & available. Rent \$450/mo. Call Rancho T Properties LLC at (727) 480-1640.

FOR SALE OR RENT: Cabins #7 & #8, daily/weekly/monthly/seasonal at Glades Haven. Call (239) 695-9142 or email at fishnw.mykee55@live.com.

FOR SALE: 4BR/2BTH, 2400sq.ft. stilt home on 120 x 200 fenced lot, perfect family home. \$147,500. Bob Wells Real Estate (239) 695-2660.

FOR SALE

1) 2 Clyde Butcher black and white photos; 'Florida Bay' #14, 32 x 19 in, in 42 1/2 x 29 in. frame, \$4800.00 OBO; 'Indian Key Pass' 1989, 16 x 11, matted. \$1400.00 OBO. Call 695-4150

2) Rentals available in Glades Building, across from Rod & Gun. One and two bedroom furnished apts. Includes use of private dock on river; One furnished office space. Call 695-4150.

3) One Kawasaki Brute Force 750, \$3500.00 and one Kawasaki Prairie360, \$2500.00; both are 4x4 autos, with front and rear racks, elec. winch, original and mud tires and both have under 700 miles. Call 695-4150.

Email: mulletrapper@gmail.com
to advertise here



PET PICS

While recently visiting her sister in Nashville, Patty received this photo of Doris' Bichon Frise dogs: BJ and Jingles.

SNOOK CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE: Naples Memorial Gardens. Two burial plots, side by side, in the Garden Of The Redeemer. Lot 107, 3 and 4. Both for \$7,900. Contact: Craig Carlisle (352) 371-2164.

FOR SALE or LEASE: Waterfront Lot, 165 ft on the water; 60 ft dock; deep water. \$350,000. For more information, call (239) 253-2844.

FOR SALE: Park Model trailer & lot in Everglades VR Corp. 1 BR / 1 bath / large screen room, boat dock. Fully furnished, washer/dryer / ceiling fans/ A/C, awnings, metal roof, concrete pad w/18 tie downs, fully skirted. Explore & fish the 10,000 Islands. (410) 289-8835.

The MULLET RAPPER

What's Happening in the Everglades City Area

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

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Ivey House B&B: Full-time Front Desk Position. Must be able to work flexible days/hours. Please Email resume to fdsupervisor@iveyhouse.com or call (239) 695-3299.

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve is seeking volunteers with some boating or captaining experience in local waters is preferred. For more info, email Donna Young at volunteer@rookerybay.org or visit <https://rookerybay.org/support/volunteer-ring.html>.

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