

The MULLET RAPPER

What's Happening in the Everglades City Area

JANUARY 1 - 14, 2016

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P O Box 617, Everglades City, FL, 34139

Volume X • Issue #253



Nick and Jackie Creveling were honored for donating pull tabs to the Shriners Hospitals for Children in Michigan. These tabs were collected from picking up cans from the streets in Everglades City where they live during the winter months.

Photo by John Oke

SEAFOOD FESTIVAL

The Everglades Seafood Festival is just around the corner starting with Family Night on **February 12** and continuing through the weekend of **February 13-14**. Plan early to attend the festivities. If you would like to be a vendor or receive more information, phone 695-2277 or visit www.evergladesseafoodfestival.org.

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HAPPY NEW YEAR
The Mullet Rapper would like to wish all our readers a happy and healthy 2016!



Thanks to Mayor Sammy Hamilton, every child in the community received a special gift from Santa. Also, thanks to Santa's helpers, Dottie Joiner, Karen Cochran, Karen & Bobby Campbell for helping Santa pick out the toys, get them wrapped and delivered in time for the Mayor's big party.

Photos by Sue Gentry



Ten people participated in the first Pickleball Event held on December 21 at McLeod Park. Future games are scheduled for Tuesday mornings, 9 am to 11 am. Spectators, scorekeepers, and photographers are encouraged to join the fun. Other times can also be arranged. For more information call Rena at (828) 735-2970 or Marlene at (321) 682 6288.



The Annual Christmas Ladies Coffee at Jan Brock's was held on December 16 with lots of good cheer, food and exchange of gifts. Everyone is invited to the weekly Wednesday Coffee held at the various restaurants around town (see *Calendar on page 2 for venue each week*). Come join us and meet new friends.

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

JANUARY 2016

<u>SUN</u>	<u>MON</u>	<u>TUES</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THURS</u>	<u>FRI</u>	<u>SAT</u>
27	28 Hour of Prayer Chokoloskee Church of God 7 pm	29	30 Ladies Coffee City Seafood 8 am	31 New Year's Eve	JAN 1 <u>RAPPER</u> Happy New Year!	2
3	4 Hour of Prayer Holy Family Catholic Church 7 pm ESHP Meeting 8:30 am, City Hall	5 Congressional Aide City Council Meeting <i>see p.3</i>	6 Ladies Coffee Sweet Mayberry's Café, 8 am FME Meeting 3:30 pm City Hall	7	8 ESHP Movie Night <i>see p.3</i>	9 Museum Reception <i>see p.9</i> COG BBQ Dinner <i>see p.3</i>
new moon ○ 10	11 Hour of Prayer Everglades Community Church 7 pm OFCD Meeting <i>see p.3</i>	12 ReachOut 9:00 am City Hall	13 Ladies Coffee Island Café 8 am	14 Lions Club Meeting 6 pm Oyster House	<u>RAPPER</u> 15	16 Art-in-Glades <i>see p.3</i>
17	18 Hour of Prayer Copeland Baptist Church 7 pm	19 Town Hall Meeting <i>see p.3</i>	20 Ladies Coffee Havana Café 8 am	21 Everglades Book Club <i>see p.3</i> SAC Meeting <i>see p.5</i>	22 School Homecoming	23 Pancake Fly-In Festival in the Woods <i>see p.3</i>
full moon ● 24	25 Hour of Prayer Chokoloskee Church of God 7 pm	26	27 Ladies Coffee City Seafood 8 am	28	<u>RAPPER</u> 29 ECC Lasagna Dinner	30

Feb 5: Movie Night
Feb 23-27: MSD Festival
Mar 5: Aquafest

Feb 6-7: Turkey Shoot
Feb 26: ESHP Talk / BBQ
March 12: Art-in-the-Glades

Feb 12-14: Seafood Festival
Feb 27: Swamp Cabbage Fest / ORA Bazaar / Antique Autos
Mar 13: Annual Everglades Bike Ride
Feb 20: Everglades Ultra

THRIFT SHOP: Tues, Thurs & Sat, 11 am – 3 pm
LIONS CLUB: 2nd Thurs, 6 pm, Oyster House
DR DEMARTINO: Friday, 1:30-4:30 pm
DR MARTIN: Mon, 8 am-6 pm; Community Center
AA: Wed, 5:00 pm, Community Church
HEALTHY EATING: Tues, 5 to 6 pm, Community Church
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: 3rd Tuesday, 9:00 am, City Hall
LITTLE GATOR CLINIC: Re-opens in March
FOOD PANTRY: Wed, 12 n to 2 pm, Community Church
EVERGLADES AL-ANON: Thurs, 12 noon, City Hall
VETERANS SUPPORT: First Fri, 10 am, Com. Church
SMALLWOOD STORE: Daily, 11 am to 5 pm
PANCAKE FLY-IN: Jan 23, Feb 20, Mar 19

SHERIFF AT CITY HALL: Tuesdays (10-11 am) CHAMBER OF COMMERCE: Mon–Thurs (9 am to 2 pm); Fri-Sat (9 am to 3 pm)

POST OFFICE HOURS:
Everglades City (695-2174) Mon-Fri: 9:30 am to 1 pm and 2 to 4:30 pm; Sat: outside pick-up 3:45 pm
Chokoloskee (695-4468) Mon-Fri: 9:30 am to 1 pm and 2 to 4:30 pm; Sat: outside pick-up 3:30 pm
Ochopee (695-2099) Mon-Fri: 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

RESTAURANT HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

See page 11 for regular restaurant hours or call for holiday hours.

New Year's Eve

Beach Bar at City Seafood will have LIVE music with Raiford Starke from 3 to 7 pm

CLOSED: New Year's Day:
Camilla Street Grill

CONGRESSIONAL VISIT

Enrique Padron, District Representative of Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart, will meet with constituents in City Hall on **Tuesday, January 5**, at 3:00 p.m. For information, phone 348-1620.

CITY COUNCIL

The next meeting will be on **Tuesday, January 5**, at 5:30 p.m. in City Hall. If you would like to speak during Public Comments, you can sign up before the meeting starts.

Movie Night

Friday, January 8

The Everglades Society for Historic Preservation will show historical movies each month at 5:30 p.m. in the Jinkins Fellowship Hall behind Everglades Community Church. The first one is *Stories from Doris Reynolds*. The movies are open to the public and free of charge but reservations are requested. Phone Marya at 695-2905, or visit www.evergladeshistorical.org.

Chokoloskee Church of God

BBQ Dinner

Saturday, January 9

11 am – 3 pm, McLeod Park
For more information, call Hazel at 695-4566 or 719-0368

2016

PYTHON CHALLENGE

The Burmese Python Removal Competition runs from **January 16** through **February 14**. Rules, registration, prizes and events posted at www.PythonChallenge.org. For more information on Burmese pythons and other nonnative species in Florida, go to MyFWC.com/nonnatives.

STAR GAZING PARTIES

Big Cypress Preserve

January 9, February 6 and March 5 at 8:00 pm at the Big Cypress Swamp Welcome Center. For more information, t. <http://www.nps.gov/bicy/planyourvisit/astromy-programs.htm>. or call 695-1201.

Collier Seminole

January 9 at 7:00 pm and **March 5** at 7:30 pm

Regular park entrance fees apply (\$5 per vehicle). For more information, call (239) 394-3397.

Art-in-the-Glades

Saturday, January 16

10 am-2 pm, McLeod Park, 695-2905

TOWN HALL MEETING

County Commissioner Tim Nance

Tuesday, January 19

5:30 - 7:30 pm

Oyster House Restaurant

Everglades Book Club



The next meeting of the Everglades Book Club will be held on **Thursday, January 21**, at 9:30 am at Diana Pollock's home, 309 Riverside Drive. Everyone is invited to come and join in the discussion of the book *Gone Girl* by Gillian Flynn.

PANCAKE FLY-IN

Wings 10,000 Islands Tours will host a **free** pancake breakfast at the Everglades Airpark on **Saturday, January 23**, from 10:00 am to noon. For more info, call Chuck at 695-3296.



Festival in the Woods

January 23, 2016

Guest speakers, guided hikes and bike tours. Two new tours of the Merritt Pump Station have been added to the list of activities. The festival will be held in the Picayune Strand State Forest. Entrance is at the Sabal Palm Hiking Trail Trailhead which is 3.3 Miles East of Collier Blvd. on Sabal Palm Rd. For more information about the event, contact Heather L. Ferrand at (239) 690-8021.

OCHOPEE FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT

12/15/15: Vehicle Accident, US 41 and SR 29
12/15/15: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
12/15/15: Vehicle Accident, 55 Mile Marker I-75
12/16/15: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
12/16/15: Vehicle Accident, 47 Mile Marker US 41
12/17/15: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
12/17/15: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
12/19/15: Emergency Medical, 69 MM US 41
12/19/15: Brush Fire, 69 Mile Marker I-75
12/19/15: Vehicle Accident, 80 Mile Marker I-75
12/20/15: Vehicle Accident, 60 Mile Marker I-75
12/20/15: Emergency Medical, 77 Mile Marker I-75
12/20/15: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
12/21/15: Emergency Medical, 68 MM I-75
12/21/15: Emergency Medical, 63 MM I-75
12/22/15: Fire Alarm, Port of the Islands
12/23/15: Vehicle Accident, Plantation Island
12/23/15: Emergency Medical, S29
12/23/15: Emergency Medical, Ochopee
12/25/15: Emergency Medical, Chokoloskee
12/25/15: Emergency Medical, Ochopee
12/26/15: Emergency Medical, US41
12/26/15: Emergency Medical, 70 MM I-75
12/26/15: Emergency Medical, Chokoloskee
12/27/15: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
12/27/15: Emergency Medical, Chokoloskee
12/27/15: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
12/27/15: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
12/28/15: Emergency Medical, 63 MM I-75
12/28/15: Emergency Medical, Port of the Islands

The Ochopee Fire Control District Advisory Committee will meet at 4 p.m. on **Monday, January 11**, in the Port of the Islands Fire Station, located at 525 Newport Drive #C in Naples.

DOCTOR'S CLINIC

Dr. Kirk DeMartino will see patients in Everglades City every Friday from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. in the office behind the Fire Station. For more information, call (239) 642-5552.

Little Gator Clinic

The free walk-in clinic for youngsters will re-open in March.

THRIFT SHOP HOURS

The Thrift Shop is open every week on **Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday** from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. If you would like to volunteer, stop in or phone 695-2009.

CHRISTMAS TREES

Dispose of live Christmas trees by removing all decorations and placing them curbside. If the tree is more than six feet, please cut in half. Do not wrap trees in plastic or place in dumpsters. Christmas trees may be taken to any Collier County Recycling Drop-off Center for free disposal.

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SCHOOL NEWS

Everglades City School

phone: 377-9800 or 695-2561

www.evg.collierschools.com

IMPORTANT DATES

- Wed, Jan 6** Students return to school
- Thurs, Jan 14** Distribution of Report Cards
Financial Aid Information Night
- Mon, Jan 18** No School – Martin Luther King Day
- Thurs, Jan 21** SAC Meeting, 6 pm, Media Center
- Fri, Jan 22** Homecoming



Thoughts of a 4th Grader

Hi. My name is Taylor Mayberry and I am a fourth grader at Everglades City School. I am very proud and grateful to be growing up in Everglades City for many reasons. There are many people that make Everglades City such a fun and great place to live in. As I am writing this, I am lying in bed and we just got back from the community center where Santa came to visit and brought all of the kids presents.

There are a lot of other events that the people in our community help put together. For example, just last week we got to decorate the Christmas tree and eat cookies outside of City Hall with Mayor Sammy Hamilton and everyone in town. After decorating the tree my friends and I participated in the parade and passed out candy on the student government float. Mr. Ragusa and the Booster Club puts this event together plus the glow run after the parade. This event was a lot of fun!

The fun doesn't stop there because just two weeks ago Ms. Sue and the Collier County Sheriff's office put on their annual event, *Shop With a Cop*. At this event we all get our own personal cop to shop with. When we were done shopping we got to visit the people in the nursing home and sing Christmas carols.

Ms. Sue and the Collier County Sheriff's Office do a lot more for our community. They do movie night at the skating rink which is a lot of fun because we get to bring our blankets and pillows and watch a movie. When the weather gets nicer we are going to do movie night in the park. This Thanksgiving Aunt Dottie brought a turkey to our house for our family thanksgiving dinner and when she came in she saw my mommy in her pajamas! Also, for Thanksgiving, Coach Shannon delivered our shirts so we could run in the gobble run on Thanksgiving day. I got to participate in the 8 years and older run. We went around the park twice. Coach Shannon also does the summer camp with Temple and coaches soccer every Tuesday. Ms. June does the skating rink on the weekends so we can hang out with our friends on Friday and Saturday nights.

There are many more things that our community set up for us but I can't even say it all so I wanted to say thank you all for all that you do.

Taylor Mayberry is 9 years old and in the 4th grade at Everglades City School.



On December 22, Collier County PAL sponsored *Breakfast With Santa*. Mrs. Claus read them a story while they enjoyed a pancake breakfast donated by Island Café. Then each child got to spend some time with Santa, have their

picture taken and pick a couple of gifts from Santa's bag of toys. They also received an official certificate showing they made Santa's "Nice List" and will receive a letter from Santa.



Students and staff with the food collected by Everglades City School for The Harry Chapin Food bank.

Photos by Sue Gentry

SPORTS HOME SCHEDULE

www.evg.collierschools.com/sports



Boys' Varsity Basketball

- Thursday, Jan 7** Community Christian School, 6:30 pm
- Friday, Jan 8** Seacrest Country Day School, 6:30 pm
- Monday, Jan 11** Immokalee High School, 5:30 pm
- Tuesday, Jan 12** Donahue Academy, 7:00 pm

Boys' JV Basketball

- January 12** Donahue Academy, 4:00 pm

Girls' Varsity Basketball

- Thursday, Jan 7** Community Christian School, 5:00 pm
- Friday, Jan 8** Seacrest Country Day School, 5:00 pm
- Monday, Jan 11** Immokalee High School, 4:00 pm
- Tuesday, Jan 12** Donahue Academy, 5:30 pm

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for a complete list of the sports schedule.



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Florida Tales



"I remember it well"

by Chester Keene

Can't you see me now getting on the train at Childersburg, Alabama, with 8 children ages from 15 to one year of age? I'd put them on and get on last. I was 36 years old. So I created quite a stir with so many children. Abbie, God



Sarah Catherine Dorrough McDonald
1879-1967

bless him, he was my stand by. We changed trains in Birmingham. There in Meridian, Mississippi, these two red headed young men said just as I got on "I wonder if that's all?" I said no, this is just half; a chimney fell on the others and killed them. Boy, the coach was full and you should have heard the roar that went up. The conductor told the young men I guess you know now. He was a wonderful conductor and he helped me so much. I was sick and the children were hungry when we got to Meridian; I had one dollar. I gave Abbie 65 cents. He got 10 ham sandwiches, one for each of the children. I wanted one but had only 35 cents left. We crossed on the ferry. The engine backed the coaches on and we traveled 2 days and one night. I had fried a basket of chicken, a stack of pies and made cookies to go to Arcadia, La. I had everything crated and tagged to Mr. Mc in Arcadia, La. Bienville Parrish. We were a month sleeping on the floor and eating on a box. We had to buy a stove and I couldn't find out why we didn't get our household goods. I wrote to Lewis in Birmingham if he could find them. He did.

To be continued...

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

ARTICLES / PHOTOS

If you are interested in submitting articles or photos to be considered for publication in the Mullet Rapper, please email to mulletrapper@gmail.com two weeks prior to publication or call Patty at 695-2397.

Thank you to all our contributors!

Recipe for Good Eating

Chocolate Rum Dums

by Jackie Creveling



Ingredients: 1 (8 ½ oz) pkg chocolate wafers (crushed)
1 cup chopped pecans
¼ cup light corn syrup
1 cup confectioners sugar
¼ cup dark rum

Mix all ingredients; shape into balls and roll in confectioners sugar.

Note from Jackie: I got this recipe from one of my husband's milk route customers 57 years ago. We had just started dating. I served them at a Christmas party and had so many compliments, I told them I would submit the recipe to The Mullet Rapper.

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



MUSEUM of the Everglades

Pauline Reeves Gallery

"Phlorida Photos" by Tommy Owen

Tommy has lived his whole life in and around the natural wonders of the Everglades. His photographs have been exhibited in the Museum of the Everglades several times in the past. Please come join the Friends of the Museum for a reception to meet Tommy on **Saturday, January 9**, from 1:00 to 3:00 pm. The Museum is open Monday through Saturday from 9 am to 4 pm. For information about supporting our Museum and becoming a member of the Friends, visit FME's website at www.evergladesmuseum.org.



MSD Festival Scheduled for February 23 - 27

Marjory Stoneman Douglas (1890-1998) was an author, journalist and environmental activist. Her best-known work "*Everglades: River of Grass*" was published in 1947. It drew attention to the fact that water is the key to the Everglades and presented the concept that the Everglades was not simply a swamp to be drained for homes and businesses but a vital part of the ecosystem of South Florida.

The Friends of the Museum of the Everglades is hosting the annual MSD Festival with many exciting speakers, events and activities. On **Tuesday, February 23**, Captain Franklin Adams will discuss "*My Memories of Marjory*". He first met Marjory as a student when she was lecturing and later he became a close friend in "Marjory's Army" as he helped her give her speeches around the state. He is a true Guardian of the Everglades.

For a complete list of events, pick up a brochure around town or at the Museum. Many of the kayak/canoe trips, swamp walks and other excursions into the swamp have limited spaces available so call Martha at 695-0008 or stop by the Museum to sign up.

Rescue Monroe Station

Monroe Station is one of the few remaining rest stops along the Tamiami Trail that Barron Collier built in 1928 to help motorists along the new gravel road across the Everglades. The building at the corner of Loop Road & US41, about 20 miles east of SR29 on the way to Miami, was later expanded and became a popular meeting place for hunters and travelers in this isolated rural area. It finally closed and has been dormant, decaying, a sorry eyesore to those who remember its heyday. A movement to rescue Monroe Station is now under way. The local Everglades Society for Historic Preservation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit, is working to raise funds. You can learn more and make a donation online as a tax deduction at www.evergladeshistorical.org. To discuss this project, phone Marya at (239) 695-2905.





Fishing the Ten Thousand Islands in January

Happy New Year! Fishing this January should be great. The usual patterns may not work, but the fishing is still great. I usually fish a jig more this time of year and I believe that will still work really well. A slow retrieve will work best. Bump it along the bottom. This will produce everything from Snook, Reds, Trout, Black Drum, Snapper, Sheepshead and of course Jacks and Ladyfish. Action should be plentiful as the water temps have not dropped too low. If it is Seatrout you are after, then the Grasses are the place to fish. The bigger Trout finally moved in and a popping cork rigged with a 1/4 or 1/2 oz DOA shrimp will produce as good, or better, than live shrimp. Fishing the grass flats is a great way to spend a few hours. Not only the Trout but Snapper, Mackerel, and Blue Fish will create some action but you just might hook a Tarpon or Cobia doing the same thing. These can all be caught on both incoming and falling tides, you just need moving water.

The inshore fishing around the islands will be best on the incoming tide. Work shorelines that have oysters for Reds and Black Drum. Use a live shrimp on the bottom or a foot under a popping cork. A jig tipped with shrimp is another great way to work the shorelines. You should be able to see the Drum working the shallow water on the incoming tide. You will pick up a few Snook doing this also. I had a young boy hook and land a 38" Snook on a live shrimp just a week ago. You never know what a shrimp will produce as everything likes a live shrimp. The back country fishing has also picked up. We are catching a variety back there also. Of course, if you like to cast lures then the back country Snook fishing is a great way to spend the day. There are also some real giant Reds in the back as I had a client land a 41" fish the 2nd week of December. I like using the soft plastic lures as the fish tend to hold on longer giving the angler a better chance when setting the hook. The DOA Baitbuster is one of my favorite Snook lures for this reason. The amount of bait and birdlife this past year has been incredible! This has created some great days on the water. Get out and enjoy! Till next time, good luck fishing.

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 www.everglade-angler.com

Three Panther Deaths

The remains of a 2.5-yr-old uncollared female Florida panther, UCFP256, were collected on December 15 on Corkscrew Road, 1.1 mile southwest of the junction with SR82 in Collier County. The remains of a 6-yr-old uncollared male Florida panther, UCFP257, were collected on December 16 on County Road 835, 1.6 miles south of the junction with Dooley Grade Rd in Hendry County. The remains of a 1-yr-old uncollared male panther (UCFP258) were collected on December 21 on SR29 at the Owl Hammock Curve 5 miles south of Immokalee in Collier County. The cause of death of all three panthers was collision with a vehicle. The last was the 40th panther mortality and the 29th road mortality for 2015. Please drive carefully in the southwest Florida rural area which is home to the Florida panther as well as other endangered wildlife. To learn more about the endangered Florida panther, visit FWC's website: <http://myfwc.com/conservation/you-serve/wildlife/panthers/>.



Living Gulf Coast

by Charles Sobczak

Fisheating Creek WMA (continued)

Location: 7555 U.S. Highway 27 North, Palmdale, (863) 675-5999 www.fisheatingcreekoutpost.com/

In 1989... The citizens of Glades County were outraged by the sudden and unexpected closure of one of the most popular fishing and outdoor destinations in their county.

Under U.S. law, any navigable body of water is open to use by the public. The question was this: Was Fisheating Creek a navigable body of water?

Within months paddlers, campers, fishermen, and hunters, as well as the local Sierra Club and the Calusa Group came together to form a nonprofit organization called Save Our Creeks. The group was a unique combination of environmentalists, hunters, and fishermen who felt they were about to lose access to this pristine stretch of water. The lawsuit over these riparian rights continued for 10 years until, on Feb. 19, 1998, Judge Charles Carlton ruled that Fisheating Creek was navigable, and by the laws and statutes pertaining to these rights, it belonged not to Lykes Brothers, but to the people. Lykes Brothers immediately appealed the judge's decision. To put an end to the court battle, the parties agreed to a settlement calling for the state of Florida to purchase a corridor along the creek under the auspices of CARL (Conservation and Recreation Lands Program) and using funds from the Florida Forever Act. The state purchased 18,272 acres, which became known as the Fisheating Creek Wildlife Management Area. The settlement came with stipulations that prohibit the use of motorized vehicles, airboats, and personal watercraft, along with some specific hunting regulations, which are posted on the website. Today Save Our Creeks is embroiled in a battle to connect Fisheating Creek to Lake Okeechobee. Although it comes within nine miles of the lake, the creek eventually widens out into a massive swamp known as Cowbone Marsh. Thick floating vegetation and a newly built weir prevent paddlers from making it all the way to the Big "O." Although most of Fisheating Creek is protected, there is always more work to be done to preserve and protect these wild waterways.

Charles Sobczak is a Sanibel author. For more information, go to www.indigopress.net. This article is an excerpt from Living Sanibel by Charles Sobczak.

MEMORIES

Elliot Grossman sent us this photo and caption:

In 1957 my father took me fishing in the 10,000 Islands when I was 13 years old. We stayed at the Rod and Gun Club in the actual hotel. The next day we went fishing with a guide and took this picture of me and all the fish we caught. Today my wife and I, along with our friends, the Nations, have a place on Plantation Island. We fish often just as I did with my father some 58 years ago.



From Savannah's Eyes

It's already the New Year! This means that I have officially been through two semesters at UF, and of course, I have many more to go! I am off for two weeks now and am overly happy to get to rest and be home! When I woke up the first morning I was surprised to hear birds singing outside my window, taking the place of honking and sirens. I'm so used to living up in Gainesville that coming here was a bit of a culture shock. But, I love, love, love being home with my friends and family.



The first day here I went to the school to visit my old teachers and some of the students. Time I walked into the office it all hit me at once when I was asked to sign in. I was an Alumna. My heart instantly broke, for no one will know how much this little school means to me. As I walked through the silent halls, I passed by each door looking in the windows at the students. I know I only graduated last year, but it seems like so much has changed. After visiting with the teachers and classes, I was called into my former History teacher's room to talk to her and another teacher from middle school. After discussing my experiences at college and telling them about the fun I'm having, one of them explained how much of an inspiration I am to all the younger students here. She said she uses me as an example to her classes, which by far made my day. They also said they wanted me to come back and speak, which I of course I will! After our chat, I was walking and finally met up with my friend/cousin Haleigh, the last bell echoed throughout the campus and students piled out of the classrooms, headed to the buses and the parking lot. Hearing that last bell struck me wrong and I instantly started tearing up nearly sobbing, as I remembered the feeling I had when the bell last rang for my final Winter Break of High School. Coming back was very bittersweet for me and hopefully I can come back one day and speak to all of the students here now.

Also Homecoming is coming up on January 22 and it will be my final time on the court as the returning queen. I will be crowning this year's Homecoming Queen! Please come out and support our Gators for the game and the lovely students (and Alumni) on Homecoming Court! With love always, Savannah

GLADES FOLKS

Camille Brock Baumgartner by her daughter Kelly Fitzsimmons
December 21, 2015

She came into this world screaming and returned that way. A rebel to the end, she refused most of her pain medication in hospice – taking the very long way home. She leaves behind two beautiful granddaughters, Brynn (9) and Reiley Anne (8); her daughter Kelly and patient son-in-law Jeff Fitzsimmons; her tirelessly devoted sister, Miriam Peterson; her “take no crap” brother-in-law, Carroll Peterson; and Miriam’s son, Tim Gowens, who put up with her cursing of God like the true Christian he is. She had countless admirers, a few close friends and a small circle who deserve an honorable mention – Dr. Rob Sanborn, Nanci “The Taz” Hollister and Deanna Lawrence – as they were bedside during her final hours... and what final hours they were.

Born Camille Myron Brock in Griffin, GA, on June 29, 1942, she was a world-class beauty and gifted artist. She would spend her early years living with her family in Barnsville, Rome and Griffin, Georgia. As a teen, she discovered the Delta Blues and recalled being “radicalized” by the Civil Rights Movement. In 1960, she entered the Miss Georgia contest, winning Miss Congeniality in spite of (because of?) her rendition of Miss Peach’s song “Fry that Chicken” in blackface. Shortly thereafter, she moved to Atlanta, working at Davidson’s in Lenox Square, where she was crowned the Queen of Davidson’s.

In her early twenties, she left for Miami, becoming one of the first Playboy Bunnies. She dated celebrities, partied with rock stars, befriended Larry King before Larry was King. Her stories were epic -- her life larger than life. After Playboy, she ran a houseboat bar that she dubbed affectionately “The Surfside 6.” Docked at the Racket Club, the famous and infamous would party there until dawn. It was on this houseboat she met a man who would change her life – John Robert Baumgartner (JRB), a retired entrepreneur living in Florida. JRB would introduce her to his son, Donald, whom she would wed in 1969 and join in Milwaukee, WI. In 1971, she would give birth to her only child, Elizabeth Keller “Kelly” Baumgartner, who she named after the Queen of England, Helen Keller (a reported distant relative) and Kelly Collins, the Playmate of the Century. During her Milwaukee years, she worked with Dr. Stephan F. de Borhegyi, then Executive Director of the Milwaukee Public Museum, one of the top natural history museums in the United States. She painted many of the Museum’s murals and totem poles of the Northwest Native American tribes in the early 1970s. Her signature was to paint the Native American women with ample, Playboy-worthy bosom, making her work easy to spot. In December 1977, she moved into a cottage in Everglades City, Florida, with Kelly and her foster son David Joslyn. Although David left soon afterward, Cam and Kelly stayed on the island together until 1981 – at which time Kelly moved back to Milwaukee to live with her father and stepmother, Donna. Camille would stay on painting the Florida Everglades, earning awards and collectors of her work, and generally raising hell. She was particularly proud of her later life-casting work, in which she cast and bronzed several elders of the Seminole tribe, actress Ethel Merman and civil rights activist Andrew Young.

A career alcoholic, as she liked to say, she found sobriety at the Willough in Naples, Florida. Her ex-father-in law, JRB, offered her a new Cadillac if she got and stayed sober. After a legendary 20+ year drinking career, she finally found that elusive sobriety. She would repay her gratitude to the Willough by working as a recovery counselor and driving the state of Florida doing its PR in that very Cadillac.

Returning to Georgia twenty years ago to “die on native soil,” she would find that endgame frustratingly far away. Her rheumatoid arthritis and complications from a ruptured Dow breast implant (for which she – she would like to add -- was never compensated) led to a long and grueling series of operations. One of her favorite pastimes was volunteering the unsought details and/or sharing graphic photographs of these surgeries to friends, family and strangers alike. Another favorite pastime was stripping naked at her doctor’s office, if she deemed the wait too long. (For the record, it worked.) Her doctors will surely miss her. Well, the ones she didn’t threaten to sue, that is.

During her years in Georgia, she worked at BA Framer before opening up her own shop, Boy Dixie Framing & Art Restoration. She did countless restorations for many of Roswell’s historic homes and museums, including Barrington Hall and the Smith Plantation. She loved her customers and enjoyed restoring oil paintings to the original glory... and then some. She couldn’t help “correcting” a flawed shadow or the prior artist’s technique. In the end, her work was often more re-interpretive than restorative. Regardless, her customers were happy and came back for more. Although the end of Boy Dixie was nearly as harrowing as her own passing, she continued to work for special customers from the porch of her home, known amongst friends as the Honky Tonk Museum. Her services will be held in the spring at the Honky Tonk Museum, complete with a requested firework display (pending the appropriate licensing from the State of Georgia), in which her ashes will be encased. Onlookers welcome.

REVIEW OF THE YEAR – 2015



The extension of the south taxiway at Everglades Airpark was completed. 1/2/15



Gov. Scott and family visited the Everglades Seafood Festival. 2/13/15, photo Sue Gentry



Pastor Glenn and Linda Cathey moved to First Baptist Church of Everglades. 3/13/15



Youngsters enjoy the new playground at Chokoloskee Church of God. 4/10/15



CCSO Crime Prevention Officer Sue Gentry was named "Citizen of the Year". 4/24/15



The Whichello family held a Golden Lion Motor Inn reunion in Ochopee. 5/8/15



Students graduated from Everglades City High School. 6/5/15



Principal Bob Spano, Museum Manager Jennifer Perry, and art teacher Paul Tribble at the annual summer exhibit of student art at the Museum of the Everglades. 6/19/15



The community enjoyed Hot Summer Nights hosted by CCSO. 7/17/15, photo Sue Gentry



Children and volunteers at the Reach Out Everglades Summer Camp. 7/31/15



Publisher/Editor Patty Huff took a cycling trip with husband Steve in Scotland. 8/14/15



Marco Sunshine Rotary Club landscaped two new bus shelters in Copeland. 9/25/15



Dorothy Anne Miller unveiled a plaque in memory of her sister Marjorie at the Ivey House where they grew up. 10/9/15



Former Pastor Eric and Juanita Weldon were feted at First Baptist Church. 10/23/15

Gone But Not Forgotten ...

- William Buffalo Tiger, 1/16/15
 - Joyce Rebecca Bowen, 2/13/15
 - Jared Stokes, 3/13/15
 - Marjorie Ivey Davis, 4/10/15
 - James D. Brown, 5/22/15
 - Lily Belle Perraud, 7/17/15
 - Emory Gene Fogle, 9/11/15
 - Graham Montier Potter, 9/11/15
 - Albert M. Felker, 9/11/15
 - Ruth Taylor, 9/11/15
 - Luciano Mazzonetto, 10/9/15
 - Olga Hirschhorn, 10/23/15
 - Bonnie Louise Wallace, 12/18/15
 - Camille Baumgartner, died Dec 21, 2015
- dates refer to Mullet Rapper issue*

RESTAURANTS



- Angler's Cove, Port of the Islands**
(642-1025): Tuesday thru Sunday,
Noon - 9 pm; *closed Monday*
- Camellia Street Grill (695-2003):**
12 noon - 9 pm; daily
- City Seafood (695-4700):**
6:00 am - 6:00 pm; daily
Supper Upstairs 6-9 pm; Thurs-Sun
- 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):**
7 am - 3 pm (Sun thru Wed)
7 am - 8 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; Fri thru Tues
closed Wed and 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):**
9 am-5 pm; Mon thru Sat
- Tastes of the Everglades (695-0075)**
11 am - 9 pm; daily
- Triad Seafood & Café (695-2662):**
10:30 am - 5 pm; daily
-
- Right Choice Supermarket (695-4535)** 
9:00 am - 7:00 pm; daily
-
- Grimm's Stone Crab (695-3222):**
8 am - 6 pm; Mon thru Sat
-
- Loco's Fresh Produce: (239-462-7050)**
next to the Everglades Post Office
7 am - 3 pm; (Thurs-Sat)



Mayor Sammy Hamilton accepts a \$7,500 check from Andy Hanson of the Florida League of Cities as a refund from insurance premium.

TIDES FOR BARRON RIVER

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

01/01 Fri	02:34	0.5	L
01/01 Fri	07:18	1.9	H
01/01 Fri	02:37	0.4	L
01/01 Fri	08:05	2.3	H
01/02 Sat	03:48	0.5	L
01/02 Sat	08:34	1.8	H
01/02 Sat	03:35	0.5	L
01/02 Sat	08:55	2.4	H
01/03 Sun	04:52	0.3	L
01/03 Sun	09:53	1.7	H
01/03 Sun	04:36	0.6	L
01/03 Sun	09:47	2.4	H
01/04 Mon	05:46	0.2	L
01/04 Mon	11:11	1.8	H
01/04 Mon	05:32	0.7	L
01/04 Mon	10:36	2.5	H
01/05 Tue	06:34	0.0	L
01/05 Tue	12:13	1.9	H
01/05 Tue	06:22	0.7	L
01/05 Tue	11:22	2.6	H
01/06 Wed	07:18	-0.1	L
01/06 Wed	01:00	2.0	H
01/06 Wed	07:09	0.7	L
01/07 Thu	12:02	2.7	H
01/07 Thu	08:00	-0.3	L
01/07 Thu	01:40	2.1	H
01/07 Thu	07:52	0.7	L
01/08 Fri	12:38	2.8	H
01/08 Fri	08:40	-0.4	L
01/08 Fri	02:18	2.2	H
01/08 Fri	08:33	0.7	L
01/09 Sat	01:12	2.9	H
01/09 Sat	09:19	-0.5	L
01/09 Sat	02:55	2.3	H
01/09 Sat	09:14	0.6	L
01/10 Sun	01:44	3.0	H
01/10 Sun	09:58	-0.5	L
01/10 Sun	03:33	2.4	H
01/10 Sun	09:55	0.6	L
01/11 Mon	02:19	3.0	H
01/11 Mon	10:38	-0.5	L
01/11 Mon	04:13	2.4	H
01/11 Mon	10:38	0.5	L
01/12 Tue	02:58	2.9	H
01/12 Tue	11:18	-0.5	L
01/12 Tue	04:53	2.4	H
01/12 Tue	11:24	0.4	L
01/13 Wed	03:45	2.8	H
01/13 Wed	12:00	-0.3	L
01/13 Wed	05:35	2.5	H
01/14 Thu	12:16	0.4	L
01/14 Thu	04:43	2.5	H
01/14 Thu	12:44	-0.2	L
01/14 Thu	06:19	2.5	H



Over 60 members of the Gulf Thunder Riders (from Port Charlotte) & friends enjoyed lunch at the Rod & Gun. These motorcycle enthusiasts come from Canada, NY, and all over the U.S., some visiting as early as 1965.

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SNOOK CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE: 2003 13ft Boston Whaler / EZ Load trailer, 2003 40hp Mercury / 2015 Minn Kota motor \$6100. 695-4236

FOR RENT: Office/warehouse for rent. ADA compliant full bathroom. \$600 per month includes water/sewer, electric. First/ last and security. (239) 340-4770.

FOR SALE: Homes, condos, vacant lots and boat slips. Glades Realty (239) 695-4299 - www.GladesRealty.com.

FOR SALE: 12' Aluminum boat with 3hp Johnson motor; runs well. \$500 OBO. For information, call 232-0074.

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

FOR RENT: Mobile home lot in Copeland. Electric power pole, sewer tie in hook up and mobile home pad already in place...1/14 acre lot. Rent \$350/month ...first and last month rent required. Lovely property for your new home. Rancho T Properties (727) 480-1640.

FOR SALE: Cabins #7 & #8 at Glades Haven. Call (239) 695-9142 or email at fishnw.mykee55@live.com.

FOR SALE: 1) Clyde Butcher photos; 'Florida Bay' framed 32 x 19" \$4800 OBO; 'Indian Key Pass' 1989, 16 x 11" matted \$1400 OBO. 2) Rentals available in Glades Bldg across from Rod & Gun; 1&2 bedroom furnished apts (use of private dock); 1 furnished office space. 3) Kawasaki Prairie360 \$2500; 4x4 autos w / front & rear racks, elec. winch, mud tires; under 700 mi. Call 695-4150.



PET PICS

Debra Trujillo sent this photo of Gretchen waiting for Santa

SNOOK CLASSIFIEDS

CONDO FOR SALE: 2bed/2bath located in Everglades City, waterfront complex. Gateway to 10,000 islands and a Fisherman's Paradise \$240,000 OBO. Call for open house dates (239-398-7990) www.FlexTeamRealty.com.

AM LOOKING FOR HOUSE TO LEASE OR BUY: Call Bill 695-0075.

FOR SALE: Classic 1990 Mustang, \$4000. Call 232-0074 or 719-0332.

FOR SALE: Naples Memorial Gardens. 2 burial plots, side by side in the Garden Of The Redeemer. Lot 107, 3&4. Both \$7,900. Craig Carlisle (352) 371-2164.

FOR SALE or LEASE: Waterfront Lot, 165 ft on the water; 60 ft dock; deep water. \$350,000 (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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We strive to present the facts accurately with no political bias or personal opinion.

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

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Ivey House B&B - Full-time Front Desk and Housekeeping Positions. Must work flexible days/hours. Call 695-3299 or email resume to fdsupervisor@iveyhouse.com.

Joanie's Blue Crab Café - A mature and experienced person to run a cash register part time after 11 am; also needed an experienced person in the kitchen prep area full time! Please call Joanie at 695-2682.

Glades Haven / Oyster House Restaurant hiring for Convenience Store & Restaurant: Cashier, Hostess, Food Runner, waitresses. Apply in person at Oyster House or send resume to gm@oysterhouserestaurant.com.

Tastes of the Everglades now hiring for a cook, servers and dish washers. For more information, Call Stuart at 695-0075.

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