

The MULLET RAPPER

What's Happening in the Everglades City Area

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P O Box 134, Everglades City, FL, 34139

Volume X • Issue #262

Car Wash Raises \$1240 for Families in Need



We want to thank the Right Choice Supermarket for becoming an impact partner with the youth from the Chokoloskee Church of God to help raise money for families in need. An impact partner is a business or individual who donates money or facilities to a group or organization who in turn use it for the good of people in need right here in our community. With all of us working together, we can unite to make a great impact in our community. Thank you, Petra at Right Choice, for helping. Your contribution has made an impact and difference.

If you or your business would like to sponsor a fundraiser, contact Jearl Brown at jearl695@yahoo.com. **Please help us make a difference!!!**

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AREA LOSES A FRIEND OF FAKAHATCHEE

by Kathy Brock & Patty Huff

Sadly, after a brave battle with cancer, we have lost one of our area's most beloved and respected residents. William "Vietnam Bill" Mesce passed away on April 25th. A professional photographer and Fakahatchee Strand expert, Bill came to the area from New Jersey to take photographs in the 1990's. He was so fascinated with the Fakahatchee, he moved to our area 28 years ago.

Bill Mesce became a founding member of the Friends of Fakahatchee in 1998 and headed tours and spoke to groups about the area he loved so much. His work and dedication to the Fakahatchee touched so many visitors and locals in a positive way. In 2014 he was awarded the prestigious Mel Finn award by the Friends of Fakahatchee in recognition of the dedication and the respect he earned from his peers over the years.

Prior to becoming a photographer and naturalist and moving to our area, Bill served in the military during the Vietnam War thus earning him the nickname



"Vietnam Bill," the name so many knew him by. Bill will forever be missed but his work and legacy will live on forever. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Bill's wife Pam and their entire family.

A memorial service will be held at the Environmental Center on **Webb Road in Copeland on Sunday, May 8, at 2:00 p.m.**

Bill Mesce, Naturalist, Photographer and Founding Member of Friends of Fakahatchee.

MAY - JUNE 2016

<u>SUN</u>	<u>MON</u>	<u>TUES</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THURS</u>	<u>FRI</u>	<u>SAT</u>
8 Mother's Day Memorial Service for Bill Mescce <i>see p.1 & 11</i>	9 Hour of Prayer Copeland Baptist Church, 7 pm OFCD Meeting <i>see p.3</i>	10	11 Ladies Coffee Island Café, 8 am	12	13	14 Cookout for Emergency Workers <i>See p. 3</i> McLeod Park 5:00 pm
15 Last Day of Stone Crab Season	16 Hour of Prayer Chokoloskee Church of God 7 pm		18 Ladies Coffee City Seafood 8 am	19	20 Nat'l Bike to Work Day <i>see p.9</i> Free Hike <i>see p.10</i>	RAPPER 21 full moon ● Fundraiser Dinner <i>see p.3</i>
22	23 Hour of Prayer Holy Family Catholic Church 7 pm	24	25 Ladies Coffee Island Café, 8 am	26	27	28
29	30 Hour of Prayer Everglades Community Church 7 pm	31	June 1 Ladies Coffee City Seafood 8 am	2	3 Graduation Ceremony	RAPPER 4

July 2: Independence Day Celebration
Aug 15: Back to School

Aug 5-7 No Tax Holiday
Aug 20: Primary Election

Sept 24: Blessing of Fleet

THRIFT SHOP: Sat, 11 am-3 pm
LIONS CLUB: 2nd Thurs, 6 pm, Oyster House
DR DEMARTINO: Friday, 2:00-4:30 pm
FOOD PANTRY: Wed, 12 n to 2 pm, Community Church
AA: Wed, 5:00 pm, Community Church
HEALTHY EATING: Tues, 5 to 6 pm, Community Church
CARNESTOWN Recycle and Trash: 2nd Saturday, 9 am to 1 pm

SKATING RINK: Fri, Sat, 7-10 pm
REACH OUT: 3rd Tuesday, 9:30 am, City Hall
LITTLE GATOR CLINIC: *Closed for the Summer*
MUSEUM: Mon - Sat, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
EVERGLADES AL-ANON: Thurs, 12noon, City Hall
VETERANS SUPPORT: First Fri, 10 am, Com. Church
SMALLWOOD STORE: Daily, 11 am to 5 pm

SHERIFF AT CITY HALL: 1st Tuesday (4:30 pm) Other 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 (239-695-2174) Mon-Fri: 9:30 am to 1 pm and 2 to 4:30 pm; Sat: outside pick-up 3:45 pm
Chokoloskee (239-695-4468) Mon-Fri: 9:30 am to 1 pm and 2 to 4:30 pm; Sat: outside pick-up 3:30 pm
Ochopee (239-695-2099) Mon-Fri: 8 to 10 am; 12 noon to 4 pm; Sat: Open for service 10 to 11:30 am

SHERIFF: 239-252-9300 CITY HALL: 239-695-3781 PUBLIC LIBRARY: 239-695-2511 CHAMBER OF COMMERCE: 239-695-3941
AIRPORT: 239-695-2778 FAKAHATCHEE: 239-695-4593 BIG CYPRESS: 239-695-2000 EVG NATIONAL PARK: 239-695-3311
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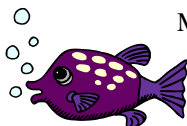
Community Events

Saturday, May 7th School Athletic Banquet

The Athletic Banquet will be held at Everglades City School Saturday at 5:00 p.m.

FISH FRY

Mayor Sammy Hamilton invites one and all to the Sixth Annual Everglades City Area 'Thank You Fish Fry' to honor the members of our EMS, Fire, & Sheriff's Departments and the U.S. Military. Please join us for a Community-Wide Fish Fry Cookout



Saturday, May 14, 5:00 p.m.
McLeod Park



Saturday, May 21st Fundraiser Dinner

Saturday, May 21st from 1 to 4 pm at Everglades City Park (McLeod Park).

You are invited to attend the fundraiser for Gator-Man Mike. He was forced to retire from a job he loved because of his battle with Stage-4 esophageal Cancer. His wife Joan, will be serving home-made lasagna, sloppy Joes, green beans and apple sauce. Cold water and soda will also be served.

You can make a donation by calling Joan at 239 695 2559 or by mail: The Gator-Man Mike Fund, 22777 State Road 29, Jerome, FL 34141, or make donations at the Park. Thank you.

CITY COUNCIL

The council is in recess. The next meeting will be on **Tuesday, August 2**, at 5:30 p.m. in City Hall.

BECOME A CONTRIBUTOR!

Join the Mullet Rapper team! Submit your articles, news, photos of your big "catch" or community information and we will include you in the next issue!



Museum of the Everglades Pauline Reeves Gallery

For the month of **May** Lynn Pierce's historic photographs of the Barron Collier days will be on display in the Pauline Reeves Gallery. Her family has deep roots in the beginnings of Collier County with her grandfather F.J. Frankenhoff, one of Barron Collier's key men who helped in the success of developing South West Florida. Her mother was valedictorian of the Everglades High School class of 1939. This exhibit will showcase family photographs from the roaring 20's and 30's in the then-bustling Everglades City.



Art-in-the- Glades

In celebration of Independence Day, Art-in-the-Glades

will be held **SATURDAY, July 2, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

We will be located under the pavilion in McLeod Park and you can watch the parade from there.

This is a great day for kiddies **and we need a face-painter!** There is more information at the links below (in the online edition).

[CLICK HERE](#) for a program.

[CLICK HERE](#) for a Patriotic Pets poster.

See you there ...

Marya Repko (239) 695-2905



JOIN THE PARADE!

The city is already planning for the Independence Day Celebration which will be held on Saturday July 2.

The theme of the parade this year is "Faith, Freedom, Family" so use your imagination to win one of the parade's entry prizes.

The categories for entry include golf carts, swamp buggies, floats *or whatever*.

The spectacular fireworks have been booked and the deposit paid. If you would like to contribute to the celebration, send a check to:

Everglades City Fireworks Fund
PO Box 110, Everglades City FL 34139
For more info, call Dottie at 695-3781.

OCHOPEE FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT

04/18/16: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
04/18/16: Fire Alarm, Everglades City
04/19/16: Emergency Medical, Copeland
04/20/16: Emergency Medical, Ochopee
04/20/16: Emergency Medical, Copeland
04/20/16: Brush Fire, Ochopee
04/21/16: Emergency Med, Plantation Island
04/21/16: Brush Fire, 74 Mile Marker I-75
04/23/16: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
04/23/16: Emergency Medical, Ochopee
04/24/16: Emergency Medical, Copeland
04/24/16: Possible Vehicle Fire, 54 MM I-75
04/26/16: Vehicle Accident, 57 MiM I-75
04/26/16: Vehicle Fire, US 4t of Port of Islands
04/27/16: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
04/27/16: Emergency Medical, Copeland
04/28/16: Emergency Med, 64 MI-75
04/28/16: Vehicle Accident,
US 41 W of Port of Islands
04/28/16: Vehicle in the Water, SR 29 and I-75
04/28/16: Emergency Med, Port of the Islands
04/28/16: Emergency Med, Port of the Islands
04/29/16: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
04/29/16: Emergency Med, Port of the Islands
04/30/16: Brush Fire, Copeland
05/01/16: Vehicle Accident, Ochopee
05/01/16: Brush Fire, SR29 & Wagon Wheel

The Ochopee Fire Control District Advisory Committee will meet at 4 p.m. on **Monday, May 9**, in the Port of the Islands Fire Station, located at 525 Newport Drive #C in Naples.

DOCTOR'S CLINIC

Dr. Kirk DeMartino sees patients on Fridays from 2:00 to 4:30 pm at the Everglades Community Center. Please call (239) 642-5552 for an appointment.

SPORTS PHYSICIAN

Dr. John Martin is in the office at the Everglades Community Center on Mondays & Wednesdays 10 am to 2 pm, then 3 pm to 6 pm. Call (813) 787-9738 or email martinjohndr@gmail.com.

THRIFT SHOP

The Thrift Store is open on Saturdays from 11 am to 3 pm, located behind the fire station. **Please do not leave items on the porch where they will get damp.**

EVERGLADES DIRECTORY

The New Everglades Directory is available for sale at City Hall, Right Choice Supermarket and the Thrift shop.
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SCHOOL NEWS

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www.evg.collierschools.com

IMPORTANT DATES EVERGLADES CITY SCHOOL

- May 7: Athletic Sports Banquet
- June 3: Graduation
- June 7: Last Day for Students



"Small Town Taylor"

by Taylor Mayberry

I can't wait to go to school tomorrow! Why? The baby quails are hatching probably as I am typing this. Let me explain for those of you who don't know what we are doing in our class. Mrs. Whitcomb's class, the fourth grade, and Mr. Dalhke have purchased an incubator to hatch quail eggs.

In order to make sure that the eggs are healthy the incubator provides a safe and warm environment so the eggs can grow and, hopefully, hatch. Well, today when we checked on our eggs we saw that there were cracks on some of the eggs. I am excited to find out if the

eggs are going to hatch so I am going to bed now. I will tell you if they hatch tomorrow...

I have good news! The quails hatched today! We actually got to see them hatch - it was amazing! They are so cute! Four out of thirteen eggs hatched so far. They're so little they have a hard

time standing. I can't wait to watch them grow and take care of them in the classroom. I am so glad we got to see them hatch. Baby animals are the cutest!

With lots of love,

♥ Taylor

Taylor Mayberry is 10 years old, in the 4th grade, and attends Everglades City School.



4th Grade Teacher, Mrs. Whitcomb Holds a Baby Quail Chick

Local Youths Get Decked Out for Prom Celebration!



Everglades City high school students, grades 9-12, enjoyed the Prom Night celebration on April 9th, decked out in their dresses and dapper evening wear! Congratulations to all of our local students for another successful school year.

Thank you to Emilie Brown for submitting these great photos!



The group mugs for the camera before the nights' activities in Marco Island

Everglades City School Students Honored by Optimist Club of Naples

Principal Jim Ragusa is pictured below with Jaya Osceola (7th grade) and Trenton Mayberry (6th grade) after the Everglades City School students were presented awards by the Optimist Club of Naples for their generosity and willingness to help others in need.

Also honored but not present was Rufina Zuniga (8th grade).



Congratulations! We are very proud to have each of you as a member of our community.

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SUMMER READING

by Marya Repko



Take a virtual vacation while you lounge by the pool or inside in the cool, courtesy of the books by Bob Morris. This

Florida author sends his hero Zack Chasteen to the Bahamas, Jamaica, and Bermuda where trouble brews once he gets there. A former footballer with a knee injury, he has oodles of self-confidence, a quirky Taino mate, and a sophisticated British girlfriend.

In the various episodes they come up against a kidnap gang, a high-flying resort owner, and a marine treasure hunter. Of course, it all turns out OK in the end or there would not be sequels in this series which started in 2004.

The author is a fourth-generation Floridian and was a journalist with the Fort Myers *News-Press*, among other publications. His style is brisk, sometimes a bit raunchy, and the local color of each place is almost as good as a travelogue. For info, see his website: www.bobmorris.net. Some of his titles are available at the Collier County Public Library.

OOPS!

Correction: Lt. Jake Walker was incorrectly identified as Lt. Scott Walker in the April 22nd issue, we apologize for the error.

BECOME A CONTRIBUTOR!

If you are interested in submitting articles, photos or events to be considered for publication in *The Mullet Rapper*, please email to: mulletrapper@gmail.com two weeks prior to publication.



Recipe for Good Eating

Spring Pasta Dish

submitted by Patty Huff

Ingredients:

6 TBS EVOO (extra virgin olive oil), separated
Small onion (diced)
2 lbs. zucchini (sliced)
2 cloves of garlic (minced)
2 cups of fresh basil
1 lb. ziti pasta
1 cup ricotta
Crushed red pepper, lemon zest, Parmesan cheese, Salt & pepper

Sauté onions in 3 TBS olive oil until translucent; add zucchini, season with salt & pepper, and cook until zucchini is soft; turn off heat.

In a small food processor, mix garlic and basil; add 3 TBS olive oil.

Cook ziti in boiling salted water al dente; drain and save 1 cup of cooking water. Add pasta to zucchini and cook on medium-high heat; add half of cooking water, then ricotta, crushed red pepper and lemon zest. Cook for another minute until creamy (add more water as needed). Stir in garlic/basil mixture and half of grated cheese. Serve immediate with Parmesan cheese on the side.



My Little Slice of Paradise

by Kathy Brock

Plant Some Color for Curb Appeal



The Everglades City area is a fairly hostile environment for many plants. The marl soil is problematic for plants that cannot tolerate wet conditions, and the salt air can also damage delicate foliage. Not to mention the flooding! When we get those Spring and Fall tides, that is when you will discover whether your plantings have the ability to survive here.

A couple of things we have done (thank goodness my husband Tim helps...a lot!) to offset some of these issues is by elevating our plantings in planter boxes and selecting plants that can tolerate the summer rains. Wet conditions not only provide water...but they also can cause problems like fungi and root rot. This is when the elevated planters are particularly helpful. They also make it easier to weed...no bending or squatting is needed to reach the soil bed.

A potential drawback of the raised planter is that they will dry out if you are not here to water them regularly. Since we are only here on weekends, this is a concern for us. Our solution for this is to select plants that can tolerate a good watering once weekly during the dry months before mother nature takes over in the summer. When you purchase plants from the local nursery, look for those that match the conditions of your particular planting environment. This will make your gardening life much easier *and the results much more satisfying. Happy growing!*

Epidendrum Radicans (Ground Orchids) Photo by Tim Brock

Ten Thousand Islands National Wildlife Refuge



While Ten Thousand Islands National Wildlife Refuge encompasses more than 35,000 acres, most of that acreage is either saltwater or uninhabitable and un-traversable mangrove forest. This immense refuge is part

of the largest unbroken mangrove forest in North America, bordered to the west by the 110,000-acre Rookery Bay and to the east by the 1.5-million-acre Everglades National Park. This forest is comprised of predominantly red mangroves, or “the walking trees” as they are sometimes called, but also has black, white, and buttonwood mangroves. All of these trees have the capacity to flourish in brackish or saltwater environments.



Marsh Trail View Courtesy Collier Chamber of Commerce

The best way to see this watery expanse of mangrove forest is by canoe or kayak. Primitive camping is allowed on Panther Key and Round Key but not on any of the other beaches and keys found along the southern fringe of the refuge. There are multiple accesses to this maze of tidal creeks, mangrove islands, and islets: via the boat launch at Goodland, the nearby Collier-Seminole State Park, the Port of the Islands Marina located at the top end of the long, straight manmade Faka Union Canal, Everglades City, and several stops along U.S. 41.

The only way to see any of the refuge on foot is via the Marsh Trail, which lies approximately 2½ miles east of where County Road 92 (aka San Marco Road) enters U.S. 41 from the south. A round-trip hike on this trail is 2.2 miles. Roughly three-tenths of a mile from the spacious parking lot is an observation tower that overlooks this grand expanse of tiny mangrove islets and brackish waters. Look for schools of finger mullet dancing across the surface, wading birds such as little green herons, tri-colored herons, and great egrets. Alligators can also be spotted along the way, as can raptors such as osprey, bald eagles, and red-shouldered hawks. The trail itself is an abandoned oil-well road and is high and dry even during the summer rainy season. It is also an excellent biking trail. There are four marked canoe trails in the immediate region. A small canoe/kayak launch is located just off the parking area.

For avid birders it is best to visit this site at dawn or dusk. If you continue past the observation tower down the trail approximately six tenths of a mile you will come to one of the

largest roosting sites in Florida. Over 5,000 herons, egrets, spoonbills and limpkins gather along the west edge of the trail every evening. The noise they make is nothing short of astonishing and the roosting area continues along the trail for several blocks.

Hiking the short Marsh Trail, then continuing east roughly five miles and hiking the Big Cypress Bend boardwalk into the Fakahatchee Strand State Preserve provides an interesting study in contrasting ecosystems. The mangroves of the Ten Thousand Islands rarely reach 35 feet in height, while the ancient bald cypress in the Fakahatchee top 100 feet and tower over the boardwalk. The Marsh Trail is open and the views endless, while the Big Cypress Bend boardwalk cuts through a dense swamp of pond apple, strangler fig, and bald cypress trees. Seeing the difference back to back is a great way to spend a sunlit morning.

If you plan to head into some of the tidal rivers in this area, it's a good idea to carry a reliable hand-held GPS for navigation, as well as plenty of fresh water, insect spray, and rain gear. After a while every mangrove island and mangrove-covered point looks exactly the same as the last one, and finding your way out might turn out to be a lot harder than finding your way in.



Reddish Egret, White Morph Photograph by Sara Lopez

If you come prepared, however, you will find a treasure of wildlife in the mangrove forests of the Ten Thousand Islands National Wildlife Refuge. More than 200 species of fish and 189 species of birds live here. During the summer, as many as 10,000 wading birds roost on a small island in Pumpkin Bay. The only hunting allowed is for duck and coot at designated sites and times, so conflict with nature lovers is kept at a minimum. Other sightings might include alligators, American crocodiles, manatee, and bottle-nosed dolphin. So grab your binoculars and your camera and start paddling: there are 10,000 islands left to explore.

To Go: 3860 Tollgate Blvd., Suite 300, Naples, FL 34114
Phone: 239-353-8442
35,000 acres / Admission is free

Charles Sobczak is a Sanibel author. For more information, go to www.indigopress.net

May is National Bike Month

National Bike Month, established in 1956, showcases the many benefits of bicycling such as saving money, preserving your health and exploring the outdoors as well as encouraging more folks to giving biking a try.



National Bike-to-Work-Week 2016 will be

held on **May 16-20**. Bike to Work Day is **May 20!** In 2008 Florida was voted "Best Trails State" by American Trails.

Parks & paths in SW Florida:

- Fakahatchee Stand State Park
- Collier-Seminole State Park
- Lover's Key State Park
- Delnor-Wiggins State Park
- Estero Bay State Park
- Gasparilla Island State Park

For more information, visit: <https://www.floridastateparks.org/activity-list/Bicycling>.

PANTHER DEATH



FWC recovered the remains of a one year-old, un-collared, male Florida panther, UCFP281, on 28 April 2016 at Okaloacoochee Slough WMA in Hendry County. The panther was discovered by hikers in the area and the cause of death was intraspecific aggression (aggression by another panther).

MUSEUM NEWS

By Marya Repko

About 400 people visited the Museum of the Everglades in glorious weather for the annual Birthday Party held on April 23rd. The day started



out with the arrival of beautiful, old vehicles from the Naples/Marco Antique Car Club. This was followed by a guided walking tour of historic buildings around town led by Museum acting manager Martha Hutcheson. Free hotdogs, drinks, and birthday cake

were served by the Friends of the Museum accompanied by music from Mitch Mitchell.

The culmination of the day was Story Telling about older times by a panel consisting of;



Jimmy Brewer, Arita Parker, and Franklin Adams. A special guest was Lynn Pierce whose grandfather F.J. Frankenhoff, worked for Barron Collier. She provided some of the historic photos which form part of the exhibit in the front gallery of the Museum about the building of the Tamiami Trail and life in Everglades City during the 1920s.

The Museum is open Monday through Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. There is no charge but donations are welcome. For information, phone [\(239\) 695-0008](tel:2396950008).



PARK NEWS

EVERGLADES / BIG CYPRESS

Tamiami Trail Triathlon

As we celebrate 100 years of the National Park Service in 2016, we encourage everyone to take the challenge to the next level! Complete 100 miles of hiking, biking and paddling in at least two of the four National Park units in south Florida during 2016. The miles don't need to be done all at once but do need to be completed in 2016.

Paddle: Starts at the Gulf Coast Visitor Center in Everglades City. Canoes will be provided or bring your own. Visit these websites for more information:

<http://www.nps.gov/ever/planyourvisit/gcdirections.htm>

Hike: Drive to the Big Cypress Oasis Visitor Center in Ochopee. www.nps.gov/bicy/planyourvisit/directions.htm

Bike: Drive to the final segment, being held at the Shark Valley Visitor Center. (\$20.00 entrance fee per vehicle)

<http://www.nps.gov/ever/planyourvisit/svdirections.htm>

For more information about the Tamiami Trail Triathlon:

Everglades: www.nps.gov/ever/planyourvisit/tamiami-trail-triathlon.htm **Big Cypress Preserve:**

<http://www.nps.gov/bicy/planyourvisit/tamiami-trail-triathlon.htm>



Centennial Coins Available to Commemorate National Park Service

The 100th Anniversary of the National Park Service Commemorative gold and silver coins celebrate the historic faces of the National Park System. The obverse (heads) beautifully shows the faces of those who worked to advocate and create the National Park System, Theodore Roosevelt and John Muir, as well as one of the National Park's more recognizable faces – the face of Yosemite National Park's Half Dome. The reverse (tails) features the iconic logo of the National Park Service, which greets every visitor to our National Parks. Available with both proof and uncirculated finishes. For more information: <http://catalog.usmint.gov/national-park-service-commemorative-silver-dollars/>

CARACARA PRAIRIE PRESERVE FREE HIKE

Friday, May 20, 8 – 11 am

Conservation Collier is offering a free guided hike led by volunteer Master Naturalists. Hikers will meet at the CREW Cypress Dome Trailhead at 8 a.m. for a pre-hike safety meeting; begin hiking promptly at 8:30 a.m. Directions: Take Interstate 75 North to the Corkscrew Road Exit (Exit 123). Travel east on Corkscrew Road (CR 850) approximately 14.5 miles. To register, call (239) 252-2961 or visit www.colliergov.net/conservationcollier for more information. Group hike limited to 20 people.

TOURISM BIG BOON TO AREA ECONOMICS

Ochopee, Florida – A new National Park Service (NPS) report shows that 1,112,290 visitors to Big Cypress National Preserve in 2015 spent \$87,185,700 in communities near the park. That spending supported 1,225 jobs in the local area and had a cumulative benefit to the local economy of \$124,524,400.

“Big Cypress welcomes visitors from across the country and around the world,” said Superintendent Tamara Whittington. “We are one of the most visited national park areas in Florida, and are delighted to share the story of this place and the experiences it provides. We also feature the preserve as a way to introduce our visitors to this part of the country and all that it offers. National park tourism is a significant driver in the national economy, returning \$10 for every \$1 invested in the National Park Service, and it’s a big factor in our local economy as well. We appreciate the partnership and support of our neighbors and are glad to be able to give back by helping to sustain local communities.”

The peer-reviewed visitor spending analysis was conducted by economists Catherine Cullinane Thomas of the U.S. Geological Survey and Lynne Koontz of the National Park Service. The report shows \$16.9 billion of direct spending by 307.2 million park visitors in communities within 60 miles of a national park. This spending supported 295,000 jobs nationally; 252,000 of those jobs are found in these gateway communities. The cumulative benefit to the U.S. economy was \$32 billion.

According to the 2015 report, most park visitor spending was for lodging (31.1 percent) followed by food and beverages (20.2 percent), gas and oil (11.8 percent), admissions and fees (10.2 percent) and souvenirs and other expenses (9.8 percent).

The interactive tool and report are available at the NPS Social Science Program webpage: go.nps.gov/vse.


The report includes information for visitor spending at individual parks and by state.

To learn more about national parks in Florida and how the National Park Service works with Florida communities to help conserve the environment, and provide outdoor recreation, go to www.nps.gov/florida.



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):**
Closed for the Summer
- Island Café (695-0003):** 6:00 am - 9:00 pm; daily
- Ivey House (695-3299):** 6:30 - 9:30 am; daily
- Joanie's Blue Crab Café (695-2682):** 11:00 am - 5:00 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 - 8:00 pm; daily
- Subway at Gator Express (695-3937):** 7:00 am - 7:00 pm; daily
- Sweet Mayberry's Café (695-0092):** 11 am - 5 pm; Mon thru Sat
- Tastes of the Everglades (695-0075)** 11 am - 8 pm; daily
- Triad Seafood & Café (695-2662):**
Closed for the Summer

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

Grimm's Stone Crab (239-695-3222): 8 am - 5 pm; Mon thru Sat

Loco's Fresh Produce: (239-462-7050)
next to the Everglades Post Office
7 am - 3 pm; (Thurs-Sat)

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**
9:45 am Sun. School, 11 am Sun Worship
- 1st Baptist Church of Everglades City**
9:45 am Sunday School, 11 am Worship
6 pm Sunday, 6 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

FISHING REGULATIONS

May-Aug-Snook Season Closed
May 16-Oct 14-Stone Crab Season Closed
Aug 6-Spiny Lobster Season Opens
View full schedule:
<http://myfwc.com/fishing/saltwater/recreational/>

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

05/07 Sat	03:59AM	2.7	H
05/07 Sat	10:43AM	0.5	L
05/07 Sat	03:16PM	3.4	H
05/07 Sat	11:25PM	-0.5	L
05/08 Sun	04:53AM	2.6	H
05/08 Sun	11:27AM	0.6	L
05/08 Sun	03:55PM	3.3	H
05/09 Mon	12:13AM	-0.5	L
05/09 Mon	05:51AM	2.5	H
05/09 Mon	12:12PM	0.7	L
05/09 Mon	04:39PM	3.2	H
05/10 Tue	01:03AM	-0.4	L
05/10 Tue	06:51AM	2.4	H
05/10 Tue	01:01PM	0.7	L
05/10 Tue	05:32PM	3.0	H
05/11 Wed	01:57AM	-0.2	L
05/11 Wed	07:51AM	2.3	H
05/11 Wed	01:59PM	0.8	L
05/11 Wed	06:38PM	2.8	H
05/12 Thu	02:55AM	-0.1	L
05/12 Thu	08:52AM	2.2	H
05/12 Thu	03:11PM	0.9	L
05/12 Thu	07:56PM	2.5	H
05/13 Fri	03:57AM	0.1	L
05/13 Fri	09:52AM	2.2	H
05/13 Fri	04:33PM	0.8	L
05/13 Fri	09:15PM	2.3	H
05/14 Sat	05:01AM	0.2	L
05/14 Sat	10:49AM	2.3	H
05/14 Sat	05:48PM	0.7	L
05/14 Sat	10:33PM	2.2	H
05/15 Sun	06:00AM	0.3	L
05/15 Sun	11:36AM	2.4	H
05/15 Sun	06:49PM	0.6	L
05/15 Sun	11:45PM	2.2	H
05/16 Mon	06:52AM	0.4	L
05/16 Mon	12:15PM	2.5	H
05/16 Mon	07:38PM	0.4	L
05/17 Tue	12:46AM	2.2	H
05/17 Tue	07:38AM	0.5	L
05/17 Tue	12:48PM	2.6	H
05/17 Tue	08:21PM	0.3	L
05/18 Wed	01:33AM	2.3	H
05/18 Wed	08:20AM	0.5	L
05/18 Wed	01:20PM	2.8	H
05/18 Wed	09:00PM	0.1	L
05/19 Thu	02:14AM	2.3	H
05/19 Thu	08:59AM	0.6	L
05/19 Thu	01:50PM	2.9	H
05/19 Thu	09:38PM	0.0	L
05/20 Fri	02:51AM	2.4	H
05/20 Fri	09:34AM	0.6	L
05/20 Fri	02:19PM	2.9	H
05/20 Fri	10:14PM	-0.1	L
05/21 Sat	03:28AM	2.4	H
05/21 Sat	10:08AM	0.7	L
05/21 Sat	02:46PM	3.0	H
05/21 Sat	10:50PM	-0.2	L

OBITUARY

William D. ("Vietnam Bill") Mesce, age 68, passed away on April 25 after a brave battle with cancer.



After serving in the Marines, Bill was a successful commercial photographer. He visited Florida from New Jersey to take pictures but fell in love with the Fakahatchee and put down roots here 28 years ago. He was a founding member of the Friends of Fakahatchee in 1998 and led swamp walks in which he communicated his enthusiasm for this unique environment. He was given the prestigious Mel Finn Award by the Friends in 2014 for his dedication to the park (*Rapper, 4/25/14*).

Bill leaves his wife Pamela, mother Willie Mae (Billie), a son and two daughters, 5 grandchildren, two brothers, and many cousins, aunts & uncles. He is greatly missed by his family and friends.

A memorial service will be held at the Environmental Center on Webb Road in Copeland on **Sunday, May 8, at 2:00 p.m.**

Condolences can be sent to his wife Pam at P.O. Box 191, Everglades City, FL, 34139, and to his mother Billie at P.O. Box 314, Everglades City, FL, 34139.



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
www.evergladesmulletrapper.com

RAPPER CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE: WATERFRONT Stilt Home - 2BR/2 1/2BTH - Large Great Room opening onto 40' screened porch with beautiful views - extra large pantry to cut down on those shopping trips - dock with boat cover. Bob Wells Real Estate (239) 695-2660.

FOR SALE: Unique Opportunity! Location, location, location. Susie's Station on Town's circle. Building is 3,000 +/- sq. ft. with large porch. Great potential. Call Karen Cochran @ Glades Realty (239) 695-4299.

FOR SALE: Homes, condos, vacant lots and boat slips. Glades Realty (239) 695-4299 or 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. 1.25-acre lot. Rent \$292/month ...first / last month rent required. Lovely property for your new home. Call (727) 480-1640.

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

FOR SALE: Mobile home & lot on Plantation Dr. \$99,000. Please Call: (239) 232-0074.

Pet Pics



"Ginger" visits EC with her owners from Miami and enjoys a stone crab lunch at City Seafood!

RAPPER CLASSIFIEDS

WANTED TO RENT: Apt. or room for annual rental. Single gentleman, non-smoker. Please call (239) 687-6512.

LOT FOR SALE: Desirable large residential lot on historic South Storter. Includes architect's drawings for attractive cottage stilt house. hannahi@tidewater.net. (207) 380-4334.

FOR RENT: Cozy furnished 2/1 house. Seasonal at \$900/week or \$3,200/month. Call (508) 677-5136.

FOR SALE: Deeded Boat Slips in protected basin. Ramp available. Call Karen at Glades Realty (239) 695-4299.

FURNITURE FOR SALE: Moving, must sell! All solid wood roll-top desk, queen headboard and large entertainment center. Items located in Naples and priced to sell. Contact Sherry: (239) 455-1159

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

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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www.evergladesmulletrapper.com

JOBS & SERVICES

Joanie's Blue Crab Café: Mature and experienced person to run cash register part time after 11 am; also experienced person in the kitchen prep area full time! Please call Joanie at (239) 695-2682.

Everglades Adventure Center - Breakfast cooks, waiters/waitresses needed. Contact Bill: (678) 558-0002

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

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

Date: _____

Please make check payable to: K Bee Marketing, Inc., and mail to Kathy Brock, P O Box 134, Everglades City, FL, 34139

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5/7/16