

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 #264

Mayor Sammy Hamilton's Annual Fish Fry Honors Local Law Enforcement



Saturday, May 14th was the annual mullet fish fry organized by Mayor Hamilton to honor our local law enforcement, first responders, fire and rescue, City employees, and local veterans.

A good sized group of local residents and visitors - including one candidate for district 5 county commissioner - joined the event made quite a number of second and third helping visits to the fish and salads buffet that was provided by Island Cafe.

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GRADUATION EDITION! Congratulations to the Class of 2016!



2016Academic Award Recipients:

Tawny Wood – Excellence in Aquaculture

Lilian Pablo-Jeronimo – Excellence in Government

Savannah Humphreys – Excellence in Economics

John Kyle Osceola – Excellence in English 4

James Cole Dudley – Excellence in 12th grade Intensive Reading

John Kyle Osceola – Excellence in Drama

Dalton Stokes – Excellence in Drama

Tawny Wood – Excellence in 2D Studio Art 1

Dalton Stokes – Excellence in Drawing 2

Tawny Wood – Excellence in Port. Dev Drawing Hon



Graduating Class of 2016 (More Graduation News on Page 9)



LOCAL TEEN BLAZES HER OWN TRAIL

Tawny Wood is anything but predictable.

You see, Tawny is a bit of a trailblazer choosing a field dominated by men (until now!).

As a child, her love for motors started here in Everglades City as she watched and learned from her father, a motorboat mechanic who fixes crab boats up and down the west coast of Florida.

"He would put me in a box full of bolts, and I would sit there playing with them," graduating senior said. Tawny was born right here in Everglades City and attended Everglades City school from K-12. On June 3, Tawny will graduate as the salutatorian of the 2016 class. An achievement she attributes to her tenacity and drive. "When I have my mind on something, I get it done," she said.

Well, Tawny...we have no doubt that you will.

Congratulations, Tawny, and best of luck!

JUNE-JULY 2016

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
5	6 Hour of Prayer Copeland Baptist Church, 7 pm OFCD Meeting see p.3	7 Congressional Aide Visit, p.3 Student Art Exhibit- p.3,5 Meet Lt. Jake p.3	8 Ladies Coffee Island Café, 8 am	9	10	11
12	Hour of Prayer Chokoloskee Church of God 7pm Summer Camp, p. 3	14	15 Ladies Coffee City Seafood 8 am	16	17	RAPPER 18
19	20 Hour of Prayer Everglades Community Church 7 pm	21	22 Ladies Coffee Island Café, 8 am	23	24	25
26	27 Hour of Prayer Copeland Baptist Church, 7 pm OFCD Meeting see p.3	28	9 Ladies Coffee City Seafood 8 am	30	JULY 1	RAPPER 2 Independence Day Celebration, See p. 3
3	4 Hour of Prayer Chokoloskee Church of God, 7pm Independence Day	5	6 Ladies Coffee Island Café, 8 am	7	8	9

July 18-21: Summer Camp 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: Meetings to Resume in Fall

DR DEMARTINO: Closed for the Summer Season

DR MARTIN: Mon & Wed, 10 am-2 pm & 3-6 pm; Com. 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, 9:30 am, City Hall

LITTLE GATOR CLINIC: Closed for the Summer Season FOOD PANTRY: Wed, 12 n to 2 pm, Community Church EVERGLADES AL-ANON: Thurs, 12noon, City Hall VETERANS SUPPORT: First Fri, 10 am, Com. Church

SMALLWOOD STORE: Daily, 11 am to 5 pm

PANCAKE FLY-IN: Closed for the Summer Season

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 Mon-Fri: 9:30 am to 1 pm and 2 to 4:30 pm; Sat: outside pick-up 3:30 pm Mon-Fri: 9:30 am to 1 pm and 2 to 4:30 pm; Sat: outside pick-up 3:30 pm Mon-Fri: 8 to 10 am; 12 noon to 4 pm; Sat: Open for service 10 to 11:30 am

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CONGRESSIONAL VISIT

Enrique Padron, District Representative of Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart, will meet with constituents in City Hall on **Tuesday**, **June 7**, from 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm. For information, phone 348-1620.

STUDENT ART EXHIBIT Tuesday, June 7, 2016 at 4pm.

While students at Everglades City School are getting ready for summer fun, their artistic work created during this school year will be displayed in the Pauline Reeves Gallery of the Museum of the Everglades during June, July, and August.

MEET LT. JAKE

Tuesday, June 7

Everyone is invited to meet the new CCSO District Commander for our area Lt. Jake Walker on **Tuesday**, **June 7**, at 5:30 p.m. in the Jinkins Fellowship Hall behind Everglades Community Church. Enjoy an informal casual gathering with friends while you chat with this welcome addition to our neighborhood policing force. See our last issue (*Rapper*, 5/21/16) for more info about Lt. Jake.

REACH OUT / C.O.P.S Summer Camp

Everglades City Community Center 9 am – 2 pm **June 13-18 & July 18-21** For information or questions please call Shannon Snyder at 239-961-0669 Registration forms will be sent home from school and will be available at City Hall.

COLLIER COUNTY COMMITTEE OPENINGS

The Collier County Board of County Commissioners is seeking applications for numerous advisory positions on committees (for a complete list and more information, visit the county's website): To apply for an advisory committee vacancy, submit an application online at Advisory Committee Application. Residents may also receive a hard copy application by visiting colliergov.net or by Wanda Rodriguez for information at: (239) 252-8400



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.



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. 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).

See you there ...

Marya Repko (239) 695-2905

FIREWORKS FUND PRIZE

Help your favorite business win a trophy!



Collection boxes for the Fireworks Fund are now around town!

The business that raises the most money for the July 2nd festivities will be recognized with a special trophy during our celebration!

So, put all your spare change (or more) and notes into the little boxes.

OCHOPEE FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT

05/16/16: Illegal Burn, Chokoloskee Island 05/17/16: Emergency Medical, Everglades City 05/17/16: Power Line Down, SR 29 and US 41 05/17/16: Brush Fire, 66 Mile Marker US 41 05/18/16: Brush Fire, 66 Mile Marker US 41 05/18/16: Emergency Med., Port of the Islands 05/18/16: Emergency Med., Port of the Islands 05/18/16: Emergency Medical, Everglades City 05/19/16: Vehicle Accident, 51 Mile Marker I-75 05/19/16: Emergency Medical, Copeland 05/19/16: Mutual Aid, Emergency Med., Cape Romano 05/19/16: Emergency Med., Plantation Island 05/20/16: Power Lines Down, SR 29 and US 41 05/20/16: Vehicle Fire, 69 Mile Marker I-75 05/21/16: Vehicle Fire, 52 Mile Marker US 41 05/22/16: Emergency Medical, Copeland 05/22/16: Emergency Medical, Ochopee 05/22/16: Vehicle Accident, 53 Mile Marker I-75 05/24/16: Emergency Medical, Port of the Islands 05/24/16: Emergency Medical, Copeland 05/27/16: Vehicle Accident, 50 Mile Marker I-75 05/24/16: Vehicle Accident, SR 29 and US 41 05/28/16: Vehicle Accident, 57 Mile Marker I-75 05/29/16: Emergency Medical, Plantation Island 05/29/16: Vehicle Accident, Ochopee

The Ochopee Fire Control District Advisory Committee will meet at 4 p.m. on **Monday, June 13,** in the Port of the Islands Fire Station, located at 525 Newport Drive #C in Naples.

05/30/16: Emergency Medical, Everglades City

05/30/16: Power Line Down, Ochopee

DOCTOR'S CLINIC



Dr. Kirk DeMartino will continue to see patients in his Marco Island Office. Please call (239) 642-5552 for an appointment.

SPORTS & FAMILY MEDICAL CARE

Dr. John Martin is in the office at the Everglades Community Center on Mondays & Wednesdays 10 am to noon, then 2 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.*

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SCHOOL NEWS

Everglades City School

phone: 239-377-9800 or 239-695-2561

www.evg.collierschools.com

IMPORTANT DATES EVERGLADES CITY SCHOOL

June 7:

Last Day for Students



"Small Town Taylor"

by Taylor Mayberry

We recently got to celebrate field day at school and it was fun! Field day is a day when the elementary school gets to go outside and do all sorts of fun activities.

First, the teachers took us out to the

baseball field and we did the obstacle course. The girls won. Then, we went to the fruit buffet. We ate apples, tangerines and grapes. It was good. I also had water. We poured the water on each other's heads to cool off.

After that, we went to the Hula hoop contest. It was my favorite activity. After five minutes of hula-hooping it was the final three who were left. In the final three was Pallas, Gabe and me. We were all trying to distract each other. I won first, Gabe won second and Pallas won third. I got a ribbon that said Evg. field day. Later after that we did limbo. It was very challenging but John Mark is very good at limbo and got first place. We were

all very surprised because of how tall he is but he is super good.

After all of the activities the fire truck came and my dad and the other firefighters sprayed us. It felt so good because we were so hot and sweaty from all of the activities we were playing. While they were spraying us my little sister Rylee came and was playing in the water too. After



we got sprayed by the fire truck we went to lunch.

At the end of the day my class went to the students' vs. staff baseball game. My teacher, Mrs. Whitcomb, played in the baseball game. My whole class was cheering for her and her husband, Mr. Whitcomb. It was a very fun game to watch. It was a good thing my clothes were wet because it was so hot outside. In the end, the teachers won the baseball game. After the baseball game it was the end of the school day so, we went back to our class rooms to get our backpacks and then we went home. Field day is so much fun.

I'm sad that next year will be my last year to participate in field day because I will be in fifth grade; my last year of elementary school. I can't wait until next field day!

With lots of love,

7 Taylor

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

COLLIER COUNTY MUSEUMS ANNOUNCES EVERGLADES CITY SCHOOL EXHIBIT

Everglades City, Fla. – The Museum of the Everglades is pleased to once again exhibit the artwork by students of the Everglades City School. Located right here in Everglades City and under the guidance of their art teacher Mr. Tribble, these talented students of all ages created some of the most amazing pieces of work this school year.



The exhibit will be displayed from June 1st through August 31st of 2016. An artist reception sponsored by the Friends of the Museum of the Everglades will take place on Tuesday, June 7, 2016 from 4pm until 5pm and will include refreshments. The reception is free to the public.

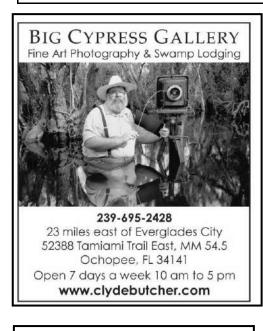
First opened in 1927 as a commercial laundry, today's Museum of the Everglades dates back to a time when construction of the famous Tamiami Trail was well underway and the tiny settlement of Everglades served as the first County seat. The museum's permanent and rotating exhibits provide visitors with an in-depth look at over 2,000 years of human history in the area and tell the story of those adventurous enough to settle Southwest Florida's lush "River of Grass". The Museum is located at 105 West Broadway Ave, in Everglades City.

For more information, please contact us at <u>239-695-0008</u> or visit <u>www.colliermuseums.com/exhibits</u>.

Photo courtesy Collier County Museum



Go to page 9 for Class of 2016 News!





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Meet Meg!

Everyone who goes to the Everglades City Post Office knows Meg, but you may not

know much about her. Although she's always friendly and says with a smile "have a wonderful day," Meg doesn't talk much about her personal life, until you ask. *The Mullet Rapper* welcomes newcomers in town, and we would like our readers to know more about them.

Margarita "Meg" Sotelo was born in



1957 in Erie, Pennsylvania, to a mother of German descent and a father who was a gastroenterologist from Colombia.

When Meg was just three, she moved to Colombia where her father continued his practice and her mother became a successful businesswoman with several clothing stores. The family had a large ranch which produced rice. Meg eventually married an attorney, Alvaro Ortiz, and they had a son in 1986 before moving back to Erie and then Pittsburgh.

After a few years the couple decided to return to South America; this time to Ecuador where Alvaro's family had the largest optical chain stores in the country. Meg and her husband purchased land and started growing and exporting flowers (roses) back to the U.S. Their daughter was born in 1989, and Meg studied business before opening her own optical shop. Eventually, the family moved back to Colombia but within four years they found themselves back in Erie before settling in Sarasota in 2006. Meg likes to keep busy so she opened a Peach's Restaurant. After working hard for nearly 10 years, Meg "retired" for just five months until she discovered that the U.S. Postal Service was looking for individuals. In October 2015 Meg was hired to work in the Marco Island branch and in January of this year came to Everglades City.

Meg enjoys playing bridge and tennis and is very proud of both her children. Her son graduated from Columbia University and now works at an investment bank in New York, and her daughter is in the process of moving from Austin, Texas, to New York to pursue a master's degree in education policy at Columbia University.

Welcome to the Community, Meg!

Recipe for Good Eating Super-Easy Key Lime-Mango Pie

by Kathy Brock

Mango Season is almost here, enjoy this quick-to-make, delicious pie!



Ingredients:

1/3 cup Key Lime Juice
1 can sweetened condensed milk
2 ripe mangos, sliced (just ripe, not too

1 pie crust, baked and cooled*

Pour the contents of the condensed milk into a bowl. With a whisk, mix in the key lime juice slowly until completely blended.

Peel, de-seed and slice the mango. Cut into bite sized pieces. Add one and a half

of the mangoes to the key lime mix, reserving the other half for the top. Pour into baked pie shell and place leftover mango on top. Cover with plastic wrap, touching mixture, and freeze the pie. Serve slightly thawed with whipped cream (if desired).

*You can use a standard crust or a graham cracker crust, whatever you prefer.

Royal Poinciana's on Display in June

The Rapper has written about the Royal Poinciana before, but they are so spectacular this year the blooming season cannot pass without mention.

The Royal Poinciana grows to about 40 feet tall and over 60 feet wide. The blooms range from orange to almost crimson red, like the one in Patty's yard.

They are native to Madagascar and can tolerate our area's conditions very well.



Patty Huff took this photo of her tree the week of May 25th.



From Savannah's Eyes

This past week I had a fellow Gator from UF come down to visit me in the Everglades. She was my roommate during the fall semester (and now one of my really close friends) and she came down to see what

the Everglades and surrounding areas hold!

She came up with a bucket-list filled with the things she wanted to accomplish in the next three days. The first thing on her list was to tour the city and the surrounding islands; Chokoloskee and Plantation. After chauffeuring her around on the golf cart, and acting as her personal tour guide, we were both getting quite hungry so we decided to head on over to the Island Café for some grub!

The next day was going to be jam-packed with adventures I had planned for us; the next thing on her bucket list was to go on an airboat ride. I haven't been on an airboat ride for years so I was actually pretty stoked myself! We went on over to Speedy's Airboat Tours where we met our guide Kevin Demere, who was a great guide and very educated on the backwaters of the Florida Everglades. After finding our spots on the airboat we put on our earphones to keep out the loud roar of the motor, and took off into the mangrove forest. I've never noticed how beautiful the Everglades truly is since I'm so used to seeing it every day, but going on this boat ride made all the difference. We drove through winding mangroves, passed by miles and miles of open sawgrass and even saw a few Florida Mallards so Kevin stopped and then articulated many surprising things about them! I have always been proud of where I came from, but after seeing this breathtaking side of the Everglades I've never been more delighted!

After the tour we decided to go out and do the next thing on her list, watch the sun set on one of the islands. My dad quickly got the boat all ready to head out on our trip. The tide was really low so we settled on an island that wasn't that close to shore but wasn't that far away to get to either. My mother brought her professional camera (and iPhone) to take pictures of us on the beach. After walking around the island, finding many shells and hot rocks, I felt my stomach rumble with rage as I remembered I had not eaten in *hours*! After proclaiming that I was incredibly hungry they then agreed with me it was time to head on back to shore to satisfy our intense hunger.

The next day when we both awoke we began touring the historical parts of town. We swung by the old Bank Building, City Hall, The Museum of the Everglades, and the Rod and Gun Club! I even took her to my old high school and showed her how small it was compared to what she's told me about hers. Then we ventured into the Everglades National Park to visit the National Park museum they have on the second floor of the building. I have probably been in there before but I had to have been very young since I don't remember anything about it!!

Finally, it was time for my friend to head on back home to get ready for her internship this summer in California. I am very glad she came down to visit, because it showed me a lot more to where I live and made me even more proud to live in this piece of paradise than I already am.

Can't wait to see where else this summer takes me!

email: mulletrapper@gmail.com

~Love, Savannah

Living Gulf Coast

by Charles Sobczak

American Oystercatcher (Haematopus palliatus) Other names: mantled oystercatcher, brown-backed oystercatcher. Status: FL=declining, species of special concern, IUCN=LC / Lifespan: to 14 years / Length: 16-

17 in. (40-44 cm) / Wingspan: 30-36 in. (7691 cm) / Weight: .87-1.5 lbs. (.39-.68 kg) / Nests on islands / Found: MZ, GB.

An unmistakable bird, both for its distinctive coloration and its large red bill, the American oystercatcher can be a difficult bird to locate on Sanibel and Captiva. It can sometimes be found working the oyster bars in Tarpon Bay or around Buck Key just east of Captiva. There are approximately 400 nesting pairs in all of Florida, with the largest



concentration occurring on Cedar Key during the winter months, where flocks of more than 1,000 have been reported. The oystercatcher is a very specialized bird, feeding almost exclusively on mollusks, including oysters, clams, and other bivalves. It has also been known to eat amphipods, crabs, barnacles, echinoderms, and, rarely, small fish. It uses its long, strong bill to pry open bivalves and, failing that, will hammer and chip away at the shellfish until the living organism can be Initially, the bird's decline could be attributed to consumed. overhunting, but it is no longer considered a game bird in any part of its range. Its biggest threat now is nesting-site and habitat loss, especially along the coastlines where it spends the entirety of it life. Other threats include predation by eagles and hawks, and its nests, generally on beaches or oyster bars, are sometimes preyed upon by gulls, raccoons, and otters. The oystercatcher is monogamous and a solitary nester.

Mangrove Cuckoo (*Coccyzus minor*) Other names: none / Status: FL=rare but not formally endangered, common in the Caribbean and Mexico, IUCN=LC / Life span: to 5 years / Length: 11-13 in. (28-32 cm) / Wingspan: 16 in. (40 cm) /

Weight: 2.29-2.5 oz. (65-72 g) / Nests on islands / Found: MZ.

Many South Florida birders consider a



Many South Florida birders consider a confirmed sighting of a mangrove cuckoo to be the Holy Grail of birding. A very attractive, long, and elegant-looking bird, the mangrove cuckoo is secretive and, because of its foraging environment deep in the red and black mangroves, it is extremely difficult to spot. It is a true tropical species that only recently has found a permanent foothold in

Florida, the only place in the continental United States where this bird can be found. More common in the Keys, the mangrove cuckoo has been seen along Wildlife Drive, though rarely.

The mangrove cuckoo feeds on insects and small vertebrates. Because of its reclusive nature, little is known about the Florida population.

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

Oystercatcher photo by Rob Pailes Mangrove Cuckoo photo by Bev Postmus



CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2016!









Donavin Osceola



John-Kyle Osceola



Dalton Stokes



Alex Thompson



Sierra Dungan



Savannah Humphreys



Lilian Pablo-Jeronimo



Tawny Wood

We are so proud of our school staff and our students. Everyone worked very hard to make 2016 a fantastic year. We look forward to following our nine graduates as they embark on the next chapter in their lives.

2016 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS:

Tawny Wood – The Marco Island Sunrise Rotary Club Scholarship	\$6000.00
Lilian Pablo-Jeronimo – The Forum Club Scholarship	\$1000.00
Tawny Wood – The Founders Fund Club Pelican Bay Scholarship	\$2000.00
John Kyle Osceola – The Naples Yacht Club Blue Gavel Scholarship	\$1500.00
Tawny Wood – The Naples Yacht Club Blue Gavel Scholarship	\$1500.00
Lilian Pablo-Jeronimo – The Pelican Bay Rotary Club Scholarship	\$1000.00
Tawny Wood – Lincoln College of Technology/Imagine America	\$1000.00
Lilian Pablo-Jeronimo – The Betterment Association Scholarship	\$1000.00
Tawny Wood – The Winged Foot Scholarship	\$5000.00

HONOR ROLLBOOK AWARDS

Savannah Humphreys John Kyle Osceola Tawny Wood

SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION BOOK AWARD

Savannah Humphreys

STUDENT OF DISTINCTION WALL-OF-FAME

Lilian Pablo-Jeronimo Tawny Wood

DUAL ENROLLMENT

Tawny Wood

CONGRATULATIONS!

email: mulletrapper@gmail.com

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www.evergladesmulletrapper.com

Fishing the 10,000 Islands in June

By Captain Mike Merritt



Well, after a windy May it is nice to have some days of low winds. Summer is here and so it is time to fish the summer patterns. Incoming tide will bring the best action as that is when you will find the water temps a little cooler.

Especially for Snook. This month generally produces some big fish and with warmer water temps these fish will stress easy so do your best to release them while they are still green.

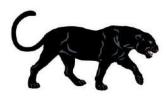
If it is Snook you are after this month then you might want to give top water lures a try early in the morning. Fishing the low incoming tide will increase your odds. Fish along the beaches or edges of the outer islands. The Snook will lay in the troughs feeding on the mullet. Speaking of Mullet, we just had an incredible number of small Mullet flood the flats and make their way into the islands. Fishing inshore will still produce Seatrout on the flats, Redfish around the islands and on the bars, and of course Tarpon out off the edges of the flats and offshore.

Wreck fishing in the summer can produce lots of action with Permit, Snook, Grouper, Cobia, and Jewfish being caught. Sharks have moved in with a vengeance, so if you want to tangle with a giant that should be no problem. Whatever you decide to target this month there should be plenty of good action. I always try to leave a little earlier and come in before the bad storms hit in the afternoon. Be careful and enjoy some great fishing this month!

~Capt. Mike Merritt

PARK NEWS

Florida panther released back into the wild at Big Cypress National Preserve



A 2-year-old Florida panther is now back in the wild at its new home in Big Cypress National Preserve. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation

Commission (FWC), and National Park Service staff successfully released the panther Wednesday afternoon near Gum Slough in the southwest corner of the Preserve.

The panther was originally captured by the FWC and USFWS on April 12 at the Farm Worker Village neighborhood, near Immokalee in Collier County.

For more information about coexisting with panthers, visit <u>FloridaPanthernet.org</u> and click on <u>"Living in Panther Country"</u> in the top left corner.

The Public Challenge to Improve Flamingo

By Bill Maxwell

Longtime visitors Flamingo in Everglades National Park have witnessed the gradual and unfortunate decline of the physical condition of the district's facilities after Hurricanes Katrina and Wilma in 2005. Many of these visitors have been waiting more than a decade to see some improvements in this vital fishing outpost they have grown to love.



The project is supported by American Express, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, National Geographic and the public. The Everglades is one of 20 national parks competing for \$2 million in grant funding from the National Trust. Grants will be awarded to parks that earn the most public votes during an online voting campaign from May 25 to July 5.

If the Everglades is selected as one of the winners, it may receive up to \$250,000, said Penelope Del Bene, chief of cultural resources for Everglades and Dry Tortugas National Parks.

"One of the things about Flamingo when it was originally designed was the intent to have a minimalistic architecture and cultural landscape that enabled the visitor to experience Florida Bay," Del Bene said. "So, that it enhanced the views of Florida Bay when you arrived. It wasn't the Visitor Center and its cultural landscape that you focused on so much but Florida Bay.

"The hope is to bring that back. Some of the trees are pretty tall, so we want to address those trees where we open it up in the manner it was originally designed to be. Other things that we will be doing will deal with damage from natural wear and tear in this environment."

Excitement for the plan is high in the park. The challenge now, though, is to get the public involved.

"Everglades National Park needs everyone to get behind this project, to help restore the Flamingo Visitor Center and create support for a larger rebuilding effort in Flamingo," said Pedro Ramos, superintendent of Everglades and Dry Tortugas National Parks.

To receive the funding to restore the Flamingo Visitor Center, the park and the SFNPT are encouraging everyone to go to www.voteyourpark.org and cast a ballot for the Everglades Individuals can vote once a day for their favorite projects through July 5.



RESTAURANTS



Angler's Cove, Port of the Islands (642-1025): Tuesday thru Sunday, Noon - 9 pm; closed Monday Camellia Street Grill (695-2003):

11 noon - 5pm; daily

City Seafood (695-4700): 6:00 am - 6:00 pm; daily

Supper Upstairs 6-9 pm;

Thursday-Sunday

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): Closed until October 15

Loco's Fresh Produce: (239-462-7050) Closed for the Summer



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 1stBaptist 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/saltwa ter/recreational/

TIDES FOR BARRON RIVER

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

http://TIDESA	NDCURRENTS.N	NOAA.GO	V
06/04 Sat	03:06AM	2.6	н
06/04 Sat	09:34AM	0.6	L
06/04 Sat	02:15PM	3.4	Н
06/04 Sat	10:23PM	-0.5	L
06/05 Sun	03:57AM	2.6	H
06/05 Sun	10:22AM	0.6	L
06/05 Sun	02:55PM	3.5	H
06/05 Sun	11:11PM	-0.5	L
06/06 Mon	04:47AM	2.5	H
06/06 Mon	11:08AM	0.7	_ <u></u>
06/06 Mon	03:38PM	3.4	— <u>—</u>
06/06 Mon	11:58PM	-0.5	_ <u></u>
06/07 Tue	05:38AM	2.4	
06/07 Tue	11:55AM	0.7	— <u>—</u>
06/07 Tue	04:24PM	3.3	— <u>—</u>
			_
06/08 Wed	12:45AM	-0.4 2.4	_ <u>L</u>
06/08 Wed	06:29AM		<u>H</u>
06/08 Wed	12:44PM	0.7	_ <u>L</u>
06/08 Wed	05:16PM	3.0	<u>H</u>
06/09 Thu	01:32AM	-0.2	L
06/09 Thu	07:19AM	2.4	H
06/09 Thu	01:38PM	0.8	L
06/09 Thu	06:17PM	2.8	H
06/10 Fri	02:23AM	0.0	L
06/10 Fri	MA80:80	2.4	H
06/10 Fri	02:41PM	0.8	L
06/10 Fri	07:25PM	2.5	Н
06/11 Sat	03:16AM	0.2	L
06/11 Sat	08:56AM	2.4	Н
06/11 Sat	03:54PM	0.7	L
06/11 Sat	08:35PM	2.3	Н
06/12 Sun	04:14AM	0.3	L
06/12 Sun	09:45AM	2.4	H
06/12 Sun	05:08PM	0.7	L
06/12 Sun	09:48PM	2.1	— <u>—</u>
06/13 Mon	05:11AM	0.5	
06/13 Mon	10:33AM	2.5	
06/13 Mon	06:12PM	0.5	<u> </u>
06/13 Mon	11:02PM	2.0	<u>н</u>
06/14 Tue	06:06AM	0.6	— <u>:</u>
	11:20AM	2.6	
	07:05PM	0.4	_ <u>H</u>
06/15 Wed	12:13AM	2.0	<u>H</u>
06/15 Wed	06:56AM	0.6	<u>_</u>
06/15 Wed	12:03PM	2.7	<u>H</u>
06/15 Wed	07:52PM	0.2	L
06/16 Thu	01:11AM	2.1	H
06/16 Thu	07:41AM	0.7	L
06/16 Thu	12:43PM	2.8	H
06/16 Thu	08:34PM	0.1	L
<u>06/17 Fri</u>	01:58AM	2.2	H
06/17 Fri	08:23AM	0.7	L
06/17 Fri	01:19PM	2.9	Н
06/17 Fri	09:14PM	0.0	L
06/18 Sat	02:38AM	2.2	H
06/18 Sat	09:02AM	0.8	L
06/18 Sat	01:53PM	3.0	H
06/18 Sat	09:52PM	-0.1	L

OBITUARY



Michael Homick.

86, passed away May 19 Pennsylvania. Mike was an avid fisherman and recreational crabber in the waters of the

Everglades and Chokoloskee Island where he and his wife of 60 years spent the last 22 winters. He was known for picking the right fishing holes!

He is survived by wife Sarae, son Andrew, 3 grandchildren, 1 great grandchild, nieces, nephews and many friends. A memorial service was held on May 26 in Pennsylvania with another service to be scheduled in the Fall in Everglades City.

To send messages of condolence to the family visit:

www.Parthemore.com.



CORRECTION:

Our apology Adela Butler whose mother Josefina Padron passed away on May 6th, and the published obituary had incorrect information. The obituary in the May 22 issue incorrectly stated that May 6th was Josefina's birthday. However, her birthday was April 26.

The family would appreciate your signing her mother's guestbook on the funeral home's website: RiveroFuneralHomeHialeah.com.

Thanks to everyone for their prayers and concern.

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: Fifth Wheel 2008 Durango LX, 37 feet, 4 slides, power awning, central vac., fireplace, cherry wood cabinets, lots more, call 239-687-6512.

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, Susie's Station on Town's circle. Building is 3,000 +/- sq. ft. with large porch. Great potential. Call Karen @ Glades Realty Inc. (239) 695-4299 or www.GladesRealty.com.

FOR SALE: For Sale: Waterfront mobile home, directly on Halfway Creek. Recently updated, move in ready. Call Karen @ Glades Realty Inc. (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. (727) 480-1640.

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

Pet Pics 💝



Chris Herlovich's Kitty "Kako" enjoys her perch in EC!

RAPPER CLASSIFIEDS

FOR LEASE: Deep water commercial dock and lot on Baron river for lease. Premium sought-after location at 909 DuPont St. in Everglades City. Perfect for lucrative airboat business, echo tour business, commercial fishing or even restaurant with cheeky bar and tourist gift shop attraction. Contact: Rancho T Properties Llc.727-480-1640

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

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

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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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 at **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.

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