

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 #265

Summer Fun at Camp

Reach out C.O.P.S. summer camp is in full swing offering a fun environment where children can play, learn and discover! Each week is something new!



Look at these fantastic pictures of the kids participating in fun summer activities. Thank you to the organizers who make this possible for the children of our community.



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Construction Begins on Chokoloskee Bridge Replacement Project

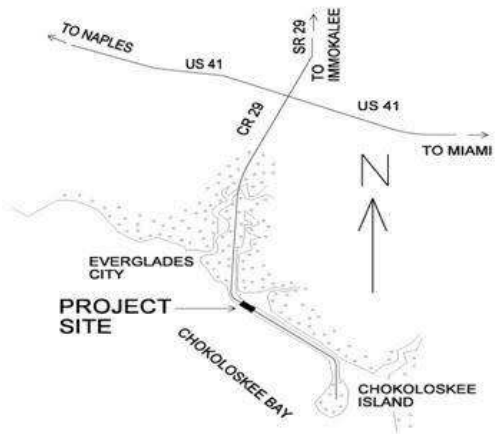
Construction activities have started on the Chokoloskee Bridge replacement on C.R. 29 over Chokoloskee Bay. This project will replace the existing bridge on the causeway to Chokoloskee Island with a new wider structure which will have two 12-foot wide travel lanes with 8-foot wide shoulders on each side and a single 8-foot sidewalk on the east (or bay) side. The sidewalk will be separated from the travel lanes by a barrier wall and it will be connected to the existing asphalt path that runs along C.R. 29 in this area. The new bridge deck will be at a higher elevation than the existing deck and the existing seawalls will remain in place to both protect the banks and maintain a platform used by many for fishing. Upon project completion, boaters will notice an increase in vertical clearance of about 3 feet and a wider passage due to fewer support columns.



The new bridge deck will be at a higher elevation than the existing deck and the existing seawalls will remain in place to both protect the banks and maintain a platform used by many for fishing. Upon project completion, boaters will notice an increase in vertical clearance of about 3 feet and a wider passage due to fewer support columns.

During construction at least one lane of traffic will be maintained and **the speed limit will be reduced to 35 mph in the construction zone**. A sidewalk across the bridge during construction will **not** be provided due to insufficient width. Boat traffic will be able to pass beneath the bridge during construction with few exceptions. Certain operations during the course of construction will require closures for safety reasons. Also, during construction electronic message signs will be used to alert the traveling public of planned lane closures.

In addition, the county will provide weekly Road Alert reports to media outlets and will coordinate any disruptions to navigation with the United States Coast Guard. Anyone interested may sign up to receive electronic notices through the county's e-notifier program which can be done by going to <http://www.colliergov.net/your-government/divisions-a-e/communication-customer-relations-division/sign-up-for-e-notices> and then select Road Alerts.



Construction of the approximately \$8 million project is anticipated to be completed in spring of 2018. For more information, call the Collier County Growth Management Department at 239-252-8192.

JUNE-JULY 2016

<u>SUN</u>	<u>MON</u>	<u>TUES</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THURS</u>	<u>FRI</u>	<u>SAT</u>
19	20 full moon ● Hour of Prayer Holy Family Catholic Church, 7 pm	21	22 Ladies Coffee Island Café, 8 am	23	24	25
26	27 Hour of Prayer Everglades Community Church, 7 pm OFCD Meeting <i>see p.3</i>	28	9 Ladies Coffee City Seafood 8 am	30	JULY 1	<u>RAPPER 2</u> Independence Day Celebration, See p. 3
3	4 new moon ○ Hour of Prayer Copeland Baptist Church, 7pm Independence Day	5	6 Ladies Coffee Island Café, 8 am	7	8	9
10	11 Hour of Prayer Chokoloskee Church of God 7 p.m.	12	13 Ladies Coffee City Seafood 8 am	14	15	<u>RAPPER 16</u>
17	18 Hour of Prayer Holy Family Catholic Church, 7 pm Summer Camp, <i>See p. 3</i>	19 full moon ●	20 Ladies Coffee Island Café, 8 am	21	22	23

Aug 5-7 No Tax Holiday
Aug 15: Back to School

Aug 20: Primary Election
Sept 24: Blessing of Fleet

Oct 15: Stone Crab Season Opens

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)
Chokoloskee (239-695-4468)
Ochopee (239-695-2099)

Mon-Fri: 9:30 am to 1 pm and 2 to 4:30 pm; Sat: outside pick-up 3:45 pm
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Mon-Fri: 8 to 10 am; 12 noon to 4 pm; Sat: Open for service 10 to 11:30 am

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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! For more information visit: www.evergladeshistorical.org**

JOIN THE PARADE!



The city is 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. 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.**

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

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

COLLIER COUNTY COMMITTEE OPENINGS

The Collier County Board of County Commissioners is seeking applications for positions on numerous advisory 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 calling Wanda Rodriguez for or information at: (239) 252-8400.

IS YOUR DOGGIE READY TO TAKE HOME THE TROPHY?

Large or small, they are all welcome at



the **Patriotic Pets Contest** during our **Independence Day Celebration** on **Saturday, July 2**. They can enter into two categories, below 26 pounds or above that weight. And, of course, they should be decked out in patriotic dress. The contest takes place in the enclosed tennis court in Everglades City, starting at 11:00 a.m. before it gets too hot. And, yes, there will be water bowls.

To register your canine friends: Call Marya at [\(239\) 695-2905](tel:2396952905).

For information about the celebration, visit: www.evergladeshistorical.org

BEAR HUNTING REVIEWED

The next bear hunt will be on the agenda at the FWC meeting June 22-23. A number of Florida cities and counties, representing over 6 million people, have passed proclamations or resolutions opposing bear hunting. To see the agenda, go to myfwc.com/about/commission/ and click on Meetings. It is item 5.B. Bear Management

Museum of the Everglades Pauline Reeves Gallery



From June 1 to August 31 the museum will host the Annual Everglades City School Art Exhibit featuring art from our talented students. For more information, please visit www.evergladesmuseum.org.

BECOME A CONTRIBUTOR!

Join the *Rapper* Team! Submit your articles, photos, community events or

news to us at mulletrapper@gmail.com, or call: 954-662-7003.

OCHOPEE FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT

- 05/31/16: Vehicle Accident, 59 MM I-75
- 06/07/16: Emergency Med, 41 and W of SR 29
- 06/02/16: Special Event, Everglades City
- 06/02/16: Emergency Med, Port of the Islands
- 06/03/16: Emergency Med, Port of the Islands
- 06/03/16: Vehicle Accident, Ochopee
- 06/04/16: Emergency Med, Plantation Island
- 06/04/16: Emergency Me, Chokoloskee Island
- 06/04/16: Emergency Med, Copeland
- 06/04/16: Emergency Med, Plantation Island
- 06/05/16: Vehicle Accident, 60 MM US 41
- 06/05/16: Emergency Med, Port of the Islands
- 06/05/16: Vehicle Accident, 80 MM I-75
- 06/05/16: Emergency Med, 63 MM I-75
- 06/06/16: Emergency Med, Port of the Islands
- 06/06/16: Emergency Medical, 72 MMI-75
- 06/06/16: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
- 06/06/16: Emergency Medical, Copeland
- 06/07/16: Public Assist, Port of the Islands
- 06/08/16: Emergency Med, Port of the Islands
- 06/08/16: Emergency Medical, Ochopee
- 06/08/16: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
- 06/08/16: Emergency Medical, Ochopee
- 06/09/16: Vehicle Accident, 63 MMI-75
- 06/09/16: Public Assist, Copeland
- 06/10/16: Vehicle Fire, 77 MM I-75
- 06/11/16: Emergency Med, 63 MM I-75
- 06/11/16: Emergency Medical, on US 41 & Royal Palm Hammock
- 06/11/16: Emergency Med, Port of the Islands
- 06/12/16: Emergency Medical, 63 MM I-75
- 06/13/16: Vehicle Accident, 63 MM I-75
- 06/13/16: Mutual Aid to Broward County (Vehicle Accident), Snake Road & I-75

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

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

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IMPORTANT DATES EVERGLADES CITY SCHOOL

Aug. 15: First day of new school year



"Small Town Taylor"

by Taylor Mayberry

IT'S SUMMER! School is out, the days are hot and it is time to have some fun. Some things I'm really looking forward to doing this summer are going camping, fishing, the beach, the pools and feeding the quail. It's been a great school year and I loved the fourth grade but I'm glad that we don't have any more homework.

I'm going to stay very busy with my garden, volleyball, and feeding the quails.

Summer is my favorite season for four reasons. One is beach volleyball. Two is spending time with my family and friends. Three is no homework, and four is I get to wear my bathing suit almost every day!



There are so many more reasons why I love summer but these are the main four. I am excited to watch the fireworks, go on the airboat and I've always wanted to go swimming in one of the springs, so I hope I get to go to swimming in one this summer. I am really excited for all of the adventures with my family. I hope everyone has a great summer!!!!



With lots of love, Taylor

Taylor Mayberry is 10 years old and will be going into the 5th grade at Everglades City School.

BECOME A RAPPER CONTRIBUTOR!!

Submit articles, photos or news.

Report your "big" catch and submit a photo.

Tell us why you love our area!

Email: mulletrapper@gmail.com

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Good luck to our Seniors!



It is a wonderful evening each year when we celebrate the Graduation of our Seniors. The Class of 2016 are now proud alumni and moving on to the next chapter of their lives. Our ceremony on June 3rd was special due to special guests from the district who joined us that evening. We were grateful to welcome our

Superintendent, Dr. Kamela Patton, Deputy Superintendent, Mr. David Stump and School Board Member, Mr. Roy Terry.



The Superintendent was appreciative of the large crowd as so many members of our community came to celebrate the graduation. She noted the personal nature of the ceremony as we recognized each senior's accomplishments along with the slideshow that celebrates their years at our school.

A special thanks to our staff that worked countless hours preparing for the event. Mrs. Margaret Johnson once again provided beautiful cupcakes and a special cake for our graduates. Thank you Margaret for always supporting our students with your special talents.

Have a great summer and we will see you when our students return to school on August 15th.



IT IS ALWAYS A GREAT DAY TO BE A GATOR!

~Jim Ragusa

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Meet Matt!

by Patty Huff

Matt St. Clair has been a resident of Everglades City since 2008 and many may recognize him from working with Carlos and Dulce at Havana Café for several years. He is now on his own as the “chef of the deli” at **Right Choice Supermarket**. And, are we very lucky to have someone with his expertise and love of cooking right here in downtown Everglades City.



Matt was born in Meridian, Mississippi, but grew up in Chattanooga and six other southern states which allowed him to experience different cuisines and bring his skills to our community. Matt decided to move to our town because of his love of nature and fishing (for redfish, snook and snapper). As a young child he would come visit his grandparents who were snowbirds and always had fond memories of the Everglades. His mother (Penny St. Clair) is currently an “over-the-road” truck driver, hauling explosives to gold mines in mid-western Canada (previously she hauled weapons for the Department of Defense). Matt graduated from Johnson & Wales University in Charlotte, N.C., where he trained under award-winning Chef John K. Bell at one of the town’s oldest private clubs, the Myers Park Country Club. He moved to Alabama where he spent two years at the Birmingham Country Club, then at Naples Beach Club when he moved to Everglades City.

With Matt’s emphasis on fresh ingredients (everything made from scratch), the deli case at Right Choice now offers a variety of homemade casseroles, sandwiches (for the fishermen and others), pasta and green salads, a selection of BBQ pork dishes, and specialty desserts (banana pudding, parfaits, Key lime pie cups, and cakes). Matt offers different dishes every day of the week to keep the selection fresh. Occasionally, he will have a full meal prepared at the end of the day for those who want a ready-made alternative. One of my favorite choices is his roasted garlic hummus which is the best I’ve ever tasted. Be sure to stop by our grocery and pick out something delicious from Matt!

Recipe for Good Eating

Cool Summer Gazpacho Soup

By Patty Huff

Ingredients:

1 lb. (2 large or 3 medium) tomatoes, seeded and chopped
 1 red bell pepper, seeded and chopped
 1 small red onion, chopped
 ½ cucumber, peeled, seeded and chopped
 1 clove of garlic, minced
 1 cup tomato juice
 ¼ cup olive oil
 Juice of one lime
 ¼ tsp cumin
 Salt & Pepper to taste

Topping: Basil leaves (chopped) and goat cheese (crumbled)



Combine all ingredients in a large bowl; stir until well mixed. Transfer ½ of mixture to a blender and purée until smooth; then add the puree to the other ingredients in the bowl. Refrigerate until completely chilled, at least one hour. Serve with basil and goat cheese (optional).

Enjoy this cool summer soup.

ZANE GREY SOCIETY TO VISIT AREA JUNE 18-19

Zane Grey is known for his westerns but his first love was fishing. He often visited Florida and wrote about his forays into the watery wilderness in *Tales of Southern Rivers* which was published in 1924 (reviewed in the *Rapper*, 11/21/14). In the chapter about the Everglades, he describes the Seminoles that he saw and the shell mounds on Chokoloskee and Fakahatchee Island.



photo: Zane Grey and brother in 1916; from Florida State Archives.

The Zane Grey West Society (www.zgws.org) is holding its annual convention this year in Islamorada with an optional stop first in Everglades City on June 18-19. Participants will visit the Museum of the Everglades, the Smallwood Store, the National Park, and, of course, The Rod & Gun Club where Zane stayed.

HOUSEHOLD TIP

Longest Day

It will be getting darker after June 21st, our longest day until December, so don't forget to set timers on your lights if they aren't light-sensitive. Yes, it will also be darker in the mornings and harder to wake up!

Living Gulf Coast

by Charles Sobczak



Strangler Fig (*Ficus aurea*) Other names: Florida strangler fig, golden fig / Status: FL=stable / Life span: more than 200 years / Height: 30-60 ft. (9-19 m) / Reproduces via a complex relationship with fig wasps /

Found: Throughout SW Florida and on all barrier islands.

Considered by many botanists as one of the most fascinating plants on earth, the strangler fig is also one of the most important plants in Southwest Florida. Worldwide there are more than 900 species of fig trees, with most of these plants occurring in the Australasian region. One species (*Ficus bengalensis*), native to India, has a trunk that measures more than one-hundred feet in circumference. The century-old banyan fig planted in Ft. Myers on the Edison Estate covers half an acre and is well worth visiting (go to www.efwefla.org for hours, information and directions).

On the islands, the strangler fig is one of a handful of plants that form the breadbasket of wild foods for wildlife. The small, good-tasting figs that fruit on these trees are eaten by almost everything, be it a flying, crawling or climbing creature. A favorite shelter tree for birds, from warblers to pileated woodpeckers, the niches, twisted trunks, nooks and crannies of the strangler fig also provide habitat for insects, lizards, raccoons, rodents and snakes.

The reproductive cycle of the strangler fig is so bizarre that it demands telling. The strangler fig has a relationship,



scientifically referred to as "obligate mutualism," with a single wasp species known as the gall wasp. As the young seeds form, each and every fig has a tiny hole in it. The entrance is just large enough for a female gall wasp, full of eggs, to squeeze into. As she squeezes through, her delicate wings are torn off and she is unable to leave. She unknowingly deposits the pollen that she has carried with

her from another tree and lays her eggs in the stigma of the flowers located within the fig seed.

She then dies and the entrance she came through on seals shut as the fig walls close. After a while, the young male wasps, which develop faster than the females, are born. They then chew open the female eggs and mate with them. After mating, the males chew a hole in the wall of the fig fruit and proceed to die inside the seed. On the way out of the hole opened by the males the winged females are tagged with pollen they will carry on to propagate the next fig tree. Then the females, who are born with delicate wings capable of making a single flight, crawl out of the opening and take off in search of another nearby strangler fig. If she fails to find a tree before her fragile wings fail, she dies. If she finds another tree, her life cycle is completed once again and the strangler figs fruit are

pollinated. It is important to understand that gall wasps are extremely small, only slightly larger than a no-see-um. It's also believed that this co-dependency has been going strong for sixty-million years and that there are hundreds of different species of wasps matched to hundreds of specific fig species.

As if this unbelievable symbiotic relationship isn't enough, the story of the strangler fig continues. Once pollinated, these figs ripen and are fed upon by a host of hungry wildlife. The fruits are packed with tiny seeds, many of which are not destroyed when they are consumed, and are passed out in the dung of various animals from the mother tree. In tropical regions fig tree seeds are spread by primates and fruit bats, but on Sanibel and Captiva most of seed dispersion is carried out by birds.



After feeding, a bird might land in a cabbage palm and dispose of its waste. That waste is often trapped in the upward turned bases of the palm fronds, where detritus and standing water allow the tiny seeds to germinate. At this stage in its development the strangler fig survives as an epiphyte, which is the name for a plant that derives all of its moisture and nutrients from the air, rain and debris around it. As this epiphyte matures it sends down long, thin tendrils that eventually reach the soil near the base of the host tree. With these newfound nutrients feeding it, the strangler fig grows rapidly, as the tendrils twist and grow, eventually wrapping themselves around the trunk of the host tree, which is generally a cabbage palm. Over time the fig grows so large that the cabbage palm no longer receives enough sun to survive and it dies. Eventually the host tree and its root ball decay into nutrients that help to make a mature strangler fig the largest native plant living on Sanibel and Captiva.

There are scores of examples of every stage of this development that can be found throughout the islands. A walk down Island Inn Road will allow you to find an epiphyte fig, a young, sapling fig and a fully mature strangler fig with a dead or dying palm tree hopelessly trapped in its strangling trunk. In one last amazing feat of adaptation, the strangler fig's limbs are designed with a break-away system that allows them to survive very strong hurricanes. The leaves are the first to let go, with the branches quick to follow. This system allows the base of the tree to survive and flourish soon after the storm has passed. If the storm is so strong that it takes down the trunk, the root suckers left buried in the soil will regenerate a new sapling. Strangler figs are salt tolerant, making them resistant to storm surges as well.

The strangler fig was used for food by the early Floridians as the small, ripe figs are edible. In Central America ranchers often use pieces of strangler figs for live fencing. They are also popular as ornamental and bonsai trees. The most impressive aspect of the strangler fig is its ability to adapt, regenerate and survive on these storm-lashed barrier islands.

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



My Little Slice of Paradise

by Kathy Brock

Coyotes Have Been Seen in E.C.!

Ahhh, yes, *my paradise*. Occasionally, there are a few reminders that it really isn't just "mine" or "yours" but it is "theirs" too (nature). There have been several coyote sightings in Everglades City this month, so it is time to brush up on our coyote knowledge! Sources tell me (I've always wanted to write that) one has been seen by City Hall and in other parts of town. I saw a coyote in Naples last month along the new construction on 41. I saw another off of Davis Boulevard in Naples in March, so they are inhabitants in all of Collier county for sure. The coyote is a type of dog, *canis latrans*, which literally means "barking dog" (maybe I should have named my dog that!).



A coyote's fur is greyish tan, often with a white patch on the chest. They weigh between 20 and 30 pounds, with the males the heavier of the sexes. Coyotes are native to North America, but they were predominately in the western part of the US until the 1960's and then they gradually ventured eastward. They are now being considered a naturalized species in all 67 counties of Florida meaning that they arrived late (1970's), but are not classified as "exotic" or "accidental".

Coyotes are very adaptable and they eat almost anything; fruits, plant, insects, rodents, birds, livestock and potentially kitty or a small dog if it is in their territory and they are hungry. They hunt any time of day or night but are most active at dawn and dusk.

Coyotes are more solitary and do not hunt in packs like a wolf (relief!) but they will hunt in pairs (male/female) occasionally. They do not have a history of attacking people, especially adults. However, the FWC recommends that if you were walking or with a pet and a coyote attacked, grabbing your pet could lead to you getting bit, so it is best to avoid the situation. You are most likely to encounter a coyote by wooded areas, or where food is present for them.

If you feed your animals outside, or have fruit trees, remember to pick up any leftover food so that you do not attract unwanted visitors (like Mr. & Mrs. Coyote).

A Blast from the Past

Mosquito Netting Protects and Adds Style



Living in the everglades is fabulous, but it does present some challenges. Mosquitoes are a part of the landscape here, so it is never a bad idea to invest in some protection. Of course we have the tried and true topical applications like DEET. But there are some other ways to protect yourself and your loved ones. Mosquito netting was once a part of every home and attached to every baby

stroller. The reason why is that it works!

During the construction of the Panama Canal in the early 1900's yellow fever was taking a serious toll on the workers. The control of malaria was vital for the project to continue successfully. In 1904, Major Ronald Ross discovered that malaria was transmitted by mosquitoes and was responsible for the yellow fever that was wreaking havoc on the workers.

A commission was formed and seven steps were recommended which led to the almost complete eradication of the disease. One of the recommendations was netting. When netting was employed, cases of malaria dropped almost 70%. Today, a Florida company is expanding on this tradition providing screening that is not only functional, but decorative.

Hart Baur president of Nicamaka Distributors of Miami says sales of mosquito netting is up due to consumer awareness and news stories about things like the Zika virus, another mosquito borne disease.

The company carries many practical solutions to keep mosquitoes from getting in. They offer an array of outdoor solutions, and also indoor products for beds, and cribs. Best of all, the netting not only works it looks great too. Check out their website for some very cool and cost effective solutions @ www.nicamaka.com.



New Wing Unveiled for Presidential Airlift Attended by Longtime Resident's Son, Former Air Force One Crewmember

A new wing was unveiled at the Air Force Museum in Dayton Ohio, and former crewmembers from the Eisenhower era to present-day were in attendance for this special event.

Dave Pond, son of Fran Tiffit, longtime resident and realtor in our area, and brother of Lisa Marteeny, was included in this very distinguished group. Dave said he was "honored attend the dedication with his wife Colonel Sherrie Pond." Thank you to Dave for sharing this very special event with us.

PARK NEWS

The Public Challenge to Improve Everglades National Park



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.

“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.

New Voter Information Cards Mailed to All Collier County Registered Voters

On Friday, June 10, the Collier County Supervisor of Elections office will begin mailing new voter information cards to all registered voters in Collier County.

These cards will reflect changes in voters’ senate district wherein districts 23 and 39 have been combined into senate district 28; affecting all of Collier County. Voters are reminded to carefully review their voter information including their name, address and party affiliation. If voters need to make updates to their voter information, they can call (239)252-VOTE or complete and return the voter information update form included in the mailing.

Florida is a Closed Primary State and during the August Primary, voters are only eligible to vote for candidates within their party affiliation in partisan contests. Voters must make changes to their party affiliation by Monday, August 1 which, is the book closing deadline.

Voters are encouraged to visit www.CollierVotes.com to review their voter information and to learn more about the August Primary Election.

LOCAL NEWS

Heavy Rains, High Tides Cause Local Flooding

The rainy season has officially arrived. The first week of June brought over 5 inches of rain to our area. On Monday, June 5th, rain combined with spring tides and caused significant flooding for our area.



It is the time of year to elevate anything that should not get wet...things like golf-cart chargers that sit on the ground are particularly vulnerable. Our floodwaters are primarily salt, so if

your yard is like mine (pictured), you may want to elevate plantings and water with fresh water to leach out salt that can burn the roots of non-salt tolerant plants. Photo by Chris Herlovich.



Hello Baby!

We have been blessed with some adorable new arrivals to our community! Welcome to the world! Congratulations to the parents, families



Renee Rau welcomes Orion Laurence Rau born 1/27/16, weighing 5 lbs., and 20” long! Pictured here at 4 months.



Morgan Daffin and Jacob Mello welcome Cali Ann Mello born 4/13/16, weighing 4 lbs. 11 oz. Cali was born 2 months premature and is doing well at a Children’s hospital in Miami. Welcome Cali!



Liza and Robert Wells welcome Zander Aaron Wells, born 5/19/16 weighing 6 lbs. 6 oz. Pictured here in the arms of big sister, Zoe Wells.

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**
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>

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
06/19 Sun	03:17AM	2.3	H
06/19 Sun	09:39AM	0.8	L
06/19 Sun	02:23PM	3.1	H
06/19 Sun	10:30PM	-0.2	L
06/20 Mon	03:57AM	2.3	H
06/20 Mon	10:16AM	0.8	L
06/20 Mon	02:52PM	3.1	H
06/20 Mon	11:07PM	-0.3	L
06/21 Tue	04:38AM	2.4	H
06/21 Tue	10:52AM	0.8	L
06/21 Tue	03:18PM	3.1	H
06/21 Tue	11:45PM	-0.3	L
06/22 Wed	05:22AM	2.4	H
06/22 Wed	11:30AM	0.8	L
06/22 Wed	03:48PM	3.1	H
06/23 Thu	12:24AM	-0.3	L
06/23 Thu	06:07AM	2.4	H
06/23 Thu	12:11PM	0.8	L
06/23 Thu	04:24PM	3.0	H
06/24 Fri	01:04AM	-0.2	L
06/24 Fri	06:53AM	2.5	H
06/24 Fri	12:59PM	0.8	L
06/24 Fri	05:11PM	2.9	H
06/25 Sat	01:48AM	-0.1	L
06/25 Sat	07:39AM	2.5	H
06/25 Sat	01:57PM	0.7	L
06/25 Sat	06:11PM	2.7	H
06/26 Sun	02:36AM	0.0	L
06/26 Sun	08:24AM	2.6	H
06/26 Sun	03:07PM	0.7	L
06/26 Sun	07:32PM	2.4	H
06/27 Mon	03:31AM	0.2	L
06/27 Mon	09:11AM	2.6	H
06/27 Mon	04:23PM	0.5	L
06/27 Mon	09:06PM	2.3	H
06/28 Tue	04:31AM	0.4	L
06/28 Tue	10:00AM	2.7	H
06/28 Tue	05:34PM	0.4	L
06/28 Tue	10:39PM	2.2	H
06/29 Wed	05:33AM	0.5	L
06/29 Wed	10:51AM	2.9	H
06/29 Wed	06:38PM	0.1	L
06/30 Thu	12:04AM	2.2	H
06/30 Thu	06:33AM	0.6	L
06/30 Thu	11:42AM	3.0	H
06/30 Thu	07:36PM	-0.1	L
07/01 Fri	01:16AM	2.3	H
07/01 Fri	07:30AM	0.7	L
07/01 Fri	12:31PM	3.2	H
07/01 Fri	08:30PM	-0.2	L
07/02 Sat	02:15AM	2.4	H
07/02 Sat	08:24AM	0.7	L
07/02 Sat	01:18PM	3.3	H
07/02 Sat	09:21PM	-0.4	L

OBITUARIES



Daniel P. Cavin passed away on May 28th. A fierce yet beautiful spirit has moved on to the next adventure. We honored his life with a memorial service on June 11th, 2016 at Everglades Community Church, 101 South Copeland Ave. 34139 Doors open at 10am. Service at 11am. Obituary on www.garfieldcares.com.

Michael Eugene Sturgill, 62.

Born December 5, 1953 in Dayton Ohio, "Gatorman" Mike passed away peacefully late Tuesday June 7th, 2016 surrounded by loved ones. Michael is survived by his wife of 29 years Joan Sturgill, one Daughter Ronda, 43 and four sons; Kelly 43, Jason 38, Virgil 38, and Carl 34. Mike has ten grandchildren who he adored very much, and six great grandchildren, and sisters Delores, Trish, Debbie and father, Les Sturgill. He was preceded in death by his mother Lilly, two brothers Chuck and Rick and one daughter Joyce.



Gatorman Mike was the most humble and kind man you will ever meet. His life's work was his Alligators and teaching people the truth about them. His family and alligators were the most important to him and he will be forever missed. Memorial services will be held at a later date.

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: Deeded Boat Slips in protected basin. Ramp available. Call Karen at Glades Realty, Inc. 695-4299.

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



WOW!
Look at these beautiful orchids from the home of **Patty Huff**.

RAPPER CLASSIFIEDS

FOR LEASE: Deep water commercial dock and lot on Barron river for lease. Premium sought-after location at 909 DuPont St. in Everglades City. Perfect for lucrative airboat business, eco tour business, commercial fishing or even a restaurant with chickee 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.

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 BY OWNER Original Collier home. Adorable cottage style, fenced yard, view of river, with deeded dock at Captains Table. Call for appointment: 954-662-7003.

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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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.

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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6/18/16