

The MULLET RAPPER

What's Happening in the Everglades City Area

**TIDE TABLE
RESTAURANTS**

JULY 30 – AUGUST 12, 2016

**ONLY
25¢**

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P O Box 134, Everglades City, FL, 34139

Volume X • Issue #268

Local Couple Says, "I Do" at City Hall



On Saturday, July 23, Stacey Fout and Leo Johnson tied the knot in front of Everglades City- City Hall. The beautiful ceremony was presided over by Dotty Smallwood and witnessed by a small contingent of family and friends.

The reception followed at McLeod Park where the couple celebrated their new union. Stacey is the daughter of local resident, Carmen Smith Fout, and the couple will reside in Lehigh Acres. We wish the couple the best, and many, many happy and healthy years together!



Collier County Museums to Host Free Pokémon Go Party at E-City Museum!

Starting July 30, 2016, Collier County Museums will be hosting Pokémon Go Lure Parties. The Pokémon Go phenomenon has taken the world by storm, and Collier County is no exception. Each of the five Collier County Museums will be hosting a lure party each Saturday, starting at the Naples Depot Museum on Saturday, July 30, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Everglades City Museum will host their party on August 20th.

The lure parties will include Pokémon themed activities, a scavenger hunt and, of course, four hours of lure modules to attract those sought after rare Pokémon. All ages of Pokémon trainers are welcome and encouraged to explore the history of Collier County at all five museum branches. For more information, call [\(239\) 252-8476](tel:239-252-8476).



Location Schedule for Lure-Parties:

July 30th Naples Depot Museum
August 6th Marco Island Museum
August 13th Collier County Museum
August 20th Museum of the Everglades
August 27th Immokalee Pioneer Museum

For more information, call (239) 252-8476.

Traffic Lights Installed on the Island? Well, Sort of!

Say it isn't so! Traffic lights in the Everglades area? It is true, but it is only temporary (Phew!). The construction on the Chokoloskee Causeway is underway and traffic has been reduced to one lane making a traffic signal necessary to direct the flow of traffic.



Bridge construction is expected to last for the next 18 months, so we will experience some inconveniences from time to time. Be aware of reduced speed in the construction area and potential lane closures. Keep a look out for pedestrians and cyclists while passing through the construction area.



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.

(Photos by Craig Woodward)

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Have news, photos, announcements, or articles? Email mulletrapper@gmail.com or call or text 954-662-7003.

JULY - AUGUST 2016

<u>SUN</u>	<u>MON</u>	<u>TUES</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THURS</u>	<u>FRI</u>	<u>SAT</u>
30	31 Hour of Prayer Copeland Baptist Church, 7pm	Aug 1	2 new moon ☉ Ladies Coffee Island Café, 8 am	3	4	5 No sales tax
6 No sales tax	7 Hour of Prayer Chokoloskee Church of God, 7 p.m. No sales tax	8	9 Ladies Coffee City Seafood, 8 am	10	11	<u>RAPPER 12</u>
13	14 Hour of Prayer Holy Family Catholic Church, 7 pm OFCD meeting, See p.3	15 Back to School	16 full moon ● Ladies Coffee Island Café, 8 am	17	18	19
20	21 Hour of Prayer Copeland Baptist Church, 7pm	22	23 Ladies Coffee City Seafood, 8 am	24	25	<u>RAPPER 26</u>
27	28 Hour of Prayer Chokoloskee Church of God, 7 pm	29	30 Ladies Coffee Island Café, 8 am	31	Sept. 1 new moon ☉	2

Sept 24: Blessing of Fleet

Oct 15: Stone Crab Season Opens

Oct 29: Halloween Celebration

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 3:30 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
 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

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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Upcoming Events at the Museum of the Everglades

Pauline Reeves Gallery

August, 2016

Everglades City Student Art Exhibit.



Enjoy the art of the talented students of Everglades City School ages third grade to graduating seniors.

Art in the Glades

Sept. 24, 2016

“Blessing of the Fleet”

Visit the Rod & Gun Club and enjoy art from local artists as we bless the fleet for the upcoming stone crab season.



Wings Across the Glades

Coming this fall the featured photographer will be **Gregory Dupignac**, who has had a lifelong interest in photography.

Growing up in the Barnegat Bay area of New Jersey, Greg used a Kodak Brownie or a Polaroid camera to take pictures of real estate that his dad was selling. As a young adult Greg raced small sailboats while advancing his photography skills.



With the purchase of his first SLR camera, Greg followed the advice from a friend who recommended the use of manual settings. This method taught Greg an array of effects by experimenting with F stops and shutter speeds.

Armed with a digital camera Greg is now able to review the data about each photo. This advancement eliminates the need to spend a fortune on film allowing him to enhance his artistry.

BECOME A RAPPER CONTRIBUTOR!

Please send us your articles, news, area events, recipes, and photos of the day's big catch, and contribute to our community paper. Email: mulletrapper@gmail.com, or call 954-662-7003. Deadlines are Friday's before next publication dates. We publish every 2 weeks.

Notice Board

AMikids to Cease Operations At Big Cypress

After more than 25 years helping young men overcome a troubled past, the Department of Juvenile Justice has chosen to cease operations at AMikids Big Cypress. The current members of the Board of Trustees, want to thank all those organizations and individuals who have contributed their time and resources to this effort. The individuals are too numerous to mention by name, but please know that our sincere thanks go out to each and every one of you. ~ *AMikids Big Cypress Board of Trustees*

Scam Alert Issued by Florida Office of Financial Regulation

The Florida Office of Financial Regulation (OFR) was made aware of a scam involving the unauthorized use of the agency's information and brand. The scam was sent to consumers via email and threatens legal action from an alleged past due payday loan account. The OFR urges Floridians to be on the lookout for this scam.

The scammer urges the email recipient to call a phone number to resolve the matter immediately. The fake legal notice letter contains logos and website snapshots from legitimate organizations, which were used without their knowledge or authorization.

Scam artists often create fraudulent documents that look legitimate and may use the names of established, well-known organizations, including government agencies, to trick unsuspecting victims. Beware of red flags, such as incorrect grammar, multiple misspellings, vague details and a sender's email address that does not match the organization listed. Independently verify the authenticity of any document through the appropriate organization.

If you have received this fake notice or to report suspicious financial activity, please file a complaint with the OFR online, www.flofr.com, or call (850) 487-9687.



OCHOPEE FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT

- 07/12/16: Fire Alarm, Port of the Islands
- 07/13/16: Emergency Med, Everglades City
- 07/13/16: Emergency Med, 63 Mile Marker I-75
- 07/14/16: Emergency Med 77 Mile Marker I-75
- 07/15/16: Emergency Med, Plantation Island
- 07/15/16: Emergency Med, Chokoloskee Island
- 07/16/16: Fire Alarm, Everglades City
- 07/16/16: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
- 07/16/16: Emergency Medical, Ochopee
- 07/17/16: Fire Alarm, Everglades City
- 07/17/16: Marine Rescue, Keewaydin Island (Mutual Aid)
- 07/18/16: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
- 07/19/16: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
- 07/19/16: Vehicle Accident, 50 MM I-75
- 07/21/16: Marine Rescue, Chokoloskee Pass
- 07/22/16: Vehicle Accident, 56 MM I-75
- 07/22/16: Vehicle Accident, 70 MM I-75
- 07/23/16: Emergency Med, Port of the Islands
- 07/25/16: Vehicle Accident, 59 MM I-75
- 07/25/16: Emergency Medical, Everglades City

The Ochopee Fire Control District Advisory Committee will meet at 4 p.m. on **Monday, August 14**, 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*

KEEP OUR COMMUNITY CLEAN

Everglades City and the "sister" Islands are special places. Please contribute by picking up trash when you see it, and please do not litter!

The city provides recycle trash bins on the North side of the city for large cardboard refuse, and provides curbside pickup for other debris. Please help us keep our special community beautiful!

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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



Have you ever been to Rookery Bay? Well, Rookery Bay is a place where you can go to learn about the sea and the animals that live in it. My 4th grade teacher, Mrs. Whitcomb told us about Free Fridays during the summer. So I asked my dad if we could go. He said yes so we got ready and left. It only took us five minutes to get ready because we were so excited to get there.

When we got there we got our stamp and my dad got his sticker. Then we went upstairs to get our face painted. I got a sun with a beach and my sister got Dory from Finding Nemo. Then we looked at a replica of a mosquito. It was really big. It was the size of a big dog. After that we went down stairs and did the stained glass windows craft. It was cool. To make it we used color tissue paper and construction paper. When you stick it up to the window the sun shines through it and it shows you all of the pretty colors.

Finally, the touch tank opened and we got to go. We saw a sea urchin, shrimp, a big orange snail, crabs, horse shoe crab and a baby lobster that was under a rock. My favorite animal was the sea cucumber. It looks like a slug with pokey stickers on it. It moves really slow and feels like the inside of a fish, really gushy. I learned from our guide that when a sea cucumber is defending itself it can spill its intestines onto its predators, and they are really sticky so it scares the predator away. Sea cucumbers are important for our ocean because they filter out the dirt and algae in the sand and recycles nutrients back onto the ocean floor. All living things have a purpose that help our earth in one way or another.

When the touch tank closed Dad took us to the gift shop and let Rylee and I each pick out one thing. I got a stuffed jellyfish and Rylee got a coloring book. I can spin it around and make it look like its swimming. It's pink, orange and has white tentacles on the bottom. I named it Stinger. Next, Dad took us out on the boardwalk and we went on the hunt for a geo cash. I knew where it was because our class found it when we went there on a field trip. So, I let my dad and Rylee find it and gave them hints. They found it! When they found it we signed our names in the book. Today is free day at The Conservancy and their special animal of the day that they are teaching about is the American Alligator. So I better start getting ready.

That was one of the best days I've ever had at Rookery Bay. Don't forget to go to Rookery Bay this summer!

With lots of love,

Taylor

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

Helpful Tips for Getting Back into A Good School-year Routine

Summer is almost over, so now is the right time to start making a plan to transition your kids (and yourself) back into a workable, school-year routine.

Dr. Fran Walfish, a child and family psychotherapist and author of "The Self-Aware Parent," and Christina Nichols, PhD, a licensed clinical psychologist from a leading independent school in New York City and the Hallowell Center, developed 101 things you can do before school starts to help your kids stay on track – 101 seems overwhelming...so we have chosen 25 of their top tips to a successful school year.

1. Set your kids' sleep schedules back to "School Time" two weeks before the first day.
2. Encourage your kids to read at least one book before the school year begins.
3. Reacquaint your kids with the calendar schedule they'll use to manage their activities.
4. Let kids choose a planner or scheduling tool that they're excited to use.
5. Set up weekly meetings to review your kids' schedules for the week(s) ahead.
6. Set a regular alarm each day that signals the start of homework time.
7. Discuss what your kids can expect on the first day so they feel more prepared.
8. Get the lists of school supplies, books and technology your kids will need.
9. Inventory last year's school supplies before going out to buy more.
10. Establish a specific space like the family office as the official "homework area."
11. Remove distractions like TVs and video game consoles from homework areas.
12. Set -- and enforce -- regular *weekday* and *weekend* bedtimes.
13. Set -- and enforce -- regular *weekday* and *weekend* wake-up calls.
14. Keep track of existing extracurricular activities to prevent over-scheduling.
15. Model good behavior by doing your own work/projects while your kids do homework.
16. Encourage your kids to lay out their school clothes the night before.
17. Have your kids pack their school bags before they go to sleep that night.
18. If your kids bring their own lunch, pack their lunch boxes before going to bed.
19. Go through your kids' schoolwork once a month to toss the things you don't want.
20. Keep a small emergency allowance in your kids' bags, just in case.

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Taxing Things

By Mike the Tax Guy

What You Need to Know About Your IRS Notice or Letter



The IRS normally sends correspondence in the mail. They do not email you, nor do you ever ask to provide credit card information, those are fraudulent communications. When you do get a legitimate IRS letter or notice, here is what you need to do:

Don't Ignore It. You can respond to most IRS notices quickly and easily.

Follow Instructions. Read the notice carefully. It will tell you if you need to take any action. Be sure to follow the instructions.

Focus on the Issue. IRS notices usually deal with a specific issue about your tax return or tax account. Your notice or letter will explain the reason for the contact and give you instructions on how to handle the issue.

Correction Notice. If the IRS corrected your tax return, you should review the information provided and compare it to your tax return.

If you agree, you don't need to reply unless a payment is due.

If you don't agree, it's important that you respond. Follow the instructions on the notice for the best way to respond.

You Don't Need to Visit the IRS. You can handle most notices without visiting the IRS. If you have questions, call the IRS on the number provided. Have a copy of your tax return and the notice when you call.

Keep the Notice. Keep a copy of the IRS notice with your tax records.

To contact the Internal Revenue Service:

1-800-829-1040, when you hear the prompts, choose the one that best suits your issue. It can take up to 30 minutes to reach a live operator.

Recipe for Good Eating

Submitted by Suzanne Mitchell

Fresh Shrimp and/or Scallops with Linguini

½ to 1 lb. pound fresh, deveined shrimp

½ pound scallops (if desired)

1 bag of arugula salad mix, pre-washed

White cooking wine (or drinkable!)

Shaved parmesan cheese (preferred, but grated will work)

1 stick butter

1-pound fresh linguini, sold in refrigerated section by cheeses

Balsamic vinegar

Sauté pressed garlic, butter and 1 cup of white wine until it turns orange. Add prepared shrimp and scallops and cook until shrimp is pink and scallops are tender.

Pour seafood mixture over linguini and toss, adding ½ cup of the parmesan cheese.

Top with Arugula, sprinkle with balsamic (the arugula) and add cheese to taste. This dish takes only 15 minutes to cook and is flavorful and delicious.



Last Day to Register to Vote in August 30th Primary is Midnight, Monday, August 1st



In order to vote in the August 30 Primary Election, eligible residents must be registered to vote by **12:00 a.m. (Midnight) on August 1, 2016**. Florida is a Closed Primary State. This means that only voters who are registered members of a political party may vote for their respective party's candidate in a Primary Election.

On August 1, representatives from the Collier County Supervisor of Elections office will be conducting voter registration drives at the following locations:

- **Collier County Government Complex, 3311 Tamiami Trail E, Naples, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.**
- **Driver License Office, 725 Airport Road South, Naples, 8 a.m.-1 p.m.**
- **GreenTree Tax Collector's office, 2348 Immokalee Road, Naples, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.**
- **Hertz Corporate Headquarters, 8501 Williams Road, Estero, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.**

A downloadable voter registration form can be found on the Supervisor of Elections website at www.CollierVotes.com under the "Register to Vote" tab. The Supervisor of Elections office is located at 3750 Enterprise Avenue, Naples 34104. Regular business hours are from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. The satellite office is located at the North Collier Government Service Center, 2335 Orange Blossom Drive and is open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. until 6 p.m.

Residents can register to vote or change their party affiliation during normal business hours, but must do so by August 1 in order to be eligible for the August 30 Primary Election. Registered voters who need to make updates to their name and/or address are not affected by the book closing deadline.

For more information regarding your voter registration status, visit www.CollierVotes.com or call (239) 252-VOTE.



Fishing the Ten Thousand Islands in August

by Capt. Mike Merritt

Well, it is hot! But, you can also have some hot fishing in August. Growing up here I always loved August because you could catch some of the biggest Snook of the year, Tarpon would be hanging out in deeper water and massive schools of Redfish would show up.

Of course, we all know that things change and there are many factors that determine the best time for catching fish. But you can count on it to happen sometime this month. Big Snook are still being caught on the incoming tide. Try top water lures early in the tide in the morning hours. This can make for some of the best action you will ever see.

There is nothing quite like catching a big Snook on top water. Last week, I just had one of the Fuji reps get a 17lb. Snook on a Zara Spook. Once the sun gets up higher in the sky this is not as effective. The following day after he caught the big Snook on top water, I had another client catch 20 lb. Snook on live bait. Both times it was on the incoming tide. What you use is not as critical as the tide right now.

The window of good fishing on some days is only a couple of hours. After the peak time, you may just pick up a fish here and there. That is the norm right now.



Fishing for Reds will get better as the month progresses. There are some good fish around right now but the large schools have not shown up yet. When they do show, they show up hungry. If you find a school, you can catch 50 fish in one spot! This makes for lots of fun and it's a great way to spend a couple of hours. Reds will hit a jig as well as live bait, and the advantage to jig fishing is that you can cover more area to locate the fish.

Of course, live bait can have an advantage as Reds sense movement and scent better than most other fish. A live bait under a popping cork is deadly and allows you to make some surface noise to help draw the fish to you.



The Sea Trout are still on the grass flats and can be caught out in deeper water also. The Tarpon that I catch this time of year are generally out in deeper water between 8-12 ft.

Wreck fishing is a great way to have some steady action and offshore Grouper fishing is also producing great action.

Get out early and be prepared for afternoon rainstorms. Fall is fast approaching when the water gets more crowded, so enjoy these days when it seems you have the entire National Park to yourself! Good luck fishing!



Living Gulf Coast

by Charles Sobczak

Cabbage Palm (*Sabal palmetto*) Other names: palmetto palm, palmetto, swamp cabbage palm, sabal palm / Status: FL=stable / Life span: more than 100 years / Height: 25-90 ft. (7.6-27 m) / Reproduces by an edible date that is widely eaten by wildlife / Found: The most common palm in Southwest Florida / Status: very common.

The cabbage palm is the official state palm of both Florida and South Carolina. The early settlers of these two states found many uses for this prolific palm with perhaps the most important being the consumption of its edible heart, still consumed today and known as heart of palm. Of course harvesting the heart kills the tree but this was of little concern to the inhabitants of Florida one-hundred years ago. These settlers used the pure white heart in salads and cabbage palm stews. It tastes very similar to water chestnut and is generally available at most grocery stores in the canned vegetable section. The city of LaBelle, located along the Caloosahatchee River in Lee County, has an annual Swamp Cabbage Festival held every winter. To learn more about this unique festival, go to www.swampcabbagefestival.org.

Additional uses for the palm include using the fronds for the thatching of chickee huts by the Native American tribes, the building of log cabins with the trunk and in the modern era, widespread use of this hearty palm as a highway and landscaping ornamental. In fact, this palm is probably planted more widely and used more often across the Sunshine State than all other palms put together.

Wildlife loves the cabbage palm. The dead fronds provide the primary roosting habitat for the yellow bat, the deep crevices left on the tree after fronds fall make ideal nesting sites for small birds, rats, mice and other insects and animals. The fruit and seeds, along with the strangler fig, form the backbone of the natural food staple for many of the island's native inhabitants, from raccoons and squirrels to dozens of species of birds.

Cabbage palm is exceptionally easy to transplant and will thrive in sun or shade. It adapts well to brackish water or salty soils, it is drought tolerant, and is well adapted to surviving hurricane winds, and has a fire-resistant trunk that survives the winter grass fires. Its large, showy canopy can also be used as a good shade tree. Of course it is far and away the favored host tree for strangler figs and you can find stranglers flourishing out of cabbage palms almost anywhere on the islands. To locate a cabbage palm all you have to really do is go outside and look around, they are literally everywhere on Sanibel and Captiva and throughout Southwest Florida.



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



My Little Slice of Paradise

by Kathy Brock

One of the things I love most about the Everglades area is the diversity of nature; especially the birds. We have so many beautiful native birds, and we also have numerous migratory birds that visit our area. One of my personal favorites is the white pelican.



The white pelicans arrive in our area in late September to October. White pelicans are one of the heaviest flying birds, and can be seen over our islands soaring in the wind currents. What sets

them apart, is their bright white, black tipped wings. The black is only seen when the birds are in flight.

I have seen them on numerous exterior islands, but there is a flock that frequents Indian Key, so they are quite easy to find. The white pelicans will always face into the wind, and you will notice that the entire flock will be facing in the same direction. This is for two reasons; one is that the wind in their face helps cool them off. The other reason is that they do not like their feathers ruffled by wind in the wrong direction. White pelicans are sensitive to heat so they employ multiple ways to cool off. By opening their mouth and fluttering their bill pouches, they are able to allow some of their body heat to escape. Baby white pelicans will even squawk while still in the egg (in embryo) if they get too hot, and the parent will get off the nest to let them cool.



Obviously, white pelicans are related to our native brown pelican...but they are quite different. Not only is the coloration different, white pelicans are larger, and they do not dive into the water from flight to hunt for food. Instead, they duck into the water after prey, more like a cormorant does.

White pelicans are notorious thieves! They are known to steal food from other pelicans, steal food from cormorants emerging from the water depths, and even take food right from a mother bird feeding her young! A baby white pelican will consume over 150 pounds of fresh fish, and that is a lot of hunting for the parents. Both parents share the parenting duties, nest building and maintenance tasks.

One common misconception about pelicans is that they carry food in their pouches. This is not true. Their large pouches are strictly for hunting and give the birds a larger swath of opportunity for success. Even when feeding young, the pelicans will swallow the food first, then regurgitate it for their young. All in all, pelicans are very interesting birds, and we are fortunate to have two types to enjoy in our area.

Please do not be tempted to feed the begging pelicans when you return from fishing. The carcass of a "keeper" trout, red, snook, or almost anything, is way too large for the pelican to properly swallow and digest. The bones can get lodged in their throats and cause major damage. One way to keep them from stealing carcasses at the docks is to install a 4" or larger PVC pipe into the water, below the low tide water line. You drop the carcass in and it deposits lower in the water where they cannot steal them.

18-Foot-Long Burmese Python Weighing 133 Pounds Caught in Florida Everglades

According to US Geological Survey officials, a massive female Burmese python -- 18 feet 3 inches long and 133 pounds -- was recently discovered and caught in Everglades National Park.

The large female is not a record-breaker, although she's only three inches' shy of the longest python documented in Florida, USGS deputy public affairs officer Catherine Puckett told a reporter with ABC News.

The giant snake, which is considered an invasive species in Florida, was found along Shark Valley, a tram road in the Everglades, by a permitted python researcher who regularly works in the national park. In keeping with protocol, the snake was humanely euthanized, and a necropsy performed.

The necropsy of the python confirmed the snake was a female that had not reproduced this season and that its stomach was empty, indicating it had not recently fed. Pythons are considered a nuisance species, and are blamed for competing with native wildlife and severely limiting the populations of other natives like marsh bunnies, small deer and other ground dwellers.

In recent years, hunts have been conducted to attempt to thin out the population, but it is thought that the snakes are fairly widespread and in sizable numbers. Trapping them, is thought to at least slow the growth of the species.

Although not unexpected, such large pythons are rarely seen or trapped. How do they get here? The number one pathway into Florida habitats is by escape or release by pet owners. Other non-native species we are dealing with include; Nile monitor lizards in Cape Coral. There they are preying on burrowing owls among other small ground dwellers. On Grassy Key, Gambian pouched rats are reproducing. They pose a threat to agricultural crops in the mainland and efforts are underway to keep them isolated.

Monk parakeets inhabit much of the Eastern United States and pose a threat to power lines, because of their large communal nests, and agriculture as they have a taste for fruits. Cuban tree frogs are out competing our more, timid tree frogs for food, which has cut into the natural balance. In short, it is a big problem.

What can you do? The number one path to prevention is not to buy exotic animals. If you do, never, ever release them. If you do see a python, you can contact the FWC's Exotic Species Hotline at 888-483-4681 and report a Burmese python sighting. You will need to tell the operator the date and location of the sighting. If you have GPS coordinates, that is great, but if not, the location will be helpful. Please take notice of the markings. If it is safe to do so, get a photograph of the snake so that it can be properly identified.



133 Pound Python Trapped by Shark River, Photo US Geological Service



PARK NEWS

Preserve Seeks Comments on Fire Management

Big Cypress National Preserve and Florida Panther National Wildlife Refuge are seeking public comments on a joint Environmental Assessment (EA) analyzing the environmental impacts of their respective updated Fire Management Plans (FMPs). The EA analyzes the impacts of two alternatives:

Alternative A – No Action. The current fire management practices at the Preserve and Refuge would continue.

Alternative B – Proposed Action. The same fire management techniques and tools allowed under Alternative A would be used with two added options: The Preserve would augment its ability to use mechanical treatments to reduce hazard fuels, maintain defensible space and fuel breaks to protect infrastructure and private property, and restore cultural landscapes; and the Preserve could also consider managing wildfires for resource objectives.

The EA is available at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/fmp>. You can provide comments online or by mail. **Before including an address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment, including your personal identifying information, may be made publicly available at any time.**

Comments by mail may be sent to Superintendent, Big Cypress National Preserve, 33100 Tamiami Trail East, Ochopee, Florida 34141-1000. Comments are requested by August 19, 2016.

PARK ACTIVITIES

Glades Biking in the Morn' – FREE Activity Shark Valley Visitor Center

Available Days: 08/14/2016, 09/18/2016 9:00 to 12:00 PM
Explore the subtleties of the wetlands as the morning light wakes up its inhabitants. Birds, turtles, and alligators sun themselves along your path, spider webs covered in the morning dew glisten in the sun. Join a Park Ranger or a Volunteer for a 15-mile bike ride out into the Shark River Slough.

Bring your own bicycle or rent one from the concession for \$18.00, admission is FREE.

Meet on the back side of the visitor center by the benches.

Wild Walk in the Wilderness - FREE Activity Shark Valley Visitor Center

Available Days: 08/20/2016, 09/17/2016 9:00 to 11:00 AM
Want to try something different? How about "off-roading"? Want to test yourself against the Everglades in the summer? A Park Ranger or Volunteer will lead you through the Shark River Slough using your feet as your "wheels" for a great adventure! Be prepared for high water and biting insects. An immersion into the Everglades and adventure awaits!

Reservations are required (Children must be at least 12 years old), admission is FREE.

LOCAL NEWS

Meet Dr. John Martin

In 1988 there was an interesting article in the Naples Daily News that spoke of a young Chiropractic Physician practicing in Naples who made house calls into the Everglades. Dr. John Martin is a Life University (Atlanta) graduate who took his pre-med studies at the University of Florida (Gainesville) and the University of South Florida (Tampa). Additional studies and degrees and certifications include sports medicine, nutrition, Applied Kinesiology, and homeopathies. Back in 1988, he lived on the water in Naples and commuted into the Everglades at least twice a week.

Well, he's back! Today, he prefers to live in the Everglades (Chokoloskee) and commute back into Naples at least twice a week. He has a patient listing from Tampa, through Sarasota to Ft. Myers and Naples, to Miami and back.

Dr. John Martin is a family practitioner that uses spinal adjustments, nutrition, exercise, and lifestyle instruction rather than drugs and often unsuccessful, painful surgery. Over the years, Dr. Martin has added many additional hours of training to his portfolio.

Additional training and certifications include Acupuncture, Veterinary Orthopedic Manipulation (VOM), and work with cold laser. He works from two offices; one in Everglades City, and the other in Naples. He also provides his services at rodeos, jet ski races, and special events including NASCAR.

Dr. Martin teaches Anatomy and Physiology, Microbiology, and Human Ecology to future doctors and nurses. He also conducts a popular health topic workshop series for the general public. When he's not with patients, you might find him running a boat for the Conservancy of Southwest Florida, or riding his Harley-Davidson around town.

Dr. Martin's current schedule includes Mondays and Tuesdays in Everglades City, and Tuesdays and Thursdays in Naples. You can reach him anytime 24/7 at [813-787-9738](tel:813-787-9738).

Department of Animal Services Offers 'Name Your Own Price' Pet Adoptions

In an effort to find homes for the homeless animals of Collier County, Collier County Domestic Animal Services (DAS) is adopting animals at the customer's desired price. The Name Your Own Price promotion is the response to the growing population of homeless animals at the shelter.


From now until the end of August, customers will be able to decide the price of the animal they would like to adopt. Any price in a whole dollar amount will be accepted.

"We hope allowing customers to determine the price they would like to pay for pet adoptions will help us find homes for the pets that call DAS home," said DAS Director Darcy Andrade. "While adoptions have slowed down this month, intake has not," Andrade added.

Pet adoptions include spay/neuter surgery, vaccinations, microchip, county license and more. This is a value of over \$400. To view adoptable animals, go to www.collierpets.com, or visit the Naples shelter at 7610 Davis Blvd., Naples, Florida 34104, or the Immokalee shelter at 405 Sgt. Joe Jones Road, Immokalee, Florida 34142. Call [\(239\) 252-7387](tel:239-252-7387) (PETS) for more details.

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 - 5 pm; 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

See the Rapper in full color!
Visit our website
www.evergladesmulletrapper.com

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

TIDES FOR BARRON RIVER

07/30 Sat	01:24AM	2.2	H
07/30 Sat	07:15AM	0.8	L
07/30 Sat	12:20PM	3.2	H
07/30 Sat	08:16PM	-0.2	L
07/31 Sun	02:18AM	2.3	H
07/31 Sun	08:12AM	0.8	L
07/31 Sun	01:12PM	3.3	H
07/31 Sun	09:07PM	-0.2	L
08/01 Mon	02:57AM	2.4	H
08/01 Mon	09:04AM	0.7	L
08/01 Mon	01:59PM	3.4	H
08/01 Mon	09:54PM	-0.2	L
08/02 Tue	03:29AM	2.5	H
08/02 Tue	09:52AM	0.7	L
08/02 Tue	02:42PM	3.4	H
08/02 Tue	10:38PM	-0.2	L
08/03 Wed	04:00AM	2.5	H
08/03 Wed	10:36AM	0.6	L
08/03 Wed	03:23PM	3.4	H
08/03 Wed	11:18PM	-0.2	L
08/04 Thu	04:32AM	2.6	H
08/04 Thu	11:19AM	0.5	L
08/04 Thu	04:03PM	3.2	H
08/04 Thu	11:57PM	0.0	L
08/05 Fri	05:05AM	2.6	H
08/05 Fri	12:00PM	0.5	L
08/05 Fri	04:45PM	3.1	H
08/06 Sat	12:34AM	0.1	L
08/06 Sat	05:41AM	2.6	H
08/06 Sat	12:42PM	0.5	L
08/06 Sat	05:29PM	2.9	H
08/07 Sun	01:10AM	0.3	L
08/07 Sun	06:20AM	2.6	H
08/07 Sun	01:27PM	0.5	L
08/07 Sun	06:19PM	2.6	H
08/08 Mon	01:47AM	0.4	L
08/08 Mon	07:01AM	2.6	H
08/08 Mon	02:19PM	0.5	L
08/08 Mon	07:15PM	2.4	H
08/09 Tue	02:25AM	0.6	L
08/09 Tue	07:47AM	2.6	H
08/09 Tue	03:21PM	0.5	L
08/09 Tue	08:20PM	2.2	H
08/10 Wed	03:10AM	0.8	L
08/10 Wed	08:39AM	2.6	H
08/10 Wed	04:31PM	0.5	L
08/10 Wed	09:35PM	2.1	H
08/11 Thu	04:14AM	0.9	L
08/11 Thu	09:37AM	2.6	H
08/11 Thu	05:40PM	0.4	L
08/11 Thu	10:57PM	2.0	H
08/12 Fri	05:28AM	1.0	L
08/12 Fri	10:40AM	2.7	H
08/12 Fri	06:40PM	0.3	L
08/13 Sat	12:16AM	2.1	H
08/13 Sat	06:31AM	1.0	L
08/13 Sat	11:39AM	2.8	H
08/13 Sat	07:32PM	0.2	L
07/31 Sun	09:07PM	-0.2	L

OBITUARY

Mary Opal Butler, age 96, passed away in Pleasant View, KY, on July 21. Mary's son Bill Butler and daughter-in-law Adela live on Plantation Island.

Mary Opal Butler was born on Wolf Creek, Pleasant View, Kentucky, February 19, 1920. She met and married



James Mitchel Butler (from Center, KY) in 1940, after meeting and living in Miami, Florida, where they settled and raised a family. She loved her

status as a stay at home mom, cooking wonderful meals and keeping house with her many talents in sewing and decorating with her crafts.

After she raised her family, her interests turned to China painting where she devoted many years perfecting her skills and became quite prolific in this art form. She was humble and did not know just how good she had become. She was always coiffed and took pride in wearing the stylish clothes she made. She loved to travel and was always ready to go.

Her family and friends will remember her shy manner and her many gifts and talents. She is survived by her oldest son James Mitchel Butler Jr., (Linda) and their sons, Robert and Scott Butler.

She is also survived by her youngest son, William Howard Butler (Adela) and son, William Joseph Butler. A surviving sister, Beatrice and her daughter Jeannie, live in West Virginia. Nieces, Brenda, Sue, and nephew, Larry and their respective families live in Pleasant View, Kentucky.

Mary Opal's younger brother who predeceased her. Survivors of her older brother, Jerry Lambdin, who also predeceased her, are nieces Sharon and (Ruth deceased) nephews Jerrold and (James deceased). Mary Opal will be greatly missed by many other distant relatives and friends.



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.

AVAILABLE NOW. One and two bedrm apts for rent; wkly, monthly or yrly. Located in Glades Building, 207 W. Broadway. Above Glades Realty and Sweet Mayberry's Cafe. -239-695-4150.

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

FOR SALE: 1999 Ford Van High-top. E-150, V6, good gas mileage, power steering, good tires. Couch converts to bed. 181K miles, \$2800. Call Jerry: 239-280-7193.

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 PIC

Butchie Brock enjoys his cushy sofa!

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.

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: Original Collier home. Adorable cottage style, large fenced yard, river view, large screened porch, beautiful kitchen, oak floors, tin roof, ready to move in on day 1. Optional deeded dock at Captains Table. Call or text for appointment: 954-662-7003.

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.

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

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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CITY _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

MONTHS AT ALTERNATE ADDRESS

___ JAN ___ FEB ___ MAR ___ APR ___ MAY ___ JUN ___ JUL ___ AUG ___ SEP ___ OCT ___ NOV ___ DEC

7/30/16