

# The MULLET RAPPER

## What's Happening in the Everglades City Area

TIDE TABLE  
RESTAURANTS

SEPT. 10 – SEPT. 23, 2016

ONLY  
25¢

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### Hurricane Hermine Goes North, Misses E City Area

As Hurricane Hermine made its way across the Atlantic and then made its way into the Gulf, residents of Florida kept their eyes focused on the storm wondering where it would finally make landfall. Fortunately for us, Hermine continued North. Some soaking storms did affect the Everglades area, and we did get some local flooding during the high tides. However, the true wrath of the storm was felt in the panhandle...as we all down here, undoubtedly, exhaled a sigh of relief.

September 10<sup>th</sup> is considered the peak of the hurricane season, so we are not out of the woods for this year yet. Staying prepared for storms is always advisable, so remember these key items to have on hand: Flashlights and flashlight batteries. I also like to use solar landscape lights. They charge up in the day, and you can put them inside during the evening without worrying about fires! Drinking water is a must, as are canned goods for people and pets. Also, make sure you have extra charcoal or propane for the grill just in case the power is out for an extended period so you can cook meals.

### BLESSING OF THE FLEET – A PROUD TRADITION

Join the Celebration, October 1<sup>st</sup> at the Rod & Gun Club at 10 am

Before you know it, we'll be eating fresh and delicious stone crab claws again. But, do we really think about the boats that go out at 4:00 a.m. each morning, whatever the weather? Remember those chilly and windy winter mornings when you simply pull up the covers and sleep in...our local fishermen are out over the water working hard so we can enjoy the fruits of their labor...Stone crab claws!



The fishermen will soon set their traps to pull them up on October 15<sup>th</sup> filled with the highly anticipated delicacies.

To make sure they know how much we truly appreciate their contribution to our community, we must make sure that they have a proper send off.

Everglades City is holding its annual "Blessing of the Stone

Crab Fleet" on Saturday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, at the historic Rod & Gun Club on the Barron River. The event will start at 10:00 a.m., and end at around 1:00 p.m. There is something fun planned for the entire family! There will be arts & crafts booths, music, and a bake sale before local pastors bless each boat at noon.

The kids will have a great time during the frog-jumping contest, a unique, local event that they look forward to each year. Children can demonstrate their imagination and artistic skills at the Stone Crab Art Contest. Art contest winners will have their pictures displayed in the Museum of the Everglades during the entire month of October. There will also be face-painting to get them in, and keep them in, the celebratory mood.

For the adults, there is the traditional Coconut Guava Cake contest and a raffle for 5lbs of the first claws caught by Grimm's Stone Crabs. Immediately following the blessing, all contest winners will be announced and the prizes will be awarded!

Stone Crabs are so important to our community and the local economy. Let's show the fishermen how appreciative we are for their dedication and hard work by joining in on this celebration!


The festivities are being organized by the Everglades Society for Historic Preservation ([www.evergladeshistorical.org](http://www.evergladeshistorical.org)). For more information, phone Marya at (239) 695-2905.








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Have news, photos, announcements, or articles? Email [mulletrapper@gmail.com](mailto:mulletrapper@gmail.com) or call or text 954-662-7003.

# SEPTEMBER – OCTOBER 2016

 Indicates prime fishing time!

<u>SUN</u>	<u>MON</u>	<u>TUES</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THURS</u>	<u>FRI</u>	<u>SAT</u>
11	12 Hour of Prayer Holy Family Catholic Church, 7 pm OFCD mtg., see p. 3 City Council Mtg, 5:30 pm	13 	14  Ladies Coffee Island Café, 8 am	15 	16  full moon ●	17  Coastal Cleanup, See p. 3
18 	19  Hour of Prayer Everglades Comm. Church, 7pm	20 Reach Out Meeting, City Hall, 9:30am	21 Ladies Coffee City Seafood, 8 am	22	23	<u>RAPPER 24</u>
25	26 Hour of Prayer Copeland Baptist Church 7 pm	27 	28  Ladies Coffee Island Café, 8 am	29 	30  new moon ○	Oct. 1  Blessing of the Fleet, See p. 3
2 	3  Hour of Prayer Chokoloskee Church of God, 7 pm	4 City Hall Mtg, 5:30pm FME Mtg, 3:30pm Congress. Aide Visit, 3:30pm	5 Ladies Coffee City Seafood, 8 am	6	7	<u>RAPPER 8</u>
9	10 Hour of Prayer Holy Family Catholic Church, 7 pm OFCD mtg., see p. 3	11	12  Ladies Coffee Island Café, 8 am	13  Lions Club Oyster House, 6pm	14 	15  full moon ● Stone Crab Season Open!

Oct 29: Halloween Celebration  
Nov. 24: Thanksgiving Day

Nov. 8: General Election  
Nov. 25: Black Friday

Nov. 11: Veteran's Day  
Nov. 28: Cyber Monday

THRIFT SHOP: Sat, 11 am–3 pm  
LIONS CLUB: 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of Month, Oyster House, 6 pm  
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: 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday, 9 am to 3:30 pm

SKATING RINK: Fri, Sat, 7-10 pm  
REACH OUT: 3<sup>rd</sup> 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: 1<sup>st</sup> 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 in Town**

**Coastal Collier Cleanup**

September 17, 8:00 am to 11:00 am. Keep Collier Beautiful - Coastal Cleanup. We are seeking volunteers for the annual effort to keep our coastal areas clean. Interested individuals contact us for more information: 239-580-8319. Visit the website: [keepcollierbeautiful.com](http://keepcollierbeautiful.com).



**October 1, 2016**

Family fun day at the Rod & Gun Club, 10am-1pm, for the annual blessing of the stone crab boats. Kiddies' contest, Art-in-the-Glades.

**Meetings Tuesday, October 4<sup>th</sup>**

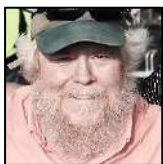
FME Meeting, City Hall 3:30 p.m.  
 Congressional Aide Visit, 3:30 p.m.  
 City Council Meeting, 5:30 p.m.

**Saturday, October 15**

Reception for Greg Dupignac at the Museum of the Everglades, 1 to 3 p.m.

**Wings Across the Glades**

**September 1<sup>st</sup> – October 31<sup>st</sup>**  
**Museum of the Everglades**



Four years ago, Greg Dupignac traded in his business for the camera and moved to Everglades City to fully immerse himself with his new found love. Greg Dupignac finds inspiration in the swamps and mud flats of the Everglades, and his background and training in art has allowed him to bring the same fundamentals of composition, lighting and subject matter into his photography.

**BECOME A RAPPER CONTRIBUTOR!**

Please send us your articles, news, area events, recipes, and photos of the day's big catch. Become a contributor to our community paper. The deadline for submissions is Saturday, a week before publication. Publication dates are posted in the calendar of each issue of the Rapper.

Send to: [mulletrapper@gmail.com](mailto:mulletrapper@gmail.com), or call 954-662-7003.

**Notice Board**



**Workshops to Offer Advise On Diet, Health & Longevity**

Dr. John Martin will be hosting his popular Workshop Series, *Temple Maintenance*, in a twelve session program starting the week after Labor Day.

This "Nuts & Bolts" practical and entertaining series of 2 hour workshops was very well attended last season, and promises to be even more informative and well-attended this year.

The more we understand how the body really works, the better choices we can make in taking care of it. Numerous subjects will be presented, with updates in current research and practical application. A tentative list of topics includes; Eight Common Characteristics of the Chronically Well, The Competitive Edge, Competitive Athletes, Anti-Aging and Longevity, Eating to Fight Disease, The Fungus Among Us - and What We Can Do About It, Stress is Stress is Stress - How to Better Understand and Manage It, The Five Facets of Health-Proper Exercise, Proper Rest, Proper Nutrition, A Positive/Winning Attitude, and Subluxation Free Living, No Pain, No Gain - Myth or Magic, Spiritual Fitness, Weight Control, Feeding Your Kids Right, and E.D.

Call 813-787-9738 for locations, times, and reservations - seating is limited, reserve yours early.

**Advice on Zika Virus Prevention**

There are no reported cases of local transmission of Zika virus by mosquitoes to people in Collier County. However, staying informed and practicing good preventative measures is an excellent idea.

Mosquitoes are most active at dawn and dusk. Staying indoors during peak activity is recommended. If you are outdoors, wearing long sleeve clothing and repellent containing DEET where not covered is recommended. There are several types of "cooler" long-sleeved shirts and slacks in local sporting goods stores and some of our local shops.

For More Information,  
 Call the Zika Virus Hotline:  
 855-622-6735

**OCHOPEE FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT**

- 08/23/16: Mutual Aid, 50 Mile Marker I-75
- 08/23/16: Vehicle Accident, 56 MM I-75
- 08/23/16: Vehicle Accident, 54 MM I-75
- 08/24/16: Vehicle Accident, 60 MM I-75
- 08/24/16: Power Line Down, SR 29 and Wagon Wheel Road
- 08/24/16: Vehicle Accident, Ochopee
- 08/25/16: Vehicle Accident, 60 MM I-75
- 08/25/16: Emergency Medical, 60 MM I-75
- 08/25/16: Emergency Med, 63 MM I-75
- 08/25/16: Power Line Down, Ochopee
- 08/25/16: Emergency Med, Plantation Island
- 08/25/16: Emergency Med, Port of the Islands
- 08/26/16: Emergency Med, Port of the Islands
- 08/26/16: Emergency Med, Port of the Islands
- 08/26/16: Vehicle Accident, 78 MM I-75
- 08/26/16: Vehicle Accident, 72 MM I-75
- 08/27/16: Emergency Medical, Copeland
- 08/29/16: Emergency Med, Port of the Islands
- 08/29/16: Vehicle Accident, 73 MM I-75
- 08/29/16: Vehicle Accident, 80 MM I-75
- 08/29/16: Boat Fire, Port of the Islands
- 08/30/16: Emergency Med, Port of the Islands
- 08/30/16: Mutual Aid, Labrador Lane
- 08/31/16: Emergency Medical, Ochopee
- 09/01/16: Vehicle Accident, Ochopee
- 09/01/16: Emergency Medical, Ochopee
- 09/01/16: Vehicle Accident, 50 MM I-75
- 09/01/16: Emergency Med, Everglades City
- 09/02/16: Vehicle Accident, Ochopee
- 09/03/16: Boat Rescue, Evg.City
- 09/03/16: Car Accident, 54 MM I-75
- 09/04/16: Vehicle Fire, 70 Mile Marker I-75
- 09/04/16: Vehicle Accident, 71 MM I-75

The Ochopee Fire Control District Advisory Committee will meet at 4 p.m. on **Monday, September 12th**, at 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](mailto: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 during the rainy summer months. Bring your items in on Saturday during our regular hours.*



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# SCHOOL NEWS

Everglades City School

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[www.evg.collierschools.com](http://www.evg.collierschools.com)



## Small Town Taylor

by Taylor Mayberry

Volleyball is by far my favorite team sport! Ever since I was two years old I've participated in dance classes and many different sports. But, I have never loved any other sport like I love volleyball. I first started playing volleyball for Naples Juniors when I was seven years old. I started out as a "Volleytot". In Volleytots we learned basic volleyball skills and practiced these skills like bumping, setting and spiking. After a year of Volleytots, I continued Volleytots but also went on to league. League is where we actually get to play games against other teams and practice more drills.

While I was in league, I learned about the travel team and wanted to try out for it. So, I asked my Mom and she said that I could try out. My first time trying out for the travel volleyball team was one year ago when I was 9 years old. Unfortunately, my first time trying out I didn't make it. I was sad that I didn't make it but I didn't let it get me down. It only made me want to try harder. So, I set myself a goal to make the next year's travel team. I knew this meant that I had to practice a lot. I did my best in the Volleytots

practices and I practiced at home too. I even sometimes tried to practice inside the house and my Mom would always tell me to "Take it outside Taylor." I practiced and practiced and practiced. During the summer time I signed up for beach volleyball. Beach volleyball is my favorite because you can get messy, dive for the ball in the sand and Coach Matt is the one that coaches beach volleyball. Coach Matt is my favorite!



So, just last weekend, I tried out for the travel volleyball team again and I am proud to announce that I made the travel volleyball team for Naples Juniors Extreme team! I didn't let not making the team the first time get me down. I tried harder. So, if you ever try out for something and don't make it, don't be down on yourself. Just practice harder, do your best, wear mismatched socks for good luck and you will succeed!

With lots of love,  
Taylor



*Taylor Mayberry is 10 years old and in the 5th grade attending Everglades City School.*



## A Message from the Principal

**Involved Gators!** Students are very active as we prepare for the year's events with a great deal of excitement. Plans are already being made for events such as Homecoming and the Prom even though they are months away. To assist with this process, our Student Government Association will be conducting elections for class officers so students have input into the events and dates they are to occur on. A big thank you to Ms. Walker who coordinates our Student Government Program. She has done an excellent job working with our students and providing them an opportunity to develop their leadership skills by representing their classmates. We will be sure to include more information as the dates for our activities and sporting events are scheduled.

To provide the most accurate information about athletic events we now have a website dedicated to this information. Please visit [www.evgathletics.com](http://www.evgathletics.com) and you will find a calendar with events and each team's sports schedules. Thanks to Mr. Zuk for working so diligently to launch this site as this will allow everyone to check the calendar as schedule changes often make it difficult to rely solely on paper copies of schedules.

Thank you all for the support you provide to our students! In my next article, I will provide information about the new "Parent Portal" that will work to provide a location that makes finding the information parents are trying to locate an easier process.

**Jim Ragusa**  
Principal

**IT IS ALWAYS A GREAT DAY TO BE A GATOR!**

### EVERGLADES CITY SCHOOL ATHLETICS WEBSITE LAUNCHED

Finding information on school sports is now available in a click! Online that is, where you can click on an away game and the address will pop up on your map. This is great for those who want to travel to the games. You can access the website on your smartphone and have the directions sent right to MapQuest. It has all schedules and a calendar that shows school sporting events.

In the announcement and events section on the right side of the home page, there will be a quick way to view the weeks' schedule which will be updated every week by Coach Zuk, as well as any announcements from the other coaches.

There is a Fan Shop that literally has 100's of different types of sports apparel and spirit wear for all of the various sports, and other interests like drama, biology, algebra, and more! It is really an impressive amount of spirit wear for all interests. Best yet, a portion of all the proceeds goes back to the school to help fund athletics. Thank you to Coach Zuk for this great resource!

Visit: <http://www.evgathletics.com/main/calendar>  
for a calendar of school athletic events

### IMPORTANT DATES EVERGLADES CITY SCHOOL

Sept. 23: Early dismissal day



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Appetizers \$6

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**Collier County Museums  
Unveil Lineup of New Fall  
Exhibitions and Events**

Covering more than 10,000 years of Southwest Florida history, each Collier museum pairs artwork with education from Florida shipwrecks to the stories behind local attractions. Below is a preview of 2016 fall exhibitions and events:

“Wings Across the Everglades”  
Museum of the Everglades  
September 1 – October 31, 2016

Event: Museum Day Live! - Naples  
Depot Museum - September 24, 2016

“Reflections in Batik” Exhibition by  
Natalie Guess - Naples Depot Museum:  
October 5 – December 30, 2016

“Windows and Doors to History,”  
Marco Island Historical Museum  
November 1, 2016 – February 18, 2017

Event: USO Show - Naples Depot  
Museum - November 11, 2016

Event: Old Florida Festival, Collier  
County Museum – Nov. 19 – 20, 2016

More than 10,000 years of Southwest Florida history is on display at Collier County Museums’ five locations: The Main Museum, which includes a 5-acre historical park, is located just five minutes east of downtown Naples at 3331 Tamiami Trail East in Naples; the Naples Depot Museum in downtown Naples; at Everglades City in the historic Collier Company laundry building; the Pioneer Museum at the Roberts Ranch in Immokalee; and the Marco Island Historical Museum. The Marco Island Historical Museum is located at 180 S. Heathwood in the heart of Marco Island. The Marco Island Historical Museum is open Tuesday through Saturday, from 9 am to 4 pm. Admission is free and the site is handicapped accessible.

**For more information, visit:**  
[www.colliermuseums.com](http://www.colliermuseums.com)  
or call (239) 642-1440.

*Recipes for Good Eating*

**MAKE YOUR LEFTOVERS INTO GOOD, HOT FOOD IN THE SUMMER**

by Marya Repko

- Leftover Meats  
1 Medium Onion  
5 or so Carrots  
Any Other Veggies You Need to Use Up  
Olive Oil for Sautéing  
Lentils or Bean of Your Choice

I had some leftover pork chops and chicken wings so I decided to make a "stew" with them. I started with a bit of onion and carrots sautéed in olive oil and then added the chopped up meats. When that got bubbling nicely, I added in a cup of water, and then some lentils, let it come up to a boil, added a bit more water, and then turned down the heat.

After an hour of simmering, I added some fresh chopped green beans and a sprinkle of curry powder for interest. I could also have thrown in chopped green pepper, tomatoes, mushrooms, or whatever other veggies I had lurking in the fridge. When the beans were soft, it was ready to eat with toasted French bread to mop up the gravy.

But, hot stew in the middle of summer? I remember my mother served a lovely traditional beef stew to some English friends one August when I thought they would expect the usual New England barbeque but they felt so comforted with her homely meal. And, of course, people in hot climates do eat hot foods. Think of Indian curries which are hot in temperature as well as spice. And, a hot cup of tea is much more invigorating than the same brew iced.

*Rapper Crossword*

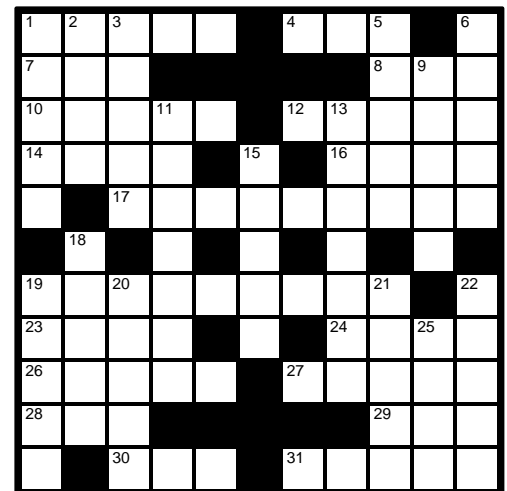
(Solution in next issue or visit [www.mulletrapper.com/xword](http://www.mulletrapper.com/xword))

**Across**

1. Wanderer
4. Iced drink
7. I have
8. Exclamation of disgust
10. Indoor game
12. Speed detection device
14. Otherwise
16. Sever with the teeth
17. Tired
19. Organizations
23. Spoken
24. Free from doubt
26. Made a hole
27. Pertaining to Asia
28. Conclusion
29. Small insectivorous bird
30. Total
31. Numbers 13 through 19

**Down**

1. Person who rides
2. Egg-shaped
3. A piece of poetry
5. Examine account books
6. Cut into small pieces
9. Entrances



9/10/16

**(Down Continued)**

11. Cloth
13. Gathering of pus in body tissue
15. Spiteful
18. Stupid person
19. Not drunk
20. Parlor game
21. Connected series of rooms
22. Leases
25. Shower



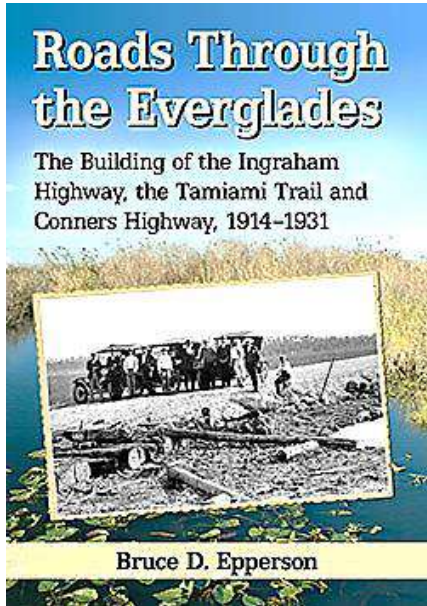
## Off the Shelf - Book Review

### Roads Through the Everglades

by Bruce D. Epperson

reviewed by Marya Repko

Of course, we know about the Tamiami Trail which was completed across the Everglades, thanks in part to Barron Collier, and opened with much fanfare in the town of Everglades on April 26, 1928. It was a hard slog through the limestone and muck but Collier's was a critical section of roadway between Tampa to Miami. The final link was the Edison Memorial Bridge over the Caloosahatchee in 1931.



But, where are the others? The Ingraham Highway is particularly relevant in this 100th anniversary of Everglades National Park because James Ingraham, an executive in Flagler's east coast railroad empire, was instrumental in acquiring the land for Royal Palm state park in 1916 - the nucleus of our vast national park. The road named in his honor went from Homestead to Flamingo, at first a dirt path and then a proper paved throughway.

Flamboyant "Fingy" William Connors was another entrepreneur, like Collier and Flagler, who saw a future in Florida. He concentrated on the area around Lake Okeechobee. After he had bought over 40,000 acres, he spent \$1.8 million to build his road from West Palm Beach to Okeechobee City. It was completed in 1924 and users had to pay a toll which was resented by local landowners. He died in 1929 and the state took over the road; his grandiose plan for the lake city to be another great metropolitan area was never realized.

These roads opened up south Florida to settlement and agriculture in the days when most transportation was by water.

The author works with the Federal Highway Administration. In 2007 he was a National Park Scholar stationed in the Everglades. He describes living in a remote cabin which he describes as "a world apart - a tropical paradise where cell phones didn't work, panthers screamed at night, the mosquitoes moved in visible clouds, the alligators were as common as stepping stones ... and you were reminded each and every day that you, puny human, had no business being there."

This is a very thorough, erudite book with lots of references. He has done a huge amount of research in original (primary) sources to back up his statements. I wouldn't take it for pool-side reading but I did enjoy browsing through it to update my memory of local history and to learn new facts.

*Roads Through the Everglades* is not yet available at our public library but has been recommended for purchase. You can order a copy at [www.abebooks.com](http://www.abebooks.com) if you don't want to wait.



## Living Gulf Coast

by Charles Sobczak

**Mahogany** (*Swietenia mahagoni*) Other names: West Indian mahogany / Status: FL=declining, IUCN=EN / Life span: more than 50 years / Height: 35-50 ft. (10.6-15 m) / Reproduces by seed in upland, drier habitats / Found: Throughout Southwest Florida

This semi-evergreen tree is commonly planted as an ornamental in both residential and commercial landscape designs. A number of these trees are more than thirty feet high and are excellent examples of how well mahogany trees do in urban landscapes.

Mahogany only casts a light shadow and because of that, does not discourage grass and other plantings from growing beneath it. It does shed its leaves annually near the end of winter but the new growth quickly replaces these fallen leaves and the tree is leafless for only a week or two. The seeds develop in a fairly large seed capsule that is roughly the same size as a major league baseball. The seed pod bursts open in the spring to release its seeds and the tree can be cultivated from these seeds with proper care.

In the wild this species of mahogany is in serious trouble. The fine, straight-grained wood of this species is considered to be the finest cabinet and furniture making wood in the world. Early American Chippendale and Hepplewhite cabinet makers used *Swietenia mahagoni* in the construction of cabinets and furniture which over the centuries have become worth a small fortune. Because of continued demand for this excellent wood, large trees are poached out of hardwood hammocks in the Everglades National Park and other south Florida locations resulting in most of the remaining trees more closely resembling bushes than mature mahoganies. While its range once extended much further north into Florida,



these stands have been cut to extinction, with most of it shipped back to England and Europe in the 1800s. These and other factors have made the IUCN place the species in the endangered category of the official Red List.

There are quite a few trees planted in our area. There is a very mature specimen along the Barron River, and others throughout the tri-island community. The mahogany is fairly salt tolerant and because of its hard, dark red

wood, stands up well to hurricane force winds.

Photos by Charles Sobczak





## My Little Slice of Paradise

by Kathy Brock

Whenever we get a (rare) chance to get out over the water in the Everglades area, one of my favorite pastimes is looking for Sea turtles. There is just something very majestic about them to me. I think it is because it almost looks as if they are looking right at you when they surface for air. They appear so slow and lumbering, but they are very fast when in the water when they feel threatened or when they are going after prey.

There are five species of sea turtles found in waters of south Florida: loggerhead, green, leatherback, hawksbill, and Kemp's Ridley. During summer months, it is estimated that there are approximately 50,000 turtles in Florida waters. *Approximately 90% of the sea turtle population in the United States hatch their young on the beaches of Florida.*

For this reason, sea turtles are particularly sensitive to natural disasters; such as hurricanes. It is estimated that the 2005 nestling population was almost entirely wiped out by Hurricane Wilma that affected both the west and eastern coasts of South Florida.

Sea turtles spend most of their lives in the water, and not much information can be gathered on their behavior. Most of what is known about sea turtle behavior is obtained by observing hatchlings and females that leave the water to lay eggs, and some things observed in captivity.



Sea turtles, like salmon, will return to the same nesting grounds where they were born. When females come to the shore they dig out a nest in the ground with their

back flippers, bury their clutch of eggs and then return to the ocean. After hatching, the young may take as long as a week to dig themselves out of the nest. They emerge at night, move toward the ocean and remain there, solitary, until it is time to mate.

It is presumed that Sea turtles can live anywhere between 80 and 100 years, although there is no way of accurately estimating this. Females only breed when they reach sexual maturity and that happens between 30 and 50 years, and then they can reproduce for some 30 years during this period.

Sea turtle eggs are very much influenced by the temperature of the sand surrounding the nest. If the sand is below 85 degrees, the majority of hatchlings will be male. If the temperature is above 85 degrees, the hatchlings will be mostly female.

In Florida, the primary mating season is from March to October, depending on the species. There are between 70 and 190 eggs in a clutch on average. The gestation period is between 6 and 10 weeks. When the babies emerge, it will be a full moon, and the light of the moon over the water will point them in the proper direction of the sea. For this reason, many municipalities have enacted rules to reduce artificial light where the nests exist so not to lure the babies in the wrong direction. This disturbing behavior has been seen time and time again, until lawmakers did something about it. Once the hatching season is completed...the lights go back on! A good compromise to help keep our turtle populations healthy!

Sea turtles do have some natural predators. Tiger Sharks and whales are two, man and man-made nets and boating accidents also take a toll. Please watch out for them when boating!

## August Juvenile Smalltooth Sawfish Abundance Survey

By: Andrea Kroetz, NOAA Fisheries,  
Panama City Laboratory, Panama City, FL

In August, the NOAA Smalltooth Sawfish Abundance Survey was stationed in Everglades City, sampling coastal areas from Goodland to Turner River.

Three smalltooth sawfish were tagged and released on this trip; two young-of-the-year and one juvenile. Captures occurred off of Panther Key in Ten Thousand Islands National Wildlife Refuge, Grocery Creek in Goodland, and off of a new sampling location in Goodland. The juvenile captured was a male (stretch total length 65 inches) and the two young-of-the-year animals included two females (stretch total lengths were 48 and 50 inches).



Researchers extract a small blood sample from a juvenile male smalltooth sawfish (65 inches) that will help scientists understand the stress physiology of this endangered species. The sawfish was outfitted with a mark-and-recapture external tag on August 18, 2016 and released in excellent condition.

Smalltooth sawfish were listed as endangered in 2003 under Section 9 of the Endangered Species Act. Remember, it is illegal to "take" (harass, harm, pursue, target, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, or capture) this animal. The current core population is limited to waters off the coast of southwest Florida and incidental encounters between smalltooth sawfish and fishermen do occur. If you incidentally hook or net a smalltooth sawfish, please do not remove the animal from the water. Cut the line or gear as close to the animal as possible and release the animal immediately. Please exercise caution and never remove the saw.

If you see or incidentally catch a smalltooth sawfish, please contact the International Sawfish Encounter Database at 352-392-2360 or the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission at 941-255-7403. You can also email: [Sawfish@MyFWC.com](mailto:Sawfish@MyFWC.com). All input and cooperation from the public is greatly valued and helps guide our field expeditions.

The Smalltooth Sawfish Abundance Survey field team will be in Everglades City, sampling areas surrounding Chokoloskee Island up to Ten Thousand Island National Wildlife Refuge in November, 2016. Please note; this research follows permits EVER-2016-SCI-0016 and ESA-17787.

## PARK NEWS

### Award Winning Photographer Clyde Butcher to Unveil His "National Parks" Collection During Big Cypress Gallery "Open House" Halloween Weekend

#### Swamp Walk Tours to be Led by Park Rangers

Award-winning photographer Clyde Butcher will be at his Big Cypress Gallery during an Open House on Halloween weekend. On Saturday, October 29 and Sunday, October 30, Butcher will exhibit -- for the first time -- all of his photographs of 33 National Parks that he has photographed over the past 50 years. Butcher considers himself more a teacher than a photographer in hopes that, by sharing nature's beauty, it is kept in a natural condition for future generations. This is a noble goal and one that aligns itself perfectly with the objectives of the National Park Service 100th year anniversary.



In addition to the exhibit, the Big Cypress National Preserve Rangers will be leading swamp walks every hour on the hour from 9am to 2pm behind the gallery during this special Open House event. The cost is \$50 per person and children are free with paid adults. All the proceeds from the walks will be donated to their Educational Department.

Big Cypress Gallery is located along the scenic Tamiami Trail (U.S. 41), 47 miles east of Naples and 36 miles west of Miami at Mile Marker 54.5, about half mile east of the Big Cypress National Preserve Oasis Visitor Center.

For more information on the National Parks photography exhibition Open House and the swamp walks visit: <http://clydebutcher.com/s/swamp-walks/ranger-led-swamp-walk/>

## Florida Panther Update



Wildlife officials report that an 8.5-year-old Female Florida panther was killed, and the remains discovered on August 29<sup>th</sup>. It is believed that the animal was killed by another animal (panther).

So far this year, 31 panther deaths have been documented. Of the 31 deaths, 23 (74%) have been caused by vehicle accidents. Please use caution when driving in the Everglades area. Panthers are most active at dusk and dawn and in the evening hours.

## TAXING THINGS

by Mike the Tax Guy

### What to Expect at Tax Time if You Rent Out Your Vacation Home

Renting out a vacation property to others can be profitable. If you do this, you must normally report the rental income on your tax return. You may not have to report the rent, however, if the rental period is short and you also use the property as your home.

- **Vacation Home.** A vacation home can be a house, apartment, condominium, mobile home, boat or similar property.
- **Schedule E.** You usually report rental income and rental expenses on Schedule E Rental income may also be subject to Net Investment Income Tax.
- **Used as a Home.** If the property is "used as a home," your deduction for rental expenses can't be more than the rent you received.
- **Divide Expenses.** If you personally use your property and also rent it to others, you must divide your expenses between rental use and personal use and compare the number of days for each type of use with the total days of use.
- **Personal Use.** Personal use may include use by your family and may also include use by any other property owners or their family. Use by anyone who pays less than a fair rental price is also considered personal use.
- **Schedule A.** Report deductible expenses for personal use on Schedule A, Itemized Deductions. These may include costs such as mortgage interest, property taxes and casualty losses.
- **Rented Less than 15 Days.** If the property is "used as a home" and you rent it out fewer than 15 days per year, you do not have to report the rental income. In this case you deduct your qualified expenses on Schedule A.



## STAR TREKKER REPORT

By Chris Herlovich

**September 16** - Full "Harvest" Moon. The Harvest Moon is the full moon that occurs closest to the September equinox each year.

**September 22** - September Equinox. This is also the first day of fall (autumnal equinox) in the Northern Hemisphere.

**September 28** - Mercury at Greatest Western Elongation. The planet Mercury reaches greatest western elongation of 17.9 degrees from the Sun. This is the best time to view Mercury since it will be at its highest point above the horizon in the morning sky. Look for the planet low in the eastern sky just before sunrise.

**October 1** - New Moon. The Moon will be located on the same side of the Earth as the Sun and will not be visible in the night sky. This is the best time of the month to observe faint objects such as galaxies and star clusters because there is no moonlight to interfere.

**October 7** - Draconids Meteor Shower. The Draconids is a minor meteor shower producing only about 10 meteors per hour. The shower runs annually from October 6-10 and peaks this year on the night of the 7th.



**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; Closed for  
Summer

**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

**1<sup>st</sup> 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, Naples**

8 am (Spanish) and 10 am (English) Mass

**San Marco Catholic Church, Marco Isl.**

8 am and 10:30 am Mass

See the Rapper in full color!  
Visit our website  
[www.evergladesmulletrapper.com](http://www.evergladesmulletrapper.com)

**EVERGLADES CITY**  
Lat: 25.87°N Long: 81.37°W  
See [www.weather.gov](http://www.weather.gov) for weather  
and [www.nhc.noaa.gov](http://www.nhc.noaa.gov) for storms

**TIDES FOR BARRON RIVER**

09/10 Sat	04:45AM	1.1	L
09/10 Sat	09:55AM	2.6	H
09/10 Sat	05:57PM	0.4	L
09/10 Sat	11:40PM	2.3	H
09/11 Sun	06:03AM	1.1	L
09/11 Sun	11:06AM	2.7	H
09/11 Sun	06:53PM	0.3	L
09/12 Mon	12:38AM	2.4	H
09/12 Mon	07:00AM	1.0	L
09/12 Mon	12:05PM	2.9	H
09/12 Mon	07:43PM	0.2	L
09/13 Tue	01:19AM	2.6	H
09/13 Tue	07:47AM	0.8	L
09/13 Tue	12:54PM	3.1	H
09/13 Tue	08:27PM	0.1	L
09/14 Wed	01:54AM	2.7	H
09/14 Wed	08:32AM	0.7	L
09/14 Wed	01:37PM	3.3	H
09/14 Wed	09:09PM	0.1	L
09/15 Thu	02:26AM	2.9	H
09/15 Thu	09:15AM	0.5	L
09/15 Thu	02:19PM	3.4	H
09/15 Thu	09:50PM	0.1	L
09/16 Fri	02:57AM	3.0	H
09/16 Fri	09:58AM	0.3	L
09/16 Fri	03:00PM	3.5	H
09/16 Fri	10:30PM	0.1	L
09/17 Sat	03:27AM	3.1	H
09/17 Sat	10:42AM	0.2	L
09/17 Sat	03:44PM	3.5	H
09/17 Sat	11:10PM	0.2	L
09/18 Sun	03:58AM	3.2	H
09/18 Sun	11:27AM	0.1	L
09/18 Sun	04:32PM	3.3	H
09/18 Sun	11:50PM	0.3	L
09/19 Mon	04:30AM	3.3	H
09/19 Mon	12:15PM	0.0	L
09/19 Mon	05:27PM	3.1	H
09/20 Tue	12:31AM	0.5	L
09/20 Tue	05:08AM	3.3	H
09/20 Tue	01:07PM	0.0	L
09/20 Tue	06:30PM	2.9	H
09/21 Wed	01:16AM	0.7	L
09/21 Wed	05:53AM	3.2	H
09/21 Wed	02:05PM	0.1	L
09/21 Wed	07:42PM	2.6	H
09/22 Thu	02:08AM	0.9	L
09/22 Thu	06:52AM	3.1	H
09/22 Thu	03:12PM	0.2	L
09/22 Thu	09:00PM	2.5	H
09/23 Fri	03:17AM	1.0	L
09/23 Fri	08:12AM	3.0	H
09/23 Fri	04:26PM	0.2	L
09/23 Fri	10:29PM	2.4	H
09/24 Sat	04:41AM	1.0	L
09/24 Sat	09:40AM	2.9	H
09/24 Sat	05:38PM	0.2	L
09/25 Sun	12:02AM	2.4	H
09/25 Sun	05:59AM	1.0	L

**Obituary**

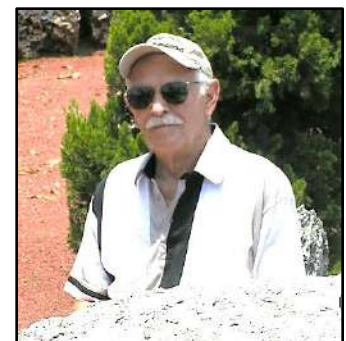
**Margaret Virginia Lopez Webb**  
6/27/1921-8/31/2016

"Our granny was finally able to see her husband again after waiting for so many years! Even though she will be greatly missed we are happy for her all the same. We know you're having a grand time!"  
~The Lopez - Webb Family



**In Memory**

**Elton R. Tullie**  
9/21/1923 - 3/17/2016



Dad, it has been 6 months since you left us and not a day goes by for me without thinking about you. Although the sadness is still present, I am finding myself thinking about the good times more, and final days less.

Thank you for being such a positive influence in our lives and someone to look up to and emulate. I will never forget the sacrifices you made for me, and for our country as a veteran of World War II. You will forever be missed and you will never be forgotten. Happy Birthday.  
~The Tullie - Brock Family

# RAPPER CLASSIFIEDS

**NEW JOB LISTING:** Attention USCG Captains! Everglades Area Tours is in search of part-time captains to a run a boat a couple of days a week during the winter season. (239) 695-3633.

**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 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](mailto:fishnw.mykee55@live.com), or [www.GladesRealty.com](http://www.GladesRealty.com).

# PET PICS

“Luna” gets a hug from Alyssia, Patty Huff’s granddaughter!



# RAPPER CLASSIFIEDS

**FOR LEASE:** Deep water commercial dock and lot on Barron River. 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.

**FOR SALE:** 2 bdrm, 1.5 bath, original Collier home. Vintage cottage style, large fenced yard, river view, huge screened porch, beautiful kitchen, oak floors, tin roof, deeded dock. Ready for you to move in today and start fishing. Call or text for appointment: (954) 662-7003.

**CAREGIVER POSITION WANTED**  
Caring and compassionate certified CNA that resides in the Everglades City area is now available for in-home personal care. Services include; light cleaning, meal preparation, medications, shopping, errands, doctor’s appointments, companionship and more. For more info, contact Pam: (239) 398-9785.

# The MULLET RAPPER

What's Happening in the Everglades City Area

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We provide local news of interest to the extended communities of Everglades City, Chokoloskee, Plantation Island, Lee Cypress, Copeland, Jerome, and Ochopee.

*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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