

# The MULLET RAPPER

## What's Happening in the Everglades City Area

**TIDE TABLE  
RESTAURANTS**

**OCT. 22 – NOV. 4, 2016**

**ONLY  
25¢**

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P O Box 134, Everglades City, FL, 34139

Volume X • Issue #274

### New Pastor Welcomed to Copeland Baptist Church



The Reverend Joe Brown was welcomed and introduced as the new pastor of Copeland Baptist Church at the Sunday luncheon at the Everglades Community Church on Sunday October 9th.

Ten members of his congregation accompanied him to the luncheon. Unfortunately, Pastor Brown's wife and young baby were not able to attend the luncheon, but they were able attend the Blessing of the Fleet celebration earlier in the month, where they met and mingled with local residents. Welcome to the community Pastor Brown!

### October 15<sup>th</sup> Marks Opening of Stone Crab Season & Seasonal Area Restaurants

Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup> was the day we were all waiting for. Not only could we once again enjoy the crustaceans our area is famous for...more of our favorite local eateries have reopened for the season, or are slated to open in the next week or so!



Triad Seafood is, once again, serving seven days a week. With seating along the Barron River and local-food favorites, we are happy to have them open for the season.

Havana Café has reopened on Chokoloskee. I can almost taste my personal favorite; grilled grouper with onions and peppers, not to mention the over-the-top breakfasts!

Camilla Street Grille will be opened this month on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Their menu is full of unique dishes and traditional favorites with a twist.

Thankfully, many of our other eateries stayed open over the summer, and we are very grateful for them doing so. But it sure is nice to have the full "menu" of restaurants to choose from.

You can find a complete listing of the local restaurants, complete with operating hours, on page 11, column 1.

Each has its own specialty so please visit them all this season to discover your favorite dish!

### Chokoloskee Loses Pioneer

by Kathy Brock

We lost a true area icon when Mary Nell (Hamilton) Tabor passed away on October 9<sup>th</sup>. Mary Nell, a 5<sup>th</sup> generation Hamilton, daughter of Ernest and Mary Hamilton, who are credited as the founders of the stone crab industry here, and first cousin of Mayor Sammy Hamilton, was a true pioneer for women in our area.

Mary Nell was born at Everglades City Hospital October 5, 1941. She attended Chokoloskee Elementary School, and then took the *School Boat* to attend Everglades City High School where she was crowned as the very first homecoming queen at the school. After graduation, Mary Nell took a job at the Barron Collier Development Corporation, and then eventually settled in with the US Postal service, where she spent 25 years.

Those that knew Mary describe her as a fiercely independent woman and devoted mother, grandmother and wife. She worshiped at Chokoloskee Church of God where she was a lifetime member, known and recognized by all who attended.

It is not often that you meet someone who says what they mean and mean what they say, but that was the case with Mary Nell (Hamilton) Tabor. She made a lasting impression on our area, on her children and everyone she touched in her 75 years.

Sundays won't be the same at Chokoloskee Church of God. There will be an empty seat, and heavy hearts. But Mary Nell is where she always knew she would be, smiling down on her family and friends from a place high above the island she called home for every one of her 75 years.

(Please see obituary on page 11)

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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.

# OCTOBER 2016 – NOVEMBER 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>
23	24 Hour of Prayer Copeland Baptist Church, 7 pm  Early Voting @ City Hall	25  Early Voting @ City Hall	26 Ladies Coffee Island Café, 8 am  Early Voting @ City Hall	27  Early Voting @ City Hall	28   Early Voting @ City Hall	29   Halloween Party McLeod Pk., 5 pm C.Butcher., see p.3 Early Voting @ City Hall
30  Clyde Butcher Open House, see p.3 Early Voting @ City Hall	31 <small>new moon</small> ☉  Hour of Prayer Chokoloskee Church of God, 7 pm Early Voting @ City Hall	Nov. 1  Little Gator Clinic, 5-7 pm City Council Mtg, 5:30 pm Early Voting @ City Hall	2  Ladies Coffee City Seafood, 8 am  Early Voting @ City Hall	3   Early Voting @ City Hall	4  Museum Talk, 12 noon  Early Voting @ City Hall	<u>RAPPER 5</u>  Early Voting @ City Hall
6 Daylight Savings, Clocks fwd 1 hr	7 Hour of Prayer Holy Family Catholic Church, 7 pm	8 General Election V-O-T-E	9 Ladies Coffee Havana Café, 8 am	10	11 Veteran's Day	12 
13 	14  Hour of Prayer Everglades Comm. Church, 7 pm OFCD Mtg, see p. 3	15 <small>full moon</small> ● 	16  Ladies Coffee Island Café, 8 am	17 	8  History Talk	<u>RAPPER 19</u>  Art in Glades
20	21 Hour of Prayer Copeland Baptist Church, 7 pm	22	23 Ladies Coffee City Seafood, 8 am	24  Thanksgiving Day	25  Black Friday	26 

Dec 3: Heritage Swamp Festival  
Dec 25: Christmas Day

Dec. 10: Art in Glades  
Jan. 1: New Year's Day

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: *No longer taking appointments at this time*  
AA: Wed, 5:00 pm, Community Church  
HEALTHY EATING: Schedule to be announced  
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: Open Nov 1<sup>st</sup>\* & 8th, 5-7pm  
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: *Coming Soon!*

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:**

<u>Everglades City</u> (239-695-2174)	Mon-Fri: 9:30 am to 1 pm and 2 to 4:30 pm; Sat: outside pick-up 3:45 pm
<u>Chokoloskee</u> (239-695-4468)	Mon-Fri: 9:30 am to 1 pm and 2 to 4:30 pm; Sat: outside pick-up 3:30 pm
<u>Ochopee</u> (239-695-2099)	Mon-Fri: 8 to 10 am; 12 noon to 4 pm; Sat: Open for service 10 to 11:30 am

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

**Clyde Butcher Exhibit  
October 29 & 30**

On Saturday, October 29 and Sunday, October 30 from 9 am to 5 pm, Clyde Butcher will exhibit -- for the first time -- all of his photographs of 33 National Parks that he has photographed over the past 50 years.

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.



**October 29<sup>th</sup>  
Halloween Celebration**

Trick or Treat, 5-8 pm  
Dogs & Fixins', McLeod Park, 8-9 pm

**Wings Across the Glades**

On display through October 31<sup>st</sup>  
Museum of the Everglades

**Sign up Early for the 10th Annual  
Everglades Bike Ride**



The Everglades Bike Ride is offering cyclists three different routes through the Everglades in this year's annual event: a 15-mile tour of the Everglades City area; a 27-mile off-road tour through Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park; and a 62-mile tour along Tamiami Trail (US41).

Every year cyclists enjoy the ride, the seafood, the camaraderie and the fun! The bike ride is scheduled for **Sunday, April 2, 2017**.

For more information about this event, copies of maps and brochures, and to obtain a copy of the River of Grass Greenway Master Plan, visit the Friends of the River of Grass Greenway's website at [www.evergladesROGG.org](http://www.evergladesROGG.org).

**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**



**Seafood Festival Planning  
Started, Sponsorships  
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You could have your company's name on the famous, and coveted, festival beer mugs, and promote your company to every festival attendee during the 3-day event.

Sponsor's information will also be listed on the official website and mentioned in the media and press kits.

The Seafood Festival takes place in 2017 on February 10, 11 & 12. Organizers have been busy all summer planning for this annual event.

Remember, profits from this event are donated for scholarships and other local causes, so your sponsorship has impact far beyond the days of the festival.

**For more information, please visit:  
[www.evergladeseafoodfestival.org](http://www.evergladeseafoodfestival.org)  
or call (239) 695-2277.**

**Taxing Things**

*by Mike the Tax Guy*

**TAX SCAMMERS ARRESTED**

*from BBC News*

Police in the western Indian city of Thane have arrested more than 750 people suspected of defrauding US citizens from a fake call center.

Officers say the suspects obtained lists of US tax defaulters and used threats to obtain their bank details. The scam is said to have netted more than \$150,000 a day, making it one of the biggest frauds in India's history.

Some 70 of those detained were formally arrested, police said, with the rest released pending further inquiries. The scammers pretended to be members of the US Internal Revenue Service, and told victims they owed back taxes. In some cases, the victims were duped into buying gift vouchers from different companies and bullied into revealing voucher ID numbers, police said. The scammers then made purchases with the voucher numbers.

Thane police officials said they were contacting the FBI to ask for help. A US State Department official said: "We have seen the reports and are following the situation closely to confirm any US citizen involvement."

**OCHOPEE FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT**

- 10/04/16: Emergency Medical, Port of the Islands
- 10/04/16: Emergency Medical, Ochopee
- 10/04/16: Emergency Medical, Chokoloskee Island
- 10/05/16: Emergency Medical, Port of the Islands
- 10/05/16: Emergency Medical, Port of the Islands
- 10/05/16: Vehicle Accident, 63 Mile Marker I-75
- 10/05/16: Vehicle Accident, 61 Mile Marker I-75
- 10/05/16: Public Assist, 63 Mile Marker I-75
- 10/07/16: Emergency Medical, Copeland
- 10/07/16: Emergency Medical, Copeland
- 10/07/16: Emergency Medical, Copeland
- 10/08/16: Emergency Medical, Copeland
- 10/08/16: Emergency Med, 63 MM I-75
- 10/09/16: Public Assist, Plantation Island
- 10/09/16: Vehicle Fire, 83 Mile Marker I-75
- 10/09/16: Emergency Medical, Chokoloskee Island
- 10/09/16: Emergency Med, Port of the Islands
- 10/09/16: Refuse Fire, Ochopee
- 10/10/16: Emergency Medical, Copeland
- 10/10/16: Vehicle Accident, US 41 and SR 29
- 10/10/16: Assisted FHP, US 41 & SR 29
- 10/12/16: Emergency Medical, Port of the Islands
- 10/12/16: Vehicle Accident, US 41 West of Port of the Islands
- 10/14/16: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
- 10/14/16: Emergency Medical, Port of the Islands
- 10/15/16: Vehicle Accident, Ochopee
- 10/15/16: Emergency Medical, Copeland
- 10/16/16: Emergency Medical, Everglades City

The Ochopee Fire Control District Advisory Committee will meet at 4 p.m. on **Monday, November 14th**, at the Port of the Islands Fire Station, located at 525 Newport Drive #C in Naples.



**DOCTOR'S CLINIC**

Dr. Kirk DeMartino is currently seeing patients in his Marco Island Office. Please call the office to schedule an appointment at: (239) 642-5552.

**SPORTS & FAMILY  
MEDICAL CARE**

Dr. John Martin is preparing for teaching classes at the university over fall and winter. He is NOT taking new patients at this time. Please call Dr. DeMartino on Marco for adult needs, or Dr. Barnard for pediatrics. For x-rays or specific chiropractic care call Dr. Herb Golden in Naples @ 239-263-3600.

**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 rain storms. Bring your items in on Saturday during our regular hours.**



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# SCHOOL NEWS

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



## *Small Town Taylor* by Taylor Mayberry


Today we celebrated my little sister, Rylee's, birthday! We had a lot of fun with our friends and family. We had her party at Lowdermilk Beach.

All of us kids built sand castles, swam in the water, played volleyball and played on the playground. When we were building sand castles, we made tunnels in parts of the sand that were really high. The waves washed part of the sand away and there was a wall of sand that the tide made.



When we were swimming in the water we had our masks so we were going under water and looking for shells. In the shore line we dug in the sand and found a lot of coquina shells and sand fleas.

I sure did have a great time and I hope Rylee and everyone else had a lot of fun too. Rylee is very special to me and I hope she had a happy birthday. She is my little sister and can be annoying sometimes but she is my best friend and I love her so, so much! Happy 7th birthday Rylee Kay!!!

With lots of love, 

Taylor

### IMPORTANT DATES EVERGLADES CITY SCHOOL

Nov 11                      No School for Students  
Nov 24 & 25:              No School for Students

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



## *A Message from the Principal* by Jim Ragusa

Communicating with our students, families, staff and the community is a goal we hope to improve upon. Our main avenues of communication include an automated dialing system, sending information home with students, and the coverage of school events and activities by the *Mullet Rapper*.

To add to these methods of communication, we are now adding social media platforms into the mix. For anyone utilizing Facebook, you can now find a dedicated page for Everglades City School.

Posts are made about many of the sports/events that our students participate in along with interesting activities our students complete in their classrooms. Information that we communicate via the traditional methods will sometimes be posted on these sites as well.

We also have a Twitter account, @Team\_EVG, with "Tweets" about the events and activities at our school. In many cases, our posts on both platforms are identical. Duplication of these messages allow us to reach users who utilize either platform.

Please be assured that we will not replace our traditional means of communication with social media announcements. This is an effort to share the pride we have in our students and school. The families of our children and the members of this community provide so much for our students that we want to share the great accomplishments of our Gators!

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

## *Collier County Supervisor of Elections Office Hosting Art Contest*

*Winning Students Will Receive \$500 Scholarship*

The Collier County Supervisor of Elections office will partner, once again, with the Collier County Public School system to present an art contest encouraging students of all ages to express the spirit of democracy through art.

A \$500 scholarship will be awarded to one winning entry submitted by a high school senior and a \$500 donation will be awarded to the art program at the school with the "Best of Show" entry. Four additional runner-up entries will be featured in election materials distributed by the elections office educating voters on the voting process.

The window for entries will be accepted until Thursday, November 17. Winning entries will be announced on Friday, December 2, 2016. For further information, please visit the Collier County Supervisor of Elections website at [www.CollierVotes.com](http://www.CollierVotes.com) or call (239) 252-VOTE.

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



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**SOLUTION TO 10/8/16 PUZZLE**

1	P		2	T		3	S	4	C	5	U	6	B	7	A		
8	L	O	C	H				10	A	B	A	S	H				
11	A	L	A	R	M	C			L	O	C	K					
12	N	I	N	E				13	M	A	K	E	S				
14	C	O	B	W	E		15	B		T							
	E		Y									16	W		17	D	
		18	N		19	W		20	S	A		21	L	A	22	M	I
23	S	A		24	L	A	25	D				26	O	D	O	R	
		27	S	A	F	E	T	Y									
28	E	A	V	E	S							29	B	R	A	Y	
		30	L	A	R	K	S										

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**EVERGLADES COMMUNITY CHURCH**

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101 South Copeland Avenue

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The Rev. Dr. Bob N. Wallace, Pastor

Sunday Worship Service 11:00 A.M.

Sunday School October - April 9:45 A.M.

[www.evergladescommunitychurch.com](http://www.evergladescommunitychurch.com)



**Happy Hour**

Monday-Sunday, 3pm to 8pm

Alcohol

2 for 1 cocktails,

\$5 House made Sangria

\$1 off Bottle Beers, \$20 Buckets (6)

\$8 Bud light & Budweiser-Pitchers

\$10 Import Pitchers

Appetizers \$6

Firecracker Shrimp

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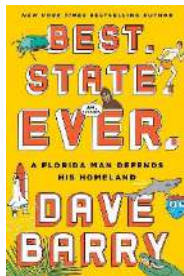
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Off the Shelf - Book Review

"Best State Ever"

by Dave Barry

reviewed by Marya Repko



The subtitle of this book is "A Florida Man Defends His Homeland" although the author admits to having originated in New York and complains "South Florida is infested by former New Yorkers

who never get tired of pointing out - in that quiet, understated New Yorker voice that can penetrate concrete at six hundred yards - how pathetic Florida is, because we're a bunch of yokels down here and we don't know how to make decent pizza or bagels ..."

He was a columnist for the *Miami Herald* and is well-versed in some of the stranger areas of the state. In his amusing history he states "The first humans arrived in Florida twenty thousand years ago, having crossed the land bridge from Asia and made the arduous trek across North America in search of Spring Break."

He then visits the Skunk Ape Research Headquarters and has a long chat with Dave Shealy, described as "smart and articulate, a good storyteller", a true Gladesman who could survive in the swamp and has kept Ochopee on the map after most people were bought out by Big Cypress National Preserve. In the acknowledgements, Jeff Whichello (author of *What Happened to Ochopee?*) is mentioned so Barry, although often flippant, has done his homework.

Chapters on Weeki Wachee, Cassadaga, and Gatorland follow. On Duval Street in Key West he writes that there must be "a law, rigidly enforced, that says you cannot operate a bar without a guy in shorts and a T-shirt who sounds like Jimmy Buffett singing next to a tip jar." Of course, in the "clothing optional" bars the T-shirt and shorts don't apply.

He writes " ... Florida, because of its unique shape and warm climate, does have an unusually high percentage of low IQ people doing stupid things ... But most of these people came here from other states, the very same states that are laughing at Florida."

Recipes for Good Eating

by Alyssia Rosenbaum and Patty Huff



Easy Peanut Butter Pie!

• Graham Cracker / Granola Crust

- 3/4 cup graham cracker crumbs
- 1/3 cup granola that includes nuts (finely chopped or ground)
- 3 TBS unsalted butter, melted

Combine cracker crumbs with ground granola. Add melted butter while warm and press into a 9" pie pan, evenly across the bottom and sides. Put aside while making the pie.

• Peanut Butter Pie

- 1/2 cup light brown sugar
- 3/4 cup light corn syrup
- 1/2 cup half and half
- 1/2 cup smooth peanut butter (room temp)
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 3 whole eggs

Preheat oven at 350 degrees. Mix first 5 ingredients with whisk until combined; add eggs one at a time and continue mixing until smooth. Pour into pie crust and bake for 40 minutes until set. Let cool before serving. Top with ice cream or whipped cream if desired. This is very rich but very good!

Rapper Crossword

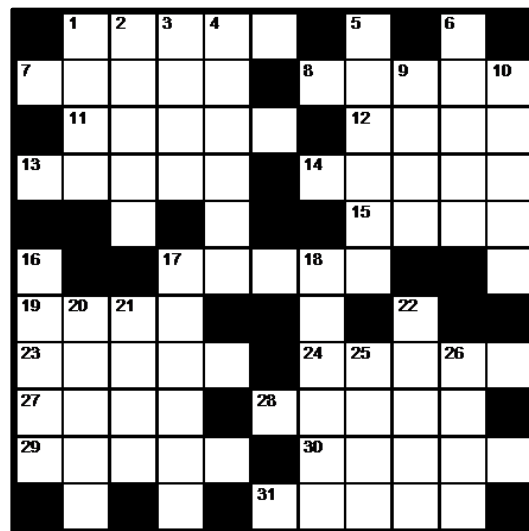
(Solution in next issue or visit [www.mulletrapper.com/xword](http://www.mulletrapper.com/xword))

Across

- 1. Scapegoat
- 7. Defamation
- 8. Essential
- 11. Solitary person
- 12. Garment of ancient Rome
- 13. Type of wind instrument
- 14. Abode of the dead
- 15. Misplace
- 17. Appears
- 19. Deficiency
- 23. Collection of maps
- 24. Sound from a horse
- 27. Sound made with a horn
- 28. Duck with soft down
- 29. German port
- 30. Horizontal
- 31. Female name

Down

- 1. Tablet
- 2. Concerning
- 3. Portable shelter
- 4. Arm covering
- 5. Blood pressure, heart rate, etc.
- 6. Earnings
- 9. Commotion



10/22/16

(Down Continued)

- 10. Intense light beam
- 16. You eat dinner on it
- 17. Disney-on-ice performer
- 18. Capital of the Philippines
- 20. Tiny particles
- 21. Lump of earth
- 22. Sifter
- 25. Biblical paradise
- 26. Color of a battleship





## Fishing in the Ten-Thousand Islands

by Captain Mike Merritt

Fall Fishing is in full swing! At the time I am writing this article we just had a near miss from Hurricane Matthew.

The west winds that we got here stirred everything up so much that we had a few days of bad fishing. Immediately after the storm passed we started getting our first Northerly winds. The water cleared right up and the bait fish all showed back up seemingly everywhere. As a result, the fishing has fired right back up.

I am catching more Snook now than I was before the storm. The Redfish bite also cranked back up so a day catching 30 Snook and 30 Redfish is very possible right now. It seems the best bite is still on the incoming tide but I have been catching plenty on the high falling tide also.

The best Redfish bite is still on the outside and live baits will work great fished under a cork or with a knocker rig. I prefer to use the Owner Light Wire semi-circle hooks and have been doing so for 15 years. You never gut hook a fish and when you do hook up the fish will stay hooked even if you give him slack.



Semi-circle Hook

Fishing oyster bars and shorelines that are lined with oysters will produce plenty of Reds. Fishing points that have current and adjacent shorelines will produce plenty of Snook. With water temps finally dropping we will start to see some more Black Drum showing up to add to the fun. You will want to use shrimp to get these guys to bite. These fish will be right where you find the Reds.

Sea Trout on the grass flats should also get better now that the water is clearing up. Of course this will depend on the winds. It's hard to fish the flats successfully with 20 mph winds moving you so fast. But there should be plenty of days with good conditions this month.

Back country Snook fishing will also pick up. With all the fresh water pouring out of the backcountry it has been tougher than normal, but by now should be more consistent. Your best chance at catching a trophy size Snook in the back country will come by lure fishing and covering a lot of shoreline.

Smaller Snook will congregate in certain areas and can provide hours of fun once you locate them. I prefer DOA lures in the backcountry. The Bait Buster and the Shrimp are effective. These baits are best fished slow. Cast up under the edges as far as you can. Glow, root beer and gold all produce. They work great when fished



DOA Cal Tail

with the current or perpendicular to it. Fishing them against the current is least effective, as is true with a lot of sub-surface lures.

Whatever you decide to target this month, a jig can produce it. Snook, Redfish, Seatrout and Black Drum will all hit the jig. Size and speed will depend on depth and the type of bottom. Just make sure you get down to the bottom and do not work it too fast. The DOA Cal tail is my favorite but the Gulp is hard to beat. But you can't catch fish sitting at home so get out and enjoy the bite!

Good Luck Fishing!  
~Capt. Mike Merritt



## Living Gulf Coast

by Charles Sobczak

**Yellow Warbler** (*Dendroica petechia*) Other names: Cuban golden warbler, golden warbler, wild canary, summer yellow-bird / Status: FL=stable, IUCN=LC / Life span: to 10 years / Length: 4.7-5.1 in. (12-13 cm) / Wingspan: 6.3-7.9 in. (16-20 cm) / Weight: 0.3-0.4 oz. (9-11 g) / Nests: north of the Mason-Dixon Line to Alaska, as well as a remnant nesting population in the Florida Keys. Found in the winter throughout Southwest Florida.

This nearly solid yellow warbler can sometimes be confused with the goldfinch, but has a softer coloration that includes streaks of light brown. Like most warblers, the yellow warbler has a beautiful song that almost always begins with a rapid *sweet, sweet, I'm so sweet* followed by a dozen variations on that call. This is truly one of the most stunning of all the warblers.



Although the yellow warbler suffers from cowbird parasitism, it has evolved a fascinating countermeasure to deal with the problem. If a cowbird lays an egg in a yellow warbler's nest, the female quickly builds a new nest over the old one, entombing the cowbird's egg beneath it. If the cowbird lays another egg in the nest, the yellow warbler responds in kind by building yet another nest on top of the second egg. This process has been observed to create nests that are up to six layers high. Eventually the cowbird elects to choose another host bird for its egg deposit.

The yellow warbler forages in bushes, shrubs, and trees. It eats mostly insects, caterpillars, and fruit. It suffers from the use of herbicides and pesticides, which results in the poisoning of the bird and its chicks. As is true of all warblers, the adult is taken by kestrels and merlins, but the bird is in far more danger from habitat loss and the behavior of man than any of its other predators.

**Palm Warbler** (*Dendroica palmarum*) Other names: yellow palm warbler, western palm warbler / Status: FL=stable, IUCN=LC / Life span: to 6 years / Length: 4.7-5.5 in. (12-14 cm) / Wingspan: 7.9-8.3 in. (20-21 cm) / Weight: 0.2-0.5 oz. (7-13 g) /

Nests in far northern Canada and Newfoundland. Found from September through April throughout Southwest Florida. A winter resident of the islands, the palm warbler in a way belies its namesake. During the summer, it migrates to the distant north, far from its winter palms, breeding in the open boreal coniferous forest as far north as the open tundra. The palm warbler is the second most abundant winter warbler; only the yellow-rumped warbler can be as easily spotted. Although the palm warbler has a yellow rump as well, it is easily separated from the yellow-rumped warbler by its brown cap and yellow eyebrow and throat. It is also known to bob its little tail continuously.

Its primary diet consists of insects, beetles, caterpillars, and grasshoppers, but during cold fronts when insects can prove scarce, it turns to small fruits and seeds for nourishment. The adult is sometimes taken by kestrels and merlins, but by and large it has a fairly stable population throughout Florida.

Photos: Yellow Warbler by Blanda, Palm Warbler by Hung





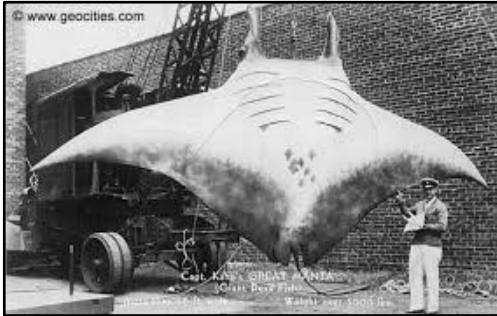


## My Little Slice of Paradise

by Kathy Brock

If you have been offshore here, you have probably seen rays leaping out of the water. Those would be one of the two types of Manta Rays. The Devil Ray is the smaller of the two Mantas and the one you are most likely to see here. They can reach a maximum size of four feet (wingspan).

The Giant Manta, like the one pictured, can get, well, giant.



Specimens have been seen as large as 30 feet (wingspan) and over 4000 pounds. Both are considered non-aggressive and not a danger to man. However, if you hook either

Manta, they can injure you by thrashing about.

Mantas do have a "tail" and feature two protrusions from their face resembling horns called, "cephalic fins". Their tails do not contain a barb, nor do they use the tail to "sting". They can, and do, swish the tail to ward off aggressors.

Mantas are mostly solitary but the Devil Ray will occasionally travel in schools. Tim & I saw quite a few offshore a few years back, so many that they were leaping from the water and you could see the tips of their wings all across the water.

The most well-known Ray is probably the Stingray (below). And like the name implies, it can "sting" you. About halfway down the tail is a serrated, venomous barb. Most frequently, the sting



from one of these Rays is very painful, but it can also be deadly. Even after a Stingray is dead, the venom in the barb will still inflict harm and the poison from it.

In 2006, TV personality Steve Irwin, "The Crocodile Hunter" was killed while diving off of the Great Barrier Reef in Australia from a Stingray sting(s). Irwin and his crew were filming the Ray that afternoon. Just before wrapping up for the day, Irwin swam over the top of the Ray to get a specific film clip for an upcoming feature. It is believed that the Stingray mistakenly thought Irwin's shadow was actually a Black-Tip Shark (one of their primary predators), and stung Irwin repeatedly in the chest to defend itself from attack. Unfortunately, one of the stings pierced Irwin's heart, which was the cause of his untimely death.



Stingray Barb

While the stingray's eyes peer out from its dorsal side, its mouth, nostrils, and gill slits are situated on its underbelly. Its eyes are not thought to play a primary role in hunting. Like its shark relatives, the stingray is outfitted with electrical sensors called

ampullae of Lorenzini. Located around the stingray's mouth, these organs sense the natural electrical charges of potential prey, and it is with these sensors, they find their prey.

Your most likely encounter with a Stingray would be in shallow water. Stingrays bury themselves in the sand and can actually change color to more closely match their surroundings. Stepping on them is how most humans get stung. The "Stingray Shuffle" is what is recommended to avoid this. Shuffle your feet in the sand to create vibration and disperse sand. This will most frequently make the shy Stingray leave the area.

You will also occasionally see a Spotted Eagle Ray in our area. This is considered one of the most beautiful rays. It is covered in brown and black spots with lighter spots on the dorsal surface. With a wingspan up to 10 feet and weighing as much as 500 pounds, it is easy to identify swimming in large schools. They are often found in shallow inshore waters such as bays, coral reefs and estuaries.

The Lesser Electric Ray colored grey or reddish-brown, this ray has some interesting markings in the way of rounded dark blotches outlined with blackish circles. It is non-aggressive, but if it feels threatened, it can deliver a shock between 14 and 37 volts. Look for this one in seagrass beds, coral reefs and along sandy shorelines.

The Cownose Ray's name comes from the fact that it actually has a square snout with a center indentation that resembles that of a cow's nose. It is brown or olive in color with absolutely no markings of any kind. Its wingspan can reach up to three feet, and it can be found in bays, river mouths and the open ocean.

Watching Rays "fly" through the water using their wings is very beautiful. They seem to just glide through effortlessly. A few things are true about all rays. They all give birth to live "pups" in



what is termed as aplacental viviparity. A typical year delivers one or two pups per season. With that in mind, it is easy to understand why the ray population is closely monitored. Because their reproduction is limited to only a few young per breeding season, they

could easily succumb to over fishing and poaching.

Not much is known about the Ray breeding cycle. In one reported observation, a female carried a single embryo, which initially fed on yolk then received additional nourishment from greenish uterine milk that is enriched with mucus, fat or protein. It is not known how long the pup stays with the mother, or if they do at all shortly after birth.

If you pay attention while boating in the Everglades area, you will see a Ray someday. It is just another example of our diversity and how fortunate we are to be in such a beautiful part of the world. Always use caution when wading in the gulf waters and practice the "Stingray Shuffle" to avoid an unwanted encounter with a Stingray. If you or someone you are with does get stung, immediately call 911 for emergency assistance. The barb contains venom and everyone reacts to venom differently. Also, do not remove the barb yourself, leave that to a medical professional. Stingray wounds are also prone to infection so medical attention is necessary in all instances.

If you see wildlife news, call FWC @ 888-404-FWCC

## PARK NEWS

### Updated Tamiami Trail Map / Brochure Published by the Friends of the River of Grass Greenway

A new "Amenities along the Tamiami Trail" brochure has been published and is now available at various businesses around town and along US41.

This light-weight glossy brochure includes a map and provides both hikers and cyclists who are traveling between Naples and Miami - a valuable source of information and details about accommodations. You may also find a copy online at [www.evergladesROGG.org](http://www.evergladesROGG.org).

### Friends of Fakahatchee Fall 2016 Tours-Book Early!

The Friends of Fakahatchee have announced their fall 2016 schedule of five adventures to introduce visitors to Florida's largest state park, Fakahatchee Strand Preserve.

A two-hour Moonlit Tram Tour of the Fakahatchee starting at 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 14 and Dec. 14. These \$40 tours sell out rapidly.

Daytime naturalist-led Ghost-rider Tram Tours from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. get underway Nov. 15 and are offered for \$25 per person each Tuesday through Dec. 20.

Original Fakahatchee Swamp Walks are scheduled on three Saturdays— Nov. 19, Dec. 3 and Dec. 10. Swamp walks begin at 9:30 am and are \$80 for adults and \$60 for teens.

The Combination Tram Tour and Swamp Walk begins Thursday, Nov. 17 at 9:30 a.m. and is also offered on Dec. 1, 8, and 15, \$60 per person.

The Friends' newest offering is a 90-minute tour of the Big Cypress Bend Boardwalk on the Tamiami Trail. The tours are offered on Wednesdays at 9 a.m. starting Nov. 16 for \$20 per person.

For directions, complete details and (required) reservations for all Fakahatchee adventures, call 239-695-1023.

### Adventure Cycling "Bike Your Park Day" – Sept. 24

by Patty Huff

To commemorate "Bike Your Park Day" members of the Friends of the River of Grass Greenway (FROGG) joined thousands around the country to cycle in one of our favorite parks - Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park, also known as the "Amazon of North America," receiving the 2016 TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence award. Fakahatchee is an excellent place to hike or bike. Leaving the paved section of Janes Scenic Drive, you cycle alongside a prairie as you ride into the only place in the world where bald cypress trees and groves of royal palms share a forest canopy.

Last month the rains left the road with many potholes but on a bicycle, this is not a problem, just a little obstacle course on our way up to Gate 12 (East Main tram) where we made the decision to continue on to the Fakahatchee Hilton despite the overgrown grass in the median and muddy side lanes. It was a challenge but worth the ride! A lot of fun to get out and explore our parks in our own back yard!

Be sure to stop by the Ranger Visitor Center to donate your \$2/bike entrance fee. Enjoy!! For more information about Janes Scenic: <http://orchidswamp.org/plan-your-visit/janes-scenic-drive/>

## LOCAL NEWS

### Early Voting to Begin at Everglades City Hall, Sample Ballots Mailed

Early voting will take place at City Hall in Everglades City beginning October 29<sup>th</sup> and will end on November 5<sup>th</sup>. You will need to bring your picture ID to the polling place to cast your ballot. You may want to review the sample ballot prior to coming to the polls so you are already familiar with the ballot and the issues.

The Collier County Supervisor of Elections office sent its first mailing of requested Vote-by-Mail ballots to domestic voters on Tuesday, October 4, for the upcoming General Election on November 8. You should have received yours in the mail already. If you did not receive yours call (239) 252-VOTE. By law, ballots cannot be forwarded.

**The deadline for voters to request a ballot to be delivered by mail for this election is 5 p.m. on November 2.**



### STAR TREKKER REPORT

by Chris Herlovich

**What is a meteor shower?** A meteor shower is a spike in the number of meteors or "shooting stars" that streak through the night sky. Most meteor showers are caused by debris from comets. As a comet orbits the Sun it sheds an icy, dusty debris stream along its orbit. If Earth travels through this stream, we will see a meteor shower. Although the meteors can appear anywhere in the sky, if you trace their paths, the meteors in each shower appear to "rain" into the sky from the same general region.

Meteor showers are named for the constellation that coincides with this region in the sky, a spot known as the radiant. For instance, the radiant for the Leonid meteor shower is in the constellation Leo. The Perseid meteor shower is so named because meteors appear to fall from a point in the constellation Perseus.

**November 4, 5 - Taurids Meteor Shower.** The Taurids is a long-running minor meteor shower producing about 5-10 meteors per hour. It is unusual in that it consists of two separate streams. Best viewing will be just after midnight from a dark location far away from city lights. Meteors will radiate from the constellation Taurus, but can appear anywhere in the sky.


**November 16, 17 - Leonids Meteor Shower.** The Leonids is an average shower, producing up to 15 meteors per hour at its peak. This shower is unique in that it has a cyclonic peak about every 33 years where hundreds of meteors per hour can be seen. That last of these occurred in 2001. The Leonids is produced by dust grains left behind by comet Tempel-Tuttle, which was discovered in 1865. The shower runs annually from November 6-30. It peaks this year on the night of the 16th and morning of the 17th.

**December 4-17 - Geminids.** Unlike most other meteor showers, the Geminids are associated not with a comet but with an asteroid: the 3200 Phaethon. The asteroid takes about 1.4 years to orbit around the Sun. The Geminids are considered to be one of the more spectacular meteor shower during a year, with the possibility of sighting around 120 meteors per hour at its peak. In 2016, the Geminids are expected to peak on the night of December 13 and early morning hours of December 14. A Full Moon will make viewing conditions difficult.



**RESTAURANTS**

- Angler's Cove, Port of the Islands  
(642-1025): Tuesday thru Sunday,  
Noon - 9 pm; *closed Monday*
- Camellia Street Grille (695-2003):  
12 noon - 9:00 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):  
7:00 am to 3:00 pm; Sun thru Wed  
7:00 am to 8:00 pm; Thurs-Fri-Sat
- 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):  
*Monday-Thurs, Sunday 10:30-6  
Friday & Saturday 10:30 - 7*

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

Grimm's Stone Crab (239-695-3222):  
8:00 am - 6:00 pm, Mon thru Sat

Loco's Fresh Produce: (239-462-7050)  
*Friday & Sat. by EC Post Office*

**SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES** 

- Chokoloskee Church of God**  
Sunday: 10 am School, 11 am Worship
- Copeland Baptist Church**  
Sunday: 10 am School, 11 am Worship
- Everglades Community Church**  
11 am Sunday 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**

10/22 Sat	03:04AM	1.0	L
10/22 Sat	07:52AM	2.9	H
10/22 Sat	03:58PM	0.2	L
10/22 Sat	10:02PM	2.5	H
10/23 Sun	04:28AM	1.0	L
10/23 Sun	09:22AM	2.7	H
10/23 Sun	05:08PM	0.3	L
10/23 Sun	11:13PM	2.5	H
10/24 Mon	05:46AM	0.9	L
10/24 Mon	10:46AM	2.7	H
10/24 Mon	06:12PM	0.4	L
10/25 Tue	12:05AM	2.6	H
10/25 Tue	06:49AM	0.7	L
10/25 Tue	12:00PM	2.7	H
10/25 Tue	07:07PM	0.4	L
10/26 Wed	12:41AM	2.7	H
10/26 Wed	07:40AM	0.6	L
10/26 Wed	12:58PM	2.8	H
10/26 Wed	07:55PM	0.5	L
10/27 Thu	01:09AM	2.8	H
10/27 Thu	08:24AM	0.4	L
10/27 Thu	01:43PM	2.8	H
10/27 Thu	08:38PM	0.5	L
10/28 Fri	01:36AM	2.9	H
10/28 Fri	09:04AM	0.3	L
10/28 Fri	02:20PM	2.9	H
10/28 Fri	09:17PM	0.6	L
10/29 Sat	02:02AM	3.0	H
10/29 Sat	09:41AM	0.2	L
10/29 Sat	02:54PM	2.9	H
10/29 Sat	09:53PM	0.7	L
10/30 Sun	02:28AM	3.1	H
10/30 Sun	10:17AM	0.1	L
10/30 Sun	03:27PM	2.9	H
10/30 Sun	10:26PM	0.7	L
10/31 Mon	02:54AM	3.1	H
10/31 Mon	10:51AM	0.1	L
10/31 Mon	04:03PM	2.8	H
10/31 Mon	10:58PM	0.8	L
11/01 Tue	03:18AM	3.1	H
11/01 Tue	11:27AM	0.0	L
11/01 Tue	04:42PM	2.8	H
11/01 Tue	11:27PM	0.8	L
11/02 Wed	03:40AM	3.1	H
11/02 Wed	12:03PM	0.0	L
11/02 Wed	05:26PM	2.7	H
11/02 Wed	11:55PM	0.9	L
11/03 Thu	04:03AM	3.0	H
11/03 Thu	12:41PM	0.1	L
11/03 Thu	06:17PM	2.6	H
11/04 Fri	12:24AM	1.0	L
11/04 Fri	04:30AM	2.9	H
11/04 Fri	01:24PM	0.1	L
11/04 Fri	07:14PM	2.5	H
11/05 Sat	01:00AM	1.0	L
11/05 Sat	05:07AM	2.8	H
11/05 Sat	02:13PM	0.2	L
11/05 Sat	08:15PM	2.5	H
11/06 Sun	01:56AM	1.1	L
11/06 Sun	04:58AM	2.6	H

**Obituary**

**Mary Nell (Hamilton) Tabor**



**October 5, 1941-October 9, 2016**

Long-time area resident and local icon, Mary Nell (Hamilton) Tabor, passed away October 9, 2016 at the age of 75.

Mary Nell was an amazing woman. She was a very loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, and an extremely strong and independent woman. She lived her life with much dignity and faith in God. Mary Nell was a lifetime member of the Chokoloskee Church of God.

She is predeceased by her son-Adrain Earl Watson III, and is survived by her husband Norman Tabor, children, daughter Adrienna (Mike) Kelley and sons, Ernie (Nanette) Watson and Aaron Tabor. Grandchildren, Tatum (Austin) Johnson, Dalton (Brianna) Daffin, Quortni (Scott) Jacobs and Hunter Watson. Three great-grandchildren, and sisters, Phyllis (Jiggs) Brown of Labelle, Trudy (Billy) Raffield of Chokoloskee, & Crystal (Billy) Potter of Chokoloskee.

A memorial service was held on Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at the Chokoloskee Church of God where many of her friends and family attended. In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that donations be made to the Chokoloskee Church of God, 1236 Demere Lane, Chokoloskee, FL 34138 "In Memory of Mary Nell".



## 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.

**WANTED TO RENT:** Secure, covered storage for 32' Travel Trailer needed November 2016 – May 2017. Need access for travel use & maintenance. Please call Joe or Mary at: 815.404.9286.

**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

Luke is flying back from South Andros after Hurricane Mathew with "dog mom" Liz West.



## 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:** Beautifully restored, original Collier home. Vintage cottage style, 2 bdrm, 1.5 bath, 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 appt: (954) 662-7003.

**PART-TIME MANAGER NEEDED:** Immediate opening for a part-time manager at Joanie's Blue Crab. This is the perfect position for a retiree, the hours are flexible. Must have experience operating a cash register. Please contact Joanie to set up an interview: 239-695-2682.

## 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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