

# The MULLET RAPPER

## What's Happening in the Everglades City Area

**TIDE TABLE  
RESTAURANTS**

**NOV. 5 – NOV. 19, 2016**

**ONLY  
25¢**

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### Stunning New Landscape Design Greets Area Visitors

On October 7<sup>th</sup>, the entrance into our area received a facelift of sorts. The crew from Rick Perez Lawn Maintenance donated their time and energy to put in all new and beautiful plants.



The Everglades Society for Historic Preservation paid for the entrance sign to be renovated, and Dayna Fendrick of Urban Green Studio designed the new layout.

It looks fantastic and is a great “first impression” of our very special community. Thank you to all who contributed to this effort. It will surely be noticed and admired by everyone in our area!

### Run Ashlyn, Run! She's the First Gator Girl to Make it into Regional Meet

Ashlyn Goff is a young woman on a mission. She is a Junior this year at Everglades City School, and if you look up the term “extra-curricular activity,” in a dictionary, her picture *should be* next to it.

Ashlyn recently did what no other female student from our school has ever done; she qualified for XC regionals.



On October 30<sup>th</sup>, she ran her first 10 miler and **placed first in her age group** and second overall for females! On November 19<sup>th</sup>, she will be running in her first half marathon. She just finished up the Volleyball season, and started a new season in basketball for our Gators.

Oh, yeah, Ashlyn is an honor student...that gets her running practice in *before school*. Ashlyn wants to be in the medical field, and there is no doubt that this determined young woman will be whatever it is she wants to be. Hard work and perseverance are simply a part of Ashlyn Goff's DNA. Congratulations, Ashlyn. *We are all very proud of you!*

### Ghosts, Goblins and Monsters Roam the Streets of E-City (During the Halloween Celebration!)

Children and adults of all ages took to the streets October 29<sup>th</sup> in the annual Everglades City, and surrounding areas, Halloween celebration.

The festivities started at 5 pm with traditional door-to-door trick or treat, then onto McLeod Park for hot dogs, refreshments and the water balloon toss!

It is really special that the entire community comes together for this event. The kids love it, and I know everyone looks forward to it every year. The costumes ranged from scary to adorable and a fun time was had by all. We are already looking forward to next year!

















**Lions, ninjas, roller skaters, princesses, and more enjoyed the fun-filled, rain-free day**

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

# NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 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>
6 Daylight Savings Ends, Clocks back 1 hr.	7 Hour of Prayer Holy Family Catholic Church, 7 pm	8 General Election V-O-T-E; see p. 9	9 Ladies Coffee Havana Café, 8 am	10	11 Veteran's Day, see p. 10	12 
13 	14  Hour of Prayer Everglades Comm. Church, 7 pm OFCD Mtg, see p. 3	15 full moon ● 	16  Ladies Coffee Island Café, 8 am	17  Veterans Support Group	18  History Talk, see p. 3	<u>RAPPER 19</u> Art in Glades, see p. 3 Turkey shoot, see p. 3 Pancake Fly-in
20 Turkey shoot, see p. 3	21 Hour of Prayer Copeland Baptist Church, 7 pm	22	23 Ladies Coffee City Seafood, 8 am	24 Thanksgiving Gobble-Gobble 5K, see p. 3	25 Black Friday	26
27 	28  Hour of Prayer Chokoloskee Church of God, 7 pm	29 	30 new moon ○  Ladies Coffee Havana Café, 8 am	Dec. 1 	2  Diamonds Tea	<u>RAPPER 3</u>  Swamp Heritage Festival, see p. 9
4	5 Hour of Prayer Holy Family Catholic Church, 7 pm Friends of Museum Luncheon	6	7 Ladies Coffee Island Café, 8 am	8 Al-Anon Celebration, see p. 3	9	10 Art in Glades Artist Reception, see p. 7

Dec 17: Pancake Fly-in  
Jan. 1: New Year's Day

Dec. 17: Fakahatchee Dinner  
Jan. 7 & 8: White Pelican Celebration

Dec 25: Christmas Day  
Jan. 18: MLK Day

THRIFT SHOP: Sat, 11 am-3 pm  
LIONS CLUB: 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of Month, Oyster House, 6 pm  
DR DEMARTINO: Open in Marco Island (239) 642-5552  
DR MARTIN: *Not 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 Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>, 5-7pm  
FOOD PANTRY: Wed, 12 n to 2 pm, Community Church  
EVERGLADES AL-ANON: Thurs, 12noon, City Hall  
VETERANS SUPPORT: 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs., 10 am, Com. Church  
SMALLWOOD STORE: Daily, 11 am to 5 pm  
PANCAKE FLY-IN: November 19, December 17, 10 am

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  
CURBSIDE TRASH PICKUP (FRIDGES, WASHING MACHINES, TVs): 239-252-2380 COLLIER COUNTY: 239-252-8999

**Notice Board**

**Upcoming Events in Town**  
**Welcome Back Historical Talk**  
**Hermits in Our Islands**  
**Nov. 18, 5:30 pm**



Betsy Perdichizzi will present an illustrated lecture "Hermits in Our Islands" on Friday, November 18, at 5:30 p.m. in the Jinkins Fellowship Hall behind Everglades Community Church. She will also have copies of her books for sale that she will sign.

The event is hosted by the Everglades Society for Historic Preservation and admission is free but reservations are requested. To learn more see [www.evergladeshistorical.org](http://www.evergladeshistorical.org) or phone Marya at (239) 695-2905.

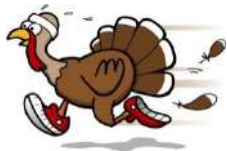
**Everglades Lions Club**  
**Turkey Shoot, Nov 19-20**



Join us in the Everglades area for the traditional fall event ... the Everglades Lion Club Turkey Shoot. However, for this event, the guns will be pointed at targets rather than real birds!

There will be hourly drawings and prizes, raffles, and food for sale on both days. The event, hosted by the Altair Gun Club and sponsored by the Everglades Lions Club (as a fundraiser), takes place on **Saturday, November 19**, from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm and on **Sunday, November 20**, from noon until 5:00 pm at the old Copeland prison opposite Deep Lake at 20201 State Road 29, Copeland, 34137 (take Exit 80 from I-75). For info, call Vicky Wells at (239) 695-2660.

**Join the Third Annual Turkey 5K**  
**Nov. 24<sup>th</sup>, 8 am**



Register now to enter the third annual Everglades City Gobble Gobble 5K that will take place **Thanksgiving morning, Nov. 24, at McLeod park 8:00 am.**

Register at [Eventbrite.com](http://Eventbrite.com) and search for Everglades City Gobble Gobble 5K. T shirts for the event are available through link on registration website. The fee is \$5.00 to enter. Contact Shannon Snyder @ [239-961-0669](tel:239-961-0669) with any questions.

**Art-in-the-Glades in**  
**Historic Everglades City**  
**Nov. 19<sup>th</sup>, 10 am – 2 pm**



Come to historic Everglades City on Saturday, November 19, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for **Art-in-the-Glades** where hand-made crafts and local art will be on display. There will be hotdogs and cold drinks available for sale a lunch time.

Let the kids play on the swings in McLeod Park while you browse the booths under the pavilion while listening to live music.

Vendors are invited to set up a table (it's free). For information, call Marya ([239](tel:239-695-2905)) 695-2905, or visit: [www.evergladeshistorical.org](http://www.evergladeshistorical.org).

**Everglades Al-Anon Family**  
**Group 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration**  
**Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup>**

Open speaker meeting. Fellowship and snacks 11:30 am. Program 12 noon to 1 pm. Everyone is invited. The meeting will be held at Everglades Community Church.

**Seafood Festival Sponsorships**  
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**PANCAKE FLY-IN**



Wings 10,000 Islands Tours will host a **free** pancake breakfast at the Everglades Airpark on **Saturday, November 19**, from 10:00 am to noon. For more information, call Chuck at 695-3296.

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

**GREATER NAPLES FIRE DEPT.**

- 10/17/16: Vehicle Fire, 75 Mile Marker I-75
- 10/17/16: Emergency Medical, Copeland
- 10/18/16: Emergency Medical, Copeland
- 10/19/16: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
- 10/19/16: Emergency Medical, Plantation Island
- 10/20/16: Vehicle Accident, 80 Mile Marker I-75
- 10/20/16: Emergency Medical, Ochopee
- 10/21/16: Emergency Medical, Ochopee
- 10/21/16: Vehicle Accident, 53 Mile Marker I-75
- 10/23/16: Vehicle Accident, 57 Mile Marker I-75
- 10/23/16: Vehicle Fire, 55 Mile Marker I-75
- 10/24/16: Emergency Medical, 63 Mile Marker I-75
- 10/24/16: Vehicle Accident, US 41 and SR 29
- 10/25/16: Public Assist, Everglades City
- 10/20/16: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
- 10/27/16: Fire Alarm, Port of the Islands
- 10/27/16: Vehicle Accident, SR 29 and US 41
- 10/27/16: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
- 10/27/16: Emergency Medical, Ochopee
- 10/28/16: Vehicle Accident, 70 Mile Marker I-75
- 10/28/16: Vehicle Accident, 68 Mile Marker I-75
- 10/28/16: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
- 10/28/16: Vehicle Accident, 83 Mile Marker I-75
- 10/28/16: Vehicle Accident, 73 Mile Marker I-75
- 10/28/16: Lock Out, Chokoloskee Island
- 10/29/16: Emergency Medical, Copeland
- 10/29/16: Vehicle Accident, Everglades City
- 10/31/16: Fire Alarm

The Greater Naples Fire Department Advisory Committee will meet at 4 p.m. on **Monday, November 14<sup>th</sup>**, 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, returning to the Everglades area Dec. 2. 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**

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# SCHOOL NEWS

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## Small Town Taylor by Taylor Mayberry


Have you ever dissected a squid? Well, I have. It all started with my teacher Mrs. Whitcomb. She has awesome ideas on how to teach things in a fun way. It was gross because we had to touch everything inside of it. But cool at the same time because of its backbone and its beak. I will tell you where we found the backbone and the beak later. And, we got to do it all by ourselves!

So, we needed to get some supplies. We got scissors, plastic tweezers, and a poker stick. It was so much fun because we got to write with the ink that was inside the squid. I barely had any ink so my friend Lorenzo gave me some of his.

I wrote my name in ink but the rest in pencil. We also found a beak where the ink comes out and where the arms hang down.

I think that I have told you about us cooking a redfish and dissecting a shark. As you can see, all of these things are fun but also tied to learning. And that's why I love having a nice and fun teacher.

Tomorrow we are going to Tigertail Beach to study science with my teacher Mrs. Baumler. I'm so excited to walk through the lagoon!

With lots of love, 

Taylor

*P.S. I am so excited to go trick or treating this Saturday and see all of the scary, funny and cute costumes at the park. I am going to go see Amanda and Freddy's Halloween set up!*

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



## E-City School Students Recognized for "Doing the Right Thing"

It almost seems like we cannot hear any good news! Perhaps, bad news gets better ratings...but not in the Rapper! There is a lot of good going on, and no better place to find it than right here in town at Everglades City School.

The Collier County Sheriff's Office held the "Do the Right Thing" awards ceremony on October 4<sup>th</sup>, and three Everglades City School students were honored for their positive actions. The Rapper would also like to congratulate the students for their awards and for setting a great example for their fellow students (and a great example for adults too).

**Hannah Levingston, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade:** While at school Hannah discovered that a classmate did not have a backpack for the new school year. Hannah, knowing that she had an extra backpack at home, filled her spare with school supplies and some little gifts. The next day she presented it to her classmate. Hannah's kindness and consideration should inspire us all. *Thank you, Hannah, for doing the right thing!*



**Madison Forbes and Carson Foss, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Madison and Carson are cousins and were attending a gathering at a family pool. As Madison went to jump into the pool, their 2-year-old cousin grabbed Madison and went into the pool as well. Carson saw what happened and jumped into the pool to help. Before any adult could react, Carson and Madison worked together to get the child safely out of the pool. This could have been a tragedy if not for their quick thinking and teamwork. *Thank you, Madison and Carson, for doing the right thing!*

Photo by Sue Gentry

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

### IMPORTANT DATES EVERGLADES CITY SCHOOL

Nov 11	No School for Students
Nov 24 & 25:	No School for Students
Dec.21:	Early Dismissal
Dec 22-Jan 3:	No School for Students

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**SOLUTION TO 10/22/16 PUZZLE**

1	P	A	T	S	Y	5	V	6	W			
7	L	I	B	E	L	8	V	9	I	T	A	L
11	L	O	N	E	R	12	T	O	G	A		
13	F	L	U	T	E	14	H	A	D	E	S	
		T		V		15	L	O	S	E		
16	P			17	S	E	E	18	M	S		R
19	L	A	C	K			A		22	S		
23	A	T	L	A	S	24	N	E	I	G	H	
27	T	O	O	T		28	E	I	D	E	R	
29	E	M	D	E	N	30	L	E	V	E	L	
		S		R		31	J	A	N	E	Y	

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**Everglades Museum Upcoming Events!**

**Local Artist Dick Jay Featured**

Local resident and artist Dick Jay has teamed up with the Museum of the Everglades to showcase the history of Everglades City, Chokoloskee and the surrounding areas. Through a combination of Folk art and stories, visitors can take a step back in time to get a sense of what life was like in the Ten Thousand Islands in the early part of the 20th century.

This exhibit "Memories of the Past" will be displayed from November 1st to December 31st, at the Museum. An Artist's Reception for Dick will be held on December 10th from 1 to 3 pm.

**Author's Hour Featured Local Historian Marya Repko**

The Museum of the Everglades presents a new program called "Author's Hour." Please join them on the first Friday of the month during winter-season, except for February, to enjoy this new lecture series and book signing from 12 to 1 pm.

Refreshments will be served to those who attend. The first author on Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, was Marya Repko who has written many books including the one she will be speaking about, "Women of the Everglades."

As Ms. Repko explains, "Despite the hardships, some of the women who lived here saw the beauty around them and were instrumental in preserving it for the enjoyment of future generations before development changed the face of Florida".

**Note: The museum is open Monday through Saturdays from 9am to 4pm and is located at 105 West Broadway Ave in Everglades City.**

**Annual Luncheon Date Set**

*Luncheon*



**The Friends of the Museum Annual Meeting** will be held on **December 5<sup>th</sup>**

at The Oyster House at 11 am. The speaker is Tony Pernas, Supervisory Botanist of Big Cypress National Preserve.

**Recipes for Good Eating**

Submitted by Linda Mills

**Merry Dean's Delicious Corn Souffle**

- 1 can kernel corn (drained)
- 1 can creamed corn
- 1 stick butter-melted
- 1 box corn muffin mix
- 1 8 oz. sour cream
- 4 T. sugar (or less to your taste)



Mix all ingredients together and bake in an 8 X 8 glass dish for 1 hour or until golden brown. (One hour has been on the money for me). You can double and cook the same in a 9 X 13 also! Delish!!

Preheat oven at 350 degrees. Bake 1 hour or until knife comes out clean. Let cool before serving.

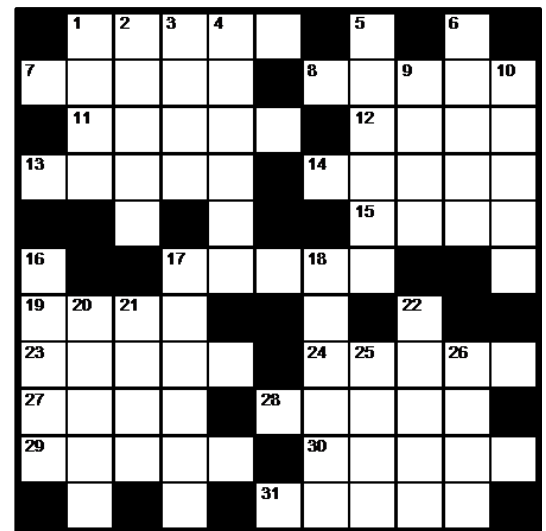
This is a recipe that was passed down from the original Storter Family. Merry's husband, John Dean, is a Storter relative.

**Rapper Crossword**

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

**Across**

- 1. Michael Jackson wore one
- 7. Pale bluish purple
- 8. Engine
- 11. View
- 12. Skirt worn by ballerinas
- 13. Fifth tire
- 14. Coniferous tree in Big Cypress
- 15. Online payment place
- 17. Wine fruit
- 19. Capri is one
- 23. Catapulted
- 24. Run away to marry
- 27. Daily change in Barron River
- 28. Finely ground meal of grain
- 29. Cooking surface
- 30. Connect
- 31. Outmoded



11/0516

**Down**

- 1. Breathe convulsively
- 2. Roman poet
- 3. Above
- 4. Thin layer of wood
- 5. Observe
- 6. Someone active on Nov. 8, 2016
- 9. Fish in a can
- 10. Type of oxidation

**(Down Continued)**

- 16. Thin fogs
- 17. Swiss city
- 18. Spanish rice dish served at Havana Cafe
- 20. Narrow openings
- 21. Simple British board game
- 22. Cosmetic for cheeks
- 25. Moola
- 26. Urge



## Fishing in the Ten-Thousand Islands

by Captain Mike Merritt

November fishing brings cooler water temperatures and more of our winter species moving in. This time of year, I start using live shrimp a lot more as the variety of fish you can catch using them has increased.

The Sea Trout should be biting better on all of the grass flats this month. A popping cork and live shrimp works great, but if you find some fish try the DOA Shrimp too. The 1/4 oz. and 1/2 oz. both work. I prefer the glow shrimp, but root beer is also a good bet.

Redfish are still around, and if you tip a 1/4 oz. jig with shrimp and fish the bars and shorelines, you should find plenty of Reds. The nice thing about this month is that while fishing for the Reds you will find the Black Drum. Once you locate them there is usually a school of them. You can catch Black Drum easily with shrimp either on a cork or on the bottom.

This is also the last month that Snook season is open for those of you who are looking for a keeper. There will still be Snook on the outside but the backcountry fishing will really pick up this month. Jigs will also catch the Snook on the outside islands this month. Fishing the back country is where I like to use the DOA shrimp or Bait buster mullet. You can skip these baits back under the mangroves and get it where the fish are laying. The soft plastic also allows you more time to react to the strike as the fish are less likely to spit it back out so fast. And a single hook lure makes it easier to release the fish. You can also get the Mangrove Snapper, Sheepshead, and Flounder this month - all on the shrimp. It's a great month for a variety of action and lots of it.

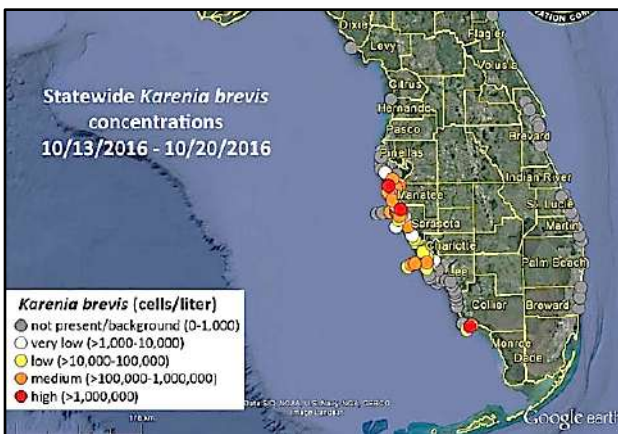
**Good Luck Fishing!**

### Gulf Coast Red Tide Update

There have been reports on the news regarding "Harmful Algae Bloom / HAB" more commonly known as Red Tide. Fortunately, the "tide" has not crept into the Everglades area, but it is a good idea to know where it is so you can avoid it while out fishing.

Red Tide can kill fish, birds and other marine animals, but it also causes some humans to get ill. It is particularly bad for those with asthma and other respiratory problems.

The Gulf Coast has an almost annual outbreak of HAB. This bloom, like many HABs, is caused by microscopic algae that produce toxins that take a toll on marine life. The toxins may also make the surrounding air difficult to breathe. As the name suggests, the bloom of algae often turns the water red.



## Living Gulf Coast

by Charles Sobczak

### Black-and-white Warbler (*Mniotilta varia*)

Other names: none / Status: FL=stable, IUCN=LC / Life span: to 11 years / Length: 4.3-5.1 in. (11-13 cm) / Wingspan: 7.1-8.7 in. (18-22 cm) / Weight: 0.3-0.5 oz (8-15 g) / Nests: from the mid-south all the way into upper Canada to the Northwest Territories / Found: every month of the year except June throughout Southwest Florida.



An absolutely stunning black-and-white pattern greets the lucky birder who happens upon one of these warblers.

This pop-art streaking makes the black-and-white warbler one of the easiest small birds to identify, since no other buntings, vireos, or other small birds have such a distinctive feather pattern.



The black-and-white warbler feeds unlike any other warbler. Its unusual extended hind toe and claw allow it to feed in much the same manner as a nuthatch, scurrying up and down trees, sometimes upside down, searching for its primary food, insects. It also has a longer bill, enabling it to take insects from deep bark and tree crevices.

It has one of the longest migrations of any warbler, summering as far north as the southern edge of the Yukon and wintering as far south as northern Peru. It suffers heavily from cowbird parasitism, habitat loss, and forest fragmentation. Despite these factors, it is a fairly common and beautiful little bird found in Florida during the winter.

### White-eyed Vireo (*Vireo griseus*) Other names: none / Status: FL=stable, IUCN=LC / Life span: to 7 years / Length: 4.3-5.1 in. (11-13 cm) / Wingspan: 6.7 in. (17 cm) / Weight: 0.4-0.5 oz (10-14 g) / Nests: in the Southeast as far north as southern Iowa / Found: mostly during the peak winter months throughout Southwest Florida.



Identified by its whitish-colored eye, this little bird wears a pair of yellow spectacles around that bright white iris. It is a fairly common winter resident on the islands but prefers to feed in thick underbrush, making it difficult to spot. It does not sing as much during the summer breeding season, saving its lovely song, which usually begins with a sharp chick, for Floridians to enjoy. The white-eyed vireo's migration range extends as far south as the Yucatan and as far north as Iowa.

Feeding mostly on insects, snails, and spiders, the vireo has also been known to take small lizards, fruits, and berries. It is subject to cowbirds laying their eggs in its nests, but overall is doing quite well throughout its range.

Photos: Black & White Warbler by Dick Fortune  
White-eyed Vireo by Hung V. Do





## My Little Slice of Paradise

by Kathy Brock

Florida is host to so many unique species, and comprises one of the most robust and diverse ecosystems in the continental United States. We are also now the new home to many non-native species that have been introduced either accidentally (on ships, in plants, etc.) or intentionally (by exotic pet owners), or for other reasons,

There are several alien species flying, creeping, crawling or swimming their way around our environment, and some experts are starting to worry it is almost too late to do anything about it. During an interview on a local TV station, one environmental expert likened it to "closing the barn door after the horses already got out." However, in places like Everglades City, Chokoloskee and Plantation Island, we can keep an eye out for invaders and report sightings to the park service before they take over our area too.

This is not a new problem. Two birds that are very abundant in Florida, the European Starling and the English Sparrow...are obviously from Europe! Both of these birds were brought here by



Eugene Schieffelin. In 1890, he released 60 starlings into New York City's Central Park. He did the same with another 40 birds in 1891. Schieffelin's goal was to introduce all the birds mentioned in the plays of

William Shakespeare to North America. Sounds good, right?

Well, no. Starlings are very aggressive and disrupt the nests of many less aggressive birds. They are also cavity dwellers that don't make their own cavity...so they steal them from woodpeckers. That has impacted our native red-bellied and some of the smaller woodpeckers, screech owls and other native cavity dwellers.

The English Sparrow is also very abundant. You see them almost everywhere. They are aggressive seed eaters that drive out less aggressive native species. They also compete with migratory birds that come here for seed in the winter.

Birds are not the only invaders. There are three types of iguanas lurking around south Florida (but so far not in the Everglades City area), the Green Iguana, Mexican Spiny Tail, and the Black Spiny Tail shown here. On the Southeast coast, we are inundated with these iguanas. They are herbivores as adults, so they munch on our



plants, flowers and ornamentals. They also love fruits and vegetables. I planted cabbage one day...and that is all they lasted! They were eaten within hours of getting into the ground.

They are not as "harmful" to the ecosystem as a few of our other non-natives, but they are fast to reproduce and can do some serious damage to landscape plants.

They also poop anywhere and everywhere and those with children need to be careful because iguanas (and many other reptiles including turtles and frogs) can carry salmonella virus, so you will want to keep them away from your patio.

Tim and I found out how easy it is to transport things accidentally. We brought over a plant from the east coast, and when we got it out of the truck, a baby iguana jumped out. We didn't give up until we caught it, but if we didn't see it...we would be the responsible (or irresponsible) party!

The Burmese Python is becoming a big problem throughout the Everglades. We have all seen the reports on television by now. They can reach 20+ feet and weigh over 200 pounds. The sheer size of them means they eat...a lot. They are making a serious impact on the swamp bunny population and other ground dwelling animals indigenous to the Glades. They can also take out deer and alligators so their impact can be far-reaching. It is believed that the python population explosion here was facilitated by pet owners who released their pets when they became too large to maintain as pets.

This type of release was very common in the 1960's and 70's when monkeys, chimpanzees and other non-domesticated animals were all the rage. The problem is, once they reach maturity we are often not equipped to care for them properly...and because they are pets, we are emotionally attached, so releasing them seems like a good thing. It may be for that one animal...but it is a very bad thing in the long run for our state and for all of the other native animals that are native to our environment.



One of the most beautiful invaders is the Lionfish. These fish can grow to 17 inches and up to 2.5 pounds. They are very common salt water aquarium fish, and when they outgrow a tank or when a

tank owner no longer wants a tank, they often just take their "pets" to the ocean and let them go free. The problem here is our waters are the perfect environment for them, and they breed fast and they have plenty of food to eat.

What do they eat? They love small grouper, small snapper and other juvenile fish that are native to our waters. Worst of all, they have zero predators here so they are populating rapidly, and in the process, wiping out many of our native fishes before the fish mature to reproductive age.

There are things underway to help with these problems and it starts with research, understanding the impact and what it will take to make a dent. There are annual hunts for pythons and rewards are offered for bringing in the captured snakes. As for the lionfish, fortunately they are edible and there are some extra benefits for capturing them. The Lionfish Challenge this year saw over 16 thousand of them harvested from the Atlantic and Gulf coast waters. So, there is hope! But we have to do our part, and that means NOT introducing non-native species. It seems OK at the time, but history tells us it is not a good idea...at all.

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

## PARK NEWS

### Big Cypress Recognized as International Dark Sky Place

The National Park Service has announced that Big Cypress National Preserve has been designated an International Dark-Sky Association (IDA) International Dark Sky Place. With the extent of urbanization in the eastern United States it is becoming nearly impossible to experience the night with little impact from artificial light pollution. Here in south Florida, away from the urban development of the east and west coasts, Big Cypress National Preserve has one of the last protected night skies where visitors can still enjoy the splendor of the Milky Way and see a night-sky strewn with thousands of stars with only the naked eye.

With this designation, Big Cypress National Preserve now becomes the 1st National Park Service (NPS) Unit east of Colorado to earn this designation and the 16th NPS site in the country to do so. The national preserve joins Kissimmee Prairie Preserve State Park in Central Florida, which was designated earlier in 2016, as the first International Dark Sky Place in Florida.

The IDA's International Dark Sky Places Program began in 2001 to encourage communities around the world to preserve and protect dark sites through responsible lighting policies and public education. Big Cypress National Preserve will work with local astronomical societies and nearby communities to develop outdoor lighting guidelines to further minimize light pollution across South Florida ensuring the preservation of this special resource for all to enjoy. For more about the International Dark-Sky Association visit <http://darksky.org/>

### 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.

There are multiple tours to choose from **starting on November 14**.

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

### Big Cypress Swamp Festival

Join us for the 6<sup>th</sup> annual Big Cypress Swamp Heritage Festival on Saturday, **December 3, 2016** to be held at the Big Cypress National Preserve Welcome Center, 33000 Tamiami Trail East, Ochopee, FL 34141.

This is a family-friendly FREE event that celebrates our unique heritage and early pioneers.

## LOCAL NEWS

### Vote Your Choice November 8th

The last day for voting will be on National Election Day, November 8<sup>th</sup>. Polls will be open 7 am to 7 pm. For more information, contact the Collier County Supervisor of Elections by phone at 239-252-8683. You may also visit the website at: [www.colliervotes.com](http://www.colliervotes.com).

## STAR TREKKER REPORT

Reported by Chris Herlovich



**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. The 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.

## Florida Panther Facts & Update



Florida is famous for our beautiful, big cats, the Panther. Panthers are on the endangered list due to loss of habitat and other factors including, mercury poisoning, vehicle encounters and inbreeding.

The panther is a carnivore, meaning they only eat meat. In fact, 90% of their diet is made up of feral hog (41%), deer (27%), raccoon (12%), and armadillo (8%). The hog is not native to Florida and was introduced by the Spaniards. The armadillo is also not a native species and arrived here from South America.

When hogs are abundant, panthers will almost exclusively feed on them. However, they will stay within their territory and will take the prey that is available within it (especially the males).

The month of October brings cooler weather and much more activity to South Florida - and that means more cars. With that, we recently experienced a dramatic increase in the number of panther deaths on the southwest coast. One female cat and 4 males were killed by vehicles in October which exceeds the number of deaths reported from July through September. A new litter of kittens was discovered bringing some good news, with a total of 3 kittens, one male and two females.

Please be careful when driving in the Everglades area which is within the panther's habitat. Remember, panthers are most active at dusk and dawn and will roam along a roadside, so stay particularly alert during those times while driving. If you see a panther or have a panther interaction of any type, please report it to the Florida Wildlife Commission at 1-888-404-FWCC (3922).

**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; Tues 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**

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
11/06 Sun	02:12PM	0.3	L
11/06 Sun	08:15PM	2.5	H
11/07 Mon	02:32AM	1.1	L
11/07 Mon	06:26AM	2.5	H
11/07 Mon	03:18PM	0.3	L
11/07 Mon	09:13PM	2.5	H
11/08 Tue	03:59AM	1.0	L
11/08 Tue	08:38AM	2.4	H
11/08 Tue	04:22PM	0.4	L
11/08 Tue	10:05PM	2.7	H
11/09 Wed	05:04AM	0.8	L
11/09 Wed	10:01AM	2.5	H
11/09 Wed	05:19PM	0.4	L
11/09 Wed	10:49PM	2.8	H
11/10 Thu	05:58AM	0.5	L
11/10 Thu	11:09AM	2.7	H
11/10 Thu	06:11PM	0.4	L
11/10 Thu	11:28PM	3.0	H
11/11 Fri	06:47AM	0.3	L
11/11 Fri	12:06PM	2.8	H
11/11 Fri	06:59PM	0.5	L
11/12 Sat	12:03AM	3.2	H
11/12 Sat	07:35AM	0.0	L
11/12 Sat	12:58PM	3.0	H
11/12 Sat	07:47PM	0.5	L
11/13 Sun	12:37AM	3.3	H
11/13 Sun	08:23AM	-0.2	L
11/13 Sun	01:48PM	3.0	H
11/13 Sun	08:33PM	0.6	L
11/14 Mon	01:11AM	3.5	H
11/14 Mon	09:10AM	-0.4	L
11/14 Mon	02:37PM	3.0	H
11/14 Mon	09:19PM	0.6	L
11/15 Tue	01:46AM	3.6	H
11/15 Tue	09:58AM	-0.5	L
11/15 Tue	03:29PM	3.0	H
11/15 Tue	10:04PM	0.7	L
11/16 Wed	02:25AM	3.6	H
11/16 Wed	10:46AM	-0.5	L
11/16 Wed	04:24PM	2.8	H
11/16 Wed	10:50PM	0.8	L
11/17 Thu	03:08AM	3.4	H
11/17 Thu	11:36AM	-0.4	L
11/17 Thu	05:22PM	2.7	H
11/17 Thu	11:40PM	0.8	L
11/18 Fri	04:00AM	3.2	H
11/18 Fri	12:28PM	-0.2	L
11/18 Fri	06:21PM	2.6	H
11/19 Sat	12:36AM	0.9	L
11/19 Sat	05:07AM	3.0	H
11/19 Sat	01:24PM	0.0	L
11/19 Sat	07:19PM	2.5	H
11/20 Sun	01:44AM	0.9	L
11/20 Sun	06:30AM	2.7	H

**Obituary**

**William Josiah Neville**

Judge William Josiah Neville, a native of Statesboro, Georgia, and winter visitor to the Everglades area and River Wilderness Resorts for 30 years with his wife, Reba, passed away Thursday, September 15, 2016, at his home, in



Bulloch County, Georgia. He was the fourth of five children born to William Gesmon Neville and Marguerite Nunnally Neville.

Judge Neville is survived by his wife of 40 years, Reba Beasley Jacobs Neville; his sons by his first union (Beverly Newton Neville): William Josiah (Bette) Neville Jr. of Claxton, Richard McArthur Neville, James Ross Neville, Jeffrey Craig Neville, all of Statesboro; and Douglas (Laurie) Jacobs, of Apollo Beach, Florida. Judge Neville is also survived by his sister, Dr. Sara Lenora Neville Bennett of Statesboro; and by many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

A memorial service was held on Saturday, September 24, 2016, at the chapel of the Statesboro First Baptist Church.



**Angels of the Swamp**

The little children in Everglades Elementary School got a surprise gift of new underpants and socks several weeks ago. It was all thanks to Dr. Marta Gallego-Adkins and her husband Eddie who you would recognize as a local sheriff's deputy. The Catholic Charities donate new underwear every year to youngsters and it was because of this couple that Everglades was included. So, a big thank you to Dr. Marta and Eddie! They are very welcome angels of the swamp!

**NOTE:** Chokoloskee pioneer C. G. McKinney coined the phrase "swamp angels" back in the early 1900s writing about the mosquitoes in this area. Former *Rapper* Editor Patty Huff turned the words around to honor residents who had done laudatory deeds. For a list of past recipients, visit [www.evergladesmulletrapper.com](http://www.evergladesmulletrapper.com) and click on Past Issues, then download the INDEX.

# RAPPER CLASSIFIEDS

**JOB OPENING:** 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.

**RV HOOKUPS,** Everglades City. Two Sites, 30 and 50 amps. Service, water, no sewage. Rent nightly or weekly. Rough boat ramp, 100 ft. dock. Private & secure. Contact Capt. Wayne of Fish Hunt Charters at 239-695-2445.

**HOUSE KEEPER WANTED.** Serious inquiries only. You must have your own transportation. for more information and to apply, please call 479-422-0614.

**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

Even the pets were in costume for Halloween. Is this a lion or a lab?

# 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, \$1500 / month. Contact: Rancho T Properties LLC, (727) 480-1640.

**FOR SALE:** Completely remodeled & 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

## PUBLISHER EMERITUS

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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 or social bias.*

The views expressed in signed articles are not necessarily those of the editors or publisher.

## SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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