

The MULLET RAPPER

What's Happening in the Everglades City Area

**TIDE TABLE
RESTAURANTS**

DEC. 3 – DEC. 16, 2016

25¢

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P O Box 134, Everglades City, FL, 34139

Volume X • Issue #277

Calling All Local History Buffs!

Everglades Community Church is seeking to preserve the history of the church, and to do so, and they are looking for any information about the olden days so this information can be documented.



Information on the ministers, parishioners, photos or anything of historical value that you can share would be very appreciated.

If you once attended Everglades Community Church, or you know someone who did, that would like to clean out old pictures or articles, you may drop them off at Church Annex, attention: Chris Ammerman or call (239) 719-0045.

Gulf Coast Everglades Ladies Let's Go Fishing Goes Wild in Chokoloskee

The Ladies, Let's Go Fishing non-profit Foundation had its first-ever Gulf Coast Everglades weekend in Chokoloskee, on November. 18-20. Participants shared a Friday dinner, Saturday fishing, Saturday evening presentation on Everglades fishing by Capt. Pete Rapps, a Saturday potluck home cooked dinner and Sunday fishing



on charter boats. Rapps discussed fishing tips, best fishing times and how a cold front low pressure inflates fish bladders, making them feel full and less hungry.

Commented Betty Bauman, founder, "This was an outstanding adventure and a tremendous bonding opportunity for those who love the outdoors."

Every boat caught fish, despite a cold front that arrived on Saturday, making it challenging to fish. Seas were choppy further out but comfortable behind islands. The cold front and water temperature of 61 degrees presented tough fishing conditions. Each day offered a few hours of nice weather and a few hours of winds. There was no rain all weekend. Fishing times were 4, 6 and 8 hour trips. For more information visit www.ladiesletsgofishing.com, or email info@ladiesletsgofishing.com or call 954-475-9068 for information.

Photo: Katelyn Parrish shows her fish caught with Capt. Rapps

Third Annual Gobble Gobble 5k Runs Through E-City!

While the majority of us were planning our cooking and eating schedules on Wednesday for Thursday, Shannon Snyder was plotting the 5k course for the third annual Gobble Gobble Run.



Bright and early the runners took to the streets of E-City while most of us were either sleeping or eating!

Thank you to Shannon for her commitment to this event, and to all of the things she does with area children throughout the year. Thanks to everyone who participated this year, and for making this the most successful 5k to date.

We look forward to watching you sweat again next year...while we eat too much turkey with fixings, pie and cranberry sauce.

Photo by Sue Gentry

Join the Festivities Dec. 10th! Come out and get into the holiday spirit. Everyone is invited to attend!

- 10am-2pm: Art-in-the-Glades
- 1 pm-3 pm: Museum Reception
- 5:30 pm: Lighting of Christmas Tree at City Hall
- 6:30 pm: Light Parade
- 7:00 pm: Glow 5k Run

Hope to see you there!

RAPPER CONTENTS

Calendar	p. 2	Sawtooth	p. 7
Events	p. 3	Capt. Merritt	p. 8
Services	p. 3	Gulf Coast	p. 8
Taylor	p. 5	My Slice	p. 9
School News	p. 5	Park News	p.10
Recipe	p. 7	Local News	p.10
Crossword	p.7	Births	p.11

TIDES & RESTAURANTS p.11 CLASSIFIEDS p.12

FEATURE: DEEP LAKE HISTORY P. 9

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

DECEMBER 2016-JANUARY 2017



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>
4	5 Hour of Prayer Holy Family Catholic Church, 7 pm Friends of Museum Luncheon, see p.3 ESHP meeting, 8:30am, City Hall	6	7 Ladies Coffee Christmas Party, see p. 3	8 Al-Anon Celebration, see p. 3 Lions Club Potluck 6:30 pm @ Pernas' home	9 Chicken Dinner, see p. 3	10 Art in Glades see p. 3 Artist Reception, see p. 3
11 	12 Hour of Prayer Everglades Comm. Church, 7 pm	13 full moon ● Little Gator Clinic 5-7 pm	14 Ladies Coffee City Seafood, 8 am	15 Book Club, Location TBA, 9 am	16 	<u>RAPPER 17</u> Pancake Fly-In, see p. 3 Fakahatchee Dinner
18	19 Hour of Prayer Copeland Baptist Church, 7 pm	20	21 Ladies Coffee Havana Café, 8 am	22	23	24
25 Christmas Day	26 Hour of Prayer Chokoloskee Church of God, 7 pm	27 	28 Ladies Coffee Island Cafe, 8 am	29 new moon ○ 	30 	<u>RAPPER 31</u>
January 1, 2017 New Year's Day	2 Hour of Prayer Holy Family Catholic Church, 7 pm	3	4 Ladies Coffee City Seafood, 8 am	5	6	7

Jan. 7 & 8: White Pelican Celebration

Jan. 18: MLK Day
March 4 & 5: Turkey Shoot

February 10, 11, 12: Seafood Festival

THRIFT SHOP: Tues., Thurs., Sat., 11 am–3 pm
LIONS CLUB: 2nd 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: 2nd Saturday, 9 am to 3:30 pm

SKATING RINK: Fri, Sat., 7-10 pm
REACH OUT: 3rd Tuesday, 9:30 am, City Hall
LITTLE GATOR CLINIC: Open Dec. 13th, 5-7pm
FOOD PANTRY: Wed., 12 n to 2 pm, Community Church
EVERGLADES AL-ANON: Thurs., 12noon, City Hall
VETERANS SUPPORT: 1st & 3rd Thurs., 10 am, Com. Church
SMALLWOOD STORE: Daily, 11 am to 5 pm
PANCAKE FLY-IN: December 17, 10 am

SHERIFF AT CITY HALL: 1st Tuesday (4:30 pm) Other Tuesdays (10-11 am)
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE: Mon–Thurs (9 am to 2 pm); Fri-Sat (9 am to 3 pm)

POST OFFICE HOURS:

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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

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What's Happening

In and Around Town



Fish Fry Dinner to be Rescheduled!

Chokoloskee Church of God has postponed the "Mullet Fry Dinner," originally scheduled for Saturday, December 3rd, it will be rescheduled for a date in January.

When a firm date is set, we will post it in the Mullet Rapper. For info contact Hazel Mitchell at: (239) 719-0368.

Big Cypress Swamp Heritage Festival, Saturday December 3rd

Attend the 6th annual Big Cypress Swamp Heritage Festival on Saturday, December 3rd to be held at the Big Cypress National Preserve Welcome Center, 33000 Tamiami Trail East, from 10:30 to 4:00 pm. Speakers include; Clyde Butcher, Marya Repko and Capt. Franklin Adams.

Friends of Museum Luncheon December 5th, 11 am

The Friends of the Museum Annual Meeting will be held on December 5th at The Oyster House at 11 am. The speaker will be Tony Pernas, Supervisory Botanist of Big Cypress National Preserve.



Ladies Coffee Christmas Party December 7th, 8 am

Jan Brock will host the annual Christmas Party for the Wednesday Ladies Coffee Club on December 7th at 8:00 am at her home in Ochopee. For info contact Patty Huff @ 239-695-2397.

Everglades Al-Anon Family Group 5th Anniversary Celebration Thursday, December 8th

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



Chicken Dinner December 9th

Everglades Community Church 5:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M. \$10 and \$5 Take-outs available!



Art-in-the-Glades Dec 10th, McLeod Park

Do your holiday shopping in beautiful Everglades City where unique gifts from local artists are on display! There will be everything from jewelry to soaps and numerous pieces of art. Get there early, "doors open" 10 am to 2 pm. Kids welcomed! They can play in the park while you shop (and then attend the artist reception, see below).

Artist Reception for Dick Jay December 10th

A reception will be held at the Museum of the Everglades from 1 to 3 pm for the very (multi) talented, local artist, Dick Jay. Mr. Jay's work will be on display the entire month of December at the museum.

PANCAKE FLY-IN



Wings 10,000 Islands Tours will host a free pancake breakfast at the Everglades Airpark on Saturday, December 17th from 10:00 am to noon. For more information, call Chuck at 695-3296.

Community Services

DOCTOR'S CLINIC



Dr. Kirk DeMartino is currently seeing patients in his Marco Island Office until 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 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 Open 3 Days!

The Thrift Store is now open on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 11 am to 3 pm, located behind the fire station. *Please do not leave items on the porch. Please bring them, in during operating hours. All donations are appreciated!*



Holiday Cooking Safety Tips by Fire Chief Kingman Schuldt

As you plan your holiday menus don't forget about fire safety.

Did you know Thanksgiving is the peak day for home cooking fires? The number of home fires double on Thanksgiving and are elevated during holidays. So, let's add a pinch of fire safety to the menu. Keep these safety tips in mind as you prepare your holiday meals.

Turkey:

If you are roasting your turkey, make sure you set a timer. This way, you won't forget about the bird as you watch the parade or football.

If you are frying your turkey, use a fryer with thermostat controls. This will ensure the oil does not become over heated. Thaw your turkey completely. Ice on the bird will cause the oil to splatter.

Don't overfill the pot with oil. If you do, the oil will overflow when you add the turkey causing a fire hazard. Keep children and pets at least three feet away from the fryer. Also, always use the fryer outdoors. Stuffing and Potatoes:

Stand by your stove when you are boiling your potatoes or frying onions for stuffing. It is best to stay in the kitchen when you are frying, boiling or broiling. If you are in the kitchen, it is easier to catch spills or hazardous conditions before they become a fire.

Vegetables:

Keep the area around the stove clear of packaging, paper towels, and dish cloths; anything that can burn. Be sure to clean up any spills as they happen.

Be prepared. Keep a large pan lid or baking sheet handy in case you need to smother a pan fire. Turn pot handles towards the back of the stove so you don't bump them.

By following these safety tips, you will have a delicious and fire safe Thanksgiving holiday. Let the firefighters have dinner with their families, not yours.

Area incident reporting is not published by Naples Fire Rescue. Instead, Chief Schuldt will provide timely updates, tips and news.

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Small Town Taylor

by Taylor Mayberry

I love holidays, especially Thanksgiving. I love Thanksgiving because you get to spend it with family members and friends and eat really good food. This Thanksgiving we got to play with our cousins from the east coast. We played all day and it was the loudest Thanksgiving I have ever had.

Thanksgiving weekend we got to go camping with our cousins and we all built a big fort that we all fit in. We got to shoot the BB guns and ride on the side by sides in Bear Island. Uncle Kyle shot a nice 7-point buck. Speaking of Thanksgiving, I'd like to tell you some things I am thankful for.

I am thankful for:

1. Family
2. Friends
3. My dog Captain
4. Nature
5. Freedom
6. My School
7. Volleyball
8. my Volleyball coaches
9. Camping
10. The woods
11. Beach
12. My home



Everyone has something they are thankful for such as my list of things. They don't all have to be the same because everyone is different. Happy Thanksgiving everyone!

With lots of love,



Taylor

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

IMPORTANT DATES EVERGLADES CITY SCHOOL

Dec.21: Early Dismissal
Dec 22-Jan 3: No School for Students

First Annual Orchid Fund Raiser Exceeds Donation Expectations!

by Kathy Brock

The first annual orchid fundraiser (Sponsored by the Mullet Rapper) for the Everglades City School athletic department was a big success. We did not know what to expect for the "maiden voyage" as this is such a busy time of year for everyone, but the community really turned out!



This would not have been possible without the support of so many people. We would like to thank two very special people for donating their time to help with the effort; Joyce Hatton for volunteering and being a fantastic (and fun) sales person! Gail Davenport for donating multiple orchid species that were highly targeted by shoppers! Your contributions were amazing and a big reason this event was so successful.

We would also like to thank those that came to the event and made a donation / purchase (first names only): Kenny, Jerry, Kit, Diane, John, Judy, Barbara, Tom & Mary, Vicky, Mike, Elaine, Craig, Bob, Joyce, Pete & Robin, Patty and Joanne. Thank you so much for finding the time to attend and contribute to the effort.

In total, we collected \$500 that will be given to the school to utilize for school athletics. We are already planning for next year and working on how we can improve upon this year to make it even more successful next year.

It is this type of effort that makes us such a unique community. We are a diverse community, but we are united by a common goal; to make the Everglades area a special, supportive community, and to support our leaders of tomorrow by supporting our students of today. Thank you everyone.

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

Bikers Gather on November 19th to Ride From E-City to Chokoloskee



Interested in Biking?

For more information on the Everglades Bike Club, contact:
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SOLUTION TO 11/19/16 PUZZLE

1	T		2	B	3	A	4	B	5	Y		5	B	6	U	7	M	8	P
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November Juvenile Smalltooth Sawfish Abundance Survey

By: Andrea Kroetz, NOAA Fisheries, Panama City Lab., Panama City, FL

In November, the NOAA Fisheries Service-Smalltooth Sawfish Research team conducted their bi-monthly sampling expedition in the coastal areas from Goodland to Crate Key, FL.

This was a very successful trip. The team captured, tagged and released four



larger sawfish. Among those captured, the team surgically implanted 10 and 5-year acoustic tags (the first group to do this on sawfish) in 4 animals. The largest individual was also tagged off Crate Key with a SPOT tag that provides GPS daily locations on where the animal is moving. All of this information will be extremely valuable in updating critical habitat information for larger juvenile sawfish.

Smalltooth sawfish are listed as Endangered under the Endangered Species Act and 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 accidentally catch a smalltooth sawfish, please report your encounter to 1-844-4SAWFISH.

All directed research is covered under permits EVER-2016-SCI-0016 and ESA-17787.

Photo:

NOAA researchers release a juvenile smalltooth sawfish that was tagged with a 5-year acoustic tag.

Recipes for Good Eating

by Elaine Middelstaedt



Delicious Champagne Chicken

- 8 chicken cutlets
- 5 T butter and/or olive oil
- 2 T flour
- 1 to 1-1/2 c chicken broth
- 3/4 c light cream
- 3 T champagne mustard
- Salt and pepper to taste

Dredge chicken in mixture of flour, salt and pepper. Brown the cutlets in butter and oil. Lower heat, remove chicken. Stir flour into drippings, slowly add broth, and stir constantly. Slowly add cream, stir, then stir in mustard and cook until sauce bubbles.

Option 1: Return chicken to pan, cover and simmer 10 minutes.

Option 2: Put chicken in baking pan, pour sauce over, cover with foil, and put in 300-degree oven for 20-30 minutes, until hot.

Serve over noodles or rice.

Rapper Crossword

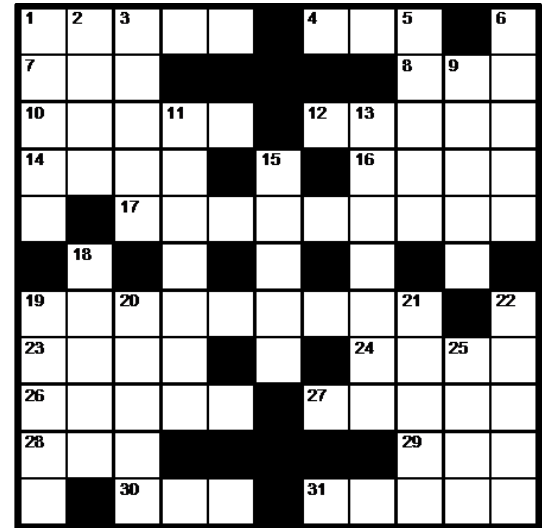
(Solution in next issue or visit www.mulletrapper.com/xword)

Across

- 1. Plentiful
- 4. Opening
- 7. Honey maker
- 8. Belonging to us
- 10. Vessel
- 12. French river
- 14. A single time
- 16. Bunks are theses
- 17. Coops
- 19. Peculiar
- 23. Additional
- 24. This was cast on Nov. 8th
- 26. Iron clothes
- 27. Ernest ----, French historian
- 28. Golfers mound
- 29. Some types are Sloe
- 30. Small dog breed
- 31. Some fish are this

Down

- 1. Superior of a monastery
- 2. Intend
- 3. Birds sit on this
- 5. Skin openings
- 6. Plant of the mustard family
- 9. Below
- 11. Big farm horses (British)



12/3/16

(Down Continued)

- 13. Insulting
- 15. Picture
- 18. A touchdown is one
- 19. Vacant
- 20. Crawl
- 21. Cuban ballroom dance
- 22. Cent
- 25. Dogs wag it



Fishing Gulf Coast

By Captain Mike Merritt

Fishing the Ten Thousand Islands in December.

Fishing has definitely changed with the cooler water temperatures. This month you will start catching different species such as Black Drum, Sheepshead, Spanish Mackerel, and Bluefish. Shrimp, shrimp, shrimp! Fishing with live shrimp will be your best bet for most fish this time of year!

Bigger Seatrout should be out on the grass flats and a popping cork and shrimp will do the trick. This will also get you the occasional Pompano doing the same thing. You can also catch more Seatrout in the back country this month as they move up into the rivers.

Redfish will be more scattered and we catch a lot of smaller fish this time of year with some nice ones mixed in. The nice thing about using the shrimp for the Reds is that you will catch the Black Drum using the same method.

Fish along the shorelines on the incoming tide on the outside islands. If you're after some Snook action, then the back country is where you need to fish. They have moved into the back country and you can also catch them on live shrimp this time of year. Floating a shrimp along mangrove edges or free line a shrimp where the current is pulling it near the structure or mangrove roots. They will be in heavy cover but will gladly dart out and eat a shrimp as it passes by.



D.O.A. CAL Tail

Fishing the deeper rock holes should produce the Sheepshead. Another good reason to fish shrimp is the variety of fish you will catch. It is not uncommon to catch 12 or more species in a day here. If you are using artificial lures to catch your fish, then a jig will be tops this month. This will work on the outside as well as the back country. I prefer root beer color in the back and white on the outside, but be sure to try different colors if the action is slow.

My favorite tails are the DOA Cal tails but the Gulps are also a good bet. And if you are snook fishing in the back, don't forget the DOA Shrimp. They work great for skipping baits back up under the mangroves. Get out and enjoy the winter bite this month! Good luck fishing!



Send Your Favorite Fishing Photos to the Rapper!

We love to include photos from our readers. Just send your photos to us by email to mulletrapper@gmail.com and we will publish them along with the details you provide to us.

Tell us about your Everglades adventures in hiking, biking, fishing, kayaking and birding and share your great memories with our readers.

Deadlines are every other Saturday, the week after publications come out.



Living Gulf Coast

by Charles Sobczak

The Lost Trail: Numerous access points throughout the 110-mile-long trail Website www.dep.state.fl.us/gwt/state/lakeotrail

Email: carol.sheppard@deb.state.fl.us / Admission is free.

The 110-mile Lake Okeechobee Scenic Trail, popularly known as the **LOST trail**, encircles the second-largest freshwater lake in the continental United States (Lake Michigan being the largest). The LOST Trail crosses five Florida counties—Hendry, Glades, Okeechobee, Martin, and Palm Beach. Most of the trail runs atop the Herbert Hoover Dike surrounding the lake, but long stretches have to be traversed along state and county highways. The long-range plan is to continue the LOST Trail entirely atop the 35-foot-high dike, but erosion repairs, locks, and rivers and canals entering the Big "O" at different places make this a daunting task. It will likely be decades before that dream comes to fruition.



The LOST trail is part of the Great Cross-Florida Hiking Trail (www.floridatrail.org) that runs from the Big Cypress National Preserve in southern Collier County to the Gulf Islands National Seashore in Pensacola. The best route for hikers is along the eastern shoreline of the lake, which avoids the 30-mile stretch in Glades County where access to the dike is impossible. Here the trail runs along State Highway 78, where the shoulder is wide enough, but the traffic, though never heavy, is fast.

The best way to experience the LOST Trail is by bicycle. The paved sections of the trail are long and straight and ideal for road bikers who like to pick up some speed, while the unpaved sections offer riders a challenge. A good interactive map is available from Palm Beach Bike Tours (www.Palmbeachbiketours.com/lake-okeechobee-scenic-trail-lost-map) and helps peddlers get a better understanding of what riding this trail involves.

The views from atop the dike are the bicyclist's reward. On one side is the rim canal, which surrounds much of the perimeter of Lake Okeechobee. Seldom more than 50 feet wide, the rim canal abounds with numerous limpkins, herons, egrets, ducks, alligators, gar, bass, bream, and dozens of different species of passerines such as red-winged blackbirds, warblers, and boat-tailed grackles. On the Lake "O" side of the dike, the views can be stunning. The lake is so wide that you cannot see across to the other side. Its shoreline abounds with birds and animals, including armadillos, raccoons, and river otters. Of course, there are also airboats, pontoon boats, bass boats, and everything in between roaring up and down the rim canal and the lake, accompanied by plenty of noise.

For the avid bicyclist, the LOST Trail is well worth the effort. It is unlike any other bike path in the state in that you are riding above your surroundings, be it rundown trailer parks, busy marinas, or endless fields of sugarcane.

Photo by Charles Sobczak



My Little Slice of Paradise

by Kathy Brock

Without Deep Lake, Everglades City May Have Never Been...And Without These Two Women, You May Have Never Seen a Snowy Egret!

The history of Everglades City and how it came to be is quite intriguing. Threaded into this history is the connection to Deep Lake and how it influenced Barron Collier to invest in and develop our (very special) area.

As you make your way to Everglades City, Deep Lake is located just off Highway 29 (nine miles south of Interstate 75 and eight miles north of Highway 41.). Deep Lake is what is known as a "solution hole". Solution holes are often found in hardwood hammocks like Big Cypress.

Deep Lake is one of only five naturally occurring solution holes in Florida. When the rainy season gets underway, solution holes fill with water, while some, like Deep Lake, never dry out. This creates a layer of natural protection from fires and also an oasis for numerous species of wildlife. Solution holes are created over time as limestone erodes from weathering and dissolution. The dissolution, or erosion, takes place as mildly acidic rainwater mixes with organic acids produced by decaying leaves from the hammock canopy that create low pH "solution" that eats away at the limestone causing the hole to deepen over time. In the case of Deep Lake, this process has been going on for over 6000 years and the Lake is now ~96 feet deep and over 300 feet wide.

Many people are familiar with the Deep Lake prison that was closed, sold and is now operating as Altaire's Gun Range (where the most recent Lion's Club Turkey Shoot was held). Originally, this site was the location of a packaging company built to process the citrus from a grove that was established at Deep Lake by a man named Walter Langford.

Walter Langford came to Fort Myers with his parents when he was just six years old. His father was a cattle farmer (and doctor). After graduating from Stetson University, Walter joined the family business. While still a very young man, Langford met John Roach, president of the Chicago Traction Company. They eventually went into business together and developed the area around Deep Lake into an extensive marsh grapefruit grove during the late 1800's. It became such a thriving operation, that they constructed a narrow-



gauge railroad from the groves down to what is now Everglades City so that they could ship their produce. Walter Langford married Carrie Watson on July 21, 1898. Carrie Watson was the daughter of Edgar Watson (of *Killing Mr. Watson* fame). Walter Langford died in 1920 at the age of 47. Carrie Watson Langford died in 1961.

It was Langford's successful business model that caught the interest of Barron Collier. Eventually, Langford sold the grove operation to Barron Collier, and soon after, Collier founded the *Deep Lake Seedless Grapefruit Company*. The fruit grown here



was eventually transported by the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad from Deep Lake to Everglades City, and then on to areas throughout the country. It was the citrus business that first established Everglades City as the primary seat of power in Collier County.

Collier built a beautiful plantation around Deep Lake and he used the property to host lavish parties with numerous socialites like William Hearst, Henry Ford, and William Wrigley (of chewing gum fame). This brought southwest Florida into national prominence.

This was also during the height of the Plume (feather) Trade in the late 1800's to early 1900's, when socialites would be seen around Deep Lake wearing the highly sought after feathers of many of our wading birds, especially snowy egrets and herons. Some women even wore complete birds stuffed and mounted on their hats during this time. Because of the commercial success of Langford and Collier, more and more people came here and discovered that the 10,000 Islands area was home to the highly sought after bird plumes.

It was once believed that the birds here were so abundant that it would be impossible to hunt them into extinction. However, by the early 1900's this is precisely where we were. Our snowy egrets and herons were on the brink. Because the most highly sought after plumes were the gossamer wisps prominent during breeding season, birds were often hunted at the rookeries with only adults taken, leaving chicks to die in the nests, thus wiping out generations in one day's "work". (Any readers who have had the good fortune to visit our nearby rookeries know how easily the birds are approached while nesting).

By 1886 there were approximately 50 North American bird species being hunted for their feathers to support the demand centered in social circles, with London and Paris being the biggest consumers in the trade. The impact eventually became obvious and it was two Boston socialites who changed the way history may have been written (with the potential extinction of the snowy egret, the number one target of the trade).

Harriet Hemenway and her cousin Minna Hall were very disturbed by the mass destruction of such beautiful creatures and campaigned to bring awareness to how sensitive the population of these birds were to such uncontrolled slaughter-for mere hat adornment. They vociferously boycotted the plume trade which eventually resulted in the National Audubon's passage of the Migratory Bird Act first approved by congress on March 4, 1913. This law outlawed market hunting and forbade interstate transport of birds.

I am ever so grateful to these pioneers. If Walter Langford never planted that first grapefruit tree, Barron Collier may not have developed our little Everglades paradise. And, if Harriet and Minna weren't so forward thinking and passionate, none of us would be able to enjoy the beautiful birds that dot the mangroves in our island paradise. Thank you, Walter, Barron, Harriet and Minna for making this all possible.

Photos: Top left, Walter Langford by Faye Langford Paul, bottom left, rail cars from Deep Lake to Everglades City provided by Florida Archives, top right, snowy egret in breeding plumage.



PARK NEWS

Photographic Exhibit

"Journey Across The Greater Everglades"

December 20th through March 25, 2017

Local wildlife photographer and digital artist, Sandee Harraden, will have a new solo photographic exhibit at the Big Cypress Swamp Welcome Center and Oasis Visitors Center in Ochopee, Florida from December 20th through March 25, 2017. She is a nationally recognized photographer and has been published in the National Audubon and in National



Wildlife Federation literature.

Spending the last 26 years exploring the greater Everglades to photograph wildlife behavior, she finds inspiration in the swamps and wetlands across Southern Florida. Sandee creatively captures exceptional moments through her lens highlighting nature's astonishing beauty.

Sandee has studied with some of the best nature photographers in North America and continues to learn new photographic and post processing techniques. Originally from Southern California, she graduated with a Master's Degree from San Diego State University and has lived in the Everglades for the past twenty-five years.



Since retirement she spends time in Everglades City Florida, Woodstock Connecticut and travels as often as possible visiting natural wonders of our world.

Sandee invites you to her opening reception on January 14, 2017 from 1 pm to 3 pm at the Big Cypress Swamp Welcome Center located at 33000 Tamiami Trail East, Ochopee Florida 34141. The exhibit will run from December 20, 2016 through March 25, 2017 at both locations. Free admission, refreshments and door prizes.

Purchases of images, books and calendars may be made at the Ivey House Gallery in Everglades City or directly from the artist. For more information please contact Sandee at 239-250-4662 or SJHarraden@aol.com. **Photos ©Sandee Harraden**

Park Announces Best Night Sky Viewing Dates

Night sky viewing programs will begin on Dec. 3rd starting at 7:00 p.m. More information can be found online by visiting: <https://www.nps.gov/bicy/planyourvisit/astronomy-programs.htm>.

This program will be held monthly on **12/3, 1/21, 2/10 and 3/25**. The event provides visitors the opportunity to experience some of the darkest skies east of the Rocky Mountains. The night sky at the preserve was recently recognized by the International Dark-Sky Association through its Dark-Sky Places program.

Programs will be conducted at the southern end of Sea Grape Drive, where the Welcome Center is located (east of SR 29, between MM 73 and 74 on US41).

LOCAL NEWS

Serious Accident at Carnestown Reaffirms need for Traffic Signal



The effort to get a light at the Carnestown intersection to help prevent any more accidents at the dangerous crossing cannot happen soon enough. On Sunday, November 20th, there was another serious accident causing a rollover. Thankfully, even though the vehicle was completely totaled, the driver and the passenger were not seriously injured.

When the light is installed, it is important to be extra cautious for the first few weeks as drivers on the Trail are not accustomed to stopping. There will be warnings and other reminders for drivers so it minimizes confusion, but be aware.

Thank you to local resident Holly Levingston Dudley for leading the effort and to Sue Gentry for working with her on this very necessary safety project. We very much appreciate it.



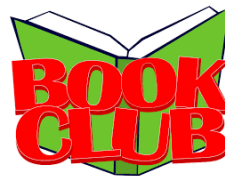
STAR TREKKER REPORT

Reported by Chris Herlovich

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.

Attention Book Lovers!



The Everglades Book Club has resumed meetings for the winter season.

Below is the Book Club reading & meeting schedule:

Dec. 15, 2016: "Olive Kitteridge" by Elizabeth Strout
Jan. 19, 2017: "Immokalee's Fields of Hope" by Carlene Thissen
Feb. 16, 2017: "All the Light You Cannot See" by Anthony Doerr
Mar. 16, 2017: "Leap of Faith" by Queen Noor of Jordan
Apr. 6, 2017: "One Thousand White Women" by Jim Fergus
For more information contact Sue Rogers @ 239-695-9173.

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

1st Baptist Church of Everglades City
9:45 am Sunday School, 11 am Worship
6 pm Sunday, 6 pm Wed. Bible Study

Holy Family Catholic Church
10:30 a.m. Sunday Mass

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

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

TIDES FOR BARRON RIVER

12/03 Sat	03:11AM	2.8	H
12/03 Sat	12:01PM	-0.1	L
12/03 Sat	05:53PM	2.4	H
12/03 Sat	11:53PM	0.9	L
12/04 Sun	03:50AM	2.7	H
12/04 Sun	12:44PM	0.0	L
12/04 Sun	06:44PM	2.4	H
12/05 Mon	12:48AM	0.9	L
12/05 Mon	04:41AM	2.5	H
12/05 Mon	01:33PM	0.1	L
12/05 Mon	07:34PM	2.5	H
12/06 Tue	02:02AM	0.8	L
12/06 Tue	05:58AM	2.3	H
12/06 Tue	02:30PM	0.2	L
12/06 Tue	08:23PM	2.5	H
12/07 Wed	03:22AM	0.7	L
12/07 Wed	07:53AM	2.2	H
12/07 Wed	03:33PM	0.3	L
12/07 Wed	09:12PM	2.6	H
12/08 Thu	04:32AM	0.5	L
12/08 Thu	09:30AM	2.2	H
12/08 Thu	04:34PM	0.4	L
12/08 Thu	09:59PM	2.7	H
12/09 Fri	05:32AM	0.3	L
12/09 Fri	10:50AM	2.3	H
12/09 Fri	05:32PM	0.5	L
12/09 Fri	10:43PM	2.9	H
12/10 Sat	06:26AM	0.0	L
12/10 Sat	11:57AM	2.4	H
12/10 Sat	06:27PM	0.6	L
12/10 Sat	11:26PM	3.1	H
12/11 Sun	07:18AM	-0.2	L
12/11 Sun	12:55PM	2.5	H
12/11 Sun	07:19PM	0.6	L
12/12 Mon	12:07AM	3.2	H
12/12 Mon	08:08AM	-0.4	L
12/12 Mon	01:46PM	2.6	H
12/12 Mon	08:10PM	0.6	L
12/13 Tue	12:48AM	3.4	H
12/13 Tue	08:57AM	-0.6	L
12/13 Tue	02:35PM	2.6	H
12/13 Tue	08:59PM	0.7	L
12/14 Wed	01:29AM	3.4	H
12/14 Wed	09:45AM	-0.6	L
12/14 Wed	03:24PM	2.6	H
12/14 Wed	09:47PM	0.7	L
12/15 Thu	02:13AM	3.4	H
12/15 Thu	10:32AM	-0.6	L
12/15 Thu	04:12PM	2.6	H
12/15 Thu	10:35PM	0.6	L
12/16 Fri	02:59AM	3.3	H
12/16 Fri	11:19AM	-0.5	L
12/16 Fri	05:01PM	2.5	H
12/16 Fri	11:24PM	0.6	L
12/17 Sat	03:51AM	3.0	H
12/17 Sat	12:06PM	-0.3	L
12/17 Sat	05:49PM	2.4	H
12/18 Sun	12:17AM	0.6	L
12/18 Sun	04:52AM	2.8	H
12/18 Sun	12:55PM	-0.1	L

Birth Announcement!
Aaron & Joyce Hatton
welcome twin grandbabies!



Winter residents, Aaron & Joyce Hatton's daughter, Jennica, has given birth to adorable twins to give the couple their first grandchildren.

The twins, Ruby (girl) and Dylan (boy) came into the world on September 14th. The parents, Dan and Jennica (Hatton) Heckler are enjoying their new additions and adjusting to life with twins.



Grandma Joyce will return to Indiana to help Jennica and then be back to the Everglades area for the season...surely homesick and missing those babies like crazy. No worries, Joyce, I know you have oodles of video and photos to hold you over until you see them again. Congrats to Joyce, Aaron, Jennica and Dan. May the twins have great health and fulfilling lives!

Lion's Club Turkey Shoot Enjoyed by All at Altaire's Gun Range



Altaire's Gun Range was the perfect venue for this year's Turkey Shoot. Left, Case Van Leeuwen, Kenny Smallwood and Henry Snyder celebrate Kenny's winning shot.

Photo by Sue Gentry

RAPPER CLASSIFIEDS

NEW! JOB OPENING: Clyde Butcher Gallery. Part time gallery help, 3 days a week. Retail: good with people, answering phones, sales, friendly. \$11hr plus gas allowance. Call 239-695-2428 for appt.

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.

WANTED, Boat slip to rent for 20' Carolina Skiff. Please call Steve at 910-599-2698.

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.

MUST SELL Waterfront RV lot at the ORA Resort on Chokoloskee Island. Full hook-up, lot in a well maintained, secure park. No reasonable offer refused. Trades will be considered as well. Please call Terry (239) 774-6234.

FOR SALE or RENT: Cabins #7 & #8 at Glades Haven. Call (239) 695-9142 or email at fishnw.mykee55@live.com, or www.GladesRealty.com.

NATURE PICS

Painted buntings enjoy spray millet on an outside feeder



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 cabinets and fixtures, oak floors, tin roof, deeded dock. Ready for you to move in today and start fishing. Call or text for appt: (954) 662-7003.

BOAT FOR SALE: 2007 15.2 Key West center console boat with 50 HP Yamaha motor & trailer. Very low hours, and clean. Includes GPS, fish finder and jack plate, asking \$8500. Call or text Gary at 609-602-2245.

The MULLET RAPPER

What's Happening in the Everglades City Area

PUBLISHER EMERITUS

Patricia A. Huff, Snook Publications
PUBLISHER

Kathleen Brock, K Bee Marketing, Inc.
P O Box 134, Everglades City, FL, 34139
(954) 662-7003, mulletrapper@gmail.com

EDITORS

Kathy Brock & Patty Huff

PHOTOJOURNALIST

Helen Bryan

CONTRIBUTORS to this Issue

Helen Bryan, Taylor Mayberry,
Elaine Middelstaedt, Chris Herlovich,
Charles Sobczak, Mike Merritt

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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.

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P.O. BOX 134

EVERGLADES CITY, FL 34139