



The MULLET RAPPER

What's Happening in the Everglades City Area

**TIDE TABLE
RESTAURANTS**

DEC. 31 – JAN. 13, 2017

25¢

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P O Box 134, Everglades City, FL, 34139

Volume X • Issue #279

Good Tidings at Mayor's Annual Christmas Luncheon

Mayor Sammy Hamilton held the annual Christmas Luncheon on the 21st and judging from the smiles, everyone had a fantastic time. Of course, the food was great as usual (thank you Carol Foss!) and the mood was festive and cheery. Even though it was 85 degrees, it felt like Christmas to all of us! Thank you to everyone who participated and attended this year's festivities.



Mayor Hamilton, Brenda Hamilton and Jim Bryan Enjoying the Day!



Pat McKee, Jaye & Scott Bruner (hidden) and Aaron Hatton Share A Few Laughs at the Luncheon.

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FEATURE: NEW COLUMNIST, P. 5

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

With 2016 In the Rearview Mirror, We Look Forward to What 2017 Has in Store for Us

As the new year kicks off, we'd like to look back on some of the highlights of 2016.



Community Church celebrated its 90th anniversary! We look forward to celebrating the 100th!

In March, the founder of the Mullet Rapper, Patty Huff, retired and I (photo on right) took over as editor and publisher. It has been an honor to do so and a fabulous learning experience. I really appreciate all the "other people" that do so much to make this all happen. Without them all, it wouldn't.

Please do not be offended if I neglect to mention some things, the list is certainly not all inclusive, and the best way to review the entire year is to look at some of the back issues that are always available on our website (www.MulletRapper.com).

After 13 years, Lt. Mark Milligan retired as head of Collier County Sheriff's Office, District 7. In April, Lt. Jake Walter (photo on left) took over the command vacated by Lt. Milligan's retirement. In

January, Everglades



It does take a village.

In April, the historic Monroe Station (left) was lost to a fire. Worst of all, it was started with someone staging something for a video, completely unnecessary and very unfortunate. No one was injured, but sadly, the station is gone forever. Like Smokey the Bear says, "Only You Can Prevent Forest Fires". It didn't ignite the forest, but you get the reference.



In July, we had the groundbreaking for the Chokoloskee Bridge construction. This project marked the first time our area has ever had a stop light in the town itself. Thankfully, it will be removed once construction is over and we can return to being a "no light" town once again (PHEW!).

In November, the Ochopee Fire Control District management was taken over by the Greater Naples Fire District. This move will help manage costs and provide better services to our area.



Of course, our area celebrated, as we always do, the Blessing of the Fleet, the Fourth of July (lower left) and numerous other, special events. 2016 also featured one of our most handsome (right) graduating classes ever!



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>
January 1, 2017 New Year's Day	2 Hour of Prayer Holy Family Catholic Church, 7 pm	3 Friends of Museum Mtg, City Hall, 3:30pm Congressional Aide, City Hall, 3 pm	4 Ladies Coffee City Seafood, 8 am	5	6 White Pelican Celebration, see p. 3	7 White Pelican Celebration, see p. 3
8 White Pelican Celebration, see p. 3	9 Hour of Prayer Everglades Comm. Church, 7 pm ESHP Mtg City Hall, 8:30 am	10 	11 Ladies Coffee Havana Cafe, 8 am	12 full moon Lions Club Mtg Oyster House, 6 pm	13 Movie Night, 5:30 pm	<u>RAPPER 14</u> Art-in-the-Glades McLeod Pk. 10-2pm Museum Reception 1-3pm
15 	16 Hour of Prayer Copeland Baptist Church, 7 pm MLK Day	17	18 Ladies Coffee Island Cafe, 8 am	19	20	21 Pancake Fly-In, 10 am
22	23 Hour of Prayer Chokoloskee Church of God, 7 pm	24 	25 Ladies Coffee Sweet Mayberry's, 8 am	26 	27 new moon 	<u>RAPPER 28</u>
29 	30 Holy Family Catholic Church, 7 pm	31	February 1 Ladies Coffee City Seafood, 8 am	2	3 Movie Night 5:30 pm	4

February 10, 11, 12: Seafood Festival

Feb 21-25: Marjory Stoneman Douglas Festival (see p.10)

Feb 18: Pancake Fly-In

March 4 & 5: Turkey Shoot

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: Please check online edition for date
 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: 1/21, 2/18, 3/18, 4/22, 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)
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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

WHITE PELICAN FESTIVAL - MUSICIANS ANNOUNCED!

January 6-8



An amazing musical event will take place during the White Pelican Celebration on January 7 & 8 at the Smallwood Store in Chokoloskee when we celebrate to welcome these beautiful snow-white birds to their winter home in our backyard.

An A-List line-up of Florida musicians donating their time to entertain at the festival include, the Florida Boys, Raiford Starke, J Robert & The Walkin' Trees, The Chief Jim Billie Band, Valerie Wisecracker, Cindy Hackney, Bonefish Johnny, Frank Thomas & Eroc Handle, Rita Youngman band, James Hawkins and other special guests. The artists will play in the afternoon Saturday and Sunday, next to the historic Smallwood Store.

Master of ceremonies will be famed American Indian entertainer J.R. Battiest, whose sons, the Battiest Brothers wrote and produced "The Storm," which garnered numerous national awards, including first place for "Best Music Video" at the 36th Annual American Indian Film Festival held in San Francisco, CA.

The White Pelican Celebration focuses on boat trips out to see the majestic birds, the largest in America with a wingspan of 9 feet, plus arts & crafts, Native American foods, raffles, auctions of donated artwork, informative talks, and guided walking tours

The highlight of the weekend is the GALA DINNER on Saturday at which Seminole leader James E. Billie is guest of honor for an exclusive private screening of his life "Wrestling Alligators". Before that, musician Spencer Battiest will show the award-winning video "The Storm" and give us a few tunes.

It's a family-oriented weekend packed with fun for music lovers as well as bird-watching enthusiasts. For information and to reserve your places please call (239) 695-2989, or visit the store website: www.smallwoodstore.com.



EVERGLADES SEAFOOD FESTIVAL

February 10 - 12, 2017

Mark your calendar! The

annual Seafood Festival is right around the corner! You will not want to miss out on the great foods, arts & crafts and entertainment...and Kettle Corn!

There is still time to get a booth or sponsor the event! For more information: www.evergladesseafoodfestival.org or phone (239) 695-2277.

13TH ANNUAL MARJORY STONEMAN DOUGLAS FESTIVAL

February 21-25th

A full schedule of activities is scheduled to honor the Grand Dame of the Everglades. All events begin at the Museum of the Everglades, 105 W. Broadway, Everglades City (except Tuesday's luncheon). Please note that reservations are required for many activities. For more information, please call (239) 695-0008 (see p. 10 for details).

Community services



DOCTOR'S CLINIC

Dr. Kirk DeMartino is currently seeing patients in Everglades City on Fridays from 2 to 5 pm. You may also call his Marco Island 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 a Week

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!*



Toy Drive a Huge Success!

by
Fire Chief
Kingman Schuldt

The week before Christmas, the Greater Naples Fire Rescue family hosted its annual Toy Drive Command, providing more than 800 children of families less fortunate the opportunity to have presents for the Christmas holiday. This has been a tradition of the Fire District for over 40 years.

Each year, volunteers from throughout our community come out to support this great event. Young Honor Society adults from area high schools and members from the Mortgage Bankers Association of SW Florida have been of great assistance in preparing for, and distributing the toys.

The efforts of our civilian staff, firefighters and others from the community made this event a huge success and one to be proud of.



This is the season to be thankful, and I am thankful for all that our members do to keep our communities safe and to advance the fire and emergency services everywhere, to everyone they come in contact with, and all the support our community provides to the Fire District and those less fortunate during this holiday season. I wish you and yours a very happy, safe and healthy holiday season.

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

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SCHOOL NEWS

IMPORTANT SCHOOL DATES

Jan. 2-3:	No school
Jan. 16:	No school
Feb. 20:	No School



Small Town Taylor by Taylor Mayberry

Today I am going to tell you what I'm doing this week. I am writing this while I am lying in bed watching Elf in my Christmas PJ's. At school this week we only have two and a half days before our Christmas break. So, the first exciting thing that's happening this week is pajama day at school.

On pajama day, we get to bring our blankets, stuffed animals, pillows and lay on the floor and watch Polar Express in our pajamas!!!! Plus, we get to wear pajamas and eat candy and crackers. It's really fun because we also have a Christmas store right across the hall. I saved up \$27 so now I'm going to go to the Christmas Store and buy my family and friends Christmas presents.



When we get out of school that day my mom has offered to bring one of my best friends camping at Peace River, two hours from here. The friend I chose is Katie Collins because

she loves exploring and we have a lot of fun together. Once we get to the campground we are going to swing on a tree swing, look for Megalodon teeth, and play in the black sand. There are orange trees on the campground so we can ride the side by side there and eat them. They are sour but so good and juicy.

When I get home from camping I am going Christmas caroling with my friend Kaitlyn House on her golf cart.

I hope everyone enjoys pajama day and the Christmas break after pajama day. Have a very wonderful Christmas and a happy new year.

With lots of love,

Taylor

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

Welcome Dr. Michael Rizzo. Child Advocate & Educator Will Share Personal & Professional Experiences as a New Rapper Contributor



As a kid in the 1960's and 70's dad and I would venture out in the evening with Calcutta poles, live bait, and lanterns that we lowered from the bridge to the edge of the water. The light would attract the baitfish, and then the snook would come. We would drop the bait into the lighted area under the bridge.

When a snook hit the pole, we would flip it from the water, over our heads, and it would land on the bridge behind us. As crazy as this sounds, it worked. Those are the times with my dad I remember fondly. Lots of other times with my dad were not so much fun.

Growing up in South Florida in those days, little was known about learning disabilities and style differences. Even today, many school systems and teachers are still doing things the way they did in the 1960s. When I attended school, try as I might, reading and writing did not work for me. To say I did not enjoy the school experience is an understatement. It kind of seemed like a prison sentence to me.

I remember the fear I felt wondering if the teacher was going to call on me to read, having to go up to the board and spell a word, or trying to utilize grammatical skills. I remember the embarrassment and shame I felt when teachers would hand back papers, and I'd regularly get one of the lowest grades in the class. I also remember how ashamed I felt when my mom and dad looked at my report cards or had to sign papers with failing grades.

My dad, being a former military man, thought hard love was the answer. He'd say, "what's wrong with you son, you got a piece missing?" He even nicknamed me "mental." For the next 10 years or so, I got involved with a lot of activities both legal, and some not so legal, just to find a way to get by. In my middle to late 20s, seeing all my friends from high school going on with their lives and moving into professional careers, I felt something wasn't right.

I had to try school again. I went to community college, worked hard, did relatively well, and transferred to the University of Miami, where I earned my Bachelor's Degree in Psychology. It took me forever to read required materials and to write papers. While attending school part time, I started working with children with learning issues, and found that's where I belonged. I wanted to help the children that were struggling just as I had. Well, it took another 9 years, but I finally earned a Ph.D. in School Psychology at 42 years of age. After that, I went even further, earning a Diplomate in School Neuropsychology. Now, the kid that could not read has become an expert in diagnosing and treating Dyslexia.

I was determined to not give up. When I was 40 years old, I was actually tested by a Neuropsychologist. It should not come as a surprise that I had a classic profile of scores that indicated a severe reading disability (Dyslexia).

In 1988, I started my first job as a School Psychologist in Miami-Dade Public Schools, where I remained for about 10 years. About that time, I launched into the private sector. Over the past 20 years, my little practice has grown into perhaps the biggest private psychology practice in the Southeastern United States. We have over 25 full-time employees between our nonclinical and clinical staff. We provide consultations to private schools from West Palm Beach to Key West, and from Fort Myers to Marco Island. We teach educators to appreciate that one's reading can be improved; however, reading as a gateway to learning is an outdated belief system.

Many great minds struggle with reading, and I'd like to think that I am one of those people. Too bad my dad passed away before he could see what I have accomplished. It sure would have been nice to make him proud!

Kathy, the publisher of this newsletter, was introduced to me through a mutual friend, who is actually a great educator and a part time resident of Everglades City. Kathy asked if I could share information on a regular basis that may help you and your family understand learning style differences, why some smart children still struggle, how children learn, etc. Most importantly, she wanted me to share what concerned parents can do when their child is struggling in school. It is my honor to contribute to your newsletter, as your community has provided me with some great memories of my childhood!

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for a calendar of E-City school athletic events

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1	K	2	N	3	O	4	W	5	S	6	H	7	O	8	U	9	T
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The Way It Was in Pictures

Enjoy these photos from the Florida State archives from the early 1900's!



A Couple in Everglades City, 1915



Nell Storter holding a cat, 1915
In Everglades City



Seminole arriving to Everglades City
by boat, 1917



G.W. Storter trading post, 1917

Recipes for Good Eating

by Kathy Brock

Quick Stir Fry Chicken

- 2 boneless, skinless chicken breasts
- 1 small head broccoli cut into pieces
- 2 large carrots, peeled and sliced
- 1 large onion, sliced
- 1 Cup sliced mushrooms (fresh)
- ½ head cabbage, sliced
- Garlic powder
- Ginger root, peeled, sliced. 3 quarter-sized pieces
- Soy sauce
- Teriyaki Sauce
- 1 cup chicken broth
- 1 tablespoon cornstarch
- Black pepper to taste



This is a super easy recipe that tastes very gourmet! Cut up chicken into chunks, sprinkle some garlic powder on the chicken. Marinade chicken with teriyaki sauce while cutting up vegetables. Prepare your side dishes. White rice is a must! Wash and cut up all vegetables into manageable sized pieces. Heat wok or deep skillet and add 3 tablespoons of peanut oil. Drain chicken pieces, I actually rinse them before cooking to prevent burning. When cooked, remove from the pan and set aside. Add broccoli and carrots to pan first and slightly soften, and then add the rest of the vegetables. When cooked, add 1 cup chicken broth, 2 tablespoons soy sauce and a tablespoon of cornstarch for thickening. Cook until thickened and add chicken to heat back through and coat. Serve over rice.

Rapper Crossword

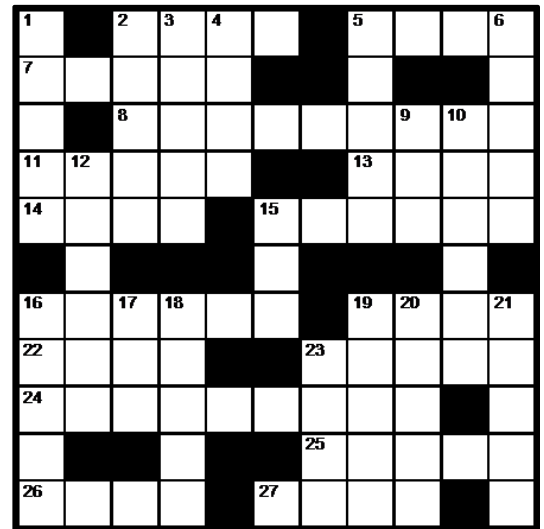
(Solution in next issue or visit www.mulletrapper.com/xword)

Across

- 2. Infant
- 5. Sometimes a baby causes it
- 7. Kid leather
- 8. Like some twins
- 11. "OK" in CB talk
- 13. Lois from Superman
- 14. Huskies pull them
- 15. Dairy fat
- 16. Irrational fear
- 19. Vessel
- 22. Drag
- 23. Position
- 24. United Brethren founder
- 25. Snake
- 26. Yellow of an egg
- 27. Minerals

Down

- 1. Former Russian rulers
- 2. Light grayish brown
- 3. Summed
- 4. Alcoholic beverage
- 5. Constructed
- 6. More wan
- 9. Feline
- 10. Lacking iron in the blood
- 12. The usual thing



12/31/16

(Down Continued)

- 15. Bleat of a sheep
- 16. Not sincere
- 17. Not in
- 18. Desolate
- 19. There is one on some brass instruments
- 20. Clock pointers
- 21. Oysters can make one
- 23. Type of fruit

The Nervous System

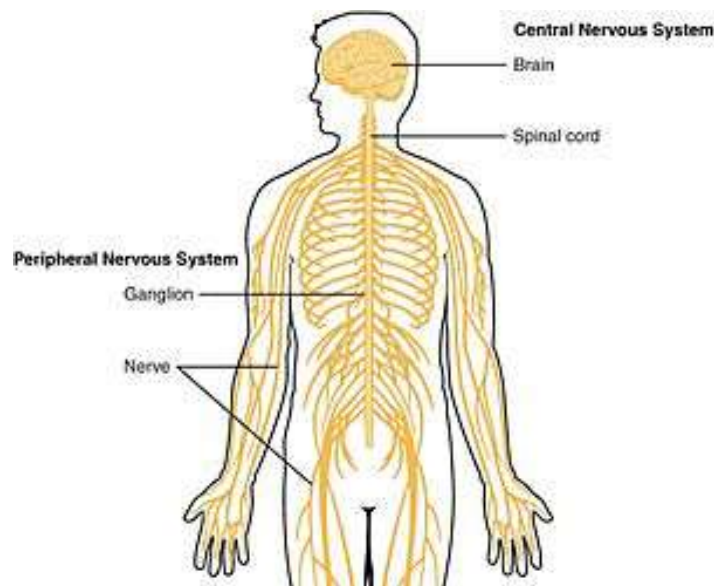
By Dr. John Martin

Neurologists would probably agree the Nervous System is the most complicated and perhaps the most interesting of the eleven (usually acknowledged) systems of the human body. The human brain and nerve network is responsible for bodily functions with and without conscious thought, for the receipt, filtering, and coordination of environmental data through our special senses, cognitive thought, learning, our emotions, our memory, planning, the interpretation of pain and pleasure, development of our personality, our behavior, our general response in and out of stress, awake and asleep. Some medical educators believe the other systems exist to contribute to and maintain the nervous system. After all, the nervous system is so extensive that it reaches every living cell in the body, or gets close enough to influence the cells by the release of certain nerve chemicals. It is who we are. The notochord (which develops into the brain and spinal cord) in the embryo is one of the very first body parts identifiable. While we are still in the embryonic state, this is when our memory actually begins.

The nervous system tells the whole body what to do and when to do it. If every other type of cell were removed – what do you think you would look like? Except for hair and nails, you would look pretty much exactly like you look now. It's that extensive.

The human nervous system is divided into different yet complementing sections or subsystems. The Central Nervous System (CNS) is composed of the brain and spinal cord. These major parts are housed and protected by the skull and the vertebral column. The Peripheral Nervous System (PNS) is the portion of nerves that emerge from the spine between the vertebrae and distribute out to all the voluntary and involuntary and heart muscles, glands, and sense organs. The voluntary (striated) muscles are those under the skin and overlying the skeletal system and are usually associated with movement and make up the general bulk and shape of our bodies. The involuntary (smooth) muscles are associated more with the internal organs (viscera) like our digestive tract, endocrine glands, and the lining of our circulatory vessels. The stimulation of the smooth muscles is further divided into the Autonomic Nervous System (ANS). The two major divisions of the ANS are referred to as the Sympathetic and Parasympathetic divisions. The Sympathetic division can be thought of as stimulating being “sympathetic” to what you are doing, or what you are thinking, i.e. “sympathetic” to you. It can help get you ready for fight or flight. The parasympathetic can override and can be considered inhibiting. The interaction and interdependence of the two helps bring the body back to a state of neutral balance at rest called homeostasis.

How you feel is chemical – thus, the adage about having the “right stuff”. We indeed have feeling good chemicals and feeling bad chemicals (more details on that when we discuss the Endocrine System). Neurotransmitters include chemicals that cross over a “synapse”, the tiny space from one nerve to the next. This nerve “impulse” is electrical in nature and depends on a very timely exchange of Potassium (K) from within the nerve cell moving out of the cell, and the movement of Sodium (Na) from outside the cell into the nerve cell. This sets up and maintains an “action potential”. This build up and firing of the nerve impulse is in turn dependent upon the presence of, and complex interactions of, specific nutrients and enzymes, receptor sites, and specialized insulator cells that protect the nerves and further enhance the speed of the nerve impulse.



Nerve conduction can occur very rapidly. As fast as 150 meters/sec (or about 300+ mph). Sometimes nerve impulses don't have to travel all the way to the brain for a response. The “reflex arch” is a structural arrangement of nerves at the spinal cord itself which facilitates a response to the sensory message coming in from the specific body parts. The response turns around right at the nerve roots and travels back through a motor nerve. A common example would be the “knee jerk” response immediately following a strike over the tendon which stretches the tendon and signals the quadriceps muscles to contract. Much of the body, especially the joints, have a type of “memory”. Much of this is “learned over time”. Most is designed to be self-healing.

Many other associations and reflexes exist throughout the body. Sometimes these reflexes or imbalances between the communication and energies between the body systems go undetected by our conscious thought and can develop into full blown symptoms if not dealt with in a timely manner. Much information of all sorts is received and filtered by the body and brain on our behalf. Some 75,000 bits of information are received every minute. A goodly portion of information is routed to the brain. The lateral spinal thalamic tract is the portion of the spinal cord that transmits pain, temperature, and ticklishness to the brain for interpretation and response. There is no substitute for conditioning. Therefore, interpretation and response depends not only on genetics, but the experiences through time we have recorded that determines our frame of reference, which in turn, helps shape our response. Pain is an emotional experience, for instance, and therefore can vary from one individual to the next.

Numerous research studies are proving the paramount importance of food selection and preparation in developing strong and healthy nervous systems and brains. This is reflected in the acknowledgment of the S.A.D. (Standard American Diet) and the epidemic of autism in our children, and the incidence of dementia and Alzheimer's in our elderly. The human brain (and our nervous systems) are unsurpassed in the natural world for its complexity and beauty of function and its potential. Perhaps it is time to take stock, treat each other with a little more gentleness and kindness, and feed ourselves right.

Next time: The Digestive System!



My Little Slice of Paradise

by Kathy Brock

Nature is really a beautiful thing. It's just that sometimes you need to look very close to see the "beauty". Vultures, for example, would not be considered an attractive species. In Florida, we have two types of vultures; black vultures and turkey vultures. Of the two, I would have to vote for the turkey vulture to be the least attractive! The California condor is another type of vulture of the three types of vultures in North America.

Vultures are often misunderstood and underappreciated. They are often viewed when they are eating roadkill or trash by dumpsters...so this does not leave the most positive impression! The truth is, vultures are very important to the ecosystem and helpful when animals are killed along roadsides or in the wild.

Turkey vultures feed exclusively on carrion (dead animals). They have a very keen sense of smell and can detect the gasses that are emitted from decaying animals. Black vultures on the other hand, do not have this keen sense of smell and "use" the turkey vulture to find carrion. Black vultures will also prey upon living animals, and do so by hunting in a group.



By eating carrion, vultures help reduce the spread of disease that can occur from decaying flesh. Additionally, some diseases, like Cholera, are killed as they pass through the digestive tract of the vulture. In a recent study published by the University of Copenhagen, scientists confirmed that vultures are a type of "bacterial filter" in the way their digestive tract

extinguishes bacteria. The scientists swabbed 25 turkey vultures and 25 black vultures and found 526 types of bacteria on their faces (from eating carrion), however only 76 types of bacteria made it through their GI tracts alive. According to Gary Graves, a Smithsonian Ornithologist, "*Vultures are nature's disposal unit. They are cleaning up the environment. They are an unpaid sanitation service that cleans up almost all of the small and mid-sized carcasses in the United States.*"

There are distinct differences in vultures. The turkey vulture has a bare red head and neck, whereas the black vulture's head and neck are dark grey (but also bare). In flight, you can also see the differences. Turkey vultures ride the thermals more so they flap their wings infrequently. Black vultures tend to flap their wings rapidly and then glide.

Black vultures will often nest on the ground or in a wooded area no more than 10 feet from the ground. Turkey vultures prefer a burrow, hollow tree or heavily wooded area. Both prefer to nest well away from humans. Both birds will typically lay two eggs, and the young hatch about 30 to 40 days afterwards. Both parents will raise the young until the fledge (leave the nest) in about 10 weeks. Both birds are monogamous and are believed to mate for life. Their lifespan is between 10 and 15 years in the wild.

In Everglades City at dusk, you can watch the vultures fly in to roost on the tall lights behind the school. They congregate there each night often jostling for space on the poles. Even though you would not consider these birds visibly beautiful, they are very important to maintaining a healthier environment, and that is a very beautiful thing.

Flickr photo by Dave Govoni



Fishing in January by Captain Mike Merritt

With the unusually warm temperatures we have had, some of the winter patterns have been slow. Fishing this month should bring more of the winter species than last month. The Seatrout fishing on the grass flats has been getting better and there are more Trout in the rivers now too.

Spanish Mackerel and Bluefish continue to bite while you're Trout fishing also. There have been some Pompano out on the edges of the grass flats too.

Redfish are still around but there are a lot of smaller fish now. Target these on the incoming tide. They will be on the outside islands and bars. There will be some scattered big fish throughout the back country this month also. A jig tipped with shrimp or a large shrimp under a cork will do the trick.

Snook fishing in the back country will be better this month as the water temps go down. Live bait or lures will both work. Live shrimp work great when the water is cold. Try skipping your lure under the edge of the mangroves in areas where there is some current and you will find Snook, Mangrove Snapper, Redfish, and the occasional Goliath Grouper.

Fishing the deep holes in the rivers will produce some nice Sheepshead along with Snapper and even some Gag Grouper. The overall best bet is going to be live shrimp for all the species this month! Good luck and good fishing!

Don't Miss Out on These Great Park Adventures!

Antique Auto Show at Collier-Seminole State Park – Sunday, January 29th, 2017 from 11AM-3PM. Come experience an afternoon in the hammock within Florida's Everglades. There will be several antique autos, live music, food, and various artisans for the entire family to enjoy. Admission to event is free with regular park entrance fee. Come hike one of our trails, or rent a canoe for just \$5 per hour! Guided canoe trips are also available via reservation. Please contact the park for further information.

Guided canoe trips at Collier-Seminole State Park - Day trips (\$25 per person) are offered December 15th, 2016 through March 27th, 2017 every Thursday – Monday from 9:30AM-12:30PM. Moonlight Trips (\$35 per person) are offered January 10th/11th, 2017, February 8th and 9th, 2017, and March 10th and 11th from 8:30PM – 10:30PM. Step off the pavement, and paddle into the "Real Florida." Experience an easy, enjoyable, and educational adventure on the Blackwater River. Space is limited, so call for reservations.

Star Gazing Party at Collier-Seminole State Park – January 21st, 2017 at 7:00PM, February 18th, 2017 at 7:30PM, and March 18th, 2017 at 8:30PM. Bring your chairs and enjoy a relaxing night under the stars at Collier-Seminole State Park. You will be viewing the night skies with The Everglades Astronomical Society. There will be an interpretive presentation followed by constellation tours, using telescopes to view stars, galaxies, planets, and nebulae. Come watch the night sky open up and amaze you. The Star Gazing Party can only be held if the weather is permitting. This event is free with regular park entrance fee.

Please contact the park for further information about all of these activities. Address: 20200 Tamiami Trail East, Naples, FL 34114. Phone: (239) 394-3397.

PARK NEWS

Marjory Stoneman Douglas Festival, Feb 21-25



Marjory Stoneman Douglas (1890-1998) was an author, a journalist and environmental activist. Her best-known work *Everglades: River of Grass* was published in 1947. It drew attention to the fact that water is the key to the Everglades and introduced the concept that the Everglades was not simply a swamp to be drained for homes and businesses, but a vital part of the ecosystem of South Florida.

In the 1960s at the age of 78, Marjory became actively involved in environmental issues when she opposed a planned jetport along the Tamiami Trail. She established Friends of the Everglades and began speaking on their behalf to public and private entities across the state. In doing so, she was able to focus attention on the importance of protecting the Everglades as a vital national treasure.

Although Marjory Stoneman Douglas died in 1998 at 108 years of age, her power of observation and skillful use of the written word lives on. Her legacy serves as a challenge to succeeding generations, not only to persevere in the fight to save the Everglades, but to discover for themselves the incredible beauty of the natural wonder we now call the "River of Grass."

All activities begin at the Museum of the Everglades 105 W. Broadway, Everglades City (except Tuesday's luncheon). For the complete event schedule visit: <http://www.colliermuseums.com/events>. Please note that reservations are required for many activities. For more information, please call (239) 695-0008.

"Journey Across the Greater Everglades"

Photographic Exhibit by Local Artist

On Display Through March 25th

Local wildlife photographer and digital artist, Sandee Harraden, has 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. For more information please contact Sandee at [239-250-4662](tel:239-250-4662) or SJHarraden@aol.com.



Photo ©Sandee Harraden

Night Sky Viewing Dates Schedule

Night sky viewing programs began 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, through March 2017. Available program dates are **January 21, February 10 and March 25th**.

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

Stop Light Now Operational at Carnestown Intersection



Light as seen on Highway 41. Photo by Sue Gentry

On December 19th the new traffic signal was installed at the Carnestown intersection thanks to local resident Holly Levingston Dudley and Sue Gentry for working with her on this very necessary safety project.

Please use caution when crossing the intersection. Travelers are not used to a stop light at this intersection and you will want to make sure they are aware of it before crossing yourself! Hopefully, this will make the intersection a much safer place to cross.

STAR TREKKER REPORT

Reported by Chris Herlovich



January 3, 4 - Quadrantids Meteor Shower: The Quadrantids is an above average shower, with up to 40 meteors per hour at its peak. It is thought to be produced by dust grains left behind by an extinct comet known as 2003 EH1, which was discovered in 2003. The shower runs annually from January 1-5. It peaks this year on the night of the 3rd and morning of the 4th. The second quarter moon will block out all but the brightest meteors this year, but it could still be a good show if you are patient. Best viewing will be from a dark location after midnight. Meteors will radiate from the constellation Bootes, but can appear anywhere in the sky.

Book Club Meeting Schedule

The Everglades Book Club has resumed meetings for the winter season. We are always welcoming new members!



Below is the Book Club reading & meeting schedule:

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 Elaine @ 695-2695 or Linda @ 695-2948.

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.MulletRapper.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

12/31	Sat	2:37 AM	2.8	H
12/31	Sat	11:02 AM	-0.3	L
12/31	Sat	4:40 PM	2.4	H
12/31	Sat	11:00 PM	0.6	L
1/1	Sun	3:06 AM	2.8	H
1/1	Sun	11:41 AM	-0.3	L
1/1	Sun	5:27 PM	2.3	H
1/1	Sun	11:41 PM	0.6	L
1/2	Mon	3:46 AM	2.6	H
1/2	Mon	12:21 PM	-0.2	L
1/2	Mon	6:10 PM	2.4	H
1/3	Tue	12:31 AM	0.6	L
1/3	Tue	4:38 AM	2.4	H
1/3	Tue	1:03 PM	-0.1	L
1/3	Tue	6:52 PM	2.4	H
1/4	Wed	1:34 AM	0.5	L
1/4	Wed	5:49 AM	2.2	H
1/4	Wed	1:52 PM	0.1	L
1/4	Wed	7:36 PM	2.4	H
1/5	Thu	2:48 AM	0.4	L
1/5	Thu	7:26 AM	2	H
1/5	Thu	2:51 PM	0.3	L
1/5	Thu	8:22 PM	2.5	H
1/6	Fri	4:02 AM	0.3	L
1/6	Fri	9:05 AM	1.9	H
1/6	Fri	3:56 PM	0.5	L
1/6	Fri	9:12 PM	2.6	H
1/7	Sat	5:08 AM	0	L
1/7	Sat	10:37 AM	1.9	H
1/7	Sat	5:02 PM	0.6	L
1/7	Sat	10:06 PM	2.7	H
1/8	Sun	6:08 AM	-0.2	L
1/8	Sun	11:56 AM	2	H
1/8	Sun	6:03 PM	0.6	L
1/8	Sun	10:59 PM	2.9	H
1/9	Mon	7:03 AM	-0.4	L
1/9	Mon	12:58 PM	2.2	H
1/9	Mon	7:01 PM	0.7	L
1/9	Mon	11:49 PM	3	H
1/10	Tue	7:55 AM	-0.5	L
1/10	Tue	1:48 PM	2.3	H
1/10	Tue	7:55 PM	0.6	L
1/11	Wed	12:37 AM	3.1	H
1/11	Wed	8:45 AM	-0.6	L
1/11	Wed	2:32 PM	2.3	H
1/11	Wed	8:46 PM	0.6	L
1/12	Thu	1:23 AM	3.2	H
1/12	Thu	9:32 AM	-0.7	L
1/12	Thu	3:12 PM	2.3	H
1/12	Thu	9:35 PM	0.5	L
1/13	Fri	2:08 AM	3.2	H
1/13	Fri	10:17 AM	-0.6	L
1/13	Fri	3:52 PM	2.3	H
1/13	Fri	10:21 PM	0.5	L
1/14	Sat	2:54 AM	3	H

Obituary

Joy Mae Howerin Potter
(5/21/29 - 10/22/16)



Joy Mae Howerin Potter passed away on October 22, 2016. Born in Lowland NC on May 21, 1929 to Rosa and Richard Howerin, Joy Mae was surrounded by a loving family and a community that she cherished. On October 18, 1948, she married the

love her life Preston Hubert Potter. They were committed to each other for 63 years until Hubert's passing in 2011. Joy Mae supported her husband with his occupation of commercial fishing which eventually took them to Everglades City where they made their home and raised a family.

Joy Mae is survived by her sons Johnnie Potter and wife Glenna, Billy Potter and wife Crystal, and Gordon Potter and wife Mary, all of Everglades City, FL. Joy Mae is also survived by 7 grandchildren, Terra, Diana, Andrew, Edward, Nicholas, Crystal Gayle and Brittany and 7 great grandchildren, her baby brother O.B Howerin and wife Dean, and many nieces and nephews.

Joy Mae will forever be remembered as a fun, loving and caring person of both her hometown of Lowland and Everglades City. She was a devoted wife, mother, sister and grandmother. She touched the lives of so many people and our lives are richer for having the honor to have known her. A Memorial Service for Joy Mae Howerin Potter was held Monday, December 26th at 7:00 pm at New Vision PH Church in Hobucken. NC.



Gone in 2016 But Not Forgotten

- Floyd McCloud Brown, 2/26/16
- Joline Drudy, 3/11/16
- Elton R. Tullie, 3/25/16
- Laverne Brown Stokes, 4/8/16
- David R. Wallace, 4/8/16
- Donald Richmond, 4/22/16
- William D. (Bill) Mesce, 5/7/16
- Josefina Padron, 5/21/16
- Constance H. Bain, 5/21/16
- Michael Homick, 6/4/16
- Daniel P. Cavin, 6/18/16
- Michael Eugene Sturgill, 6/18/16
- Richard (Skip) Wood, 7/2/16
- Connie Lewis, 7/2/16
- Victoria Nagle, 7/16/16
- Pat Davis Gaul, 7/16/16
- Mary Opal Butler, 7/30/16
- Randy Malicote, 8/27/16
- Margaret Virginia Lopez Webb, 9/10/16
- Thomas Freiberger, 10/8/16
- Joseph Browder, 10/8/16
- Mary Nell (Hamilton) Tabor, 10/22/16
- William Josiah Neville, 11/5/16

Date refers to Rapper issue

RAPPER CLASSIFIEDS

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.

NEW JOB OPENINGS: Two positions available. Cashier & Waitress. Joanie's Blue Crab, great, fun work environment. Contact Joanie: 239-695-2682.

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 TO RENT, Boat slip 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.

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.

PET PICS

Elaine's adorable cat "Missy Cat" sleeps in a fruit bowl on the dining room table!



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.

HOME FOR SALE: Beautifully restored, original Collier home. Cottage style, 2 bdrm, 1.5 bath, garage, large fenced yard, river view, huge screened porch, beautiful kitchen cabinets and fixtures, oak floors, tin roof, deeded dock, partially furnished. Ready for you to move in today and start fishing. Call or text for appt: (954) 662-7003.

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.

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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"The Everglades is a test. If we pass it, we may get to keep the planet." ~ Marjory Stoneman Douglas