

The MULLET RAPPER

What's Happening in the Everglades

TIDE TABLE & RESTAURANTS
PAGE 11

JUNE 3 – JUNE 17, 2017



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P O Box 134, Everglades City, FL, 34139

Volume X • Issue #290

A Great Year for E-City School Students

by Principal, James Ragusa

A number of students have excelled this year. Here are a few highlights just from the last few weeks:

Four of our 6th grade students competed in the annual CCPS STEAM Competition on May 20th in the Solar Car category. *Our students* came in 2nd place among all schools at this competition.

The participating students were Sienna Dungan, James Collins, Carl Nicholson, and River Brown.

The Optimist Club of Naples recognized an outstanding student in grades 6, 7 and 8 on May 1st. Each school selected an outstanding representative for the respective grade level. Everglades City's representatives were: Grade 6: River Brown, Grade 7: Charlie Pace, Grade 8: Lexie Hendrickson.

Our Winged Foot representative (Scholar Athlete) is **Logan Foss.** The 2017 High School Student of Distinction is **Brandon Steffen**.

Congratulations to all Everglades City School students for a fantastic school year! We are very proud of you!

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Student Profiles:

Valedictorian Logan Foss (Excerpts from the Naples Daily News)





By the end of his sophomore year at Everglades City School, Logan Foss had already finished all his English and science requirements. He also started dual enrollment at Florida Southwestern State College that year. But halfway through his high school career and ahead of many of his peers, Foss, who graduated on Friday, May 26th, still felt he was behind. "I kind of sat back one day and realized that I wasn't where I wanted to be," said Foss, 18.

After a tour at the University of Florida his junior year, Foss realized his GPA and test scores were lacking and he didn't meet the school's requirements. "That's where I originally wanted to go," he said. "I was like, 'Wow, I'm so far off. What have I been doing my whole high school career?' And it just kicked in right there that if I wanted to be

successful, I needed to work a lot harder than I was."

And so he did. Foss started to get involved in student government. He eventually added a third sport — cross-country — to his already packed schedule as a baseball and basketball player for the school. He took extra classes at FSW and got straight As from junior year on.

But the culmination of Foss' souped-up second-half effort was perhaps when he scored a spot at Youth Leadership Collier, a program that aims to empower students to become effective leaders. For a week last summer, Foss and dozens of other students participated in team-building exercises, toured the county and shadowed local professionals. He called it one of the best weeks of his life. Foss' new zeal and dedication did not go unnoticed. Although Foss has always been a good student, the leadership program was a "home run" for him, said Jim Ragusa, principal at Everglades City School. "It was like a transformation," Ragusa said. "He's been such a focused kid after this. It's just a level that you don't always see in high school kids."

Salutatorian Brandon Steffen



Brandon is the son of Dean and Shirley Steffen. Brandon is the Salutatorian of the 2017 class and graduated cum laude. He plans to join the United States Coast Guard.

Brandon completed dual enrollment classes at Florida Southwestern State College while attending high school. Brandon also made the A honor roll all four years of high school. While attending Everglades City School, Brandon worked at Havana Café, which he feels helped him gain valuable experience and knowledge that will help him throughout his life.

Congratulations to Logan and Brandon on their outstanding achievements and to the all of the students in the class of 2017!

See Page 8 For Photos of the Entire Graduating Class of 2017



JUNE 4 – JULY 8, 2017



SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	<u>FRI</u>	SAT
4	5 Hr. of Prayer Copeland Baptist Church, 7 pm	6	7 Ladies Coffee Island Café, 8 am	8	9 full moon O	10
11	12 Hr. of Prayer Chok. Church Of God ,7 pm	13	14 Ladies Coffee Island Cafe, 8 am Flag Day	15	16	<u>RAPPER</u> 17
18 Father's Day	Hr. of Prayer Holy Fam. Catholic Church, 7 pm	20	21 Ladies Coffee Island Café, 8 am	22	23 new moon	24
25	26 Hr. of Prayer Evg. Comm. Church,7 pm	27	28 Ladies Coffee Island Cafe, 8 am	29	30	JULY 1 RAPPER Independence Day Celebration, See P. 3
2	3 Hr. of Prayer Copeland Baptist Church, 7 pm	4	5 Ladies Coffee Island Café, 8 am	6	7	8

September 1: Snook Season Re-opens

September 4: Labor Day October 15: Stone Crab Season Opens September 30: Blessing of the Fleet

THRIFT SHOP: Tues., Sat., 11 am-3 pm LIONS CLUB: Meetings resume in September

DR DEMARTINO: Marco Island office information on p.3. DR MARTIN: Mon. & Wed 10-n, 3 – 6 pm, call 813-787-9738

AA: Wed., 5:00 pm, Community Church WOMEN'S FRIENDSHIP HR: Tues. 9:30-10:30 am, Copeland Baptist

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: Not seeing patients at this time FOOD PANTRY: Wed., 12 n to 2 pm, Community Church VETERANS SUPPORT: 2nd & 4rd Wed. of month, noon—2 pm,

Community Church Food Pantry

SMALLWOOD STORE: Daily, 11 am to 5 pm PANCAKE FLY-IN: Closed for the summer

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) **COLLIER COUNTY: 239-252-8999**

POST OFFICE PHONE NUMBERS & HOURS:

Everglades City (239) 695-2174 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 Chokoloskee (239) 695-4468 Ochopee (239) 695-2099

SHERIFF: 239-252-9300 CITY HALL: 239-695-378 **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, CALL TUESDAY FOR THURSDAY PICKUP



In and Around Town

C'MON LADIES, LET'S GET FIT!!!

Please come out and join us every **Saturday evening** from 6 to 7 pm to exercise

with us at Chokoloskee Church of God. Everyone is invited to attend! For information call "Candy"- 239-695-3452.

JOIN THE CELEBRATION!



July 1, 2017

The city is already planning for the Independence Day Celebration which will be held on Saturday, July 1st.

The parade will not be complete without your participation so please plan on decorating your golf cart, swamp buggy or whatever you can think of to join in on the fun. This year's theme is "The Star-Spangled Banner".

Donations are appreciated and help fund the day's event that includes the amazing fireworks, the parade, and celebration at McLeod Park that features the best dressed kids contest & 50/50 drawing!

To contribute to the celebration, send a check to: Everglades City Fireworks Fund, PO Box 110, Everglades City FL 34139. For more info, call Dottie at 239-695-3781.

Independence Day Event Schedule:

10:00 a.m. Opening Ceremony

10:30 a.m. Parade, Theme, "Star Spangled Banner, prizes awarded for best floats

11:00 a.m. Booths open, food & music

11:00 a.m. Parade Winners Announced

11:30 a.m. Kiddie's Contests

12:30 a.m. Raffle Winners Announced

9:00 p.m. Fireworks Display in City



VACATION BIBLE STUDY July 31 –August 4th 6:30 to 8:30 PM

The Chokoloskee Church of God is holding its annual Vacation Bible School on evenings from

6:30 to 8:30 pm. If you would like your child to attend or if you need more information, please contact Hazel at 239-695-4566.

Join the Mullet Rapper Team! Become a Contributor

Submit your articles, news, photos, recipes or events so they may be included in the paper. Deadline for submission is the Saturday before publication date. Check the calendar for the publication schedule.

STUDENT ART EXHIBIT "ART BY E- CITY SCHOOL STUDENTS" June-July 2017

The Friends of Museum of the Everglades are proud to once again welcome the artistic works of our local students. Their work will be on display in the Pauline Reeves Gallery during the months of June and July.

As the only K-12 public school in the state of Florida we are proud of the talent that exudes from our students. Mr. Tribble, their art teacher, is to be commended for his ability to enhance the artistic ability of our youth while encouraging everyone to appreciate the visual arts.



When you see the pictures from last summer's student exhibit (above) you will definitely want to visit our museum in July and August.

COMMUNITY SERVICES



DOCTOR'S CLINIC

Dr. Kirk DeMartino is seeing patients in his Marco Island Office. You may call his office to schedule an appointment to see him there: (239) 642-5552.

NATURAL MEDICINE



Dr. John Martin is seeing patients at 203 Buckner Avenue in E-City, on Mon. & Wed. 10:00-12:00 & 3:00-6:00. Call: 813-787-9738

~ ACCOUNTING SERVICES~ MIKE "THE TAX GUY"

Local and professional, personal & business tax services in Everglades City. Call 239-695-0595 or 239-595-4203 to set an appointment. Email: nfn19842@naples.net for more information.

THRIFT SHOP Open 2 Days A Week



Open Tuesday 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!

A Message from Fire Chief Kingman Schuldt



In 1974, President Gerald Ford authorized EMS Week to celebrate EMS practitioners and the important work they do in our nation's communities. Back then, EMS was a new profession, and EMS practitioners had only

just started to be recognized as a critical component of emergency medicine and the public health safety net.

A lot has changed since then. EMS is now firmly established as an essential public function and a vital component of the medical care continuum. On any given practitioners EMS Firefighter/ Paramedics and Emergency Medical Technicians help save lives by responding to medical emergencies, including heart attack, difficulty breathing, a fall or accident, drowning, cardiac arrest, stroke, drug overdose or acute illness. Greater Naples Fire District EMS provide both basic and advanced medical care at the scene of an emergency and often assist our partners at Collier County EMS while transporting patients to a hospital.

Greater Naples Fire Rescue has a unique partnership with Collier County EMS to provide the best possible services to our residents. Each day several firefighters, paramedics and EMT's from both agencies cross-staff ambulances and fire trucks in the Fire District, allowing first responders to work seamlessly, maintain medical and firefighting skills, and maximize available resources between the agencies. On any given day, the District has as many as 9 fire apparatus in-service, capable of providing advance life support care. Our Firefighter/ EMS practitioners care for their patients' medical needs and show care and compassion to their patients in their most difficult moments.

Working alongside Collier County EMS under common medical protocols, training, and medical direction provides this unique opportunity and partnership. I would like to thank all of our Firefighters, Paramedics, and Emergency Medical Technicians of the Fire District and Collier County for their service to the community, and for placing their lives on the line each day in order that our community remain safe.

Get Involved, Stay Informed

Join Chief Schuldt the 4th Wednesday of every month at 9 a.m. for a discussion about the district's most recent news, issues and areas of concern. Coffee will be served at the 1 hour discussion. **To attend:** 14575 Collier Boulevard, Naples, FL. Call 239-348-7540 for more information. The next meeting will be held on **June 28th.**

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Visit the Everglades City Museum Located at:

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Open Monday through Saturday 9:00 am to 4:00 pm For more information: 239-695-0008

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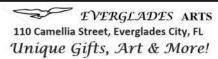
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Small Town Taylor

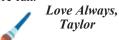
by Taylor Mayberry

I love arts and crafts. It's one of my favorite hobbies. When I was in the 4th grade Mrs. Baumler taught us how to make 3-dimensional kites out of tissue paper, straws, glue and string. The kites looked really cool and they actually flew! Our class went outside and tested them on the baseball field.

We made our kite Miami Hurricane colors and Mr. Ragusa has it hanging in his office. She also taught us how to make flex-tangles which is paper folded and they are 3-dimensional and you can add patters on them to make them unique.

I'm so glad that we have art class in school. Mr. Tribble is one of my favorite teachers. He used to teach my Dad and now he is my art teacher. He teaches us so many cool and different ways to make art and he makes it so much fun. In his class we made flowers out of tissue paper. It takes a lot of patience to make the flowers but he is so patient when he is teaching us. I went home and wanted to make more flowers but didn't have any tissue paper so I used toilet paper and it worked just as good.

In the 3rd grade we had to paint a picture for the side of the school and he taught us different ways to mix colors. One of my favorite things I learned in his class was how to draw a 3-dimensional building. I've gotten pretty good at that. Mr. Tribble is always so positive and tells us it's not how good or bad we draw it but it's how hard we try. One really cool thing about Mr. Tribble is he can beat box and he beat boxes in art class. For those of you who don't know what beat boxing is, it's where someone makes really cool sounds with their mouth to make music. He's really good at it. If you think about it, beat boxing is a form of art made with sound. I plan on practicing drawing this summer. Art makes the world a better place because it makes it more colorful, more interesting and more fun.



Taylor Mayberry is 11 years old and attends Everglades City School

Visit: http://www.evgathletics.com/main/calendar For a calendar of Everglades City School athletic events



FIREWORKS FUND TROPHY

Help Your Favorite Local Business Win the Trophy for Having the Most Donations to the Fireworks Fund!

Collection boxes for the contest are around town near the cash registers so please put in your spare change or any amount you can afford so your favorite business can win the big prize...and you are doing your part to contribute to the amazing fireworks display on July 1st.

The winner will be announced at our annual celebration on Saturday, July 1, in McLeod Park after the parade.

If you are not in the area but would still like to donate, you can send a check to the Everplades Fireworks Fund! Collection boxes for the contest are around * town near the cash registers so please put in 🛣 your spare change or any amount you can $\hat{\star}$ afford so your favorite business can win the *

The winner will be announced at our 🛣

can send a check to the Everglades Fireworks Fund, P.O. Box 110, Everglades City, FL, 34139. For additional information, please call Marya at 239-695-2905.

Famed Big Cypress Photographer Clyde Butcher Suffers Stroke, Begins Recovery

For over 50 years, Clyde Butcher has been creating amazing art though his camera lens. Famed for his black and white photography of the Everglades, Butcher is also known for shooting some of nature's most beautiful landscapes all over the world.

Clyde was born in Kansas City, Mo. in 1942, the only child to a sheetmetal worker. As a child, his flair for the arts was shown early as he spent much of his time drawing boat designs and then crafting them out of scrap metal he would get from his father.



He obtained a degree architecture and then in 1963 he married his wife, Niki. In 1970, he left the field of architecture to concentrate his true passion, photography.

In 1971, Clyde founded second business called "Eye Encounter,

Inc." He began

photographs as wall décor to well-known department stores like Montgomery-Wards, JC Penney's and Sears & Roebuck. This period included a foray into color photography with a concentration on landscapes in California. He started traveling to Oregon, Washington, Wyoming, Ohio and Hawaii and included these vistas into his portfolio. He sold the business in 1977, built a sailboat and took a trip across country to Florida.

A chance visit to Tom Gaskin's Cypress Knee Museum in 1984 changed everything. It is here that Clyde Butcher was introduced to a different side of Florida after taking a stroll on a boardwalk through the cypress swamp. This is where he found his inspiration to take black and white photographs of the Big Cypress Swamp.

In 1986, Clyde & Nicki's son, Ted, was tragically killed by a drunk driver. He was able to find solace in the vast wilderness of the Big Cypress national preserve, and this spiritual experience being so close to nature helped him cope. This experience inspired him to sever his ties to color photography, and he vowed to only use black and white film from that point on.

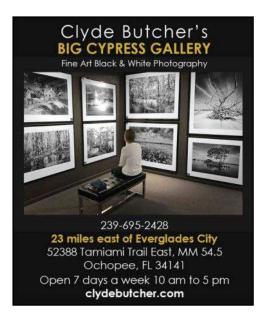
Today, Clyde is recovering from another one of life's tests. He recently suffered a stroke which has left him paralyzed in the right side of his body. His daughter, Jackie Obendorf, said it will be some time before he can walk and he regains his speech, but he is making improvements every

Recently, Clyde tried making the switch to digital from his more familiar film camera because his older gear was becoming too difficult to manage in the swamps but he missed film. Just three days before his stroke, he had just purchased another large format film camera that was a bit smaller and easier to handle, but that will have to wait until he is fully recovered...and his wife Niki is sure that he will. In a recent Facebook post, Niki wrote, "His attitude is positive and we believe, as the doctors do, that within time, he will be getting around fine." That is great news!

Our thoughts and prayers are with the Butcher family as we are very proud to call Mr. Clyde Butcher a bit of a local hero...Clyde, the Big Cypress Swamp is waiting for you and will be ready for the perfect photo shoot whenever you are. Get well soon!

Send a message of encouragement to Clyde Butcher at his Venice Gallery:237 Warfield Avenue, Venice, FL 34285.

Photo: Clyde pages through his 2018 calendar in his hospital room from Facebook post







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My Little Slice of Paradise by Kathy Brock

I have written about butterflies before because they are one of the most fascinating little creatures to me. Not only are they beautiful, they are an essential part of the overall food-chain, and one of nature's great pollinators.

Butterflies go through multiple stages on their way "adulthood". The first is the larval stage, or the egg. The second is the caterpillar. The third is the chrysalis (pupa) and the final stage is the butterfly.

The butterfly egg must be laid on a very specific host plant. When the caterpillar emerges from the egg, it can only survive by eating leaves and stems from these host plants. Once the caterpillar is mature, it goes through a metamorphosis to become a chrysalis. This is the stage where the caterpillar transforms into a butterfly. When the butterfly emerges from the chrysalis after about 10 days, it emerges with a large abdomen and very small wings. The extra fluid in the abdomen excretes into the wings and after a few hours, the now fully developed wings are dried and ready for flight.

Butterflies will use two types of plants in their lifecycle; host plants and nectaring plants. The nectaring plants are the flowers they use as a food source as adult butterflies. These are essentially various species of flowers with nectar. The host plants are the "secret" to attracting and keeping butterflies close to your yard. You see, the female butterflies are drawn to the host instinctively as this is where they must lay their eggs. The males are attracted to the female butterflies so they tend to hang around too.

Butterfly host plants are not beautiful feature plants for the garden. They are there as a food source for the caterpillars, so you should expect this and plant accordingly. Milkweed is the host plant for the monarch butterfly and the queen butterfly. This is a pretty plant, but when successfully used as a host plant, it can literally be eaten to a stub overnight! The same is true for the native passion vine. This plant is the host to the Zebra Longwing, Julia, and Gulf Fritillary butterflies. The native variety of passion vine has a very small flower and small purple berries. We have had fairly well established vines eaten to a stub in a matter of days. What we do is collect the seeds from these plants and make sure we are always able to replant new ones when the eaten ones are no longer viable. You can also transfer the caterpillars from the eaten-up plant to another that has more food left on it.

Once you get into a bit of a rhythm, you will find the process very interesting and rewarding. It is also something to share with young people. It helps teach the science of butterfly reproduction, importance of some "weeds", how all caterpillars are not "gross" and that they are a butterfly to be, and how you can become a steward of the butterflies. Below is butterfly host plant guide for the common butterflies in our area. Enjoy!

Butterfly Species	Hostplant	
Monarch, Queen	Milkweed	
Julia, Gulf Fritillary, Zebra Longwing	Passion Vine (native)	
Giant Swallowtail	Citrus Trees	
Eastern Swallowtail	Parsley / Carrot Tops	
Yellow Sulphur, Orange Barred Sulphur	Cassia from pea family	

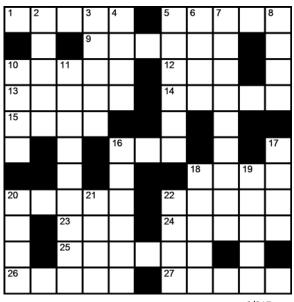
Visit: http://www.nsis.org/butterfly/butterfly-plants-larval.html



MULLET RAPPER CROSSWORD

Across

- 1. It happens when you get cut
- 5. In a higher place
- 9. Less distant
- 10. Dwelling
- 12. Useful item on a boat
- **13.** Type of handle
- 14. Address with @ in it
- **15.** Some dogs pull them **16.** Famous boy-king
- **18.** Not all
- **20.** Rhyming wordsmiths
- wordsminis
- 22. Terrible
- 23. Irritate
- 24. Fall guy
- **25.** Eccentric man **26.** Old time anaesthetic
- 27. Enthusiastic kiss



6/317



Down

- **2.** Tag
- 3. Terminated
- **4.** Source of venison
- 5. Take into custody
- **6.** Horizontal structural component
- 7. Gallery occupied by a church instrument
- 8. Wicked
- 11. Exceed allowed tonnage

Down Continued

- **11.** Exceed allowed tonnage
- **16.** Elephants may be called this
- 17. Have confidence in
- 18. Cloud of bees
- 19. Melody
- **20.** Head of the Roman Catholic Church

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2017!



Susie Billie



Brandon Bruscini



Sindy Cifuentes



Travis Daniels



Dylan Doster



Michael Doster



Haylee Ellison



Logan Foss



Courtney Jim



Braxton Kidder



Naquashea Mason



Caleb Morris



Billy (Cody) Potter



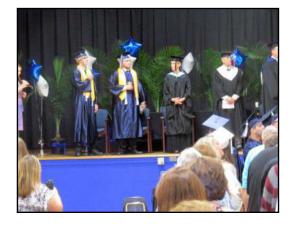
Brandon Steffen



Connor Weeks



Victoria Wells



Grads on Stage



Seniors Toss their Caps to Celebrate the Big Day!



Living Gulf Coast by Charles Sobczak

Swallow-tailed Kite (*Elanoides forficatus*) Other names: none / Status: FL=stable, but endangered in South Carolina, IUCN=LC / Length: 19-25 in. (46-64 cm) / Wingspan: 48 in. (122 cm) / Weight: 13-21 oz (.37-.60 kg) / Life span: to 12 years / Nests:

throughout Florida and southern Alabama and Mississippi during the summer / Found: All Counties, coastal, near coast, mainland / Months found: **JFmamjJASOND** (lower case indicates nesting season) Note: The swallow-tailed kite visits South America from November through February.

The swallow-tailed kite, like the magnificent frigate bird, is an



impressive bird to witness in flight. In fact, you are most likely to spot and identify this bird when it is soaring high above. With its pure white body, large black-tipped wings and deeply forked black tail, this bird resembles an enormous, snowy barn swallow.

Unlike most of the migratory birds that arrive in Florida, the swallow-tailed kite comes up from Central and South America during the summer. In effect, Florida is its northern breeding grounds. Once a common nesting bird as far north as Minnesota, the swallow-tailed

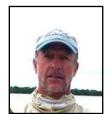
kite has suffered from extensive habitat loss through most of its former North American range.

There is a small resident nesting population at Corkscrew Swamp on the mainland, and more than likely some of the birds found flying over Lee County originate from there. They predominantly eat flying insects including dragonflies, bees, and beetles but while in flight will also pick off snakes, crickets, cicadas, and small birds from the canopy top. A skilled flyer, the swallow-tailed kite can turn its tail feathers almost 90 degrees, allowing it to make sharp turns and quick dives. Its only long-term threat is habitat loss, although some efforts are under way to reintroduce the kite into its former northernmost ranges.



Author's Note: Over the past several years, the southwest coast has witnessed a steady increase in the resident swallow-tailed kite population. They can be found almost daily flying effortlessly above most parts of Lee and Collier counties. There are several confirmed nesting sites currently established in the area and we seem to have a permanent kite population established. Once extremely rare throughout all the barrier islands of Florida, this migrant from South America has rebounded to the point where we can enjoy watching this charismatic bird on a regular basis.

Charles Sobczak is a writer from Sanibel Island Photos: Top: Charles Sobczak. Bottom: Judd Patterson



Fishing the 10,000 Islands With Capt. Mike Merritt

Summer is here and we have the heat and the bugs to confirm it. May was such a windy month, and it is still blowing at the time I am writing this. We will see what June holds for us.

Snook have continued to bite in the back

country but this month most of the big fish should be out in the islands. The incoming tide should be best as it will generally bring in the bait and the water coming in will be cooler and get the fish active. Top water lures in the morning will be a great way to get some action. As the temperatures rise and the tide gets higher you will want to switch to jigs or sub surface lures like a Mirrolure.

Tarpon will hang around all summer and hopefully with less winds you will be able to spot them rolling or just swimming along the edges of the flats.

Trout will still be on the grass flats but generally get smaller in the summer. There will still be keeper size trout mixed in and a



few big ones too. Fish will most likely be in about 4 ft. of water where it is cooler.

Redfish are scarce this time of year but you can still catch them around the islands on the incoming tide. The Reds will be around the

oyster bars and as the tide come up they will make their way into the roots of the island mangroves to feed.

Offshore fishing will be better this month as the winds will be less. This should allow you to see Permit and Cobia on the wrecks

Whatever you decide to do the summer fishing is always great! Calmer waters should also make for some great sight fishing. Get out early and beat those summer afternoon rains that are sure to start up. *Good Luck Fishing, Capt. Mike Merritt*



PATRIOTIC PARADE—WE NEED VETS TO PARTICPATE!

If you have served in the Armed Forces, we would be honored if you would join our parade to help us celebrate Independence Day on Saturday, July 1st. You may either march in uniform or ride on the dignitaries' trolley.

The theme to this year's parade is "Star Spangled Banner." We hope you will join us. For more information, please call Elaine at (239) 695-2695.

Local News Chokoloskee Bridge Update



The construction on the Chokoloskee bridge is steadily progressing. According to the Collier County Growth Management,, the project is currently on schedule and within the projected budget of \$8 million.

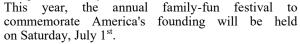
The anticipated completion date is sometime in late spring, 2018. For more information, call the Collier County Growth Management Department at 239-252-8192.



E-City Will Be First to Celebrate Independence Day!

Historic Everglades City is always first - the first Collier County seat and now the first in the area to celebrate

Independence Day!



The Opening Ceremony will be at 10:00 a.m. on the steps of City Hall (the former county courthouse). This will be followed at 10:30 a.m.by the Patriotic

Parade. There are prizes for the best floats which may be anything you can think of...from golf carts to swamp buggies, or something else?

The fun continues in McLeod Park when booths open at 11:00 a.m. featuring hot dogs, sodas, a bake sale, face painting, arts & crafts vendors, raffles, kiddies' best dressed contest, and playground games. Later that evening, the dramatic musical fireworks display will close out the evening at 9:00 p.m.

For information, please call Dottie at 239-695-3781 or visit www.evergladeshistorical.org.

DIRECTIONS TO THE EVENT: From I-75 take Exit-80 south on SR-29 for about 20 miles. Cross US-41 (Tamiami Trail) and continue south on SR-29 for another 4 miles. Everglades City Hall will be on your right as you approach the Circle. McLeod Park, with its playground and tennis courts, is in the next lot.

From Naples, Marco, or Miami on US-41 travel to SR-29. Turn south on SR-29 until you get to Everglades City Hall (see above).

Sailor Makes Unexpected Stop in Area & Makes New Friends Too

by Marlene Sassman



On Friday, May 26 Susan Tuttle said good -bye to Everglades City as she continued her sail along the Gulf of Mexico. About a month ago Susan sailed from Crawfordville, Florida to the Dry Tortugas. On her return trip she plagued was engine problems which made it necessary for

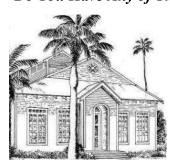
her to have Sea Tow bring her into the dock at the Rod and Gun

Luckily she found someone who could diagnose and assist with correcting the problem so she could get back underway. During her week's stay in the area, Susan took the time to explore the everglades by taking both the Mangrove Wilderness Tour and the Ten Thousand Island boat tour offered by the National Park

At age 72 Susan is a hero to many women who contemplate an adventurous lifestyle not matter what their age. Of all the things Susan has learned since she began sailing for the past 20 years, she said, "I never expected it to be so much work. The pictures make sailing look so easy. While underway it is easy, but pulling up a 22 pound anchor is not so easy at all." Still, she wouldn't trade the leisurely lifestyle of a sailor at sea.

For more information about Susan or sailing you can send an e-mail to local sailor Marlene at sailorhiker@gmail.com

Museum News Do You Have Any of These Photos? We Need Your Help



A lot of people have wondered what's going on over at Museum of the Everglades. With the help of a generous contribution by the Friends of the Museum of the Everglades, the adjacent parking lot was recently purchased to accommodate the growing numbers of annual visitors. While the expanded parking is a welcome addition to the Museum, the lot has historically spent much of the rainy season underwater.

After much discussion, Collier County initiated a project to alleviate the drainage issues on the property by connecting to the city's existing storm drains.

Museum of the Everglades has found a unique way to incorporate local history into this project: a small monument commemorating the old Chokoloskee Bridge. Pieces of the original bridge, including concrete rails and a marker signifying its 1955 completion, will be incorporated into the walkway "bridging" the grassy expanse between the new parking area and the museum. We are currently searching for historic photos of the old bridge to use in an outdoor exhibit at the monument detailing the bridge's history. Do you have an old photo of the bridge you would be willing to share? Cars crossing it, family fishing from it, a view from the water, etc.. We would love to include anything you can find to help us tell this story in our tribute to the historic structure that brought our community closer together.

Please call the Museum at 239-695-0008 if you can help.



EATERIES & AREA WORSHIP



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):

9:00 am – 6:00 pm; daily Supper Upstairs is closed until next season

Glades Haven Deli (695-2091):

6:00 am - 6:00 pm Sun-Thurs 6:00 am-9:00 pm; Fri & Sat

Havana Café (695-2214):

Closed for Summer

Island Café (695-0003):

6:00 am - 9:00 pm; daily

Ivey House (695-3299):

6:30 – 9:30 am; daily

Joanie's Blue Crab Café (695-2682):

11:00 am – 5:00 pm; Fri thru Tues closed Wed and Thurs

Oyster House Restaurant (695-2073):

11:00 am – 9 pm; Sun thru Thurs 11:00 am – 10:00 pm; Fri, Sat

Rod & Gun (695-2101):

11:30 am - 8:00 pm; daily

Subway at Gator Express (695-3937):

Closed. Visit Subway on 29 & 41

Sweet Mayberry's Café (695-0092):

9 am–4 pm; Tues thru Sat

Tastes of the Everglades (695-0075)

11 am – 8 pm; daily, Closed Tuesday

Triad Seafood & Café (695-2662):

Closed for Summer

See you in October!

Right Choice Supermarket (695-4535):

9:00 am - 7:00 pm; daily

Grimm's Stone Crab (239-695-3222):

We are Closed for Summer

Fresh Produce

Next to the Post Office Friday & Saturday

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

1stBaptist Church of Everglades City

9:45 am Sunday School, 11 am Worship 6 pm Sunday, 7 pm Wed. Bible Study

Holy Family Catholic Church

Closed Until December 3, 2017

St. Finbarr Catholic Church, Naples

Phone: 239-417-2084

San Marco Catholic Church, Marco Isl.

Phone: 239-394-5181

EVERGLADES CITY TIDES

LAT: 25.87° N LONG: 81.37°W

Check: www.weather.gov for conditions

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Thompson Family Thankful for Community Support

It has only been two months so the hurt is still so strong, but the family of Gary Thompson is recovering thanks to all of the support they have received since Gary's passing.

Gary passed away unexpectedly at the age of 57 on March 24th. The shock was felt inside our community - as the man known for his great smile and better stories, was suddenly gone.

His mother, Carolyn, a familiar face seen at Win-Car Hardware had to do something no parent ever expects to do, bury their child. Carolyn reached out to us this past week to express her gratitude to the community.

"The Thompson family wishes to thank everyone for being so kind to us in the time of our great loss. Thank you for all of those who cooked and brought so much food. Thank you for the hugs and kind words. It all helps you get through a heartbreaking experience. Thank you all."



Above, Gary is pictured with his grandson enjoying their favorite pastime together, fishing. We are fortunate to be in a community that pulls together during difficult times. Please keep the Thompson family in your prayers as they learn to cope with their family tragedy.



EVERGLADES COMMUNITY CHURCH The Friendly Church on the Circle

Non-Denominational

101 South Copeland Avenue P.O. Box 177, Everglades City, FL 34139 (239) 695-4787

The Rev. Dr. Bob N. Wallace, Pastor Sunday Worship Service 11:00 A.M. Sunday School October – April, 9:45 A.M. www.ever-community-church.com

CLASSIFIED ADS

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.

FOR SALE: 2001 Cobia CC 194 Boat. 115 Yamaha 2-stroke, low hrs., well maintained. New 2015 Continental alum trailer tandem, never used boat cover, accessories. See at ORA lot 214. Call: 239-695-2160, inquire at Lot 205.

FOR SALE: Bike. Like new, perfect for riding around town. Adjustable seat. Asking \$90. Call 954-662-7003.

CAREGIVER: Companionship, shopping & errands, light housekeeping, dog or cat sitting. Home checks & hurricane prep. References. Call Chris: 954-589-7220.

FOR SALE: 2 stilt houses EC: \$249K, 5/4; \$349K, 4/3. Available dock, new appliances, paint, etc. Possible owner financing. Call Steve at 910-599-2698.

FOR SALE: MotorGuide Great White Edition trolling motor with mount. 67 lb thrust, 24 volt. Model # GWB67V. In good working condition. For information, Call Craig: 239-777-2552, leave message.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR LEASE: Deep water commercial dock and lot on Barron River at 909 DuPont St. in Everglades City. Perfect for business, commercial fishing or restaurant with chickee bar and tourist gift shop attraction, \$1000 / month. Contact: Rancho T Properties LLC, (727) 480-1640.

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

FOR SALE: RV Lots with docks. Please call Bob Wells Real Estate @ 239-695-2660 for more information.

FOR RENT: Retail / office commercial space for rent, prime location in E- City. Small & large space available. Ask about purchasing the commercial building! Call 629-201-9966

FOR RENT: Cozy furnished 2/1 house. Seasonal at \$900/week or \$3,200/month. Call (508) 677-5136

FOR SALE: Crestline Tandem Bike. Green, new tires, new seat. 18 speed. Excellent condition. \$175. Call Craig: 239-777-2552, leave message

JOB OPPORTUNITY: **Full-Time** position at Out Door Resorts (ORA) in Chokoloskee in the maintenance department. Please contact Mark to schedule an appointment or for an interview: 239-207-5848

The MULLET RAPPER

What's Happening in the Everglades

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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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