



The MULLET RAPPER

What's Happening in the Everglades

JUNE 17 – JUNE 30, 2017



TIDE TABLE &
RESTAURANTS
PAGE 11

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P O Box 134, Everglades City, FL, 34139

Volume X • Issue #291

Area Loses Local Icon Juanita Weldon



June 5, 2017, was the 63rd wedding anniversary for Eric and Juanita Weldon. Juanita, suffering from a brain tumor, was heavily sedated and unaware.

On June 9th, Eric was privileged to be holding her hand as Juanita slipped

peacefully into eternity to be with her Lord.

Juanita was born February 17, 1934, to Clyde and Edith Clifton, who lived between Jerome and Deep Lake. She was preceded in death by her parents and brother Alton.

Juanita is survived by her husband Eric, son Jeffrey (Geovanna) of Oakdale, LA; daughter Debra (Robert) of Chula Vista, CA; sisters Betty Jo of Kinston, AL; Birdie (Carol) of Bayboro, NC; and brother Clyde "Buster" (Jean) of O'Brien, FL. She had 4 grandsons and numerous nieces & nephews, all of whom she loved deeply.

Juanita's life was marked by her spirit of adventure -- panning for gold in Alaska and British Columbia -- tent camping in the deep northern wilderness.

Her first love was Everglades City and her church. She loved producing the annual "Hanging of the Green" and working in Vacation Bible School. She knew each child was special. She is missed!

A memorial service will be held on June 24th, 11:00 a.m., at First Baptist Church of Everglades City. Donations in her memory can be sent to First Baptist, P O Box 550, Everglades City, FL, 34139.

RAPPER TABLE OF CONTENTS

Calendar	p. 2	Gulf Coast	p. 8
Events, etc.	p. 3	Sawfish Rescue	p. 8
School Corner	p. 5	My Slice	p.9
ENP Vendor	p. 5	Dr. Martin	p.9
Fireworks Fund	p. 5	Local News	p.10
Tax Guy	p. 7	Tide Table	p.11
Recipe	p. 7	Obituaries	p.11
Crossword	p. 7	Classifieds	p.12

FEATURE: GIANT SAWFISH RESCUE P. 8

Non-Profit "Holly's Hope" Established to Help Addicts in Need in Our Area

Local resident, Holly Levingston has been helping girls in need for quite some time now. Specifically, Holly has been helping girls that are addicted to drugs get off of them and get on with their lives. With this effort comes a financial impact and Holly needs help so that she can continue transforming these girls' lives by giving them support and hope.

In Holly's words, *"I have decided to file the paperwork for a non-profit organization to help with the expenses of getting addicts into a rehab. Almost every case I have dealt with has been met with financial restraints that prevent or delay the process of getting these girls to a facility.*

When someone asks for help I am in a race against time to get them into treatment. Some girls need dental care before a program will take them. Some need toiletries, clothing, rides to gather their belongings, rides to detox, rides to the treatment facility which is usually hundreds of miles away. My mother, daughter, sisters and I clean out our closets every couple of months to help with the clothing issue but we are limited on sizes therefore limiting our help when these girls need clothes. I have accommodated these expenses for the past few years but I am in need of help."

If you can provide any help for Holly, it is greatly appreciated and needed. She can use girls and women's clothing, money and more. If you would like to contact Holly you can stop in the Everglades Community Church or call them and they will help you with the process. You can reach them by calling their number: 239-695-4787.

Until Holly's non-profit set up process is completed and her organization is in place, you may make your contributions to Everglades Community Church with "Holly's Hope" on the memo line and mail it to:

Holly's Hope
c/o Everglades Community Church
PO Box 177, Everglades City 34139

All contributions are 100% tax deductible. Thank you to Holly for being so committed to this very important endeavor. She is a beacon of hope for these girls in distress and she needs our help so she can help the girls. Please do what you can to help Holly's Hope.

Rainy Season Begins With A Vengeance

Spring was unusually dry this year in the Everglades area. In fact, the local weather forecasters were even speaking of drought-type conditions.

However, the first week of June solved that problem - and then some. Resident Scott Bruner reported 22 inches of rain in a 5 day period in Everglades City! Parts of Highway 29 were so flooded it was closed by the County to all non-local traffic.

Local streets were completely underwater for a day-and-a-half and standing water was still all over the area two days after the rains finally stopped.



Fortunately, there was no reported damage due to the squalls, nor are we aware of any significant flood damage as a result of the rain. Some locals were forced to stay indoors and move their cars or golf carts to higher land but that was about the extent of it.



By June 8th most of the roadways were opened back up and things were getting back to a soggy "normal".

Photo 1: by Tim Brock
Photo 2: by Chris Herlovich



JUNE 18 – JULY 22, 2017



<u>SUN</u>	<u>MON</u>	<u>TUES</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THURS</u>	<u>FRI</u>	<u>SAT</u>
18 <i>Father's Day</i>	19 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 Café, 8 am	29	30	<u>JULY 1 RAPPER</u> <i>Independence Day Celebration, See P. 3</i>
2	3 Hr. of Prayer Copeland Baptist Church, 7 pm	4	5 Ladies Coffee Island Café, 8 am	6	7	8
9 full moon ○	10 Hr. of Prayer Chok. Church Of God, 7 pm	11	12 Ladies Coffee Island Café, 8 am	13	14	<u>JULY 15 RAPPER</u>
16	17 Hr. of Prayer Holy Fam. Catholic Church, 7 pm	18	19 Ladies Coffee Island Café, 8 am	20	21 Hot Summer Nights 6-9 pm, see p.3	22

September 1: Snook Season Re-opens
September 10: Everglades Bike Ride

September 4: Labor Day
September 30: Blessing of the Fleet

September 9: Museum Reception
October 15: Stone Crab Season Opens

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
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 & 4th 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
Chokoloskee (239) 695-4468
Ochopee (239) 695-2099

Mon-Fri: 9:30 am to 1 pm and 2 to 4:30 pm; Sat: outside pick-up 3:45 pm
Mon-Fri: 9:30 am to 1 pm and 2 to 4:30 pm; Sat: outside pick-up 3:30 pm
Mon-Fri: 8 to 10 am; 12 noon to 4 pm; Sat: Open for service 10 to 11:30 am

SHERIFF: 239-252-9300 CITY HALL: 239-695-378 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

What's Happening

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 events that include 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

HOT SUMMER NIGHTS

July 21, 6 to 9 PM



Kids join us at McLeod Park for music, dancing, sports, a rock wall and bounce house! Call 239-252-9300 for more information.

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.

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.



The picture above is just a sample of the impressive student art that will be on display throughout June and July. We hope to see you at the museum! See more photos on page 10!

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 1 Day A Week



Open 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!

PRECAUTIONARY STEPS TO TAKE FOR HURRICANE SEASON

June 1st was the official start of the Atlantic hurricane season that goes through December. This is the time of year when it is advisable to make some preparations... just in case we get in the way of one.

There are the obvious items that we hear about on the local weather forecasts; canned goods, water, medications, gas, etc. But there are a few things you can do around the house that can help minimize the damage a bad storm can deliver.

Coconut palms can withstand great winds but not if they are carrying a full crop of coconuts. Have the lower branches and crop of coconuts trimmed off of the trees to reduce the canopy weight.

Thin out the canopy of any trees and trim off any dead limbs. Remove any limbs that are very close to, or hanging over the house.

Get rid of yard debris. Anything in the yard that is not tied down is a potential projectile. Do this before a storm so you don't have to think about it when the storm is upon us (heaven forbid).

Clear out rain gutters so they are not plugged up with leaves from the fall dry season. Make a plan on how you will elevate sensitive equipment like mowers. A few cinder blocks and a sheet of 3/4 inch plywood is a good thing to have on hand to do this. Have a roll of plastic on hand in case your roof leaks so you can cover items if necessary.

Lastly, double check that your hurricane shutters are operational. If you do not have any, consider getting them at a discount at Habitat for Humanity. They usually have panels on hand for a fraction of the price. You can also look on Craigslist.com for them. Preparing early will save you time and money... and possibly save your home.



A Message from Fire Chief Kingman Schuldt

The week of June 5th, the Collier County Emergency Medical Services Department hosted its semi-annual Phoenix Award ceremony.


The Collier County Emergency Medical Services Department adopted the Phoenix Award to recognize those EMS Paramedics and EMTs, Firefighters and Law Enforcement Officers, who through their skills and knowledge, have successfully brought back to life individuals who had died.

Greater Naples was well represented with 25 Firefighter/Paramedics and EMT's receiving certificates and medals for their outstanding efforts. It is because of the professional actions of our members, the community continues to be a great place to live and work. Please join me in congratulating these members for their contributions to the Fire District and the community.

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Visit the Everglades City Museum Located at:
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6/3/17 Puzzle Solution

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A Message from the Principal by Jim Ragusa Gators Planning for Success

Our school year has come to a conclusion and we had an amazing celebration with the class of 2017 in the gym on May 26th. Many of our high school students have already begun to plan for their fall academic schedule as they are enrolling at Florida Southwestern College (FSW) to jump start their post-secondary education as a college student in August.

The Dual Enrollment Program allows students to earn college credit with no cost for tuition or books. Students who embark on this challenge have met the entrance requirements established by FSW. This includes specified performance on state assessments, grade point average requirements, and qualifying scores on a college entrance exam.

Next year's senior class is well represented by Davonte' Detweiler, Ashlyn Goff, and Haleigh Levingston. A number of our juniors will also be enrolled this fall. A few of them have already successfully completed college courses this spring with additional members taking college classes for the first time. We will give more updates about these underclassmen when we return to school for the next school year. These students deserve recognition for being accepted into the program and for challenging themselves to be the best they can be.

Please note that the school will be closed from June 20th until July 10th. Any phone calls or emails sent during that time will receive a reply upon our return. Have a happy and safe summer and I look forward to providing updated information when we return in July! IT IS ALWAYS A GREAT DAY TO BE A GATOR!!!

~Jim Ragusa

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

Small Town Taylor by Taylor Mayberry



Don't you think of bad things when you hear the word flood? Well actually a flood could be good or bad. This weekend in Everglades City we had a flood! It was so fun to play in. My dad has a johnboat so when it filled up with rain water all the way to the top I swam in it! Then I took the paddle board to the ball field and my Aunt Na's house! I paddled all the way down my street to my Aunt Na's house twice. On my way back from my aunt's house I saw a bunch of kids playing at the ball field that was completely flooded and I asked my mom if I could go and play with them.

While I was at the ball field I played with Ace, Aria, Kennedy, Darian, Ravan, Willie, Helson, Ruth, and Daneli. Miss Shannon had a blow up pool for the kids floating out in the field. It was so much fun. We played in the dirt a lot. We also found worms!

It was really fun playing with my friends in the flood! I had a great time paddle boarding too! When you are in a bad situation you can try and turn it into something great.

With lots of love, Taylor

Taylor Mayberry is 11 years old and attends Everglades City School

Editors Note: Flood waters can be dangerous and we do not recommend playing or wading in flood waters.

National Park Service Selects New Operator for Everglades National Park

New contract will expand and improve visitor services including a new restaurant and lodging at Flamingo



HOMESTEAD, Fla – Get ready for new ways to experience Everglades National Park! On May 30, 2017, the National Park Service selected Everglades Guest Services, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Guest Services, Inc. (Guest Services), to provide visitor services in the park's Flamingo district. The

contract requires construction of 24 cottages and 20 eco-tents by December 2019, but authorizes a total of 40 cottages and 40 eco-tents. Apart from campsites, this will be the first expanded overnight accommodations in the park since 2005, when the previous lodging complex was removed due to severe damage from Hurricanes Katrina and Wilma.


Under the new agreement, Guest Services will manage all visitor services in Long Pine Key and Flamingo, including campgrounds, boat tours of Florida Bay and Whitewater Bay, a new restaurant co-located with the cottages, and retail. The new accommodations will be environmentally friendly, affording a sustainable visitor experience. The 20 year term of the contract will enable the new operator to invest in needed visitor services and make customer service a priority.

Superintendent of Everglades and Dry Tortugas National Parks, Pedro Ramos, expressed excitement about the new contract: "Guest Services has a long history of serving our national parks and the millions of visitors that come out to visit them. We are thrilled that we can now move forward with Guest Services to revitalize Flamingo and offer quality services that will enhance the visitor experience at Everglades National Park." Ramos also expressed his gratitude to Sammy Hamilton and Everglades National Park Boat Tours for over eight years of providing services to the visitors of the Flamingo area.

Gerry Gabrys, CEO of Guest Services, Inc. similarly shared his enthusiasm by stating "2017 has been a very special year for our organization as it marks a 'Century of Service' since our founding in 1917. When we received this tremendous news from the National Park Service, our Centennial Celebration became even more special. We couldn't be more excited about the opportunity to steward and enhance visitor services within the Everglades – truly one of America's most iconic National Parks!"

Advertisement for Fireworks Fund Trophy featuring a trophy image and text: 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 Everglades Fireworks Fund, P.O. Box 110, Everglades City, FL, 34139. For additional information, please call Marya at 239-695-2905.

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Taxing Things
By Mike "the tax guy"

IRS Face-To-Face Help Is Now By Appointment

Taxpayers who need in-person help from an IRS Taxpayer Assistance Center can call to schedule an appointment. This is an essential service the IRS provides when a tax issue cannot be resolved online or by phone. All Taxpayer Assistance Centers provide service by appointment.

Consider the self-service options on IRS.gov before calling for an appointment. Many questions can be resolved online without taxpayers having to travel to a Tax Assistance Center. Publication 5136, the IRS Services Guide, has additional information about where to find help.

Answering a tax question:

The Interactive Tax Assistant asks the taxpayer a series of questions and provides answers based on their input. You can go online to access this service:

<https://www.irs.gov/uac/interactive-tax-assistant-ita-1>

You can also find IRS Publication 17 that covers a broad range of topics and updates on tax law changes.

Keep in mind that the IRS mails millions of letters every year. Each one deals with a specific issue and provides specific instructions on what to do so careful reading is essential.

Here is a Recap of This Year's "Dirty Dozen" Tax Scams

The Internal Revenue Service announced the conclusion of its annual "Dirty Dozen" list of tax scams. The annual list highlights various schemes that taxpayers may encounter throughout the year, many of which peak during tax-filing season. Taxpayers need to guard against ploys to steal their personal information, scam them out of money or talk them into engaging in questionable behavior with their taxes.

Phishing: Taxpayers need to be on guard against fake emails or websites looking to steal personal information. The IRS will never initiate contact with taxpayers via email about a bill or refund. Don't click on one claiming to be from the IRS. Be wary of emails and websites that may be nothing more than scams to steal personal information.

Phone Scams: Phone calls from criminals impersonating IRS agents remain an ongoing threat to taxpayers. The IRS has seen a surge of these phone scams in recent years as con artists threaten taxpayers with police arrest, deportation and license revocation, among other things.

Identity Theft

Return Preparer Fraud

Fake Charities: Be on guard against groups masquerading as charitable organizations to attract donations from unsuspecting contributors. Be wary of charities with names similar to familiar or nationally known organizations.

Inflated Refund Claims: Taxpayers should be on the lookout for anyone promising inflated refunds.

Excessive Claims for Business Credits: Avoid improperly claiming the fuel tax credit, a tax benefit generally not available to most taxpayers.

Falsely Padding Deductions on Returns

Falsifying Income to Claim Credits

Abusive Tax Shelter

Frivolous Tax Arguments

Offshore Tax Avoidance

Recipes for Good Eating
submitted by Bonnie Woodward
Ham Hot Dish



Ingredients:

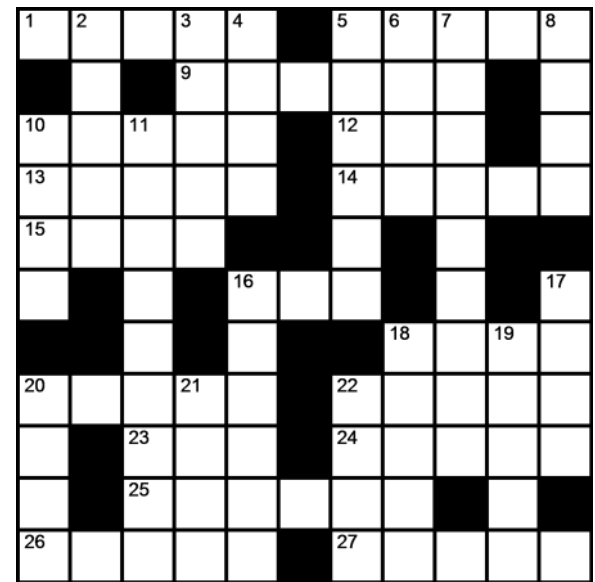
- 1/3 cup vegetable oil
- 1 pound spaghetti noodles
- 1 large can tomatoes
- 1 large can mushrooms
- 1 pound American cheese
- 2 pounds ham, diced
- 2 large onions, diced
- 2 green peppers, diced
- Salt
- Pepper
- Paprika

Sauté peppers, onion and ham in oil. Add tomatoes, mushrooms, cheese, salt, pepper and paprika (to taste). Add to noodles cooked to package directions. Cover and bake at 325 degrees for 25-20 minutes . Serve hot!

MULLET RAPPER CROSSWORD

Across

- 1. One of ten equal parts
- 5. Tricky
- 9. Element present in shellfish
- 10. Gets rid of
- 12. She has a special day in May
- 13. Elevate
- 14. Like a peacock
- 15. Friend
- 16. Desert made with crust
- 18. Walk in water
- 20. Muck
- 22. Shoe ties
- 23. Drink like a cat
- 24. Land of the Pyramids
- 25. Female name
- 26. Impoverished
- 27. This can happen if you can't swim



6/17/17

Down

- 2. Having the same value
- 3. A bit drunk
- 4. Stocking
- 5. Cheek depression
- 6. Fragrance
- 7. USA is this
- 8. Three feet
- 10. Small quantity

Down Continued

- 11. S New Jersey city
- 16. Compensate before work begins
- 17. Examination
- 18. Stake
- 19. W New York town
- 20. A bride wears one
- 21. Female name
- 22. Let someone borrow





My Little Slice of Paradise

by Kathy Brock

Feed Them and They Will Feed You Back

Summer is here and that means the rapid growing season is in full swing here in Southwest Florida. Summertime is a great time to plan your winter garden and to plant any new trees you may want to add to your landscape. Our warm weather allows us to plant numerous fruiting trees, however our wet soil can make it a bit of a challenge. Citrus trees like the warm weather but do not like their roots wet, especially around the trunk. This is true for most fruit trees, but there are some exceptions.

Bananas love the wet soil, but they will not like the salt water when it comes in...and you know it will here in the Everglades area! Papayas will also tolerate the wet conditions well. One way you can combat the wet is by building a raised planter box for your trees and by mixing in some sand into your soil in the box. This will allow for better drainage around the sensitive top roots and trunk that are prone to root-rot and other diseases. Leaving the bottom of your box open will allow the roots to go into the deeper soil. This system is not a guarantee, but it will give the trees a much better chance of surviving, if not thriving, in our environment.

To grow healthy, productive fruiting trees, you must put your trees on a fertilizing schedule. And, you do not need to purchase the over-priced "citrus & avocado" fertilizer either. A standard, more budget friendly 10-10-10 will do. When trees are young (under 5 years), it is important to fertilize more frequently as described below. ***However, please be sure to read the instructions on the bag of fertilizer you purchase, and you can also choose organic options, in either case the amounts will vary...so read before starting and use the description below as an outline that you modify based on the type of fertilizer you are using!***

Fruiting trees will require more fertilizer as they age. In our humid climate during the first year, start applying fertilizer at the start of the growing season (in February) just as the buds begin to swell, and reapply every six weeks through October. Apply about 1/2 pound of 10-10-10 fertilizer per tree. In the second year, apply about 1 pound per tree every seven weeks. For the third year, apply 2 pounds per tree every nine weeks. In the fourth year apply 3 pounds per tree every 12 weeks.

For mature citrus and other fruiting trees that are 5 years old and older (in our humid Florida climate), fertilize three times a season with 5 pounds of 10-10-10 fertilizer per tree. Fertilize in February, May, and November. For each application, apply 1 pound of fertilizer for each year of the tree's age. For instance, a Florida tree 10 years old would get 10 pounds of 10-10-10 fertilizer in three separate applications for a total of 30 pounds per year for maximum productivity.

For best results, spread the fertilizer evenly on the ground in a band around the tree's canopy or "drip line". ***Never put the fertilizer right next to the trunk.*** Water your trees after applying, especially if we are in a dry spell. You will want to water it in if you have pets (even in wet season). Some dogs are attracted to some types of fertilizer and will eat it, and it can be very unhealthy for them to do so. In addition to the bag fertilizer, there are trace element sprays that provide nutrients that are not delivered in the bag fertilizer. Think of them like "vitamins" for your trees. These are sprayed on the leaves and help combat deficiencies that will stress the trees. When using element sprays, avoid getting this on your home or concrete as they will cause staining. There is also liquid iron that can be added to the soil once per year. I have found this is very helpful after a heavy crop to help the tree(s) rebound.

My father always kept great trees. When I was a child, we never purchased orange juice, grapefruits, avocados, or mangoes. We grew them ourselves! Dad was diligent about keeping them healthy and they produced for many years...until Hurricane Andrew took most of them out...and then we replanted and started over again.

One thing to take note of when you do plant is the eventual, mature size of the tree—not what it looks like when you plant it. Below is a link to a great resource that contains information about numerous types of trees and how large they will grow upward and outward. Do not plant them too close together or too close to the house. Visualize the mature size of the tree in the landscape before planting and you will be much happier for it years from now. And lastly, remember if you feed them, they will feed you!

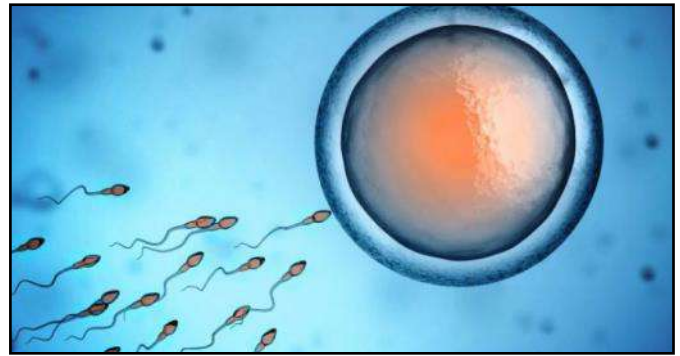
Visit this website for great information on fruit trees and their care:

http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_home_subtropical_fruit

Our Amazing Bodies

by Dr. John Martin

Human Reproductive System – Part II



Spermatogenesis is just what it sounds like, the production of sperm. The full process takes about 64 to 72 days in a healthy male. Starting at about age 14 (yrs.) and continuing throughout life, about 400 million sperm are made every day.

Each resulting sperm or spermatozoon has a head, mid-piece, and tail. These parts correspond roughly to genetic, metabolic and locomotor functions. The head contains the compacted DNA. The mid-piece contains the mitochondria (energy units) that serve to propel the sperm along its journey by whip-like movements of the filament-like tail. Simultaneously, during the sperm maturation process, sustentocytes or "Sertoli cells" form. These cells function to: provide nutrients and essential signals to the dividing cells, even telling them to live or die. Move the cells into proper position. Secrete fluid (rich in androgens and metabolic acids) that provides a transport medium.

The reproductive role of the female is much more complicated than the male. Not only must she produce gametes, but her body must prepare to nurture a developing fetus for a complete term of nine months.

The ovary is the main organ of the female reproductive system. The ovary produces the ovum or "egg" to be united with the spermatozoon combining the parent's DNA and beginning the life of the new fetus. The ovary also secretes the hormones estrogen and progesterone. Embedded in the highly vascular ovary cortex are many saclike structures called ovarian follicles. Each follicle consists of an immature egg called an oocyte, encased by one or more layers of very different cells. The surrounding cells are called follicle cells if a single layer is present, and granulosa cells when more than one layer is present. Unlike the male duct system, which is continuous with the tubules of the testes, the female duct system has little or no actual contact with the ovaries. Once an ovulated oocyte is cast into the peritoneal cavity (ovulation), the finger-like fimbriae that drape over the ovary help recapture the ovum and direct it into the infundibulum. The female duct system continues back toward the uterus via the uterine tubes (aka fallopian tubes or oviducts). It is along this tubular journey when fertilization usually occurs. For a successful and healthy developing fetus/embryo and ultimate delivery of the newborn, the fertilized egg must reach the uterus (which has been preparing for its arrival) and implant there on the uterine wall. Should fertilization not occur, the oocyte (ovum) degenerates and a sloughing off of the (this time) unused nutritive uterine wall follows (menstruation), and the cycle begins again.

The uterus (Latin for "womb") is located in the pelvis, anterior to the rectum, and behind and slightly above the bladder. It is a hollow, thick-walled, muscular organ that receives, retains and nourishes a fertilized ovum.

Next time, Fertilization, and Intro to Embryology.



Living Gulf Coast
by Charles Sobczak

Snowy Plover (*Charadrius alexandrinus*) Other names: Cuban snowy plover / Status: FL=threatened, IUCN=LC / Life span: to 11 years / Length: 67 in. (15-17 cm) / Wingspan: 13 in. (34 cm) / Weight: 1.22 oz. (34-58 g) / Nests on Gulf beaches / Found:

Sarasota, Charlotte, Lee and Collier, coastal / Months found: JFMamjjaSOND (lower case indicates nesting season).

The snowy plover is a very small, delicate-looking shorebird that is suffering from extensive coastal over-development. Disturbances such as unleashed dogs, children at play, and in some areas, automobiles being driven on the beaches have all contributed to the rapid decline of this once familiar species. Arguably Florida's most threatened bird, some estimates put its total number between 220 and 400 nesting pairs.



The snowy plover is often mistaken for the piping plover but has darker, grayish legs and an all-black beak as opposed to the yellow-orange legs and orange and black bill of the piping plover. Another trait is that the piping plover has more of a point to its bill than does the snowy.

The snowy plover is quite a bit smaller than the killdeer or Wilson's plover. It feeds on small crustaceans and soft invertebrates such as sand flies. Its nest consists of some shallow scrapes of assorted shells upon which two to three pale, dotted eggs are laid, sometimes up to two broods annually. Young plovers leave the nest within three hours of hatching.

The plover's only defense is camouflage, flattening itself against the ground when a predator or a person approaches. Predation to the nests comes from dogs, gulls, rodents, snakes, and ghost crabs. Its primary threat is continued coastal development and loss of suitable beach dune habitat. On many coastal beaches plover nesting areas are marked off by stakes and yellow police tape. Under no circumstances should dogs, children, or adults be allowed into these roped-off areas, as the tiny eggs of the snowy plover are all but impossible to spot and are easily stepped on and crushed.

Least Tern (*Sterna antillarum*) Other names: sea swallow, pigeon de la mer, little tern / Status: FL=threatened, IUCN=LC / Life span: to 24 years / Length: 8.3-9.1 in. (21-23 cm) / Wingspan: 18.9-20.9 in. (48-53 cm) / Weight: 1.1-1.6 oz. (30-45 g) / Nests: in Florida in the summer months, mostly along the coastline, and it winters in Colombia and Venezuela / Found: Sarasota, Charlotte, Lee and Collier, coastal / Months found: JFMamjjaSOND (lower case indicates nesting season).



True to its nickname sea swallow, this is the smallest tern in the Western Hemisphere. Weighing half that of a robin, this tiny tern feeds on small fish, crustaceans, and sand eels. Its cap is similar to other terns, but its diminutive size and black-tipped yellow bill are the best methods of identifying this bird.

Like several other summer species, the least tern has made Florida its northern nesting site, although several small populations nest as far north as Massachusetts. Once hunted for its plumes, the least tern is still considered threatened in much of its range, and its population is being closely monitored. There is also a West Coast population that summers in California and winters deep into Mexico.

The least tern suffers from habitat and nesting-site loss. It prefers to nest on beaches where it is often in conflict with humans and their pets. If agitated by an unwanted intruder, the least tern has a nasty habit of hovering over the potential predator and defecating, so be forewarned. The least tern is monogamous but always nests in colonies with other terns.

Charles Sobczak is a writer from Sanibel Island
Photos by Rob Pailes

17 Foot Sawfish off Chokoloskee Caught and Freed of Nuisance Rope
From Naples Daily News Feed

A Naples man caught a near 17-foot sawfish in Chokoloskee and then freed the fish from an abandoned rope wrapped around its rostrum (saw).

Josh Ludwig and Jake Irvin were fishing for snook and redfish when the unexpected happened Sunday. Ludwig, in a 16-foot boat, hooked a sawfish bigger than the boat he was in.

When the fishermen first saw fins in the back waters they thought it was about a 9-foot shark. Ludwig said it took around two hours to reel in.

According to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission website, sawfish can grow very large, up to 18 feet long and weigh 700 pounds. They have 22 to 29 unpaired teeth on each side of the rostrum.

FWC says the smalltooth sawfish is no longer found throughout its full historical range but is still a year-round resident of peninsular Florida, with most encounters occurring in southwest Florida from Charlotte Harbor to the Florida Keys.

"The extremely rare fish was amazing and massive," Ludwig said "We released him unharmed and were able to cut off a rope that was tied around his saw that had started to grow into his saw." Ludwig said he squatted above it trying to lift the head. The sawfish was released after the picture and went on his way, rope free.

A note to our readers:

Very little is known about this spectacular fish, so scientists at the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's (FWC) Fish and Wildlife Research Institute (FWRI) initiated a research



program to learn more. They are asking for help from the public via the Sawfish Survey. This statewide survey provides a means for anglers, boaters, and beachgoers to help biologists learn more about the areas in which sawfish

are sighted. If you catch a sawfish while fishing for other species or happen to see one while you are near the water, please contact Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) by email: SawFish@MyFWC.com or call 941-255-7403



**PATRIOTIC PARADE ON JULY 1st...
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

Come Out and See the Fireworks on July 1st!



This year, the annual family-fun festival to commemorate America's founding will be held on Saturday, July 1st.

The Opening Ceremony will be at 10:00 a.m. on the steps of City Hall. This will be followed at 10:30 a.m. by the Patriotic Parade. For a complete schedule, see page 3.

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).

Collier County Clerk of Courts wins Prestigious Award for 15th Consecutive Year

Chicago--The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) is pleased to announce that Collier County Clerk of the Courts, Florida has received the GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its budget for the 15th consecutive year.

The award represents a significant achievement by the Clerk's Office. It reflects the commitment of the Clerk and staff to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting. In order to receive the budget award, the Clerk's Office had to satisfy nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation. These guidelines are designed to assess how well an entity's budget serves as: a policy document, a financial plan, and operations guide, and a communications device.

Budget documents must be rated "proficient" in all four categories, and the fourteen mandatory criteria within those categories, to receive the award. Along with the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award presented to Collier County Clerk of the Courts, a Certificate of Recognition for Budget Presentation has also been presented to the Collier County Clerk of Courts Accounting Department.

Park News

Florida National Scenic Trail Reopens after Cowbell Fire

Ochopee – On Saturday, June 3rd, the section of the Florida National Scenic Trail north of I-75 was reopened. Recent wildfire activity from the Cowbell Fire closed the trail to hikers. Firefighters have surveyed the area and determined that conditions are safe to reopen.

The Florida National Scenic Trail stretches 1,400 miles through Florida extending from Gulf Islands National Seashore to Big Cypress National Preserve. The southernmost sections of the trail are within the national preserve. To learn more about the Florida National Scenic Trail or to plan a hike, please visit the Florida Trail Association at <http://www.floridatrail.org/>.

2017 Recreational Off-Road Vehicle Closure at Big Cypress

Ochopee – On Monday, June 19th, the annual 60-day recreational off-road vehicle (ORV) closure for all management units took effect. Any units that allow recreational ORV access within the preserve are included in the closure. The closure will be lifted on Friday, August 18, 2017.

The Recreational Off-Road Vehicle Management Plan requires a seasonal 60-day period to allow resources a time free from any pressures related to ORV use. The closure within Big Cypress National Preserve was first implemented in 2002.

Private property landowners with a valid special use permit may gain access along designated routes through the preserve.

For more information about Big Cypress National Preserve visit nps.gov/bicy or follow the park on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram at "BigCypressnps."

Museum News



Student Art Exhibit, June & July

The Everglades City School Student Art Exhibit is on display June & July and their work is fantastic again this year. The school's art teacher, Mr. Tribble, is doing a great job teaching the students how to portray their concepts visually, and it seems each year their work is getting more and more sophisticated. Below are two of the many great pieces and one snapshot of the display wall. It is absolutely beautiful!

The best way to see the work is to visit the museum. However, our out of town readers would get left out, so these photos are especially for you!



The Museum is Looking for Old Photos of the Chokoloskee Bridge!

Do you have an old photo of the Chokoloskee 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):

Closed until Further Notice

Tastes of the Everglades (695-0075)

Closed for the Summer

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 Post Office– Closed for Summer

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, 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

6/17	Sat	4:04 AM	0.3	L
6/17	Sat	9:53 AM	2.5	H
6/17	Sat	4:58 PM	0.6	L
6/17	Sat	9:34 PM	2.2	H
6/18	Sun	5:02 AM	0.4	L
6/18	Sun	10:38 AM	2.6	H
6/18	Sun	6:03 PM	0.4	L
6/18	Sun	11:02 PM	2.2	H
6/19	Mon	6:00 AM	0.5	L
6/19	Mon	11:23 AM	2.8	H
6/19	Mon	7:00 PM	0.2	L
6/20	Tue	12:19 AM	2.3	H
6/20	Tue	6:55 AM	0.6	L
6/20	Tue	12:06 PM	3	H
6/20	Tue	7:54 PM	-0.1	L
6/21	Wed	1:23 AM	2.4	H
6/21	Wed	7:48 AM	0.6	L
6/21	Wed	12:47 PM	3.2	H
6/21	Wed	8:46 PM	-0.3	L
6/22	Thu	2:20 AM	2.5	H
6/22	Thu	8:40 AM	0.7	L
6/22	Thu	1:29 PM	3.4	H
6/22	Thu	9:36 PM	-0.5	L
6/23	Fri	3:12 AM	2.5	H
6/23	Fri	9:31 AM	0.7	L
6/23	Fri	2:11 PM	3.5	H
6/23	Fri	10:26 PM	-0.6	L
6/24	Sat	4:02 AM	2.5	H
6/24	Sat	10:20 AM	0.7	L
6/24	Sat	2:54 PM	3.6	H
6/24	Sat	11:14 PM	-0.6	L
6/25	Sun	4:53 AM	2.5	H
6/25	Sun	11:09 AM	0.7	L
6/25	Sun	3:41 PM	3.5	H
6/26	Mon	12:01 AM	-0.5	L
6/26	Mon	5:44 AM	2.5	H
6/26	Mon	11:58 AM	0.7	L
6/26	Mon	4:32 PM	3.4	H
6/27	Tue	12:49 AM	-0.4	L
6/27	Tue	6:34 AM	2.5	H
6/27	Tue	12:50 PM	0.7	L
6/27	Tue	5:31 PM	3.1	H
6/28	Wed	1:37 AM	-0.2	L
6/28	Wed	7:22 AM	2.5	H
6/28	Wed	1:47 PM	0.7	L
6/28	Wed	6:37 PM	2.8	H
6/29	Thu	2:28 AM	0	L
6/29	Thu	8:09 AM	2.5	H
6/29	Thu	2:53 PM	0.7	L
6/29	Thu	7:46 PM	2.5	H
6/30	Fri	3:22 AM	0.2	L
6/30	Fri	8:57 AM	2.5	H
6/30	Fri	4:06 PM	0.6	L
6/30	Fri	8:57 PM	2.3	H
7/1	Sat	4:20 AM	0.4	L
7/1	Sat	9:45 AM	2.6	H

Obituaries

Eloise Barrows

Eloise Barrows, sister of Pat Swisher (Bob) passed away Tuesday evening, May 30. Funeral services were held Tuesday, June 6, at Wise's Funeral Home in Bucyrus, Ohio. Eloise and her husband Lee resided at ORA, Chokoloskee and some of her artwork was often featured at Art-in-the-Glades.

Lillie Mae McFadden

1935-2017

Lillie Mae McFadden passed away at the age of 81 on May 30th.



Lillie was born in Lake City, South Carolina. She was the daughter of Allie Fair Cooper and Timothy Edwards. She had three brothers and three sisters.

During her life she gave birth to 12 children. Lillie lived a long and fruitful life. While raising her own children, she often helped mother to so many others throughout the years. To Lillie, this was her greatest accomplishment in life, being a mother.

Lillie had a huge heart. She had to with 25 grandchildren and 29 great-grandchildren. Lillie never judged and never held your past mistakes against you. She was not quite politically correct, but she was honest and was quick to give you a piece of her mind, but at the end of the day it was fueled by love and never intended to hurt you. People loved and respected her for this. Lillie will be missed by all who knew her.

Juanita Clifton Weldon

Juanita Clifton Weldon passed away on June 9th. A service will be held at First Baptist Church in Everglades City on June 24. See complete obituary on front page.



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.

REDUCED! 2 stilt houses EC: NOW \$239,900 for 408 Buckner; NOW 339,900 for 309 S. Storter. GREAT shape! Call Steve 910-599-2698. Available dock.

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

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

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.

NEW JOB OPPORTUNITY: Become an election worker and help others exercise their right to vote, make a little extra money, and maybe develop some new friendships! Qualifications: Be a registered voter in Collier County. Be able to read and write English. Complete the orientation and training. You must be available to work a 12-14 hour shift. Get started today! Complete an application at www.CollierVotes.com. Questions? Contact us at: (239) 252-VOTE (8683) or ElectionWorker@colliergov.net.

The MULLET RAPPER

What's Happening in the Everglades

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We provide local news of interest to the extended communities of Everglades City, Chokoloskee, Plantation Island, Lee Cypress, Copeland, Jerome & Ochopee We strive to present the facts accurately with no political or social bias.

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

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