



The MULLET RAPPER

TIDE TABLE &
RESTAURANTS
PAGE 11

What's Happening in the Everglades

AUGUST 12 – AUGUST 23, 2017



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P O Box 134, Everglades City, FL, 34139

Volume X • Issue #295

Videos Posted On Social Media Being Investigated by FWC

Disturbing videos went viral recently of wildlife being mistreated by a group of Florida residents. In one video, a shark is dragged behind a boat at high speed and is shown struggling to stay alive. In the video, passengers on the boat are seen laughing and smiling.

Not only is this behavior inexcusable and inhumane, it is also criminal and is under investigation by FWC.

According to a press release by FWC, "The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and the State Attorney's Office would like to formally thank the many individuals that have provided information and expressed concern over the numerous videos and images that have been seen over social media involving individuals and wildlife.

We share your concern, and we are committed to conserving Florida's natural resources. FWC law enforcement investigators and State Attorneys are diligently working toward a swift and lawful resolution to this case. We appreciate Governor Scott's leadership on this issue as well. These investigations are complex, and both the FWC and the State Attorney's Office appreciate the public's understanding and patience. We take these incidents seriously, and this investigation is moving forward.

If anyone has additional information, images or videos that can provide more evidence regarding any of these incidents, please contact the FWC's Hotline at 888-404-3922 or Tip@MyFWC.com."

Behavior like this is unacceptable. If you see something, say something!

E-City School Student Wins Reading Award Brandon Bagley, Jr. Age 6

The Collier County Public Library Summer Reading Program announced its award winners this past weekend and our very own Brandon Bagley Jr., age 6, was recognized in our area. Brandon will be entering the first grade at Everglades City School.



The theme of this year was "Build a Better World". The county-sponsored program encourages kids of all ages (and adults) to read for learning and for fun.

Children of all ages earned points for reading books, e-books and for listening to audio books. They were also encouraged to attend events and programs sponsored by the library. Reader's earned points amassed as "book bucks" that are spent at library book sales through September 30th.

After reading a book, the reader's card was stamped to earn a "Book Buck". After reading 10 books, participants were entered into a raffle for a chance to win a branch library prize.

We are very proud of Brandon for his reading achievements and for representing our area so well. We expect even more accomplishments from him in the future. **Congratulations Brandon!**

Group That Helps People During Cancer Treatments Could Use Some Help Too



Going through treatments for cancer is difficult. Many cannot continue working due to the treatments or because they are caring for a sick parent or child and must stay at home to do so.

Did you ever wonder how these patients who may not be able to work pay their monthly bills? Well, the answer is, many of them cannot.

Fortunately, in Collier and Lee Counties, there is a group that provides support and services for people receiving treatments, and for primary caregivers as well.

Cancer Alliance of Naples, or CAN, provides aid to qualifying individuals (250% of federal poverty guidelines) during the most difficult times. CAN will help with mortgage payments, insurance, groceries, and utility bills. They focus on needs outside of medical necessities.

Jewel Sanchez, Director of Beneficiary Programs & Services, explained how these basic needs are often overlooked. Even if you have great medical insurance, you may not have paid leave or any way to pay basic bills to keep your homestead afloat during treatments.

Parents of sick children often become the primary caregiver and must stay home from work to provide care, giving up the income that paid the bills.

This compounds the stress on these individuals and CAN is doing their part to help.

CAN was formed 14 years ago to help these families, and they have provided services to over 2000 families to date. They are made up of a tirelessly devoted staff of three women who work day and night to help the families who need it the most.

CAN is able to provide these amazing services with the generous help from more fortunate people who donate their time by volunteering, or by donating money. CAN has helped people throughout Collier & Lee Counties including some in the Everglades area.

To find out more information or to donate, you can reach CAN by calling 239-643-4673 or you can visit their website, www.CanNaples.com.

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FEATURE: SOLAR ECLIPSE P. 10

If you have news, photos, announcements, or articles ... email us at: mulletrapper@gmail.com or call us at: 954-662-7003.



AUG 13 – SEPT 16, 2017



<u>SUN</u>	<u>MON</u>	<u>TUES</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THURS</u>	<u>FRI</u>	<u>SAT</u>
13 Meteor Shower, See p. 10	14	15	16 Ladies Coffee Island Café, 8 am School Opens	17	18	19
20	new moon 21 ● Solar Eclipse, see p.10	22	23 Ladies Coffee Island Café, 8 am	24	25	<u>AUG 26 RAPPER</u>
27	28	29	30 Ladies Coffee Island Café, 8 am	31	SEPT 1  OPEN! See p. 3	2
3	4 Labor Day	5	6 full moon ○ Ladies Coffee Island Café, 8 am	7 Mobile Dentist, see p. 3	8	<u>SEPT 9 RAPPER</u>
10 Everglades Bike Ride, see p. 3	11	12	13 Ladies Coffee Island Café, 8 am	14	15	16

September 30: Blessing of the Fleet

October 14: Hook 'Em Fishing Tourney
October 28: Halloween Celebration

October 15: Stone Crab Season Opens

THRIFT SHOP: 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., 5:30-8:30 PM
REACH OUT: 3rd Tuesday, 9:30 am, City Hall
LITTLE GATOR CLINIC: Not seeing patients at this time
VETERANS SUPPORT: 2nd & 4th Wed. of month, noon—2 pm
COMMUNITY CHURCH FOOD PANTRY: Wednesday noon—2 pm
SMALLWOOD STORE: Daily, 11 am to 5 pm
PANCAKE FLY-IN: Closed for the summer

SHERIFF AT CITY HALL: Tuesdays, 2 to 5 pm
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

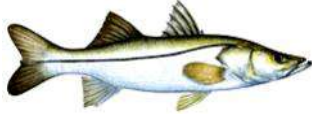
Mon-Fri: 9:30 am to 1 pm and 2 to 4:30 pm; Sat: outside pick-up 3:45 pm
Mon-Fri: 9:30 am to 1 pm and 2 to 4:30 pm; Sat: outside pick-up 3:30 pm
Mon-Fri: 8 to 10 am; 12 noon to 4 pm; Sat: Open for service 10 to 11:30 am

SHERIFF: 239-252-9300 CITY HALL: 239-695-3781 PUBLIC LIBRARY: 239-695-2511 CHAMBER OF COMMERCE: 239-695-3941
AIRPORT: 239-695-2778 FAKAHATCHEE: 239-695-4593 BIG CYPRESS: 239-695-2000 EVG NATIONAL PARK: 239-695-3311
CURBSIDE TRASH PICKUP (FRIDGES, WASHING MACHINES, TVs): 239-252-2380, CALL TUESDAY FOR THURSDAY PICKUP

What's Happening

In and Around Town

SNOOK SEASON SET TO OPEN SEPTEMBER 1st



The recreational harvest season for snook reopens September 1 in the Gulf of Mexico and adjacent federal waters, including Everglades National Park and Monroe County, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission reports. The season will remain open through November 30th. Anglers may keep one snook per day that is between 28 to 33 inches in length.

CYCLE TOURS THROUGH EVERGLADES Starting September 10th

See page 10 for complete Details.

MONDAY PRAYER MEETINGS CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Prayer meetings typically held on Monday's at 7 PM have been cancelled until further notice. We will put the meetings back on the calendar when they begin again.

HOOK 'EM FISHING TOURNAMENT Proceeds Benefit E-City Athletics October 14th

Save the date as on Oct. 14 the athletic department is excited to announce the inaugural *Hook' em in the Glades* family friendly fishing tournament. This tournament is powered by Island Café. To participate please visit www.hookemintheglades.com to register, or call our Athletic Director, Coach Jill Whitcomb at 239-377-9800.

2nd ANNUAL E-CITY ORCHID & PLANT SALE FUNDRAISER December 2, 9 am to 3 pm

The *Mullet Rapper* will host the 2nd Annual Everglades City Orchid & Plant Sale benefiting Everglades City School's athletic department on Saturday, December 2nd. The event will be held from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. at McLeod Park. In addition to orchids and tropical plants, this year's event will also feature art, crafts and gift items with a local flair.

Anyone who would like to volunteer for the event should contact the Mullet Rapper to sign up. Contact Kathy Brock for more information: at mulletrapper@gmail.com or by phone at 954-662-7003. **Thank you!**

GOLIATH GROUPEL WORKSHOPS COMING TO NAPLES, OCTOBER 18TH



The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) needs your input on goliath grouper management, including the possibility of a limited harvest in Florida state waters.

The FWC is hosting several goliath grouper public workshops throughout the state in August and October. Share your input and learn more about the current status of goliath grouper by attending one of these workshops. Additional details and updates to these meetings will be posted at MyFWC.com/Fishing (click on "Saltwater Fishing," "Rulemaking" and "Workshops.").

You can attend in person: Naples, Collier County Public Library - South Regional, 8065 Lely Cultural Parkway. For more information, contact: Amanda.Nalley@MyFWC.com.

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

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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!



FREE DENTAL SCREENINGS ALL AGES- SEPT. 7



The Ronald McDonald Caremobile Dental Bus will be in Everglades City on September 7th from 9 am to 2 pm, in the Fire Station parking lot, providing free dental health screenings.

You can also schedule an appointment for cleanings, fillings, extractions and x-rays. For more information or to make an appointment call 239-658-3013.



A MESSAGE FROM FIRE CHIEF KINGMAN SCHULDT

Last week Greater Naples Fire Rescue Deputy Chief Shawn Hanson attended the inaugural meeting of the International Association of Fire Chiefs' Diversity Executive Leadership Program in Charlotte, NC. This is a new program developed by the IAFC to bring together a group of current and future leaders to foster a diverse and inclusive leadership and workforce.

Deputy Chief Hanson was selected as one of only 15 fire service professionals Nationwide. The program aims to provide the participants with the tools necessary to become national leaders in the fire and emergency service.



Above: Deputy Chief Hanson pictured with IAFC President Thomas Jenkins, Fire Chief Nathan Trauernicht, and fellow iDELP member Deputy Chief Geo Blackshire

I am also proud to announce that Greater Naples Fire Rescue District's own resident Chef, Captain Craig Weinbaum, has made it to the top 3 finalists in the Hormel Best Fire House Chili Cook-Off for his "Not So White Chicken Chili" entry. He will be traveling to the New York City Fire Museum this month to compete for the \$10,000 top prize. Second and third place will receive \$2,500 for their fire stations.

Hormel will be donating \$20,000 to the National Fallen Firefighter's Foundation. Please join me in congratulating Captain Weinbaum and wishing him the best in New York.



Above: Captain Craig Weinbaum Getting Ready to Cook!

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Small Town Taylor

by Taylor Mayberry

I'm in the car and on my way home from North Carolina. My Mom, sister and I went to see my MeMaw and Aunt Kirsty in the Great Smokey Mountains this week!

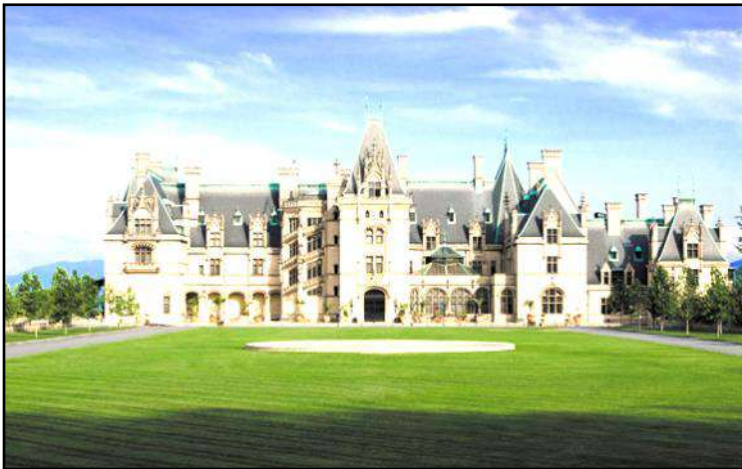
We got to do a lot of fun stuff like Sliding Rock, swimming at Looking Glass Waterfall, Cherokee, gold mining, Deep Creek, Main Street, and roller skating. But my favorite thing I did was going to visit the Biltmore.

The Biltmore is a mansion that was built in the 1800's. The house was so huge they even had a swimming pool inside the mansion and it is deep.

I had a lot of fun visiting my MeMaw and my aunt and I can't wait to go again.

I also can't wait to get back home to see my dad and cousin Trenton. I have been talking about him in my past few articles. He was far away in Michigan but he comes home this week!

I hope everyone else is enjoying their summer!



Above: Photo of the Biltmore mansion, Asheville, NC. The Biltmore was designed by Architect, Richard Morris Hunt and built for George Washington Vanderbilt from 1889-1896. It is the largest single family home in the U.S. at over 135 thousand square feet. The estate stretches over a 10 mile area. The estate is now a museum and hosts parties, weddings and other special events.



A Message from the Principal

by James Ragusa

Welcome Back! Our gator athletes are powering up for another exciting year! Girl's volleyball practice has begun and Cross Country will begin soon! We are thrilled to have two new coaches working with our athletes. JV volleyball's new coach is Mr. Jason Foures. He will also be our high school Math teacher. The cross country teams will have our Social Studies teacher, Ms. Carey Walker, as a varsity coach. Returning Senior Ashlyn Goff, who hopes to repeat as a regional qualifier in cross country, is working to advance farther this season. Our volleyball team returns three seniors who hope to lead our team to victory. Check out Everglades City School's website for our home volleyball schedule.

Save the date as on Oct. 14 the athletic department is excited to announce the inaugural Hook'em in the Glades family friendly fishing tournament. This tournament is powered by Island Café. To participate please visit us at www.hookemintheglades.com to register or call our Athletic Director, Coach Jill Whitcomb at 239-377-9800. Check out all the fantastic silent auction items and tournament rules on the web site. We are still seeking donations for the silent auction and sponsorship opportunities are still available. As always you can follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and through our website. Let's support our athletes for a fantastic year!

We would also like to invite parents to participate on our School Advisory Council. Meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month. There are several openings available so please call the school at 239-377-9800 for more information.

IT IS ALWAYS A GREAT DAY TO BE A GATOR!

~Jim Ragusa



IMPORTANT DATES TO MARK DOWN FOR THIS SCHOOL YEAR

- August 16: First Day of School
- September 4: Labor Day, No School
- September 20: Early Dismissal Day
- September 21: Rosh Hashana, No School
- October 14: Hook 'em Fishing Tournament: 239-377-9800 for More Information
- October 16 & 17: No School for Students
- October 20: Report Cards!
- November 22, 23, 24: Fall Break, No School (Thanksgiving)
- December 20, 21: Early Dismissal, Testing Days
- December 22-29: Winter Break

WELCOME BACK STUDENTS & FACULTY!!


Do your children qualify for free or reduced priced meals according to the Collier County School System standards? Check out the article on page 11 to find out more details about the program.

ATTENTION READERS!

Beginning with the September 9th issue, 100% of the proceeds from the sales of the print edition of the Mullet Rapper, sold in all Everglades City and Chokoloskee locations, will be donated to the Everglades City School athletic department. We look forward to this and many other future partnerships and events to help our school and our community.

~The Mullet Rapper~

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My Little Slice of Paradise

By Kathy Brock
The Amazing Plant with the Funny Name

There are so many plants and animals indigenous to the 10,000 islands that make it amazing and unique. We have such a diverse ecosystem. There are so many different types of animals and plants that must work synergistically to maintain a healthy ecosystem. One very important plant is quite small and non-descript. In fact, you may not ever notice it, and if you did, you'd more than likely not give it the credit it deserves.

Utricularia foliosa or bladderwort is a carnivorous aquatic plant that survives by eating insect larvae and other organisms. This is one of the few carnivorous plants you'll ever come across in nature. The bladderwort gets its name from the small bladder-shaped traps that are just below the surface of the water. The bladders have small hairs that trigger the tiny traps by pumping water to create a partial vacuum. When prey touches one of the hairs, the trap reacts unbelievably quickly. It is estimated to take 15,000th of one second for the bladder to vacuum in its prey. Once inside, enzymes start digestion to complete the feeding process.

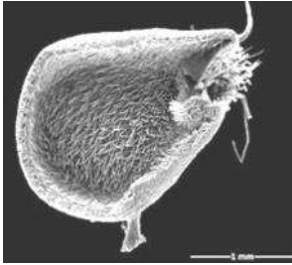
The bladderwort lives in fresh, shallow water. Our first encounter with the bladderwort was during one of Clyde Butcher's "muckabouts" where you get knee-deep in the swamp and... muck-about! Of course, on that first trip the backpack was stuffed with potential needs, one of which was mosquito repellent, and lots of it. However, much to our amazement, there weren't any...or very few mosquitoes that day. So few, that Tim questioned why? How could it be?

The tour guide explained that the plants floating on top of the crystal-clear water with the small yellow flowers were bladderwort...and one of their favorite foods is mosquito larvae! Well, the bladderwort instantaneously became one of our favorite plants.

Scientists know that the plants feed on the larvae, but what is also suspected is that the egg-bearing female mosquito knows about the bladderwort and avoids laying eggs in areas where bladderwort is plentiful. I read blogs online from people who had mosquito issues with their ponds, added bladderwort and the problem was solved. Another blogger told a similar story about an aquatic plant pond that was overrun with mosquito larvae...but he was reluctant to add chemicals, so he tried bladderwort and the mosquitoes were vanquished.

All is not perfect with bladderwort. Some consider it an invasive nuisance because it can grow rapidly and prevent sun from penetrating the water surface. However, in balance, the bladderwort is like the drums in a band...you can have too much, but without it, the beat is somehow off.

Photos: Top, bladder of the bladderwort magnified. Bottom: Yellow flowers of utricularia foliosa / yellow bladderwort.



Recipes for Good Eating

by Kathy Brock
Way-Too-Easy Watermelon Pie

Ingredients:

- 1- 3 ounce package watermelon gelatin, strawberry can also be used
- 1/4 cup boiling water
- 1-12 ounce carton Cool Whip, thawed
- 2 cups diced & seeded watermelon
- 1- 9 inch graham cracker crust, prepared



This pie is so ridiculously easy to make you will feel guilty when people are raving about how good it is! It will literally only take 15 minutes to prepare and 2 hours to set in the refrigerator. Kids love it, adults do too! You can use the same recipe with sliced strawberries or peaches...just change the flavor of gelatin to your own taste.

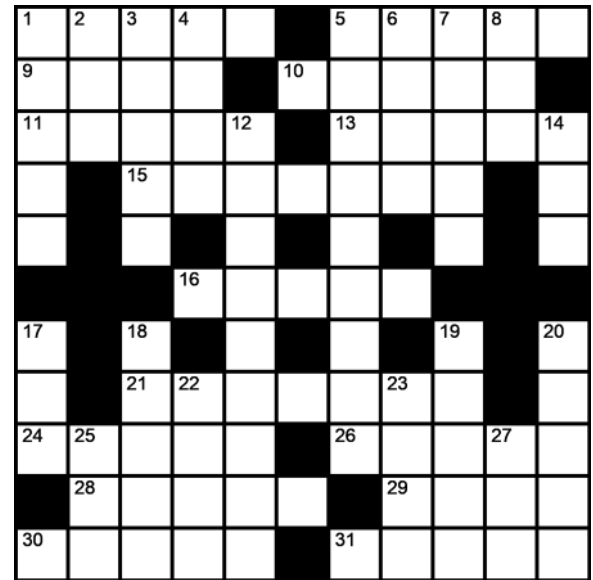
Directions: Cube & de-seed watermelon and set aside. In a large bowl, dissolve gelatin in boiling water. Cool to room temperature. Whisk in whipped topping until fully blended and fluffy; fold in watermelon. Spoon into crust. Refrigerate for 2 hours or until set. **Yield:** 6-8 servings.



MULLET RAPPER CROSSWORD

Across

- 1. Tall chimney
- 5. Breed
- 9. Reverse stitch
- 10. Swimming bird
- 11. Tree cutter
- 13. Tree cutter
- 15. A surgeon will do it
- 16. Certain type of test
- 21. Keep from occurring
- 24. Tires need this
- 26. Become active
- 28. Ire
- 29. Waiter's platter
- 30. German port
- 31. Transfers



8/12/17

Down

- 1. Often ignites a fire
- 2. The groom wears one
- 3. Metal protection
- 4. Sharp sound of thunder
- 5. Weak solution of sodium bicarbonate
- 6. Look sullen
- 7. Dunces
- 8. Moist
- 12. 17th century Delaware colony

Down Continued

- 14. Liquid from a tree cut
- 17. Peppery
- 18. Pay out
- 19. Reversal of direction of travel
- 20. Follows orders
- 22. Wrath
- 23. Tone
- 25. Kind of computer memory



Our Amazing Bodies by Dr. John Martin
The Special Senses - Vision Part I

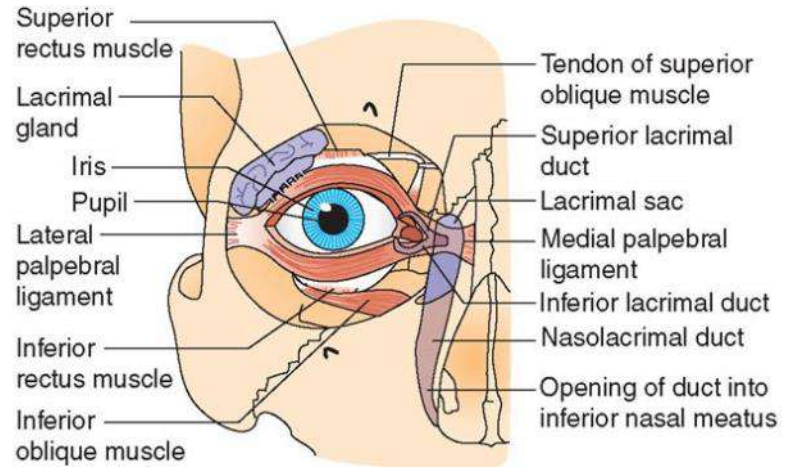
We humans have an amazing set of abilities known collectively as “Special Senses”. These abilities help us to keep in touch with our environment. Upon receiving information (thousands of bits of information/stimuli, per minute), almost instantaneously, these **Special Senses** help us to interpret what is going on around us, and heavily influence our response to all this incoming data. The **Special Senses (SS)** include: **Vision, Hearing, Smell, Taste, and Touch.**

While a number of species in the animal kingdom have better or more powerful individual abilities in one or more of these areas, other animals lack another of our abilities, that of *conceptual thought*. We have thereby produced sophisticated verbal and written communication, art, literature and philosophy, and a science-based technology including information gathering and communication/broadcasting instruments and working machines unsurpassed by any other species on earth. The interpretation and responses concerning non-humans is actualized via *instinct* rather than *conceptual thought*. Additionally, no other form on earth has been given the mandate to: “...multiply and subdue the earth...and take dominion...”

Vision, whether considering the human experience or other animal species - many of which have more powerful sight (especially at night) or hearing, or the ability to smell (and distinguish sources at great distances) - is perhaps the strongest argument on the planet for Creative or **Intelligent Design (ID)**. The **specificity** and sheer **irreducible complexity** of the human eye is beyond evolutionary theory. We'll explore that issue further in **Part III**. For now, let's take a closer look at the anatomy and physiology of human vision.

The eyeball itself has long been understood to be a direct extension of the brain itself (specifically, the Optic Nerve/Second Cranial Nerve/CNII, an invagination of the diencephalon). It is the most important of the human organs through which a SS is experienced. The importance of vision in humans is reinforced by the contribution of numerous other Cranial Nerves (CNIII, CNIV, CNV, CNVI, & CNVII) just for moving the eyeball in order to view in different directions and focusing in on objects all around us.

What we see when we look at someone else's eye(s) include: the pupil, the iris (the pigmented circular structure in the front part of the eyeball, the center of which is the non-structural pupil), the (usually) clear lens (just posterior to the pupil), and the conjunctiva (the white portion that we see) of the outside of the eyeball. The lens is supported and manipulated to assist in focus by suspensory ligaments. A healthy newborn baby's eyes are especially clear and bright with pretty colored irises. Irises are phonetically (the way they appear) blue, brown, or black. Slight variations include green, gray, or hazel. These mild variations and any discoloration of the conjunctiva (from white to yellow or red or brown or black) usually indicate



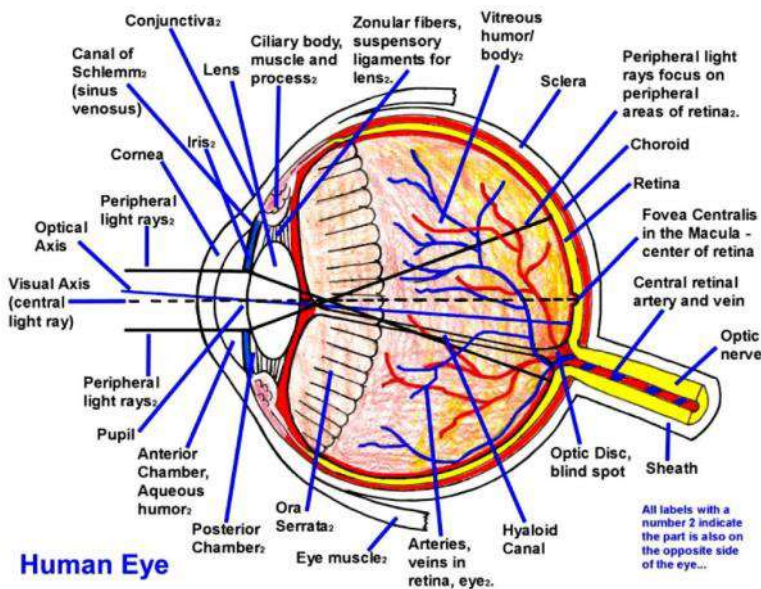
systemic toxicity, especially liver and/or circulatory dysfunction, infection, or other disease. Up until about middle-age the lens remains clear. Age, poor nutrition, excessive periods of especially bright lights (including excessive sunlight), and various disease processes (e.g. diabetes) can result in a loss of clarity in the lens (aka cataracts) and even blindness. When the health-care-provider looks into the eye through the pupil with the ophthalmoscope, he/she is looking through the aqueous humor and vitreous humor (watery fluid anterior and posterior to the iris and lens) filling most (80%) of the global shaped eyeball. The lens and the humors all act as refractive media. The layers of the eyeball from the outside in consist of the sclera/cornea, the choroid including the ciliary body/processes (which position and help operate the iris), and the retina. The inner surface of the posterior two-thirds of the sclera is lined with a vascular, highly pigmented layer (the choroid) that absorbs and prevents the scattering of light. The choroid thickens anteriorly as the pigmented, fibromuscular ciliary body that surrounds the lens. The ciliary body projects out-pocketings for the suspensory ligaments of the lens. On the anterior aspect of the ciliary body lies the iris.

Lining a little more than half the posterior of the interior of the eyeball lies the retina. It is a highly vascular membrane, complexly composed of several interacting layers of cells. At the center is a yellow-pigmented area (the macula lutea). This region is the site of a dense accumulation of light-sensitive cells called “cones”. Peering through the iris with the ophthalmoscope at this area offers a long list of appropriate conditions reflective of eyes in good working order. Conditions outside normal limits for the various parts viewed this way serve as clues toward the diagnosis of a number of disease processes occurring elsewhere in the body (e.g. hypertension, diabetes, neurological dysfunction). Some of the structures viewed inside at the back of the eye include: the retina itself, a meshwork of light sensitive cells tied into the Optic Nerve (CNII), arteries and veins that bring nourishment to and toxins away from the eyeball, the optic disc (the point at which the axons of the Optic Nerve and the arteries and veins of the retina stream out of the eyeball), and the fovea centralis, the point at which the greatest visual acuity (clarity of form and color) under lighted conditions.

Layers of the retina include: Optic Nerve axons, Ganglion cells, bipolar cells, rod cells and cone cells, and pigmented epithelium.

Accessory structures to the eyeball include: the Lacremal Apparatus: lacrimal gland, tear duct, lacrimal puncta canal, lacrimal sac, nasolacrimal duct, inferior meatus of the nasal cavity, tarsal plate/gland, and the conjunctiva.

Dr. John Martin practices natural and homeopathic medicine and sees patients at 203 Buckner Avenue in Everglades City, on Monday & Wednesday 10:00-12:00 & 3:00-6:00. You can also reach him by phone at: 813-787-9738





Living Gulf Coast

by Charles Sobczak

Gafftopsail Catfish (*Bagre marinus*) Other names: sail cat, gafftop, slime cat / Status: FL=stable, IUCN=NE / Life span: to 8 years / Length: 1.5-2.5 ft (45-76 cm) / Weight: 4-6 lbs. (1.8-2.7 kg) Florida state record: 8 lbs. 14 oz, IGFA 10 lbs / Spawns in nearshore waters / Found: All Southwest Florida Counties.

Similar in many respects to the hardhead but considerably larger, the gafftopsail catfish is a much stronger fighter when hooked. It does share the same unusual parenting technique of taking the females eggs into the males mouth immediately after spawning but it is not a bottom feeder like the hardhead. Sail cats, as they are commonly called, feed throughout the water column and will often strike lures, spoons and suspended baits.

Sail cats feed on minnows, shrimps, crustaceans and invertebrates. The sail cat ranges from Virginia to the northern tip of South America. They are fed upon by sharks, cobia and large finfish such as tarpon. Their tails are used as cut bait in the same fashion as hardheads. Their barbs are equally dangerous and are considered venomous, so extreme care should be taken when handling sail cats.

Although regarded by many as a fairly good eating fish, sail cats are seldom taken as table fare. They are said to have a slightly fishy taste to them. If taken, they should be skinned as the entire body is covered in a thick slime. Sail cats are strong fighters and aside from the dangers involved when attempting to de-hook them (it's sometimes easier and safer to cut the line right at the hook) sail cats are an exciting fish to catch and release.

Hardhead Catfish (*Arius felis*) Other names: sea catfish, hardhead, tourist trout / Status: FL=stable, IUCN=NE / Life span: to 5 years / Length: 1-2 ft. (30-60 cm) / Weight: 1-2.2 lb (.45-1 kg) Florida state record: 3 lbs. 5 oz., IGFA 12.2 lbs / Spawns in the nearshore waters / Found: All Southwest Florida Counties.

Known to bite on just about anything tossed into the ocean, from squid to sardines, frozen shrimp to chicken legs, the hardhead catfish is truly Florida's tourist trout. They will bite on almost any sized leader, from 100 lb test to shark-wire and feed at any time of the day or night. If you cannot catch a hardhead catfish while fishing in Florida, your luck has completely run out.

The hardhead's range runs from Cape Cod, Massachusetts to the Mexican Yucatan. They are probably one of the most common larger fish in the estuary. Three large spines, one on the end of each front pectoral and the other on the dorsal fin, are dangerous and catfish should be handled with extreme care. The spines are covered in slime, serrated and designed to readily penetrate, but microscopic barbs along the spine make them incredibly difficult to remove. Infections are common and anyone "stuck" by a catfish should seek medical attention.

Hardheads have evolved a unique parenting technique. After hatching, the male hardhead places the eggs, numbering between twenty and sixty-five eggs, in his mouth. The eggs will remain there until they hatch (around thirty days). After hatching the larvae stay in the male's mouth for another two to four weeks when they began to venture out. They still return into the safety of their father's mouth for several more weeks until they are large enough to survive on their own. This unusual arrangement insures a high survival rate and helps to offset the relatively small number of eggs the female catfish lays during spawning.

Hardheads are opportunistic feeders. They eat algae, sea grasses, sea cucumbers, gastropods, shrimps, crabs and smaller fishes. Catfish are eaten by sharks, cobia and other large fin fish. They are not generally considered table fare but some people have been known to eat them. Locally the hardhead catfish is considered a trash fish. Many tarpon hunters use the tail sections in the spring to fish for the silver-kings, and consider it one of the best possible baits because, unlike many other cut baits, the other catfish leave it alone.

Cycle Tours Through the Everglades

First Ride September 10th, 9 AM



New brochures for cycle tours in south Florida have recently been developed for both on and off-road riding in the Everglades. These tours can be taken on your own or with organized group rides on the second Sunday of each month beginning **September 10. The first scheduled ride will start at 9:00 a.m. at McLeod Park in Everglades City**, proceed on SR 29 to US 41, continue along the Tamiami Trail through the Big Cypress National Preserve to H.P. Williams Roadside Park and return by the same route to Everglades City, for a total of 22 miles. Participants should wear a helmet, have experience riding on road shoulders, and bring your own drinks, snacks and extra tubes.

For information about the individual tours, visit the website at: <https://evergladesrogg.org/events>. In addition to the Big Cypress, these tours will include trips through the Fakahatchee Strand, Loop Road, Oasis Center to Shark Valley, Bear Island, Fire Prairie Trail, Port of the Islands, Marco Island to Everglades City, Ave Maria / Immokalee, and historic Everglades City / Chokoloskee.

The Friends of the River of Grass Greenway has published these brochures and will be organizing the free monthly cycle tours as part of its mission to focus on safety and environmental education and stewardship for those hiking, walking, or cycling through south Florida and the Everglades.



Also available online is the recently revised map/brochure listing the amenities along the Tamiami Trail <https://evergladesrogg.org/tamiami-trail/> and includes a column dedicated specifically to safety and the road conditions for different segments of US41. Printed copies are available on request. Contact: Patricia Huff, email: info@evergladesrogg.org.



Fishing Regulations Snapshot Southwest Gulf Coast*

- Cobia:** 33" at fork, 1/day/license. 6/vessel/day max
- Drum, Black:** 14-24" slot, 5/day/license 1 over 24" permitted per day
- Drum, Red:** 18-27" slot, 1/day/license
- Flounder:** 12", 10/day/license
- Grouper, Black:** 24" min., 4/day/license
- Grouper, Gag:** 24" min., 2/day/license (open June-Dec.)
- Grouper, Red:** 20" min., 2/day/license
- NOTE:** 4 of any/combo grouper/day/license limit
- Mangrove Snapper:** 10" min., 5/day/license
- Florida Pompano:** 11" at fork
- Seatrout:** 15-20" slot, 4/day/license. 1 over 20" permitted per day/vessel
- Snook:** Season closed until Sept. 1
- *Please refer to the official regulations for your guidance at: <http://myfwc.com/media/4219696/QuickChart.pdf>



Local & Area News

**Total Eclipse Comes to US— The First Time in 38 Years!
Florida Will Experience 82% Totality on August 21st
Reported by ABC News Online**

The sun, moon and Earth will line up perfectly in the cosmos on Aug. 21, turning day into night for a few wondrous minutes, its path crossing the U.S. from sea to shining sea for the first time in nearly a century. Never will a total solar eclipse be so heavily viewed and studied — or celebrated.

"We're going to be looking at this event with unprecedented eyes," promises Alex Young, a solar physicist who is coordinating NASA's education and public outreach.

And the party planning is at full tilt from Oregon to South Carolina. Eclipse Fests, StarFests, SolarFests, SolFests, Darkening of the SunFests, MoonshadowFests, EclipseCons, Eclipse Encounters and Star Parties are planned along the long but narrow path of totality, where the moon completely blots out the sun.

Vineyards, breweries, museums, parks, universities, stadiums — just about everybody is getting into the act.

The Astronomical League for amateur astronomers is holing up at Casper, Wyoming. Minor league baseball teams will halt play for "eclipse delays" in Salem, Oregon, and elsewhere. By a cosmic quirk of the calendar, the Little Green Men Days Festival will be in full swing in Kelly, Kentucky, as will the American Atheists' annual convention in North Charleston, South Carolina.

And where better to fill up on eclipse T-shirts and safety glasses — and eclipse burgers — than the Eclipse Kitchen in Makanda, Illinois.

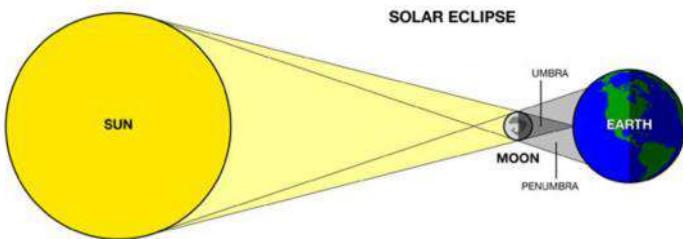
Scientists are also going gaga.

"This is a really amazing chance to just open the public's eyes to wonder," says Montana State University's Angela Des Jardins, a physicist in charge of a NASA eclipse ballooning project. The student-launched, high-altitude balloons will beam back live video of the eclipse along the route.

Satellites and ground telescopes will also aim at the sun and at the moon's shadow cutting a swath some 60 to 70 miles wide (97 to 113 kilometers) across the land. Astronauts will do the same with cameras aboard the International Space Station. Ships and planes will also catch the action.

"It's going to be hard to beat, frankly," says Thomas Zurbuchen, head of NASA's science mission office.

At the same time, researchers and the just plain curious will watch how animals and plants react as darkness falls. It will resemble twilight and the temperature will drop 10 to 15 degrees.



Expect four hours of pageantry, from the time the sun begins to be eclipsed by the moon near Lincoln City, Oregon, until the time the moon's shadow vanishes near Charleston, South Carolina. NASA will emcee the whole show, via TV and internet from that coastal city.

The total eclipse will last just 1 1/2 hours as the lunar shadow sweeps coast to coast at more than 1,500 mph (2,400 kph) beginning about 1:15 p.m. EDT and ending at 2:49 p.m. EDT. The sun's crown — the normally invisible outer atmosphere known as the corona — will shine forth like a halo.

Sure, full solar eclipses happen every one, two or three years, when the moon positions itself smack dab between the sun and Earth. But these take-your-breath-away eclipses usually occur in the middle of the ocean somewhere, though, or near the sparsely populated top or bottom of the world. In two years, Chile, Argentina and the empty South Pacific

The United States is in the bull's-eye this time!



It will be the first total solar eclipse in 99 years to cross coast-to-coast and the first to pass through any part of the Lower 48 states in 38 years.

NASA's meteor guru, Bill Cooke, was in Washington state for that one in 1979. This time, he's headed to his sister's farm in eastern Tennessee. "It is the most weird, creepy, awe-inspiring astronomical event you will experience," Cooke says.

No other country but the U.S. will be privy to the path of totality. Originating in the wide open North Pacific and ending in the Atlantic well short of Africa, the path of totality will cover 8,600 miles (13,800 kilometers) from end to end.

In all, 14 states (two of them barely) and 21 National Park locations and seven national historic trails will be in the path.

Darkness will last just under two minutes in Oregon, gradually expanding to a maximum two minutes and 44 seconds in Shawnee National Forest in southernmost Illinois, almost into Kentucky, then dwindling to 2 1/2 minutes in South Carolina. Staring at the sun with unprotected eyes is always dangerous, except during the few minutes of totality. But eye protection is needed during the partial eclipse before and after.

With an estimated 200 million people living within a day's drive of the path, huge crowds are expected. Highway officials already are cautioning travelers to be patient and, yes, avoid eclipses in judgment.

The view from the sidelines won't be too shabby, either. A partial eclipse will extend up through Canada and down through Central America and the top of South America. Minneapolis will see 86 percent of the sun covered, Miami sees 82 percent, Montreal gets 66 percent, while Mexico City sees 38 percent.

But who wants to settle for not quite when you can experience the whole eclipsed enchilada? Not Kevin Van Horn, an astronomy buff from suburban Pittsburgh who will make the 8 1/2-hour drive to Nashville with his wife, Cindy. Nashville is the biggest metropolitan area along the eclipse's main drag.

"It would be like going to the Super Bowl and sitting outside the stadium rather than being inside and watching it," says Van Horn, a total solar eclipse newbie.

By contrast, it will be the 13th total solar eclipse for Rick Fienberg, spokesman for the American Astronomical Society. He's headed to Oregon.

"Going through life without ever experiencing totality," Fienberg declares, "is like going through life without ever falling in love."

To give everyone a shot at the cosmic drama, which falls on a Monday, many schools are canceling classes, while offices plan to take a break or close for the day. The true beauty of the experience, according to NASA's Young, comes from sharing "arguably the most amazing astronomical event that anyone can see" with millions of others.

**Fast Facts: Everglades City will experience 82% Totality
Start: 1:24 PM, Maximum: 2:55 PM, Conclusion: 4:18 PM**



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; Thurs-Sunday

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 - 4:00 pm Mon-Thurs
6:00 am–8:00 pm; Fri, Sat, Sun

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

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):

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

8/12	Sat	1:14 AM	0.2	L
8/12	Sat	6:32 AM	2.7	H
8/12	Sat	1:39 PM	0.4	L
8/12	Sat	6:24 PM	2.7	H
8/13	Sun	1:54 AM	0.4	L
8/13	Sun	7:11 AM	2.8	H
8/13	Sun	2:41 PM	0.4	L
8/13	Sun	7:39 PM	2.4	H
8/14	Mon	2:40 AM	0.6	L
8/14	Mon	7:55 AM	2.8	H
8/14	Mon	3:53 PM	0.3	L
8/14	Mon	9:06 PM	2.3	H
8/15	Tue	3:42 AM	0.8	L
8/15	Tue	8:52 AM	2.8	H
8/15	Tue	5:08 PM	0.2	L
8/15	Tue	10:39 PM	2.2	H
8/16	Wed	4:59 AM	0.9	L
8/16	Wed	10:02 AM	2.9	H
8/16	Wed	6:16 PM	0.1	L
8/17	Thu	12:09 AM	2.2	H
8/17	Thu	6:12 AM	0.9	L
8/17	Thu	11:14 AM	3.1	H
8/17	Thu	7:18 PM	0	L
8/18	Fri	1:18 AM	2.4	H
8/18	Fri	7:16 AM	0.9	L
8/18	Fri	12:19 PM	3.3	H
8/18	Fri	8:14 PM	-0.1	L
8/19	Sat	2:06 AM	2.5	H
8/19	Sat	8:13 AM	0.8	L
8/19	Sat	1:14 PM	3.4	H
8/19	Sat	9:06 PM	-0.2	L
8/20	Sun	2:44 AM	2.6	H
8/20	Sun	9:05 AM	0.7	L
8/20	Sun	2:03 PM	3.5	H
8/20	Sun	9:53 PM	-0.2	L
8/21	Mon	3:18 AM	2.6	H
8/21	Mon	9:53 AM	0.6	L
8/21	Mon	2:49 PM	3.6	H
8/21	Mon	10:38 PM	-0.2	L
8/22	Tue	3:51 AM	2.7	H
8/22	Tue	10:40 AM	0.5	L
8/22	Tue	3:33 PM	3.5	H
8/22	Tue	11:19 PM	-0.1	L
8/23	Wed	4:24 AM	2.8	H
8/23	Wed	11:24 AM	0.4	L
8/23	Wed	4:18 PM	3.3	H
8/23	Wed	11:59 PM	0.1	L
8/24	Thu	4:58 AM	2.8	H
8/24	Thu	12:08 PM	0.4	L
8/24	Thu	5:04 PM	3.1	H
8/25	Fri	12:38 AM	0.2	L
8/25	Fri	5:35 AM	2.8	H
8/25	Fri	12:53 PM	0.4	L
8/25	Fri	5:53 PM	2.9	H
8/26	Sat	1:16 AM	0.4	L
8/26	Sat	6:14 AM	2.8	H
8/26	Sat	1:41 PM	0.4	L
8/26	Sat	6:48 PM	2.6	H

COLLIER COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS (CCPS) ANNOUNCES ITS POLICY FOR FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE MEALS

Any interested person may review a copy of the policy by contacting Dawn Houser, Director of Department of Nutrition Services, 5775 Osceola Trail, Naples, FL or by calling 239-377-0280

August 1, 2017 - Household size and income criteria will be used to determine eligibility. An application cannot be approved unless it contains complete eligibility information. Once approved, meal benefits are good for an entire year. You do not need to notify the organization of changes in income and household size.

Apply online: www.collierschools.com/nutrition. Paper application forms are being sent to all homes with a letter to parents or guardians. To apply for Free or Reduced-Price Meals, households must complete the application online or fill the paper one and return it to the school. Additional copies are available at the principal's office in each school. The information provided on the application will be used for the purpose of determining eligibility and may be verified at any time during the school year. Applications may be submitted at any time during the year.

Households that receive SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) or TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) are required to list on the application only the child's name, SNAP/TANF case number, and signature of adult household member.

Foster children will receive free benefits regardless of the child's personal income or the income of the household. If you have questions regarding meal benefits for foster children, contact Lucy Aponte at [239-377-0297](tel:239-377-0297) or the homeless/foster liaison at [239-377-0108](tel:239-377-0108).



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.

NEW! HELP WANTED: Full time cook. Joanie's Blue Crab Café. Please call Joanie: 239-695-2682.

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.

NEW! FOR SALE: 2003 Action Craft 1720 SE Fly-Fisher Carbon Fiber / Kevlar Hull. Custom built and Loaded! 130 HP Yamaha, mint, \$22,000. Call Capt. Don @ 239 695-0413.

FOR SALE: Very clean Maytag washer. \$43. Call Don: 239-293-9305.

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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PUBLISHER'S STATEMENT

We provide local news of interest to the extended communities of Everglades City, Chokoloskee, Plantation Island, Lee Cypress, Copeland, Jerome & Ochopee
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