

The MULLET RAPPER

What's Happening in the Everglades & 10,000 Islands

TIDE TABLE &
RESTAURANTS
PAGE 11

OCTOBER 7 - OCTOBER 20, 2017



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P O Box 134, Everglades City, FL, 34139

Volume X • Issue #296

Crabbing Fleet Weathers Storm, Receives Blessing... Now, Let's Get Cracking!

September 30th marked the seventh annual "Blessing of the Fleet" for our area's stone crab fleet. However, this year was a bit subdued being only 3 weeks removed from the devastating effects from Hurricane Irma.

The importance of the stone crab season can never be underestimated for our area, but this year it seems even more critical. The clergy was out in full force from the opening prayer to the blessing for each vessel. After the blessing, a nice barbecue lunch was served to the crews at Triad Seafood while the special lunch at McLeod Park was enhanced by music performed by Ben Olson and J Robert.

A special thanks to everyone who organized the event and to the community members who attended!

Below: The priest says a prayer before sprinkling each vessel with Holy Water.



The Lengthy Cleanup Process Begins. Here's What You Can Expect (and what you cannot expect)

Oh that mud. It is simply everywhere. I swear it is more difficult to remove than paint. Even after pressure washing there is still a hazy residue. Then I scrubbed the same area with a brush and detergent...it is still there. I am convinced we will all simply get used to it over time.

The good news is there are signs of progress. Crews have started picking up the debris but the process is moving slowly. Things are complicated by the co-mingling of debris so there is a staging area set up in the vacant lot on the south side of Island Café. We call it Mount Trashmore.

Mount Trashmore is not the type of monument we want in the center of town, and I don't think we will see busts of famous locals carved into it any time soon. What we do see is a whole lot of money lost...and much more needed to spend to get us back to any sense of normalcy.

Mayor Grimm was visibly aggravated that our area was "over bid" by a neighbor to our north for 7 additional trucks to haul the trash. So, for now we have a few, and they are methodically picking up "construction debris" around town.

We are encouraged to sort the debris, so if you are still hauling, separate piles please! Yard waste (trees, limbs) should be in one pile. Construction & home debris (drywall, wood, furniture) in another. And, appliances need to be in another area altogether. Please remember to remove the doors on refrigerators and similar appliances as they are a hazard for small children. And use caution when putting anything out with glass. It will easily break when being picked up.

When your debris is picked up, there will be small pieces of debris left behind. No one is going to rake that up for you. Things like clothing, little pieces of drywall and insulation, and other small items spread on lawns and on medians (like the picture on the left) will not be picked up by anyone but you...so no need to wait! The Red Cross is still in town giving away supplies and contractor cleanup bags are on the truck...so stop them when they come by and get some if you need them - it makes the job much easier when you have sturdy trash bags. Everyone is dealing with this, and everything is a mess, so we have to do our part to help put it all back together so we can get back on track as quickly as possible.

Businesses are starting to re-open. City Seafood is open. Island Café is scheduled to open on October 6th. River Wilderness is open, Captains Table Lodge is open and Ivey House has some areas open. Triad and Havana Café are on schedule to open by October 15th, which is their normal seasonal opening date. Other businesses are working at it. Right Choice is digging out and Win-Car has started their process along with the motel, convenience stores and post offices. City Hall is operating in a temporary building adjacent to the community center in the parking lot. The area is starting to bounce back but it is going to take a while and it can get frustrating. If you need help, please ask for it. There are numerous resources available in town to assist with the cleanup.

The City of Everglades has a new website that is tracking the area's progress and the Mullet Rapper will report on openings as well. You can visit the new city website at www.EvergladesCityFL.org to see up-to-date information about the area. You can also click on the hurricane icon on www.MulletRapper.com for up-to-date contact information and resources.



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



OCT. 8 – NOV. 11, 2017



<u>SUN</u>	<u>MON</u>	<u>TUES</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THURS</u>	<u>FRI</u>	<u>SAT</u>
8	9	10 Lions Club Mtg Location TBD Call Joe West: 954-558-0545	11 Ladies Coffee Island Café, 8 am	12 Dental Bus, see p.3	13	14
15 Season Open!	16	17 Reach-out Mtg Location TBD	18 Ladies Coffee City Seafood 8 am	new moon 19 ●	20	OCT 21 <u>RAPPER</u>
22	23	24	25 Ladies Coffee Havana Cafe 8 am	26	27	28 Halloween Celebration
29	30	31	NOV 1 Ladies Coffee Island Café, 8 am	2	3	NOV 4 <u>RAPPER</u> full moon ○
5	6 ESHP Mtg, Location TBD	7 FME Mtg. 3:30 pm City Council Mtg, 7 pm School	8 Ladies Coffee City Seafood 8 am	9	10	11

November 17: Historical Talk
November 25: Black Friday

November 18: Art-in-the-Glades
December 25: Christmas

November 24: Thanksgiving
February 9-11: Seafood Festival

THRIFT SHOP: Closed until further notice
LIONS CLUB: 2nd Tuesday of month, , 6 pm, location TBD
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: Closed until further notice
CARNESTOWN Recycle and Trash: 2nd Saturday, 9 am to 3:30 pm

SKATING RINK: Closed until further notice
REACH OUT: 3rd Tuesday, 9:30 am, location TBD
LITTLE GATOR CLINIC: Not seeing patients at this time
VETERANS SUPPORT: 2nd & 4th Wed. of month, noon—2 pm
COMMUNITY CHURCH FOOD PANTRY: Location TBD
SMALLWOOD STORE: Closed until further notice
PANCAKE FLY-IN: Opening soon!

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: TEMPORARY HOURS DURING REMODELING
Everglades City (239) 695-2174 Mon-Fri: 10 am to 4 pm; Sat: Closed
Chokoloskee (239) 695-4468 Mon-Fri: 10 am to 4 pm; Sat: Closed
Ochopee (239) 695-2099 Mon-Fri: 8 to 10 am 4 pm; Sat: Closed

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



Everglades Bike Rides Suspended

Due to the impact by Hurricane Irma to Everglades City and surrounding areas, we have decided to suspend the Everglades Monthly Bike Rides. We hope to resume the rides by December or January.

The next ride along Janes Scenic Drive in the Fakahatchee was scheduled for next Sunday, October 8. Last week the Friends of Fakahatchee announced that the entire length of the Drive was still flooded.

Everglades City itself was devastated with many residents losing their homes and all their possessions. On September 10, a 6-8 ft water surge brought mud and muck into the old historic homes that were either at ground level or 3 ft above sea level. Many of us were able to shovel the muck out of our houses, then hose down our floors with a pressure cleaner; however, others with dry wall and carpeted floors were not so fortunate. For the past three weeks we have all been cleaning up but businesses are still closed and the streets are full of yard trash and people's discarded belongings. A few restaurants hope to open by October 15 (beginning of stone crab season); others will take longer.

The Red Cross has been wonderful in delivering meals daily and Granny Alliances in doing laundry and providing showers. FEMA has also been very helpful as well as countless other churches and organizations near and far.

For more information about our area, visit the following websites: www.gofundme.com/evergladescity and www.mulletrapper.com and click on "full issue".

We will keep in touch as things progress.
~Patty Huff

Friends of the River of Grass Greenway

HOOK 'EM FISHING TOURNAMENT
Postponed due to the Hurricane
(Originally scheduled Oct. 14th)

2nd ANNUAL E-CITY ORCHID & PLANT SALE FUNDRAISER
Postponed due to the Hurricane
(Originally scheduled December 2nd)

HALLOWEEN CELEBRATION TO BE HELD AT MCLEOD PARK

On October 28th the annual Halloween Celebration will be held at McLeod Park for kids from 5 to 8 pm. Due to the continued cleanup effort, children will not be permitted to go door to door, instead we will host the party at the park. Hotdogs & soda will be served.



REPORT VOLUNTEER HOURS SO THE CITY BENEFITS PLEASE!!

It's important to record volunteer hours which count as matching funds for grants. If you volunteer or have people to help you, report the time spent to Karen Cochran (239) 777-6614 or visit her in the temporary City Hall cabin near the skating rink.

SEAFOOD FESTIVAL WILL GO ON AS ORIGINALLY PLANNED!

The annual Everglades City Seafood Festival will go on as planned according to Carol Foss, Chairwoman of the Betterment Association of the Everglades. The event will take place February 9, 10 & 11 as originally scheduled and will feature foods, carnival rides, arts & crafts and the (almost) famous collectible Budweiser mugs. This is great news! If anyone can do it, Carol can!

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 can see patients in E-City, on Mon. & Wed. 10:00-12:00 & 3:00-6:00. Call to make an appointment: 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

Sorry...the thrift shop is currently closed for repairs! We are working hard to reopen as soon as possible!
Thanks for your patience.

FREE DENTAL SCREENINGS ALL AGES- OCT. 12TH

The Dental Bus is scheduled to be in Everglades City on October 12 from 9 am to 4 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

As we continue to recover in the Greater Naples Fire community, our thoughts are with those who have experienced the devastating wrath of Hurricane Maria. This is a stark reminder that hurricane season is not over. Now is the time to begin restocking your Hurricane Preparedness Kit. It is recommended to maintain supplies for a 72-hour period, but as we have experienced these last two weeks, it would be prudent to consider being prepared for a longer time period. While it is important to remain prepared through the end of hurricane season which is November 30, it is necessary to remove your hurricane shutters and boards from all windows and entry ways. In the unfortunate event of a fire in your home or business, you want to be able to make a quick exit with nothing obstructing your way.

Florida Power & Light reports 99.5% of customers in Collier County have had their power restored, and LCEC reports 88% power restoration. Collier County reports that debris clearing efforts for this weekend will focus on schools, hospitals, and governmental complexes. Roadside pickup is scheduled to begin on Monday. Most all traffic intersections are functional to some degree with an estimated 25 operating on generator power however, it is expected to take several weeks to return traffic operations to normal so please use caution when navigating intersections. Remember, if you come across a traffic signal that is not functioning you should treat the intersection as a four-way stop.

Fire rescue units will remain visible throughout the weekend in your communities handing out water and providing assistance when possible. Please let any of our professionals know if there is something we may do to assist you during this recovery period. For Hurricane Preparedness information and tips or to contact us for any reason, please visit our website www.greaternaplesfire.org. Also stay tuned to our social media pages for updates. Our Headquarters and several fire stations are still without phone service but you may contact us at our Fire & Life Safety office at 239-774-2800.


I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the men and women of Greater Naples Fire Rescue District who have worked tirelessly to assist the community before, during, and after the storm. I am extremely proud to be a part of an organization that consistently demonstrates professionalism, integrity, and compassion. I am also thankful to the many individuals and organizations who have come together to provide essential supplies and meet the needs of our residents.

Due to the effects of Hurricane Irma, many area businesses are remodeling, but they are re-opening daily. Please call to verify hours!

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12	I	N	S	E		13	P	A	R	A	B	L	E										
14	C	O	S			15	L	B	S					16	R	U	T						
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				20	S	N	O	W						21	H	I	V	E					
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29	L	I	E						30	D	E	T	E					31	C	T	O	R	
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Everglades City School Welcomes Students Back

Everglades City School was the staging area for much of the early recovery efforts after the Hurricane. However, we are happy to report that the school is back to its normal schedule. The school reopened September 25th and children were thrilled to be back among those familiar, and very friendly walls of the school.

Experts caution that some may experience a post-traumatic type of response to disasters of this nature. This is nothing to be ashamed of and help is available to anyone who needs it. No questions asked!

If you, your children or anyone that you know is having a difficult time emotionally, counseling is available at the school for children and adults. Please contact the school at 239-377-9800 or 239-695-2561 for more information. Feeling overwhelmed is normal; do not hesitate to reach out for help if you need it.

Our school and our community cares about you.

Volleyball Home Schedule:

10/10 Ahfachkee @ EVG 4pm

Varsity only SENIOR NIGHT
after the game

10/16 Volleyball District Quarter

Finals @ the higher seeds school (TBA)



*As always, games are subject to changes, so please check the school's athletic events website for up-to-date information, including any schedule changes!

www.collierschools.com/evg

Please note that you can purchase cool Gator gear for the games this year! Ask Coach Whitcomb about it.



ATTENTION READERS!

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.



TAXING THINGS

by *Mike the Tax Guy*

Casualty and Disaster Losses

(Including Federally Declared Disaster Areas)

Generally, you may deduct casualty and theft losses relating to your home, household items, and vehicles on your federal income tax return.

Disaster Area Losses – A federally declared disaster is a disaster that occurred in an area declared by the President to be eligible for federal assistance.

Casualty Losses - A casualty loss can result from the damage, destruction, or loss of your property from any sudden, unexpected, or unusual event such as a flood, hurricane, tornado, fire, earthquake, or volcanic eruption.

If your property is personal-use property or isn't completely destroyed, the amount of your casualty loss is the lesser of: The adjusted basis of your property, or the decrease in fair market value of your property as a result of the casualty.

If your property is business or income-producing property, such as rental property, and is completely destroyed, then the amount of your loss is your adjusted basis.

If you have a business such as landscaping, fishing, food service, and such; you can deduct losses of capital equipment such as mowers, boats, motors, restaurant equipment, lodging furnishings. The deduction is calculated on the basis and prior depreciation amount.

Casualty losses are generally deductible in the year the casualty occurred. However, if you have a casualty loss from a federally declared disaster that occurred in an area warranting public or individual assistance (or both), you can choose to treat the casualty loss as having occurred in the year immediately preceding the tax year in which the disaster happened, and you can deduct the loss on your return or amended return for that preceding tax year.

If your loss deduction is more than your income, you may have a net operating loss (NOL). You don't have to be in business to have an NOL from a casualty.


Besides extra time to file and pay, the IRS offers other special assistance to disaster-area taxpayers. This includes the following:

- Special relief helps employer-sponsored leave-based donation programs aid hurricane victims. Under these programs, employees may forgo their vacation, sick or personal leave in exchange for cash payments the employer makes, before Jan. 1, 2019, to charities providing relief. Donated leave is not included in the employee's income, and employers may deduct these cash payments to charity as a business expense.
- 401(k)s and similar employer-sponsored retirement plans can make loans and hardship distributions to hurricane victims and members of their families. Under this broad-based relief, a retirement plan can allow a hurricane victim to take a hardship distribution or borrow up to the specified statutory limits from the victim's retirement plan. It also means that a person who lives outside the disaster area can take out a retirement plan loan or hardship distribution and use it to assist a son, daughter, parent, grandparent or dependent who lived or worked in the disaster area. Hardship withdrawals must be made by Jan. 31, 2018.
- The IRS is waiving late-deposit penalties for federal payroll and excise tax deposits normally due during the first 15 days of the disaster period. Check out the disaster relief page for the time periods that apply to each jurisdiction.
- Individuals and businesses who suffered uninsured or unreimbursed disaster-related losses can choose to claim them on either the return for the year the loss occurred (in this instance, the 2017 return normally filed next year), or the return for the prior year (2016).
- The IRS is waiving the usual fees and expediting requests for copies of previously filed tax returns for disaster area taxpayers. This relief can be especially helpful to anyone whose copies of these documents were lost or destroyed by the hurricane.

Mike Klein is a tax advisor in the Everglades City area. Mike can be reached by calling: 239-695-0595 or 239-595-4203 to set an appointment. Email: nfn19842@naples.net for more information.

Dear Readers, Please check with our local businesses to confirm their hours of operation as many have been impacted by the hurricane. Some are currently closed for repairs, but they are re-opening every day... Starting October 15th, we will welcome Stone Crab season - and visitors back to our area! We are open for business!

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My Little Slice of Paradise

By Kathy Brock

YIKES! It happened. The storm thrashed my little slice of paradise. We know it can happen at any time, but we really don't focus on it. We do *choose* to live in a hurricane-prone and flood-prone area after all. The wind we can handle...but there is not much you can do about the water... and that mud.

We have all been cleaning up the mud ever since. At first it was super-slippery, slimy, and filled with yuck (according to an article published in the Naples Daily News). Now it is a crusty, dusty mess. Many heeded the warnings and got the tetanus shots, myself included. Then we proceeded to shovel, disinfect, and de-mold (we hope!). And finally, the belongings ruined by the yuck, went into the swales. What a sad sight!

Amid all of this sadness we did see some light. Riding our bikes one evening, a couple in a van pulled up to see if we wanted an ice-cold beer? Uh, yes, we do! They came from Fort Myers with 300 on ice to give away to us "mudders". Let's just say they did not get away from us too quickly! Another couple from Naples rolled down their window to announce that they had homemade chicken fingers with 3 types of sauce...others showed up to see what else needed to be done. Countless people donated food, tarps, and cleaning supplies.

Darlene from Naples...*thank you*. You came into town multiple days to help. You and your friends hand delivered the Mullet Rapper, you spoke kindly to people, you showed us that you cared about what happened to us, and you had damage in Naples from Irma too. *Thank you!*

Governor Scott and Congressman Diaz-Balart, *thank you* for coming into the area to see the situation for yourself. Flying over the area a few days after the storm could not possibly give a true picture of what is happening here...In fact, it probably looks worse today than it did the day following Irma (because all of the wreckage was still in our homes).

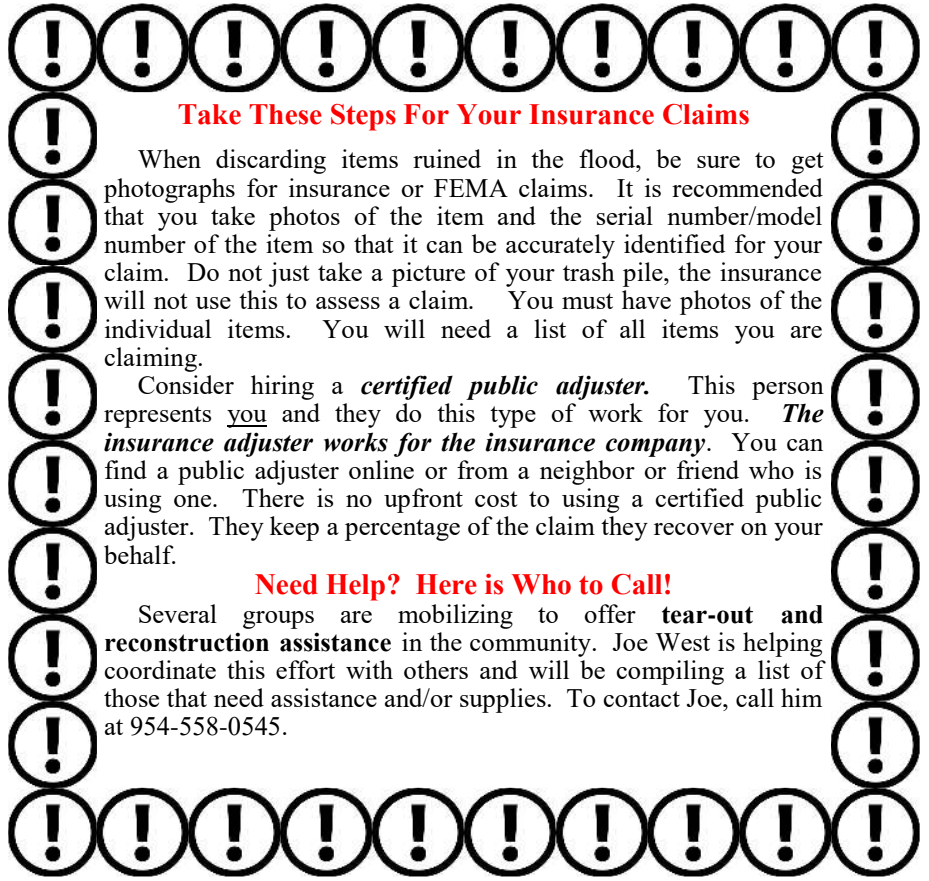
Principal Jim Ragusa, wow. You demonstrated what leadership is *by example*. How nice it is to know that the kids in our area have such great role models within the Halls of Everglades City School. Jill Whitcomb, Sara Lee, Dale in maintenance, and the entire staff helping, giving time, and providing guidance and support to the community...with a smile. All of you had your own issues, but seeing that ours may be worse, you rose to the occasion and provided many hours of care and wisdom. *Thanks!*

Now it is up to all of us to rise to the occasion too. Let's face it, it left a heck of a mess and FEMA is not here to get us back to "normal". FEMA is here to prevent disease and move us from "disaster" to "recovery" mode, and the recovery part is on us.

Additionally, from what I have been told, some of the aid we *may* obtain from FEMA is months away. We really do not have the luxury of waiting. The season is almost here and we need to stick some lipstick on this pig...and quick! Hopefully, the junk will move from our swales to the monument in the center of town now known as "Mount Trashmore" so that the city can start resemble what it looked like only 4 weeks ago.

Obviously, it is far more complex than a community clean up. There is much more to be done than simply toting garbage...but we are making progress and the signs are good. The people here have resolve, the businesses are reopening and the crab season is almost here.

That is the silver lining to all of this. Me? I will take a crusty-dusty mess with stone crabs over any fancy-smanchy place any time! Plus, I've really started to like wearing my crab boots every day...



Take These Steps For Your Insurance Claims

When discarding items ruined in the flood, be sure to get photographs for insurance or FEMA claims. It is recommended that you take photos of the item and the serial number/model number of the item so that it can be accurately identified for your claim. Do not just take a picture of your trash pile, the insurance will not use this to assess a claim. You must have photos of the individual items. You will need a list of all items you are claiming.

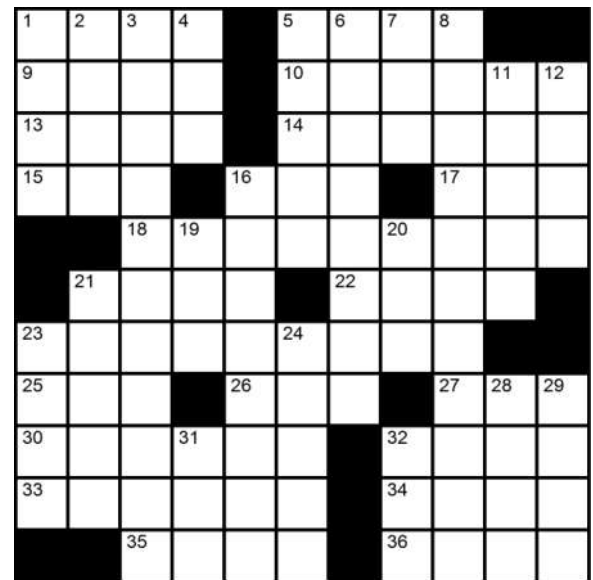
Consider hiring a *certified public adjuster*. This person represents you and they do this type of work for you. **The insurance adjuster works for the insurance company.** You can find a public adjuster online or from a neighbor or friend who is using one. There is no upfront cost to using a certified public adjuster. They keep a percentage of the claim they recover on your behalf.

Need Help? Here is Who to Call!

Several groups are mobilizing to offer **tear-out and reconstruction assistance** in the community. Joe West is helping coordinate this effort with others and will be compiling a list of those that need assistance and/or supplies. To contact Joe, call him at 954-558-0545.

MULLET RAPPER CROSSWORD

- 1 Brats
- 5 Price
- 9 Enjoy crops
- 10 Discard
- 13 Biblical Virgin
- 14 Westernmost Oregon cape
- 15 Woman's name
- 16 Speak
- 17 At the present time
- 18 Face ____ / ____ (TV Show)
- 21 Idle of Monty Python
- 22 Swift
- 23 They make movies
- 25 Fifth Beatle?
- 26 Oars do it
- 27 Slugger's stat.
- 30 Muscular
- 32 Mattress feature
- 33 Used with thread
- 34 Balladeer --- Seeger
- 35 Tampa MLB Team
- 36 Took advantage of



10/7/17

Down

- 1 Cause of recent SW Florida flooding
- 2 Not nice
- 3 Jumpy guy?
- 4 CIA employee
- 5 Type of cigar or sandwich
- 6 Not many (3 wds)
- 7 Mexican Mrs.
- 8 Wear for those who serve aces
- 11 "Vamoose!"
- 12 Small City

Down Continued

- 16 Firmly
- 19 Took cover
- 20 Sailor
- 21 Sgt. Bilko
- 23 Smut
- 24 Area or Zip
- 28 Religious practice
- 29 Snow vehicle
- 31 Smartphone forerunner
- 32 Computer acronym



When the World You Know Disappears: How People Overcome Major Loss: Part 1

by Author & Therapist Neil Rosenthal

If your home was ravaged from the Irma Hurricane, you are very likely dealing with the trauma of having your world turned upside down. Recovering from catastrophic loss requires harnessing all of your inner resources and personal reserves. Some of your fellow hurricane victims will never recover from their loss. Some people are completely defeated by adversity, bad luck or misfortune, and they live out the rest of their lives bitter, defeated, angry, hopeless and with a chip on their shoulders. Don't let that be you.



Don't let the hurricane defeat you. You want to recover from this.

Everyone gets bad breaks: that's part of life. But people who experience a major trauma—the loss of someone very close, rape or assault, a major accident or disease, a major calamity, a catastrophic fire (I am something of an expert on this. My house burned to the ground 7 years ago in a wildfire, and I lost everything I owned) or a devastating hurricane that you have experienced—frequently feel their sense of control over their lives, and the vision they held of their future, has been completely shattered.

Most frequently, trauma survivors have an insatiable need to talk about what happened to them. They are not looking for advice. More often than not, they find well-meaning advice from others completely unhelpful and even insulting. If you'd like to know what not to say to someone who has lost most everything they own, don't say "Oh well, it's only stuff. You can replace all your stuff."

Those comments are remarkably empty and unsatisfying to hear. People who say, "It's only stuff" have clearly never lost everything they owned. One thing a catastrophic hurricane will teach you is that our "stuff"—clothes, keepsakes, artwork, photos, furniture, music, books and the personal mementos that define our pasts, our life experiences and our memories—are way more important than you think. Our "stuff" contains links to our past, the way we express ourselves and what we most value. What we keep in our homes is what we most value, other than the relationships we have outside our homes.

How we deal with trauma or adversity is largely unique. Some people get paralyzed with fear, depression, hopelessness, self-pity or helplessness, while others become hyper-functional and try to do everything, which most often leads to feelings of severe burnout and joylessness.

Familiar surroundings ground us, and without them you are likely to feel off-balance and unsure of yourself. You will have a harder time focusing and concentrating, and you will likely experience a sense of disorientation with all of your "anchors" gone. You are also likely to be far more intolerant than you previously were. Frustrations that you would normally take in stride you may now have utterly no patience for at all. Trauma survivors do not suffer foolishness or small talk easily.

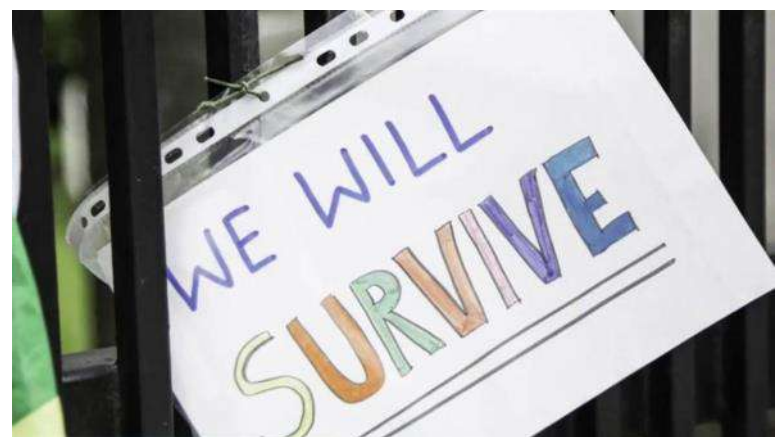
Trauma survivors look for someone who will listen to their story with compassion—someone who will be there as a friend and ally. This is compounded by the experience that very few people have the compassion, the empathy or the life experience to really be helpful.

How do you handle adversity and disappointment? No matter what we may think, no one knows ahead of time how we're going to react to a personal crisis when it arises. It's one thing to imagine how we're going to handle a major problem, and it's an entirely different thing to go through the experience and deal with our emotions as they occur.

For anyone who has ever experienced a personal catastrophe, of whatever nature, you will know that in a crisis we are faced with a fundamental choice: rise to the occasion and deal with your new life situation, or allow yourself to feel broken and defeated.

The following recommendations are for anyone needing to heal from a major loss or calamity, such as Hurricane Irma:

- ★ Permit your sad, angry, hurt and devastated feelings to be there, but also look at what gives you hope. Regeneration begins with a vision of something you hope for.
- ★ Resist the temptation to give up. Life is about falling down and getting back up again.
- ★ Be in touch, on a daily basis, with your soul or spirit. Your essence. The part of you that stands above your day to day concerns. The you that has a lifelong perspective instead of a short-term one.
- ★ Journal. Write down your emotions, feelings and struggles. A journal is enormously helpful and comforting.
- ★ Right now, under-indulge in things that anesthetize your emotions, such as food, alcohol, recreational drugs or TV.
- ★ Talk with trusted others. If you don't talk about it, you will feel worse.
- ★ Find somebody who is going through the same (or similar) experience. There is strength in fellow compatriots and kindred spirits.
- ★ Expect less of yourself for awhile.
- ★ Your decision making is impaired. Don't rush into making major decisions unless you have to.
- ★ Make yourself look for a silver lining. Find something potentially positive in what you are going through. All rebirth is preceded by loss.



You know what you've lost. Now look at what possibly can be gained from this loss.

"The world breaks everyone and afterwards some are strong at the broken places."---Ernest Hemingway

Neil Rosenthal is a licensed marriage and family therapist in Colorado. He is the author of the bestselling book Love, Sex, and Staying Warm: Creating a Vital Relationship. Contact him at 303-758-8777 or visit neilrosenthal.com.



Living Gulf Coast

by Charles Sobczak

Watch for these migratory birds starting in October through March & April!

American Redstart (*Setophaga ruticilla*) Other names: flamebird / Status: FL = stable, IUCN = LC / Length: 4.3-5.1 in. (11-13 cm) / Wingspan: 6.3-7.5 in. (16-19 cm) / Weight: 0.2-0.3 oz (6-9 g) / Life span: to 10 years / Nests: in the southern U.S. north to Alaska, mostly east of the Mississippi / Found: All Counties: coastal, near coast, mainland / Months found: **JFMamjjasOND** (caps indicate when found in the region).



Aptly nicknamed the flamebird, the American redstart is one of the most colorful and distinctive warblers. Only the male displays the black and Halloween-orange coloring on its tail and wing feathers. The female coloration is much more subdued, and is best

described as a pale yellow.

The male redstart, perhaps because of his flashy wardrobe, is a bit of a rogue. While many redstarts are monogamous, this boldly patterned warbler has also been known to mate with more than one female simultaneously. He attracts the second mate shortly after the first begins incubating the eggs, and sets up a second nest, generally within 500 meters of the first.

According to some bird books, the only place the redstart winters in Florida is the very southern portion of the peninsula, from southern Collier County, Dade County, and the Florida Keys (Monroe County). That doesn't mean you won't see any of the thousands of redstarts that pass through Southwest Florida on their annual migration from as far north as the Yukon Territory to the Caribbean and Central and South America.

Predation of this small warbler comes from sharp-shinned hawks, small owls, and domesticated and feral cats. Its northern nests are often raided by red squirrels, blue jays, fishers, chipmunks, and snakes.

Yellow-rumped Warbler (*Dendroica coronata*) Other names: myrtle warbler, Audubon's warbler / Status: FL=stable, IUCN=LC / Life span: to 8 years / Length: 4.7-5.5 in. (12-14 cm) / Wingspan: 7.5-9.1 in. (19-23 cm) / Weight: 0.4-0.5 oz (12-13 g) / Nests: throughout Canada and in the Rocky Mountains during the summer / Found: All Counties, coastal, near coast, mainland / Months found: **jfmaMJJASond**.

Far and away the most abundant wintering warbler in Florida, the yellow-rumped warbler is a common sighting from October through April. A clue to its abundance lies in one of its nicknames, the myrtle warbler. It is the only warbler able to digest the waxes found in bayberries and wax myrtle trees, both of which are a common shrub across Southwest Florida.

An extremely versatile feeder, the yellow-rumped warbler takes advantage of a wide array of habitats and the various foods it might encounter there. Sometimes found on beaches picking through the rack line, sometimes skimming insects from the surface of rivers and ponds, and even gleaning insects from piles of manure, this warbler is adept at taking a meal anywhere it can.

Its summer breeding plumage is much more colorful than its plainer winter coats, but it seldom molts into that plumage before arriving in its nesting area.

Like all smaller birds, most predation occurs at the nest, both to the chicks and eggs, and the adult yellow-rumped warbler is occasionally taken by kestrels, merlins and small owls. Overall this very adaptable bird is thriving and is not likely to be placed on any threatened lists anytime soon.

Photos: Redstart, Bob Gress. Yellow Rumped, Dick Fortune

Charles Sobczak is a writer & photographer from Sanibel Island

IT'S LAUNDRY TIME! BRING IT ON!

Free Service Helping with Laundry in E-City Area



Grannys Alliance Holdings, Inc is now accepting laundry! Drive thru the line at the corner of Collier and Broadway, give them your laundry and they'll give you a ticket to pick it up.

They will wash, dry and fold your laundry ALL FOR FREE - and they provide the detergent (unless you require allergy-free detergent). Usual turnaround is 24 hours. They will be open from 7 a.m to 7 p.m. This service is for anyone in the area who needs the help in Everglades City as well as Chokoloskee, Plantation Island, Copeland, and Jerome. [#EvergladesCityStrong](https://www.facebook.com/EvergladesCityStrong).

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Want to Donate or Volunteer? Here's How...



So many of you have asked, "What can I do to help?" Here are some options: Many businesses have set up their own GoFundMe site to accept donations for their recovery effort. To find them, go to www.gofundme.com and search for Everglades City and/or

Southwest Florida, Hurricane Irma. This is one way you can find your favorite local business and make a donation to them directly.

Reach Out Everglades & COPS Association, Inc.(to give its full name) is a local charity that supports families in crisis. It is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation. Their website accepts donations by credit or debit card. See www.ReachOutEverglades.org to submit your very welcome support. Or, send a check with IRMA on the memo line to Reach Out Everglades, P O Box 894, Chokoloskee, FL, 34138.

You may also donate your services to a family in need. To volunteer call Joe West: so he may coordinate that effort: 954-558-0545.



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:** 28" to 33" slot, 1/day. Permit + saltwater license required.
- *Please refer to the official regulations for your guidance at: <http://myfwc.com/media/4219696/QuickChart.pdf>



Local & Area News Collier County Business & Economic Development Disaster Loan Program



2017 Hurricane Recovery

You may be eligible for low-interest loans for your home & business through SBA disaster assistance.

The Florida Small Business Emergency Bridge Loan Program provides 90- or 180-day, interest-free loans to small businesses that experienced physical or economic damage during Hurricane Irma. **Loans of up to \$50,000 are available, but businesses must apply by Oct. 31. Up to \$10 million has been allocated by the state.**

The short-term loans help bridge the gap between the time damage was incurred and when a business obtains other financial resources, including insurance claim payments or longer-term SBA loans.

Business owners with two to 100 employees are eligible for bridge loans if they were established before Sept. 4 and can prove economic injury or physical damage due to Hurricane Irma.

If a business can't repay a bridge loan within 180 days, it can apply for an SBA loan, up to \$2 million. The SBA offers low-interest, long-term disaster loans for physical damage and working capital. **Businesses must apply by Nov. 9 for physical property damage and by June 11, 2018, for economic injury applications.** Applications can be downloaded from www.sba.gov or apply online at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>; for questions, contact disastercustomerservice@sba.gov

Collier County's Business Recovery Center, at the Naples Accelerator, 3510 Kraft Road, Ste. 200, will continue to operate with extended hours, from 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. weekdays, until further notice, and the SBA also will offer Saturday hours, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Collier County's Emergency and Disaster Assistance webpage, bit.ly/2y9heRZ, details available help. The Hurricane Irma Bridge Loan application can be found here: <http://bit.ly/2x8ZXuc>.

For more information, go to www.floridadisasterloan.org.

If you have questions about the loans available, call the county's Business Recovery Center at 239-252-8990 or email BusinessRecovery@colliergov.net.

If the media has questions, please call Aisling (ash-ling) Swift at 293-6092.

Note: To qualify for FEMA assistance, you must first register. If you have not done this with FEMA yet, please go to www.disasterassistance.gov.

Sawfish News

by Tonya Wiley

FIRST-EVER SAWFISH BIRTH FILMED IN THE WILD

(Reprinted with permission from Florida State University Coastal & Marine Laboratory <https://marinelab.fsu.edu/news-around-the-lab/dr-grubbs-documents-pregnant-sawfish-giving-birth-in-the-wild/>)

Sawfish are creatures of myth and legend, enormous shark-like rays with a huge rostrum bearing a row of formidable teeth protruding from each side. There are five species of sawfish in the world and all are considered Endangered or Critically Endangered in the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Dr. Dean Grubbs (Associate Director of Research, Florida State University Coastal & Marine Laboratory) and his colleagues have been studying the critically endangered smalltooth sawfish in Florida and the Bahamas since 2010, conducting research to aid sawfish conservation efforts. Much of their work has been directed towards using surveys, satellite tagging, and tracking to determine where adult sawfish mate, where the females give birth, where important nurseries are, and to determine where sawfish are most likely to be vulnerable to captures as bycatch in different fisheries. During a recent expedition funded by the Save Our Seas Foundation to the remote island of Andros his team made a discovery that will have major implications for recovery of this charismatic species. To set the stage, in 2003, smalltooth sawfish became the first native marine fish species listed as Endangered under the U.S. Endangered Species Act. Mangrove lined estuaries from Charlotte Harbor, Florida to Florida Bay in Everglades National Park have been designated as Critical Habitat for the species because these are the only areas where females were known to give birth and are thus critical to recovery of the species. Though sawfish were



known to occur in the Bahamas, it was unknown whether these sawfish were born in the Bahamas or perhaps were part of the Florida population.

Left: Close-up of sawfish pup's rostral blade peeking out. At the embryonic stage, the rostrum is soft and flexible with teeth that are enclosed by a sheath, to protect the mother during birth—documented for the first time.

On December 7, 2016 Dr. Grubbs' team, including Dr. Andrea Kroetz (NOAA) and FSUCML graduate research assistants, Bianca Prohaska and Bryan Keller, captured a female sawfish on the west side of Andros, Bahamas that was just over 14-feet in length. During the process of tagging the large sawfish to monitor her movements, the team noticed there were the rostra of two baby sawfish protruding from her vent; she was giving birth. The research team, with the assistance of Field School staff Jake Jerome and Nick Perni, assisted the mother sawfish in the birth of five pups (i.e. baby sawfish) before releasing her to birth the rest on her own (it is believed sawfish give birth to 10-12 pups). This is the first time a live sawfish birth has been documented in the wild. The rostrum of a newborn sawfish emerges from the mother covered in a thick sheath of tissue covering the needle sharp teeth, thus protecting the mother. Dr. Grubbs' team took genetic samples on both the mother and the five pups, implanted an acoustic transmitter in the mother and attached a satellite tag to her dorsal fin for tracking her movements, and inserted P.I.T. tags on the pups (a process similar to micro-chipping pets and lasts their lifespan). Afterward, the mother and the five pups were set free in the wild.

Not much is known about sawfish reproduction, and while the birth was typical of many sharks and rays, this confirmed "pupping" of sawfish in Andros, Bahamas. Dr. Dean Grubbs has been studying sharks and rays for more than 25 years and describes the recent experience as "the biggest day of my research career." This indicates there are now two known pupping and nursery areas (southwest Florida and west Andros), increasing the potential for recovery of this endangered species. Importantly, just as much of the critical sawfish habitat in Florida is protected in wildlife refuges and national parks, the area of Andros that the team has shown to be important habitat for adult and juvenile sawfish is within the recently formed West Side National Park. Protecting such areas is critical to recovery of the species.

Sponsored by a Keystone Grant from the Save Our Seas Foundation and supported by The Field School and the Flamingo Cay Rod and Gun Club, the purpose of the research is to discover if there is any evidence of exchange between the sawfish population in the U.S. and Bahamas. Currently, sawfish populations are believed to be regionally resident, meaning they do not migrate far from their original habitat.

To see footage of the expedition and live sawfish birth, check out a video produced by the Field School at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gt-sE14dYXs>

Contact Tonya by email: Tonya@HavenWorthConsulting.com



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):

Closed for Repairs

City Seafood (695-4700):

9:00 am – 6:00 pm; daily
Supper Upstairs is Opening
Opening In October

Glades Haven Deli (695-2091):

Sorry, Closed for Repairs
Please Check Back!

Havana Café (695-2214):

Opening October 15th

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):

Sorry, Closed for Repairs
Please Check Back!

NEW! Right Choice Pizza (695-0102)

Local Delivery!

Closed for repairs.

Rod & Gun (695-2101):

Closed for repairs

Sweet Mayberry's Café (695-0092):

Closed until Further Notice

Tastes of the Everglades (695-0075)

Closed for the Summer, reopening soon!

Triad Seafood & Café (695-2662):

Scheduled to Open
October 15th

Right Choice Supermarket (695-4535):

Closed for repairs

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

Opening October 15th

Fresh Produce

Next to Post Office– Closed for Summer

SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES

Chokoloskee Church of God

Sunday: 11 am Worship, Wed. 7pm Hour of Prayer

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

10/7	Sat	3:39 AM	3.3	H
10/7	Sat	11:29 AM	0	L
10/7	Sat	4:40 PM	3.2	H
10/7	Sat	11:43 PM	0.6	L
10/8	Sun	4:07 AM	3.3	H
10/8	Sun	12:15 PM	-0.1	L
10/8	Sun	5:35 PM	3	H
10/9	Mon	12:22 AM	0.7	L
10/9	Mon	4:39 AM	3.3	H
10/9	Mon	1:05 PM	0	L
10/9	Mon	6:40 PM	2.8	H
10/10	Tue	1:06 AM	0.9	L
10/10	Tue	5:21 AM	3.2	H
10/10	Tue	2:03 PM	0	L
10/10	Tue	7:52 PM	2.6	H
10/11	Wed	1:59 AM	1	L
10/11	Wed	6:19 AM	3.1	H
10/11	Wed	3:09 PM	0.1	L
10/11	Wed	9:08 PM	2.5	H
10/12	Thu	3:16 AM	1.1	L
10/12	Thu	7:54 AM	2.9	H
10/12	Thu	4:22 PM	0.2	L
10/12	Thu	10:28 PM	2.5	H
10/13	Fri	4:46 AM	1.1	L
10/13	Fri	9:37 AM	2.9	H
10/13	Fri	5:33 PM	0.2	L
10/13	Fri	11:41 PM	2.6	H
10/14	Sat	6:02 AM	0.9	L
10/14	Sat	11:03 AM	2.9	H
10/14	Sat	6:36 PM	0.2	L
10/15	Sun	12:32 AM	2.7	H
10/15	Sun	7:03 AM	0.8	L
10/15	Sun	12:15 PM	3	H
10/15	Sun	7:32 PM	0.3	L
10/16	Mon	1:08 AM	2.8	H
10/16	Mon	7:56 AM	0.6	L
10/16	Mon	1:12 PM	3.1	H
10/16	Mon	8:21 PM	0.3	L
10/17	Tue	1:38 AM	2.9	H
10/17	Tue	8:42 AM	0.4	L
10/17	Tue	1:59 PM	3.1	H
10/17	Tue	9:05 PM	0.4	L
10/18	Wed	2:05 AM	3	H
10/18	Wed	9:26 AM	0.2	L
10/18	Wed	2:40 PM	3.1	H
10/18	Wed	9:46 PM	0.5	L
10/19	Thu	2:31 AM	3.1	H
10/19	Thu	10:06 AM	0.1	L
10/19	Thu	3:18 PM	3.1	H
10/19	Thu	10:24 PM	0.6	L
10/20	Fri	2:57 AM	3.2	H
10/20	Fri	10:45 AM	0.1	L
10/20	Fri	3:54 PM	3	H
10/20	Fri	10:59 PM	0.7	L
10/21	Sat	3:23 AM	3.2	H
10/21	Sat	11:23 AM	0.1	L
10/21	Sat	4:33 PM	2.9	H
10/21	Sat	11:33 PM	0.8	L

Obituaries

Eleanor "Ellie" Dowacter, 81, of Plymouth, Illinois died on Friday, September 15, 2017.

Eleanor had been a homemaker and farmwife. While they were in Florida, she worked at the Everglades City Visitor Center and operated her own cleaning service. She enjoyed spending time with family and friends, gardening, oil painting and making crafts.



She is survived by three children, Ken (Debbie) Dowacter of Everglades City, FL, Sheryl (Walter) Rowland of Naples, FL and Vicki (Joe) Walters of Plymouth, IL, 8 grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren, a sister, Alberta (Dwight) Schrodt of Macomb, IL and nieces and nephews.

Memorial contributions in memory of Eleanor Dowacter may be mailed to MDH Hospice at 525 E Grant St. Macomb, IL 61455.

Devan Raymond Rewis, 31, of Chokoloskee, passed away on September 15, 2017. He was born in New Orleans, Louisiana on November 11, 1985. Devan attended Everglades City school.

He was preceded in death by his mother Kimberly Ann Rewis (Wheeler) and aunt Valerie Herth (Wheeler), maternal grandmother Dorothy Ann Miller and grandfather James P. Wheeler.



Survivors are his paternal grandmother Lorna Lee Rewis (Brown) and grandfather Eddie Raymond Rewis Sr., father Eddie Raymond Rewis Jr., stepmother Kate Rewis, half-brothers Michael and Daniel Rewis, aunt Martha Daniels, uncle James "Jimmy" Wheeler, cousins Sheldon Napier, James Wheeler Jr., Dala Herth, Mason Wheeler, Dakota Wheeler.

A Tribute to Mary by Patty Huff

Mary Freeman, age 90, of Everglades City, passed away on October 1 at Avow Hospice in Naples. She was my friend and my next door neighbor. Mary was one of the most generous individuals I have ever met. She purchased her home (the old Juliet Carnes Collier Hospital) in 1988, a few years before we bought the old nurses' home. She welcomed Steve and me to the neighborhood with her famous coconut pie. Later we would provide her with the coconuts, her companion of 35 years Ed Lord would scrape out the meat and Mary would bake the best pies ever. She provided them to all her friends around the area.



Steve recalls the time when Mary came over to help him spread rock around needed areas in our yard. Although she was a banker in her previous life before retiring to Everglades City, she was a hard worker and enjoyed her life on the river. On June 4, 2000, Mary and Ed got up at 6 am (along with our other neighbors Vicky Nagle and John Wilson) to bid us farewell to us on our first bicycle trip across the U.S. She became the watchdog for our home, checking with us if she saw strangers around. Through the years after Ed died her health began to deteriorate but she continued to welcome friends and acquaintances into her home (and yard during Seafood Festival). One these friends was Pat Galloway who moved in to take care of her in her final years. Mary is survived by her son Richard. We will miss you, Mary!

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. Call: 239-695-2160, inquire at Lot 205.

LOOKING FOR LOST ITEMS? Did Irma move something that you are still looking for? Post it in our lost & found area of the next edition of the Rapper!

EXPERIENCED CAREGIVER: Providing 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. \$125. 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.

LOST: Picnic Table...Has names carved in the top. Please call Patty if you find it: 239-719-0020.

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

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.

LOST: Gheenoe. Green. Floated away in Irma. Call Craig: 239-777-2552.

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

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