

INE MULLEI KAPPER

What's Happening in the Everglades & 10,000 Islands JANUARY 26, 2019 - FEBRUARY 8, 2019

TIDE TABLE & RESTAURANTS PAGE 11

SEAFOOD FESTIVAL EDITION!



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FESTIVAL PARKING

Parking will be available at the lot adjacent to Holy Family Catholic Church. Handicapped parking is available at Everglades Community Church for a donation. Parking is not permitted on the medians throughout the city.

SUPPORT LOCAL BOOTHS

Don't forget to visit our local booths! Try the **delicious cookies** at Everglades Community Church's booth in front of the church.

Visit the Everglades Society for Historical Preservation's booth by the Museum!

Try the delicious fresh, homemade mullet dip, burgers and dogs at the **Lions Club chuck wagon.**

Pick up your **collectible beer mug** at one of the festival beer booths.

Try the famous and delicious **chocolate key lime pie** on a stick at the ReachOut booth!

Make sure you buy one of the great seafood festival **T-shirts** sold to raise money for the School's athletic department.

Enjoy Coca Cola! The proceeds from the sale of Coke helps raise money for Everglades City School and quenches your thirst. Enjoy the festival!

> Please! No Coolers No Pets No Golf Carts

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P O Box 134, Everglades City, FL, 34139

Everglades City Seafood Festival Entertainment Lineup February 8, 9, & 10

Friday Night is Family Night! Friday Night, February 8th:

5:30-6:15 Charlie Pace / Sloan Wheeler 6:30-7:15 The Lost Rodeo 7:30-9:00 Let's Hang On 9:20- ? Tim Elliott (Nashville)

Saturday, February 9th:

10:30-11:00 Opening Ceremony 11:00-12:30 Charlie Pace 1:00-2:00 Jordan Guess 2:30-3:30 Tim Charron 4:00-5:15 Tim Elliot (Nashville) 5:45-6:45 Rambler 7:15-8:30 Electric Lipstick

Sunday, February 10th:

11:00-noon Opening Ceremony 12:00-1:00 Nadia Turner (American Idol) 1:30- 2:30 Gator Nate 3:00- 4:00 Lauren Mitchell 4:30-6:00 The Petty Hearts

Local Songbird, Sloan Wheeler, Will Sing Anthem Saturday, Feb. 9th

Last year, our very own Sloan Wheeler (left) wowed everyone with her amazing rendition of the National Anthem. We are all still

talking about how good she was!

This year, she will once again sing the Anthem at Saturday's opening ceremony and she will also sing a few other of her favorite tunes. We are really looking forward to seeing

her perform again.

This year's lineup features an excellent lineup of music acts sure to get the crowds dancing to the music!

Don't forget that this is an outdoor event. Be sure to bring your sunscreen and a hat...please do not bring pets or leave them in the car!

For more info visit: www.evergladesseafoodfestival.org

Governor DeSantis Is Serious About The Environment & Takes Fast Action

Volume XI • Issue # 330

On January 10th, Governor Ron DeSantis signed Executive Order 19-12 (Achieving More Now For Florida's Environment), implementing major reforms to ensure the protection of Florida's environment and water quality.

"Our water and natural resources are the foundation of our economy and our way of life in Florida," said Governor Ron DeSantis. "The protection of water resources is one of the most pressing issues facing our state. That's why today I'm taking immediate action to combat the threats which have devastated our local economies and threatened the health of our communities."

The order calls for:

- \$2.5 Billion over the next four years for Everglades restoration and protection of water resources (a \$1 Billion increase in spending over the previous four years and the highest level of funding for restoration in Florida's history).

- The Establishment of a Blue-Green Algae Task Force, charged with focusing on expediting progress toward reducing the adverse impacts of blue-green algae blooms now and over the next five years.

- Instruction to the South Florida Water Management District to immediately start the next phase of the Everglades Agricultural Area Storage Reservoir Project design and ensure the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers approves the project according to schedule.

- The Creation of the Office of Environmental Accountability and Transparency charged with organizing and directing integrated scientific research and analysis to ensure that all agency actions are aligned with key environmental priorities.

- The Appointment of a Chief Science Officer to coordinate and prioritize scientific data, research, monitoring and analysis needs to ensure alignment with current and emerging environmental concerns most pressing to Floridians.

Opposes Offshore Drilling & Fracking

- Create the Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection to help prepare Florida's coastal communities and habitats for impacts from sea level rise by providing funding, technical assistance and coordination among state, regional and local entities.

 Take necessary actions to adamantly oppose all off-shore oil and gas activities off every coast in Florida and hydraulic fracturing in Florida.

*** Get tide predictions, news and event information at www.swflgo.com! Call us @ 954-662-7003 ***

JANUARY 27, 2019 – MARCH 2, 2019

<u>SUN</u>	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	<u>FRI</u>	<u>SAT</u>
27 Gospel Night, see p. 3	28	29 Free Health Screening, see p. 9	30 Ladies Coffee City Seafood 8 am	31	February 1	2 Festival in the Woods Picayune Strand, see p. 8
3	4 new moon ESHP Mtg, 8: 30 am FME Mtg, 4:00 pm	5 City Council Mtg, 7:00 pm @ City Hall	6 Ladies Coffee Havana Café 8 am	7	8 Seafood Fest, see p. 3	9 <u>RAPPER</u> Seafood Fest, see p. 3
10 Seafood Fest, see p. 3	11	12	13 Ladies Coffee Island Café 8 am	14 Happy Valentine's Day	15	16 Pancake Fly- in, see p. 3
17 Bike Ride, See p. 6	18 Presidents Day	19 full moon ⊖ Dental Bus, P & Z Meeting 7:00 pm MSD Fest, see p. 9	20 Ladies Coffee City Seafood 8 am MSD Fest., see p.9	21 Book Club, see p. 9 MSD Fest, see p. 9	22 History Talk & MSD Fest, see p. 9	23 <u>RAPPER</u> Art in Glades & MSD Fest, see p.9 & ORA Sale see p. 3
24	25	26	27 Ladies Coffee Havana Café 8 am	28	March 1	2

March 10: "Spring Forward" 1 hour

March 16: Pancake Fly-in

March 23: Art in Glades

AREA INFORMATION & NUMBERS:

AA: Wed., 5:00 pm, Evg. Comm. Church, Fellowship Hall CARNESTOWN Recycle & Trash: Dec 1st, Every Sat, 9 am to 2:00 pm DR DEMARTINO: Little Gator Clinic, See info on page 3. DR MARTIN: Call for appointment: 813-787-9738 LIONS CLUB: Meet 2nd Thursday of Month, 6 pm MUSEUM: Open Monday-Saturday, 9 am to 4 pm. 239-695-0008 PANCAKE FLY-IN: Feb. 16, Mar. 16, Apr. 20. E City Airport, 10 am-noon REACH OUT: 3rd Tuesday, 4 pm, City Hall SKATING RINK: Now open! Fri. & Sat. 6 to 9 pm SMALLWOOD STORE: Daily 10 am to 5pm, 239-695-2989 THRIFT SHOP: Open Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday 11 am to 3, see p.3. VETERANS SUPPORT: 2nd & 4rd Wed. of month, noon—2 pm

The Local Area Code is 239

POST OFFICE INFORMATION:

Chokoloskee (239) 695-4468 (M-F: 9:30 am to 1 pm, 2 pm to 4:30 pm, closed Sat. & Sun.) Everglades City (239) 695-2174 (M-F: 9:30 am to 12 pm, 1 pm to 4:30 pm, closed Sat. & Sun.) Ochopee (239) 695-2099 (M-F: 8 am to 10 am, noon to 4 pm; Sa: 10 am to 11:30 am)

OTHER IMPORTANT NUMBERS:

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

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Everglades Seafood Festival February 8-10, 2019



The much anticipated annual festival is almost here! The Everglades Seafood Festival and Fair will take place on Friday, February 8th through Sunday

the 10th. The traditional "Family Night" kicks off the festival on Friday, with the rest of the weekend filled with music, food, art, crafts and much more (see front page for schedule).

If you are interested in a booth or in becoming a sponsor, please call us at 239-695-2277 or email us at evgbet2011@aol.com.



Pancake Fly-in February 16, 10 am to noon **Free Breakfast**

Pancakes, Sausage & Beverage Fly-ins and walk-ups welcomed!

Future dates: March 16th & April 20th. We hope to see you at the Everglades City Airpark!

Everglades Society for Historical Preservation Presentation

February 22, 2019, 5:30 pm



Come out to the Island Café restaurant and learn about our area's rich history from area experts and learn more about how ESHP is working to preserve the

history of our community. Seating is limited so please plan on arriving a bit early to claim your seat! Hope to see you there!

ORA Bazaar Saturday, February 23rd. Gates Open at 9:00 am



The Annual ORA Bazaar, will be held on Chokoloskee Island. Saturday, on February 23rd. The gates will open at 9:00 am. There will be fresh bakery and coffee.

The bazaar will feature a White Elephant Sale, a "New 2 U Boutique" (featuring slightly used clothing, shoes, and jewelry). There will be local vendors and craft sales.

Lunch and ice cream will be available starting at 11:00. Spaces are available for vendors and crafters to rent for \$10 each. A limited amount of spaces are available indoors, so please call early. For more information please phone Sherri Parsons at 239-695-2281.

Gospel Music Night First Baptist Church of Everglades City January 27th, 6:00 pm



💹 First Baptist Church of Everglades City will have a Gospel Music Night at 6 pm on January 27th. Come enjoy fellowship through music and meet our new Pastor

(Michael Peyton and his wife Marianne). There will be finger foods served afterward.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

FREE DENTAL, BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS & BEHAVIORAL HEALTH INFORMATION FOR ALL February 19, 9 am to 4 pm

The Healthcare Network of Southwest Florida's Health & Smiles Mobile Dental Bus will be in Everglades City on February 19th, from 9 am to 4 pm, in the Fire Station parking lot, providing free dental checks, blood pressure screenings and behavioral health information if requested. For more information or an appt: call 239-986-7323.

THE FOOD BANK IS OPEN! Wednesdays noon to 2pm

Everglades Community Pantry, a proud partner agency of the Harry Chapin Food Bank, is open every Wednesday from noon to 2 in Jinkins Fellowship Hall at Everglades Community Church. This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

DOCTOR'S CLINIC

Dr. Kirk DeMartino is seeing patients ٠ in his Marco Island Office and in Everglades City on Fridays from 1:30 to 4:30 pm. You may call his office to schedule an appointment at either location: (239) 642-5552.

NATURAL MEDICINE

Dr. John Martin can see patients in Everglades City on Fridays. Appts: from 10 am to 6 pm. Call to confirm: 813-787-9738.

CEDR Hurricane Disaster Recovery Assistance is Available

Communities of Everglades Disaster Recovery works in conjunction with the Salvation Army and have a team set up in Everglades City Hall (in the old council room). They will have advocates there from 10 am to 3 pm on Mondays to assist people still in need of help. Stop in the office or you can call Elaine at 239 -695-2695 for more information.

NEW THRIFT SHOP



Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday The new thrift shop is open

Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday from 11 am to **3 pm.** Come see the new store! Please do not leave donations on the porch outside where they can get wet or damaged! Please do not drop off damaged or dirty items.



A Message from Fire-Chief **Kingman Schuldt**

Did you know that Firefighters are too often hampered while battling fires involving homes with hurricane storm shutters in place?

Innocently, homeowners do not remove storm shutters after a hurricane has passed in effort to maintain security or limit their need to re-secure their homes in the event another storm approaches.

When firefighters encounter homes with storm shutters in place they are forced to use power saws and other heavy equipment in order to adequately access the structure. The blocked windows and doors impede firefighting operations, limit our ability to adequately ventilate a structure of toxic smoke and gases, and prohibit safe of trapped evacuation victims.

This Fire District has entered into a campaign to educate our community on the dangers to residents and firefighters that fixed storm shutters present. Please consider these dangers and assess whether firefighters will be able to make entry during a fire, and more importantly, will you be able to escape?

Lions Club Dinner & Music at the Park a Huge, Delicious Success!

The Everglades Lions Club held their (almost) monthly Dinner & Music at the park on January19th.

The menu included "low country boil" with veggies, and kielbasa served with blue There was delicious crab and shrimp. homemade cornbread and chocolate cake and beverages to round out the homemade meal.

Judging by the smiles and comments throughout the evening, everyone loved the food.

Leebo was there with his ensemble and entertained the crowd with great music inspiring many to get up out of their seats and dance!

The Everglades Lions Club is helping the city renovate McLeod Park. The park project started in late December when the Lions Club purchased and planted trees and shrubs around McLeod park. They are now focused on replacing the playground equipment that was damaged by Hurricane Irma.

The next dinner event will be held sometime in March. We will put a notice in the Rapper when the date has been set.

Thanks to all who cooked, cleaned and served! Thanks to those who attended!



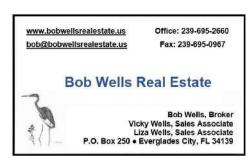
JOANIE'S BLUE CRAB CAFE



US Hwy. 41, Ochopee, Florida 34141 1/4 Mile East of Ochopee Post Office Open Mon., Fri., Sat. & Sun. 11 am to 4 pm

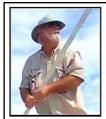
Everglades Dining at its Best!

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Joseph J. West, or as most people knew him, Joe, passed away to his next adventure, Thursday, January 10, 2019 at the age of 74 ^{**} years at his home in Everglades City.

Born in Atlantic City, New Jersey, Joe moved to Miami in the 1950's. He graduated Christopher Columbus High School in Miami, third to last in his class, though he scored highest in the school for Florida college entrance exam (that earned him a trip to the Principal's office where he was lectured on obviously not applying himself). He enrolled at the University of Florida, where he proudly stated that he "did not flunk out" since he withdrew before grades were officially posted. Joe joined the United States

Navy at the Gainesville Post Office in October 1961. Joe proudly served 22 years in the Navy, rising from Seaman Recruit to Lieutenant Commander.

During his time in Vietnam, he served two tours in country as a Corpsman for the United States Marines and served one tour on ship, stationed offshore of Vietnam. During his time in the Navy Joe earned his Bachelor of Science Degree in Hospitality Management from Cornell University and his Master of Science in Systems' Management from the University of Southern California.

After the Navy, Joe managed numerous restaurants in North Carolina and South Carolina. But teaching was Joe's true calling, so he enrolled at Virginia Tech University and graduated with a Ph.D. in 1988. After receiving his Ph.D., Joe's mother finally admitted that "maybe everything worked out okay after dropping out of UF."

Joe taught briefly at the University of South Carolina, before moving to Tallahassee and joining the facility at the Hospitality Department in 1987. Joe was elected Hospitality Department Chair in 1991. With the help of Andy Miller, President of the



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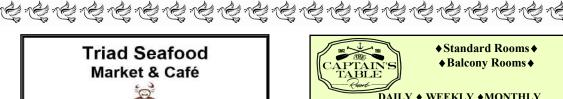
FSU Boosters, Joe raised over \$20 million while at FSU and built the University Center Club in the south end zone of the Doak Campbell Stadium.

In 1999, Joe became Dean of the School of Hospitality Management at Florida International University. Despite inheriting a School with unfinished classrooms, faculty without computers and very little funding, Joe created the South Beach Wine and Food Festival and built the Marriott Tianjin China Program in Tianjin. While at FIU, Joe raised over \$25 million for the School. The SoBe Festival and the China program currently continue to generate income for the School. Joe joined the faculty of Miami- Dade College in 2012 and continued to teach and develop Work Force Training classes until August 2018.

Joe and his wife, Liz, moved to Everglades City in 2013. Joe was active in the Everglades Lions Club, volunteered at the Everglades City School, worked as a Poll Worker for Collier County Election's Office, was president of his homeowner's association and volunteered for months after Hurricane Irma, coordinating NGO volunteers to assist local residents with cleanup and restoration.

Joe was especially proud of his children. Wanda Hamilton, Joseph J. West, Jr., Mary Beth Hamilton and Travis West. Joe also had eight grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and Oliver Joseph West (to complete the West baseball team) on the way and due around February 27, 2019.

Photos: Top left: Joe and Liz West at their home in Everglades City. Lower right, Joe presents
Mayor Howie Grimm with a certificate of appreciation from the Everglades Lions Club.



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8 Top Benefits of Extra-curricular Activities for Kids in School Compiled From Top Online Education Resources

1. Better Grades: Extracurricular activities promote passion and excitement – qualities proven to improve brain functionality. They also require effective time management. Developing the ability to prioritize opposing responsibilities at an early age helps throughout life.

2. *Skill Development*: After school activities for teens will expose them to new skills and an expanded worldview.

3. Increased Self-Esteem: Self-esteem and self-worth are achieved through success. Extracurricular activities provide many challenges and opportunities for success.

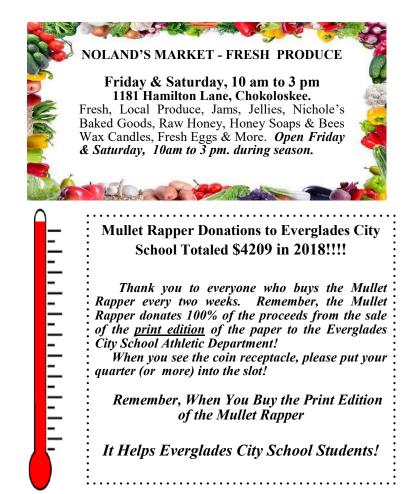
4. *Improved Social Skills*: Making friends can be difficult for some adolescents. Extracurricular activities allow teens to be surrounded by individuals who have shared interests and experiences. Being in this type of situation on a regular basis will teach them how to relate to others by working together towards a common goal.

5. Change of Pace & Diversity: School is important. So is doing homework and performing well on tests. But it's equally important for adolescents to learn about balance and structure in the activities that they enjoy.

6. Looks Good on Resumes: Participating in extracurricular activities looks good on a resume will give the student an advantage over other applicants.

7. Looks Good on College Applications: Colleges get a lot of applications. Being able to impress them with extracurricular activities can be a huge advantage during the application process. Institutions of higher learning want to enroll students who have proven that they can handle the various challenges and demands that higher education presents.

8. *Healthy & Productive*: One of the greatest benefits of extracurricular activities is that they promote mental, emotional, and physical health. They require adolescents to use strategy, manage time effectively, cooperate with others, develop new skills, be social, etc.



Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment Period New in 2019 Free, Local Service Available to Help Evaluate Medicare Advantage Plans Through the End of Open Enrollment (March 31)



The new year once again brings new changes to Medicare. One of the biggest of these changes is the new Medicare Advantage open enrollment period. The Area Agency on Aging for Southwest Florida and the SHINE/SMP Program (Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders/Senior

Medicare Patrol) wants seniors to know that they may be able to take advantage of this new period, which is currently underway and continues through March 31.

"Medicare Advantage open enrollment gives beneficiaries with buyer's remorse an opportunity to switch plans," explains Camilita Aldridge, SHINE Manager at the Area Agency on Aging (AAASWFL). "In past years, folks with Medicare Advantage had just six weeks to switch back to Original Medicare. Now, they have three full months to either switch back or choose a more suitable Advantage plan."

AAASWFL's SHINE counselors are available to help beneficiaries evaluate their choices during Medicare Advantage open enrollment. Volunteer SHINE counselors provide free, unbiased, and personalized assistance with Medicare, Medicaid, prescription drug plans, and longterm care insurance options. SHINE is a program of the Florida Department of Elder Affairs and part of the national SHIP Program.

Medicare Advantage plans, sometimes called Part C plans, are typically HMOs or PPOs offered by private insurance companies. They cover all of the services offered by Original Medicare but typically work with a network of local providers. Most Part C plans also provide prescription drug coverage.

This year, many Medicare Advantage plans are offering more supplemental benefits than in the past. Thanks to changes in Medicare, nearly half of the plans available are now offering coverage for items like transportation services, nicotine replacement therapy, and even over -the-counter medications. While these new benefits can be enticing, not everyone needs them.

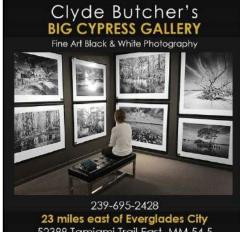
"Many times, people enroll in a Part C plan because they heard rave reviews from a friend or neighbor, but we all have different needs," explains Aldridge. "Depending on your doctor, your medical conditions, your prescriptions, and your budget, there might be a better plan for you. Our counselors can help you evaluate all of the plans available to you, and the service is completely free."

Beneficiaries who are currently enrolled in Part C plans may switch plans once during the Medicare Advantage open enrollment period. However, people who are currently enrolled in Original Medicare may not take advantage of this new open enrollment period.

SHINE empowers seniors, their caregivers, and family members to make informed decisions about health care coverage. SHINE counselors can also help beneficiaries understand benefits available through Medicare, like preventative health care services. Additionally, SHINE counselors assist low-income Medicare beneficiaries with applying for cost-savings programs and educate beneficiaries to protect, detect, and report potential errors, fraud, and abuse with their Medicare coverage.

AAASWFL provides SHINE counseling services at locations across Southwest Florida. To make an appointment with a SHINE counselor, call AAASWFL's toll-free Elder Helpline at 1-866-413-5337 (866-41-ELDER). A list of counseling sites can also be found on the statewide SHINE website: www.floridashine.org.

Currently celebrating its 40th anniversary, the Area Agency on Aging for Southwest Florida is a nonprofit organization serving Charlotte, Collier, DeSoto, Glades, Hendry, Lee, and Sarasota Counties. The organization is committed to connecting older adults (ages 60 and over) and people with disabilities to resources and assistance for living safely with independence and dignity. AAASWFL is the state's designated Aging and Disability Resource Center for Southwest Florida. More information is available at **www.aaaswfl.org.**



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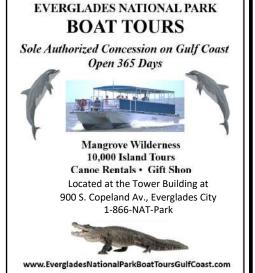
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Cycle Tours through the Everglades Next Ride: February 17th!

Mark your calendar for our next ride on Sunday, February 17! Starting at 9:00 am in Ave Maria, we will ride approximately 40 miles to Everglades City where we'll plan to have lunch. For this cycle tour it is important to sign up early so that we can make arrangements to take cyclists with their bikes back to Ave Maria (unless you want to ride the 80 miles round trip).

Along the ride we will be making a few rest stops to have a snack and talk about the history of the area, including the first commercial oil well in Florida, the panther refuge, the old railway line along SR29, the fruit groves of Deep Lake and the logging town of Jerome. We'll plan to have lunch together in Everglades City prior to returning to Ave Maria. This will be a self-supported ride so bring your own equipment, lots of water, snacks and wear a helmet. Cyclists should be experienced in riding on the road with traffic.

To sign up and to learn more specific information, please contact Patty Huff at info@evergladesrogg.org or snookcity@gmail.com. Come enjoy wonderful wild south Florida!

Biking Event Schedule (All rides start at 9:00am) February 17 – Ave Maria (40 miles) Contact Patty for meeting location, info above March 10 – Bear Island in the Big Cypress Meeting Location TBA No registration fee – sign up to receive update

No registration fee – sign up to receive updates: info@evergladesrogg.org or call Patty at 239-695-2397 Visit the website: https://evergladesrogg.org/ events/



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Solution to January 12, 2019 Puzzle



My Little Slice of Paradise by Kathy Brock

Our new governor Ron DeSantis has announced that he will aggressively protect the Everglades and the Florida coastline by upping the Everglades Restoration budget by over \$1 billion, and by telling big oil that Florida's coastline is off limits to offshore drilling and inshore fracking. Phew. He gets it!

It's good to see that protecting our State's ecosystem is a priority for the new Governor. Florida is one-of-a-kind. Our environment is unique, resilient and fragile all at the same time.

When Marjory Stoneman Douglas wrote the River of Grass in 1947, it was an awakening of sorts. She knew then, what so many seem to forget now, that Florida is a destination for people from all over the world because of our natural resources, and what we have here is unlike any other state in the United States.

People do not flock here because we have beautiful buildings, grow sugar or have oil. They are coming here because of our state's other resources, water, sun and fun. Throw in nature and you have the recipe for a vacation!

Yes. There are numerous other things to do and many other reasons to be here, but for the most part, when someone comes to south Florida from Europe to see the Everglades, they want to see alligators and birds, not oil drilling platforms and tanker trucks.

The delicate balance of our ecosystem is obvious by looking at the success, or lack of success, of the breeding cycle of many of our wading birds.

Most of our wading beauties were almost wiped out by the feather trade in the late 1800's when women just had to have feathers on hats, blouses and dresses. Egret feathers would fetch 25 cents each, but a roseate spoonbill feather could grab as much as \$5 making it more expensive by weight than gold at the time.

Of course, the thirst for money outweighed any sense of responsibility as feather hunters decimated entire populations without a second thought. You would hope we have come of age. You would think history would teach us to self-police and to do things with restraint. But we do not ... and we have not.

The action by the Governor has angered some people. He has called out big oil and big sugar and put them on notice that Florida is not here just for them to exploit. He has emphatically stated that our state is here for all of us, and that includes the birds, bees, fish, manatee and turtles, to name a few.

It has been over a century since the feather trade was ended here. But the roseate spoonbill has still not recovered. On islands where over 200 birds once nested there are now 23. On others there are zero nests. None. What was once described as "deafening" referring to the sound by the birds, is now silent.

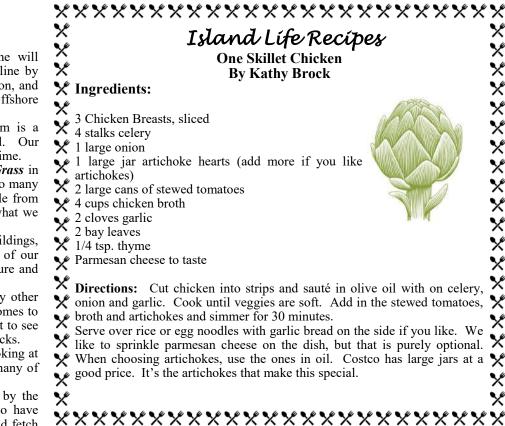
It seems water quality is a critical component to the roseate breeding cycle, and water quality and good planning are not things Florida is currently famous for.

The roseate is so dependent on things being "just so" that if water depth is off from where it should be naturally, it throws a wrench into the entire breeding cycle. Things like releasing billions of gallons of (questionable quality) water during the "dry season" artificially raising water depths changes the way our ecosystem is supposed to work. We simply need to be smarter and more compassionate. Things are naturally balanced. When you change it you get imbalance. It's not a hard concept to understand.

Acknowledging the importance is only one part. Caring about it is another...and actually doing something about it is in a league of its own.

So today, I am optimistic that we have someone in power with the guts to make decisions he knows will tick off some of his constituents. He is a Floridian. He is not an implant that came here to simply exploit our state to gain political power. That is a very good thing.

What we need now is action. We need our leaders to do what is right and necessary even if it is unpopular. We need them to focus on the importance of the job, and what must be done ... and not just keeping the job. The health of our state depends on it.



MULLET RAPPER CROSSWORD

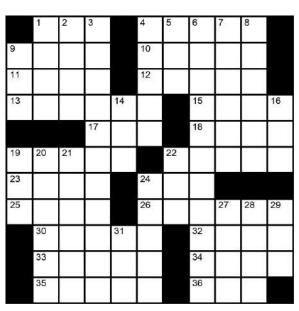
Across

- 1 Out of whack
- 4 Brass groupings
- 9 Running great ---
- Devers
- 10 In plain view
- 11 Approximately
- **12** More recent
- 13 Where landlubbers are found
- 15 Drink greedily
- 17 1/31 of January
- **18** Wingless parasites
- 19 Sacked out
- 22 Al --- (pasta order)
- 23 A boat motor is attached to it
- 24 Short Egyptian boyking?
- 25 "Avenger" Mrs. Peel
- 26 Earth does it

30 Gem State capital Down

- 32 Chef Lagasse **33** Orange Muppet
- **34** Transported on a horse
- 35 Takes five
- **36** It can be the limit





1/26/19

X

X

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- 1 Rowers in a boat
- 2 Guides do it
- 3 FEMA monitors them
- 4 Thin as a rail
- 5 Not a street
- Publications from special groups
- Reduced 7
- 8 Hard-and-fast
- Former Portuguese colony in India
- Mouse cousin 14

- 16 "Aw, heck!"
- 19 --- who must be obeyed
- **20** You build with it
- "Rum Punch" writer ---21 Leonard
- 22 Batman and Robin, for example
- 24 They shade us
- 27 Out of control
- **28** In apple-pie order
- _ (out of 29 Run
- control)
- 31 Command to Rover



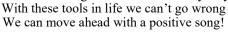
Poetry Street by Katherine Tullie

Life can be stressful and sometimes discouraging. A sense of humor can go a long way and brighten your day. If

we lighten things up a bit it makes the day go more smoothly and enjoyably. That is the theme of my poem today "Barrel Full of Laughs."



Have a barrel full of laughs at your side Not letting anything take you for a ride It will lighten up your life, for sure Laughter can be a positive cure Many things in life are not funny Even so, try to keep your attitude sunny Even when we have stubbed our toe Let's move on with a smile, hobbling to and fro Let nothing keep us down Or knock us to the ground Think always in a positive mode throughout your day When you speak try to have positive things to say Fly like a bird as we go through our days Let us see the light side of life in every way





Email: Kathythepoet@gmail.com

Look for #PoetryStreet on Twitter! Area Parks FREE Ranger Led Programs at Big Cypress. Reserve Your Spot Now



Join us as we get out and explore the wonders of the Big Cypress Swamp! For details on activities and to make reservations call: 239-695-1201.

Reservations are accepted up to 14-days in advance of the activity date. Ranger scheduled activities are **free**. Please download the list of programs at <u>https://swflgo.com/big-cypressprograms/</u>

> Festival in the Woods February 2, Picayune Strand Saturday, February 2, 2019 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Free Admission, Parking & Lunch!



Come out to the Sable Palm Hiking Trail Trailhead, 3.3 Miles East of Collier Blvd. on Sabal Palm Rd. to the Festival in the Woods! There will be wildlife presentations, guided

hikes, bicycle tours, children's activities and exhibitors & vendors! Arrive early!

Participation will be on a

first come, first served basis.

For additional information, please contact: Melinda Avni, Forester, Caloosahatchee Forestry Center (239) 690-8000 or Melinda.Avni@FreshFromFlorida.com.

LCEC Redistricting Combines Marco & Everglades City by Karen Ryan. LCEC PR Manager

By Karen Kyan. LCEC PK Manager Recently, LCEC Board of Trustees approved a redistricting of District 1, Marco Island and District 6, Immokalee, Everglades City. After evaluation, it made sense to combine the Everglades City service territory with the Marco Island service territory due to their geographic location.

Currently, Craig Woodward represents District 1 so the timing could not have been better since he calls Marco Island and Everglades City part of his stomping ground. He has a close tie to fellow members of LCEC in both cities.

The new district 1 includes Chokoloskee, Plantation Island, Ochopee, Copeland; everything east of Marco to the Broward / Miami Dade line and south of I-75. What used to be a district of about 17 sq. miles (Marco and Goodland) expanded to just a little over 1,000 sq. miles.

Collier County Domestic Animal Services Offers Discounts During

My Furry Valentine Adoption Spectacular During the month of February, Collier County Domestic Animal Services (DAS) is celebrating My Furry Valentine Adoption Spectacular. All pet adoptions are half price, and if you adopt a bonded pair of dogs or two cats, the adoption fee is waived completely.

Visit the Naples or Immokalee shelter and fall in love with your new furry valentine. Whether you choose a cat, a dog, or two of each, you will be helping a homeless pet find their forever home.

Adoptions include spay/neuter, microchip, age appropriate vaccinations, flea treatment, heartworm test for dogs, FELV test for cats, rabies vaccination and 30 days of free pet insurance. That's a value of more than \$400.

For more information, visit www.collierpets.com, stop by the shelter at 7610 Davis Blvd., Naples, Florida 34104, or call (239) 252-PETS (7387).

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GREAT FOOD & SUPPLIES GALORE - ALL IN ONE LOCATION!

- CONVENIENCE GOODS
- FRESH SANDWICHES
- ICE, BEER, SODA, SNACKS
- MILK, EGGS, PROTEIN DRINKS
- SOUVENIRS, GIFTS, HATS
- T-SHIRTS, FISHING SHIRTS
- SUNBLOCK, REPELLENT

- REC 90 FUEL (NO Ethanol)
- OIL, LUBE
- LIVE SHRIMP, BAIT
- TACKLE, GEAR
- GATOR SKIN HANDBAGS, CASE KNIVES, NOVELTIES
- COSTA SUNGLASSES

* Chicken * Seafood * Gator Bites *

OPEN DAILY 7 AM to 7 PM! 203 COLLIER AVENUE, EVERGLADES CITY, FL 34139, PHONE: 239-695-3937



Living Gulf Coast by Charles Sobczak

Lizardfish (Synodus foetens) Other names: sea mat, soap fish / Status: FL=stable, IUCN=NE / Life span: to 2 years / Length: 10-16 in. (25-40 cm) / Weight: .60-1 lb. (272-452 g) / Spawns: in the offshore waters / Found: Both in the inshore and offshore waters of the Gulf of Mexico.

The lizardfish is an inshore, as well as nearshore species. Inshore it is seldom longer than a foot, whereas in deeper water it can grow to 18 inches or more. Its range extends from southern Brazil to Massachusetts.

Best described as unattractive, the lizardfish has a mouth that is oddly wider than its sausage-shaped body. It varies widely in coloration, but its mottled olive and brown skin has an interesting pattern.



The lizardfish is considered by almost all anglers to be a junk fish. No one eats it, and aside from occasional use as cut bait for grouper, it is seldom used for anything else. When hooked, the lizardfish puts up hardly any struggle. It is predominantly a bottom feeder but will take a deep trolled lure offshore. It feeds on crabs, fish, and crustaceans and is eaten by groupers and sharks.

Striped Mojarra (Diapterus plumieri) Other names: mojarra, sand perch, sand brim / Status: FL=stable, IUCN=NE / Life span: to 6 years / Length: 4-12 in. (10-30 cm) / Weight: 4-36 oz (113-1,020 g) / Spawns: in the nearshore waters / Found: Predominately found in the near shore or inshore waters of the Gulf.

With a range that extends from South Carolina to Brazil, the bulk of the striped



mojarra population lives in the Caribbean basin. Unlike pinfish or pigfish, the mojarra is sometimes trawl -netted and used for fishmeal in much the same fashion as menhaden. Fairly common, but generally only castnetted and seldom caught on hook and line, the mojarra is not as popular as other baitfish.

The mojarra tends to die when put into a bait well, even one with good circulation. Its flesh is far softer than pigfish, and, therefore, it does not stay on a hook as well. In the estuary it

feeds on micro-crustaceans, detritus, aquatic insects, and micro-bivalves. It is readily taken by snook, seatrout, and redfish. It can grow to be more than two pounds but because of its soft flesh does not make good table fare.

Charles Sobczak is an author and photographer from Sanibel Island, Florida.

Species	Legal Size	Daily Limit
Black Drum		
(slot)	14" - 24"	5 / harvester
Black Grouper	24''	1 / harvester
Cobia	33" fork	1 / harvester, 2 / boat
Flounder	12"	10 / harvester
Gag Grouper*	24"	***Season Closed***
	11" - 22"	
Permit (slot)	fork	1 / harvester, 2 / boat
Pompano	11" fork	6 / harvester
Redfish (slot)	18" - 27"	1 / harvester
Seatrout (slot)	15" - 20"	4 / harvester, 1 over 20
Sheepshead	12"	8 / harvester
Snook (slot)	28" - 32"	***Season Closed***
Spanish		
Mackerel	12" fork	15 / harvester
Tripletail	18"	2 / harvester

Fish Illustrations by Diane Peebles

> Quick Fishing Limits Guide Download the Complete Guide: <u>https://</u> <u>swflgo.com/</u> <u>florida-saltwater-</u> <u>fishing-</u> <u>regulations-2018/</u>

LOCAL HAPPENINGS Free Health & Vision Screening For Adults & Children January 29th, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm



There will be free health screening for adults and children at Everglades Community Church on January 29th. No appointments are necessary. This event is **sponsored by the Naples and Everglades Lions Club.**

2017 MSD Festival February 19th-23rd

In 1968 at the age of 78, Marjory Stoneman Douglas became actively involved in environmental issues when she opposed a planned jetport along the Tamiami Trail. She established Friends of the Everglades and began speaking on

their behalf to public and private entities across the state. In doing so, she was able to focus attention on the importance of protecting this national treasure.

Join us in celebrating the amazing "river of grass" and the legacy of Marjory. Most events start at the Museum of the Everglades in Everglades City.

> Opening Ceremony, Tuesday, February 19 Opening Luncheon at Everglades Isle (Cost: \$25; FME Members \$20) 10:45a-3p Welcome- Buffet Luncheon 803 Collier Ave. Everglades City, FL

Get the complete schedule online: www.evergladesmuseum.org

Museum of the Everglades, 105 West Broadway Everglades City, FL For Reservations Call: (239) 695-0008

Book Club Meeting February 21



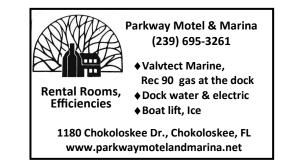
The Everglades City Book Club meets monthly during the season. We welcome visitors who are interested in books and discussion. If you would like to check out our club, please come to one of the club meetings. For information, contact

For more details, contact Patty Huff at: 239-695-2397.

Feb. 21: <u>Watership Down</u> by Richard Adam, Hosted by Linda Williams

Mar. 21: <u>Being Mortal</u> by Atul Gawande, Hosted by Judy Jury

Apr. 11: <u>Lilac Girls</u> by Martha Kelly, Hosted by Diann Lock



email: mulletrapper@gmail.com

www.swflgo.com

Regional News

Collier County Approves a Complete Streets Policy



On January 8, Collier County Commission approved a Complete Streets Resolution, joining 69 municipalities that have adopted Complete Streets Policies in Florida.

Complete Streets are

streets for all people and modes of transportation. Complete Streets are roadways designed for the safety and convenience of drivers, cyclists, and pedestrians alike of all ages and abilities. Complete streets make it easy to cross the street, walk to shops, and bicycle to work. This policy will allow transportation and land use planners to thoughtfully consider all modalities in new projects and resurfacing projects based on the context and use of the street. According to the Complete Streets Coalition, more than 1,140 local, regional, and state level agencies in the United States have adopted complete street policies since 2004. Complete Streets Policies help build communities where people can age in place, improve safety, improve health, and reduce isolation.

Blue Zones Project- Southwest Florida has a committee dedicated to promoting health in builtenvironment policies within Collier County. Blue Zones Project Policy Specialist, Jessica Crane worked closely with Collier County staff on this initiative and stated, "We continue to recognize that the built environment influences individual action which in turn can impact human health and well-being. Therefore, I want to commend staff and the Commissioners for passing this important resolution. This policy will hopefully go a long way in creating a healthier, safer, and more equitable county for current and future generations."

Naples Pathway Coalition and their members are long-time supporters of Complete Streets Policies. Michelle Avola, executive director of Naples Pathway Coalition stated, "Our community is made up of pedestrians, cyclists and motorists and our roadways need to better accommodate all road users. This policy resolution is an important step in making this happen. Follow through with the planning and design of future road improvements that truly adhere to Complete Streets guidelines will be even more important."

Pursuing a Complete Streets Policy is also in the Community Health Improvement Program put out by the Department of Health in Collier County. Public health departments across the country are now looking at the need for systemic builtenvironment changes to improve the obesity epidemic. Reggie Wilson, healthy communities coordinator for the Collier County Department of Health stated, "To reverse the U.S. obesity epidemic we need a coordinated approach to environmental change in order to support and promote healthy lifestyle choices. By enhancing safety where people are physically active, this will encourage people to walk, bike, or use public transportation when traveling for work, school or recreation."

Fakahatchee Strand News

Winter Fakahatchee Tram Tours Are the Perfect Day-Excursion!

Cooler temperatures make winter the perfect time to experience a swamp walk or tram tour in **Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park**. The park, east of Naples, is Florida's largest and has been called "the Amazon of North America."

Ghostrider Tram Tours of the park are from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The naturalist led tours are offered for \$25 per person most Thursdays in February and are named for the famous ghost orchid found in the park.

The Naturalist Led Tram Tour and Swamp Walks are from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. This \$60 excursion takes visitors into knee-high water and is offered on most Tuesdays during the season.

For directions, complete details and required reservations for all Fakahatchee adventures, visit **www.orchidswamp.org** and click on Tours and Events. Please be advised that tours sell out quickly so it is recommended to call and schedule your dates as soon as possible!

You can reach us by phone at (800) 362-8590. We look forward to seeing you there!

About the Fakahatchee Strand

The Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park is perhaps the best example of a subtropical, strand swamp in the United States. The Fakahatchee Strand is a linear swamp forest, approximately twenty miles long by five miles wide and oriented from north to south. The Strand harbors one of the largest concentrations and diversity of native orchids in North America, and supports numerous rare and endangered animal species. It is also one of the core areas of the current range of the Florida Panther.

The Strand's 85,000 acres are part of the main drainage slough of the Big Cypress Swamp. The Fakahatchee Strand is linked hydrologically to the Everglades system and is particularly important to the estuarine ecosystem of the Ten Thousand Islands area.

Local Happenings

Great Horned Owl Watch



As of this writing, the Great Horned Owl momma should be caring for her babies at her nest located on the light pole behind the fire station in Everglades City, and in front of the

Community Center & Thrift Shop.

This is the second straight year she has chosen this location as the place her new offspring will be brought into the world.

Photo taken by Greg Dupignac



Honor Your Loved One With A Brick at City Hall

(This is a Great Valentine's Day Gift too) If you want to celebrate an anniversary, welcome a new child, thank a friend, or mourn the passing of a love one, you can order a commemorative brick engraved with your message to be placed in front of Everglades City Hall.

The current campaign will close on February 14. That's a good time to proclaim your love on Valentine's Day and your loved one will receive a lovely greeting card as well as being remembered in perpetuity.

The campaign is organized by the Everglades Society for Historic Preservation. Order forms can be downloaded from their websitewww.evergladeshistorical.org, and are also available in Everglades City Hall. For information about commemorative bricks, call Marya at (239) 695-2905.





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EATERIES & AREA WORSHIP

Angler's Cove, Port of the Islands
(642-1025): Monday - Wed 5 to 11 pm,
Thurs to Sun Noon - 11 pm
Camellia Street Grille (695-2003):
11:00 am – 9:00 pm daily
City Seafood (695-4700):
8:00 am – 10:00 am; breakfast
Noon-6pm Lunch & Dinner
Glades Haven Marina (695-2091):
Deli Closed. Marina is open.
Live bait available at marina
Havana Café (695-2214):
Open Daily, 7 am to 4 pm
See our ad on page 10!
Island Café (695-0003):
6:00 am – 9:00 pm; daily
lvey House (695-3299):
6:30 – 9:30 am; daily
Joanie's Blue Crab Café (695-2682):
11:00 am – 4:00 pm
Open: Mon., Fri., Saturday & Sunday
Rod & Gun (695-2101):
11:30 am - 8:00 pm; daily
Tastes of the Everglades
Open Tues.—Sunday 3 pm till closing
Triad Seafood & Café (695-2662):
Open Every Day
10:30 am-5 pm
MARKETS
Right Choice Supermarket (695-4535):
M-Th 9 am– 7 pm, Fri-Sun, 7 am to 7 pm
M-Th 9 am– 7 pm, Fri-Sun, 7 am to 7 pm Grimm's Stone Crab (695-3222):
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1/26/19

Sat

1/26/19 Sat 6:33 AM 2.11Η 1/26/19 1:44 PM 0.14 L Sat 1/26/19 7:06 PM 2.27 Η Sat 1/27/19 Sun 2:34 AM 0.16 L 1/27/19 Sun 7:53 AM 1.82 Η 1/27/19 2:42 PM 0.37 L Sun 1/27/19 Η Sun 7:56 PM 2.27 1/28/19 3:49 AM 0.08 L Mon 1/28/19 Η Mon 9:21 AM 1.61 1/28/19 0.55 Mon 3:47 PM L 1/28/19 8:50 PM 2.27 Η Mon 1/29/19 Tue 4:57 AM -0.02L 1/29/19 Tue 11:38 AM 1.56 Η 1/29/19 4:53 PM 0.66 L Tue 1/29/19 9:47 PM 2.27 Η Tue 1/30/19 Wed 6:00 AM -0.12L 1/30/19 Wed 1:20 PM 1.69 Η 1/30/19 Wed 5:58 PM 0.7 L 1/30/19 Wed 10:48 PM 2.3 Η 1/31/19 Thu 6:55 AM -0.21 L 1/31/19 1.78 Η Thu 2:02 PM 0.69 1/31/19 Thu 6:56 PM L 1/31/19 2.36 Η Thu 11:44 PM 2/1/19 -0.29 Fri 7:42 AM L 2/1/19 2:26 PM 1.83 Η Fri 2/1/19 7:46 PM 0.65 L Fri 2/2/19 Sat 12:30 AM 2.43 Η 2/2/19 Sat 8:24 AM -0.34 L 2/2/19 2:36 PM 1.88 Η Sat 2/2/198:28 PM 0.6 L Sat 2/3/19 2.5 Η Sun 1:09 AM 2/3/19 9:02 AM -0.36 L Sun 1.94 Η 2/3/19 Sun 2:50 PM 2/3/19 9:06 PM 0.55 L Sun 2/4/19 2.54 Mon 1:45 AM Η 2/4/19 9:39 AM -0.36 L Mon 2/4/19 3:13 PM 2.01 Η Mon 2/4/19 Mon 9:42 PM 0.49 L 2/5/19 2.55 Η Tue 2:18 AM 2/5/19 10:14 AM -0.32 L Tue 2/5/19 3:42 PM 2.08 Η Tue 2/5/19 Tue 10:18 PM 0.45 L 2/6/19 Wed 2:52 AM 2.52 Η 2/6/19 Wed 10:47 AM -0.25 L 2/6/19 4:12 PM Η Wed 2.14 2/6/19 Wed 10:53 PM 0.4 L 2/7/19 Thu 3:26 AM 2.44 Η 2/7/19 11:19 AM -0.16 L Thu 2.18 2/7/19 Thu 4:44 PM Η 2/7/19 Thu 11:29 PM 0.35 L Н 2/8/19 Fri 4:02 AM 2.31 2/8/19 11:48 AM -0.04 L Fri 2.19 2/8/19 5:15 PM Η Fri 2/9/19 12:07 AM 0.32 L Sat 2/9/19 Η Sat 4:42 AM 2.15 2/9/19 Sat 12:16 PM 0.1 L 2/9/19 5:44 PM 2.17 Η Sat

A Brief History of Everglades City Airport by Mike Klein

FAA designation for the airport is X01 – the first in the state chartered by the FAA. Everglades Airpark started life as a landing strip for the Collier brothers, sons of Barron Collier, the founder of Collier County and Everglades City. The impetus for an airport in Everglades City came from the Collier sons who lived in Palm Beach and flew in to attend business meetings after their father had passed away. (There were originally three sons; Barron Jr., Miles, and Samuel. Samuel was killed in a racing accident at Watkins Glen NY; where the Collier Cup trophy is named in his honor).

The first airport manager was Albin Gerish whose wife Gretchen was the registered nurse attached to the little Juliet Carnes Collier hospital (5 beds) next to the Rod & Gun. Son Albin (recently deceased) remembered helping as a youngster to mow the grass landing strip.

In 1947 President Harry Truman visited the airport to inaugurate the opening of the **Everglades National Park**

After the Collier interests shifted to Naples in the mid-1950s, the airport was leased to the City. In 1961 permission to land was granted by the FAA who agreed in 1964 to provide funds for a mile-long runway.

In 1968 the County agreed to buy the land and make improvements such as a better runway, lighting and fencing. The runway was extended from 1800 to 2400 feet in 1969.

Collier County purchased Everglades Airpark from the Colliers for \$125,000 in 1968 funded through monetary assistance provided by the Federal Aviation Administration, a National Park Grant, and Collier County, who maintained the property until the Airport Authority was created to operate the airpark in 1993.

Major work to "transform that landing strip into an airport" was undertaken in 1994 and the new airport building, hangers and sheriff's dwelling were opened in 1996. Funding for the development came from the State, the County and the National Park.

In 2005 Hurricane Wilma damaged the hangars, which were replaced in 2009.

Hurricane Irma decimated the hangars again in 2017; currently undergoing repair.



EVERGLADES COMMUNITY CHURCH The Friendly Church on the Circle Non-Denominational **101 South Copeland Avenue** P.O. Box 177, Everglades City, FL 34139 (239) 732-5878 The Rev. Dr. Bob N. Wallace, Pastor Sunday Worship Service 11:00 A.M. Sunday School Nov. 17th - April, 9:45 A.M. www.ever-community-church.com

email: mulletrapper@gmail.com

239-394-5181

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<u>The MULLET RAPPER</u>

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

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