



The MULLET RAPPER

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

TIDE TABLE &
RESTAURANTS
PAGE 11

JANUARY 27, 2018 - FEBRUARY 9, 2018



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P O Box 134, Everglades City, FL, 34139

Volume X • Issue # 304

Save the Dates!
The Seafood Festival is Almost Here!
February 9th-11th

Seafood Festival Lineup



Friday Night, February 9th

- 5:00-5:30: *Opening Ceremony*
- 5:30-6:00: *Charlie Pace*
- 6:15-7:00: *Lost Rodeo*
- 7:30-8:45: *Let's Hang On, A Frankie Valley Tribute*


Saturday, February 10th

- 10:00 am: *Opening Ceremony*
- 11:00-12:00: *TBA*
- 12:30-1:30: *Them Hamilton Boys*
- 2:00-3:00: *Tim Charon Band*
- 3:30-5:00: *TBA*
- 5:30-6:45: *Lauren Mitchell*
- 7:15-8:40: *Tim Elliot*

Sunday, February 11th

- 11:00-Noon: *Opening Ceremony*
- 12:15-12:45: *Tim Charon Band*
- 1:15-2:00: *Gator Nate*
- 2:30-3:30: *Tim Elliot*
- 4:00: *Nadia Turner*

Please do not bring coolers or pets to the Seafood Festival


Saturday Night Movie!
January 27th, 6:00 PM
@ Museum of the Everglades
Wind Across the Everglades

 Join us for a special outdoor screening of the 1958 Budd Schulberg feature "**Wind Across the Everglades**," filmed in Everglades City and Chokoloskee. This special screening will feature an introduction by KC Schulberg, nephew of Director Budd Schulberg and son of Producer Stuart Schulberg.

 Bring a chair this will be shown outdoors.

Scout Morris Scores Record 72 Points in Game

(excerpts from Naples Daily News)
 During halftime of Everglades City Schools game January 16h at Ahfachkee High School on the Seminole Big Cypress Reservation, Everglades City School basketball star Scout Morris knew he had a shot at history.

With 28 points, he was halfway to the school record of 56 when he had a talk with his teammates.



"I told them I really wanted the record, so they agreed that with it being my senior year, this might be my last shot to really go for it," Morris said. "I was pretty hot at that point and they just kept feeding me the ball."

Morris actually got hotter in the second half, scoring 22 points in the third quarter and 22 more in the fourth quarter to obliterate the record on his way to a truly phenomenal 72-point night in the Gators' 95-70 win.

"Seventy-two points. I still don't believe it when I say it," he said. "It's a night I'm always going to remember."

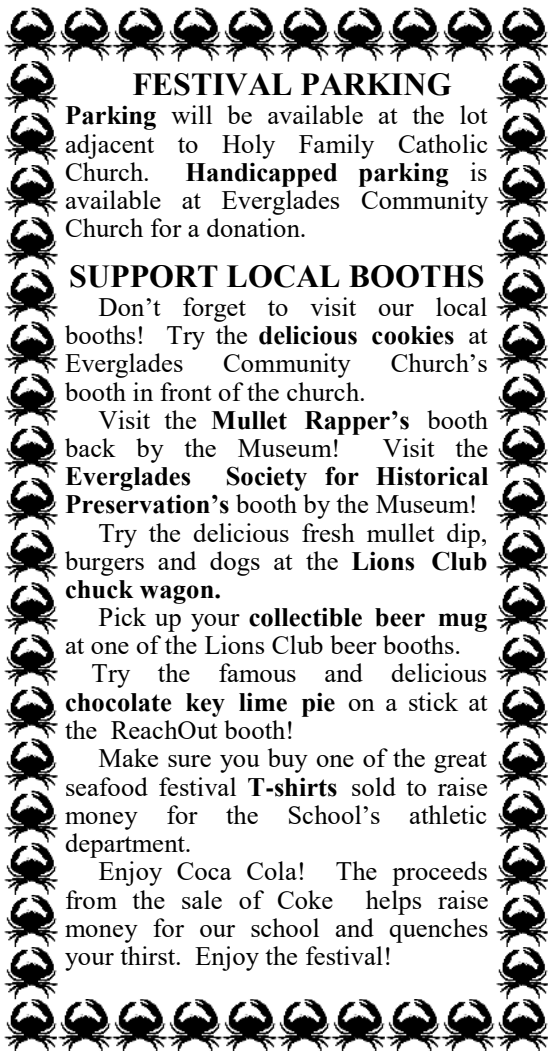
Perhaps the most impressive part of his performance was the way he went about it, coach Becky Welch said.

"He really didn't force bad shots at all," she said.

Morris has already shattered most of Everglades City's boys basketball records including the first Gators player to reach 2,000 points in a career.

Congratulations Scout!

Photo above: Scout Morris with Coach Becky Welch.



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.

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 **Mullet Rapper's** booth back by the Museum! Visit the **Everglades Society for Historical Preservation's** booth by the Museum!

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

Pick up your **collectible beer mug** at one of the Lions Club 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 our school and quenches your thirst. Enjoy the festival!

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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.

JANUARY 28, 2018 – MARCH 3, 2018

<u>SUN</u>	<u>MON</u>	<u>TUES</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THURS</u>	<u>FRI</u>	<u>SAT</u>
28	29	30	31 full moon ☉ Ladies Coffee City Seafood 8 am	February 1	2	3
4	5 ESHP Mtg, 8:30 am	6 FME Mtg. Museum 4 pm City Council Mtg, City Hall 7pm	7 Ladies Coffee Havana Café 8 am	8 Lions Club, 6 pm Havana Café	9 Seafood Festival 	10 RAPPER Seafood Festival 
11 Seafood Festival 	12	13 Free Dental Screenings, See p. 3	14 Ladies Coffee Island Café 8 am Valentines Day 	15 new moon ● Book Club, see p. 3	16	17 Pancake Fly- in, see p. 3
18 Loop Road Bike Ride, see p. 3	19 President's Day	20 P&Z Board, City Hall 7:30 pm MSD Fest, see p.1	21 Ladies Coffee City Seafood 8 am MSD Fest, see p.3	22 MSD Fest, see p.3	23 ESHP Talk Island Café 5:30 pm MSD Fest, see p.3	24 RAPPER Art-in-Glades 10am-1pm ORA Bazaar, see p. 10 MSD Fest, see p.3
25	26	27	28 Ladies Coffee Havana Café 8 am	March 1 full moon ☉	2	3

March 11: Ava Maria Bike Ride

March 17: Pancake Fly-in

March 24: Calusa Days

THRIFT SHOP: Closed until further notice
LIONS CLUB: 2nd Thursday of month, 6 pm
DR DEMARTINO: Marco Island office information on p.3.
DR MARTIN: Call for appointment: 813-787-9738
AA: Wed., 5:00 pm, temporary City Hall bldg.
MUSEUM: Open Monday-Saturday, 9 am to 4 pm. 239-695-0008
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 TBA
LITTLE GATOR CLINIC: Not seeing patients at this time
VETERANS SUPPORT: 2nd & 4th Wed. of month, noon—2 pm
COMMUNITY CHURCH FOOD PANTRY: See p. 3
SMALLWOOD STORE: 10 am to 5 pm
PANCAKE FLY-IN: 2/17, 3/17, 4/21 at 10 to 12, E-City Airport

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-Sat: 10 am to 3 pm-PO is reopened. Stamps, mail, no weighing.
Chokoloskee (239) 695-4468 Mon-Sat: 10 am to 3 pm- PO is reopened. Stamps, mail, no weighing.
Ochopee (239) 695-2099 Mon-Fri: 8 am to 10 am, noon to 4 pm; Sat: 10 am to 11:30 am

SHERIFF: 239-252-9300 CITY HALL: 239-695-3781 PUBLIC LIBRARY: 239-695-2511 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

COME RIDE WITH US! February 18th

Join our group as we cycle through the beautiful Everglades area and enjoy the nature and comradery of our fellow riders.

For more information, please email info@evergladesrogg.org or call Patty at: 239-695-2397. You can also review the schedule online at www.evergladesrogg.org/events.

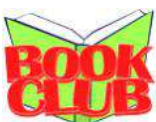
February 18th – Loop Road in the Big Cypress & ENP (off-road). Meet at W. end of Loop Road, 9 am

March 11 – Ave Maria (on-road). Meet at McLeod Park, Everglades City, 9 am

April 8 – Bear Island in the Big Cypress (off-road). Meet at Bear Island (end of Turner River Road)



Book-of-the-Month Club February 15th, 9:30 am



Join us as our annual book club meets each month at 9:30 a.m. to discuss an interesting title. Below is our winter schedule. For more details, contact Patty Huff at: 239-695-2397.

Feb. 15: *The Orphan Train*, hosted by Sadie Stroud, 165 Lopez Ln, Chokoloskee

Mar. 15: *A Girl Named Tommie*, author will attend and Elaine Middelstaedt will lead discussion

Apr. 19: *The Tale of Edgar Sawtelle*, Hostess Diann Lock, 498 Collier Ave., phone: 812-361-7402

PANCAKE FLY-IN BREAKFAST February 17th, 10 am to noon



The pancake fly-in is back! Please join us each month to meet and enjoy a free pancake breakfast with sausage and coffee. Of course, fly-ins are encouraged and we welcome walk-ins as well! Fly-in dates are: 2/17, 3/17 and 4/21. We hope to see you there!

14th Annual MSD Festival February 20-24

The annual celebration of the life of Marjorie Stoneman Douglas, the Grand Dame of the Everglades, will be hosted by the Friends of the Museum of the Everglades on February 20th through 24th. Although Marjorie Stoneman Douglas died in 1998 at 108 years of age, her power of observation and skillful use of the written word lives on. Her legacy serves as a challenge to succeeding generations, not only to persevere in the fight to save the Everglades, but to discover for themselves the incredible beauty of the natural wonder we call the "River of Grass."

COMMUNITY SERVICES

FOOD BANK OPEN!

Wednesdays 11 am to 1 pm

The Harry Chapin Food Bank is open every **Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.** in the parking lot in front of River Wilderness Waterfront Villas, 210 Collier Avenue, across from the Marathon Service Station.

FREE DENTAL SCREENINGS ALL AGES- FEB. 13TH 9 am to 4 pm

The Healthcare Network of Southwest Florida's Health & Smiles Mobil Dental Bus is scheduled to be in Everglades City on **February 13th** 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 239-986-7323.

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 Everglades City. Call to make an appt. or leave a message: 813-787-9738.

~ ACCOUNTING SERVICES ~ MIKE "THE TAX GUY"



Local and professional, personal & business tax services in Everglades City. Call 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 while we make repairs.

Friends of Fakahatchee Announce 2018 Event Schedule

(Check Online for More Dates)

The Friends of Fakahatchee have announced their 2018 schedule of guided adventures to introduce visitors to Florida's largest state park -- Fakahatchee Strand Preserve. The park entrance is on State Route 29 in Copeland, FL, just north of Everglades City.



Ghost Rider Tram

Tours from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. are offered for \$25 per person on Saturday, Jan.



27, Saturday, Feb. 3, and Thurs., Feb. 8th. The tours are named for the famous ghost orchid

found in the park.

Naturalist Led Swamp Walks are scheduled for Saturdays on Feb. 10 and Feb. 25. The Feb. 10 walk will be led by park biologist Mike Owen. On these five-hour adventures, naturalists lead participants deep into the swamp in knee high water. Swamp walks are \$75 and begin at 9:30 am.



The Combination Tram Tour and Swamp Walk is offered at 9:30 am on Tuesday, Feb. 20 and Tuesday, Feb. 27. This popular four-hour tour pairs a one-hour swamp walk with a guided tram tour for \$60 per person.


More Dates are available in March !

For required reservations and additional dates through March, visit: www.orchidswamp.org and click on Tours and Events.

Help Feral Felines!

Say it isn't so! Someone stole the donation for the feral felines from Right Choice Supermarket leaving Barbara, and the kitties, in a bit of a pinch. Can you help? If you can, please mail your donation to:
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1/13/18 Puzzle Solution

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13	C	O	B		14	S	Y	S	T	E	M	S	
16	I	K	E		17	A	S	H	E	S			
18	A	I	R		19	L	I	N	E	R			
21	L	E	T		22	I	N	T	O	M	B	S	
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		28	29							30	T	U	X
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HOMECOMING 2018

**A Message From the Principal
Mr. James Ragusa**



**Homecoming is January 27th and the
Community is Invited to Attend!**

With the beginning of 2018 upon us, we are looking forward to our annual Homecoming ceremony and crowning of this year's King and Queen. The basketball teams have worked diligently to maintain focus despite the challenges of playing every game on the road and practices occurring outdoors. Their spirit and efforts really shine through and we are very proud of their efforts each day to give their best on the court each game. The homecoming games this year will be held at Donahue Academy of Friday, January 26th. It will also be Senior Night for both teams. The Lady Gators play at 5:30pm and the boys play at 6:30pm. The recognition of the seniors will occur between games.

To allow our families and community the opportunity to attend the ceremony of presenting the homecoming court this year, we will host this event on **Saturday, January 27th at 6:00 pm in the cafeteria.** Once the ceremony is completed, there will be time to take pictures after the crowning of the King and Queen. Afterwards, we will hold our Homecoming Dance from 7:00pm to 9:00pm in the cafeteria. We hope you are able to attend and if you have any questions about the event don't hesitate to call the school at 239-377-9800.
IT ALWAYS A GREAT DAY TO BE A GATOR!

School Schedule:

February 14: Early dismissal day
March 12-16: Spring Break

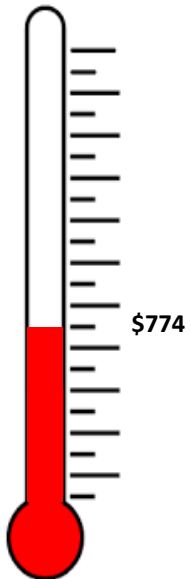
For school information, visit <http://www.collierschools.com/EVG>

**Donations to School Athletics
\$\$\$ Boosted by Fundraiser \$\$\$**

January started off with a bang with sales of the Rapper strong and the plant-sale fundraiser on January 13. So far in 2018, the Mullet Rapper has donated & raised \$774.15 for the Everglades City School Athletic Department.

Remember, the Mullet Rapper donates 100% of the proceeds from the sale of the print edition of the paper! When you see the coin receptacle, please put your quarter (or more) into the slot!

Every quarter you donate is helping students achieve their goals. School athletics help students receive grants and scholarships and are also shown to help keep students focused and on track with their studies!



2016-17 SW Florida High School Graduation Rates

The Florida Department of Education (FDOE) released high school graduation rates for the class of 2017 on January 10, 2018.

4-Year Federal Graduation Rate	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17
Barron Collier High	87.7	91.3	93.1	92	93	92.70	92.4
Collier Virtual School							46.2
Everglades City	45.5	100	88.9	90.9	--	--	88.2
Golden Gate High	60.9	72.9	78.2	73.3	90.2	87.70	92.8
Gulf Coast High	90.4	94.2	94.1	95.1	94.6	97.40	96.4
Immokalee High	64.7	79.8	86.8	89.1	90.9	91.00	90.6
L. Walker Technical High	77.3	93	94.5	100	97.5	97.30	99.3
Lely High	74.3	83.6	89.7	91.3	87.2	89.80	94.5
Naples High	86.4	88.6	88.1	92.4	90.9	90.60	93.1
Palmetto Ridge High	82.3	84.1	87.8	87.3	89.3	91.90	94.9
Marco Island Academy	--	--	--	89.5	97.3	98.20	100.0
District	72.5	78.4	81.3	82.1	84.3	86.70	88.2
State	70.6	74.5	75.6	76.1	77.9	80.70	82.3

The statewide graduation rate for Collier County Public Schools (CCPS) climbed to 88.2 %, an increase of 15.7 percentage points since 2010-11 and 1.5 percentage points over last year. This rate is the highest graduation rate in the history of CCPS.

This is further evidence that more students are achieving success by earning a standard high school diploma, which will enable them to pursue their college and career goals.

\$1,200 Scholarship Opportunity Being Offered by the FSASE



Jennifer J. Edwards, Collier County Supervisor of Elections, is currently accepting applications for a scholarship opportunity provided by the Florida State Association of Supervisors of Elections (FSASE). The FSASE is offering three \$1,200 scholarships to eligible Florida residents enrolled or accepted as full-time students in a senior college or university in Florida.

Applicants must be Political Science, Public or Business Administration, or Journalism/Mass Communication majors who have finished two years of junior college or undergraduate work. Students should also demonstrate a financial need.

The scholarship applications and guidelines are available at www.CollierVotes.com, or can be obtained at the Collier County Supervisor of Elections Office located at 3750 Enterprise Avenue, Naples, FL 34104.

Completed applications and two letters of recommendation must be submitted by 5 p.m. on Thursday, March 29 to the Supervisor of Elections of the county in which the applicant is registered to vote. Each county's Supervisor will review the applications received and select one finalist to be sent to the FSASE Scholarship Committee. The committee will announce the scholarship recipients at the FSASE 2018 Summer Conference.

FSASE is a statewide, professional organization of 67 county Supervisors of Elections, dedicated to "supporting fair, honest and accurate elections in the state of Florida."

For more information visit www.CollierVotes.com or contact the Supervisor of Elections office at (239) 252-VOTE.



My Little Slice of Paradise

By Kathy Brock

History is the best teacher. I recently read an article from the Santa Cruz Sentinel dated May 10, 1898. The writer of that article was Bart Andrews. It seems Mr. Andrews had taken a trip to the Everglades to document plume hunting.

In the article simply titled, "The Slaughter of Birds," Mr. Andrews describes the era (or error) he was living in and the "deed" necessary to feed the fashion industry craze. As he describes it, plumed hats and garments were a type of status. The upper-crust woman simply had to have a fancy plumed hat - and the fashion industry was only too happy to supply it to her as they made quite a bit of money doing it.



He eloquently described how he came to the Florida Everglades and went on a trip with an expert plume hunter. Through the high sawgrass they saw a hammock of trees where a rookery existed. Andrews estimated that there were 250 nests at this rookery, and they spotted the number one and two targets; the Great White Heron and the Snowy Egret.

In March and April these birds are in their finest mating plumage and this is precisely what would look best on a hat, boa or fancy dress.

They arrive at the rookery early in the morning to hunt their targets. The ones that flee by flight eventually come back because their parenting instinct is greater than their survival instinct. When they return, they too are gunned down.

In that one afternoon the "ace hunter" was able to take out every "white" on the rookery. That not being bad/sad enough, he goes on to describe that every nest had chicks that would simply starve to death now that the parents were dead. In a matter of hours two generations gone.

Only 5 to 10% of the feathers were used. They were removed, and the dead bird carcasses were left in the swamp.

The Great White Heron's plumes would sell for \$1.00 to \$1.50 each. The Snowy Egret's would bring \$.75 to \$1.00 each. Back then this was very good money and money alone was apparently enough. What he also infers is that the consuming public, in this case women, really did not contemplate "how the feathers were obtained" they just liked them and wanted a fancy, feathery hat.

I have read similar articles about the Great Auk. This penguin type bird was once very abundant in the Northern Atlantic. Being flightless, kind of chunky and slow, they were not difficult to hunt. They would nest on islands by the thousands. As seafarers found them, they would report their whereabouts to their colleagues/friends. The same pattern would repeat itself, all wiped out in one day until there where no more remaining. The seafarers who killed the last pair even documented it knowing they were probably killing the last remaining mating pair. Wow, really? Wouldn't one pause and think, "Gee, maybe I shouldn't do this?" I guess not.

What this tells me is that ignorance is not bliss and it is our job to ask questions and understand the origin of things. Especially the things we buy, sell and trade in our society.

We must also analyze the tradeoffs. Is it really OK to wipe out a species, or potentially wipe them out, so you can stick their feathers on your hat? It's not like the feathers were being used to keep children from freezing to death. They were an unnecessary adornment on a silly hat. **If** those women were asked that question, certainly **some of them** would have said no to the hat.

Hopefully, we have progressed beyond the point where a feathery hat would have more perceived "value" than the lifecycle of one of God's creations.

Visit the exhibit at the Everglades Museum, Pauline Reeves Gallery about plume hunting featured in the movie *Wings Across the Everglades*.

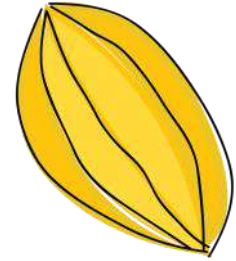


Recipes for Good Eating

Submitted by Denise Rousseau
Starfruit Salsa

Ingredients

- 3 starfruit, seeded and chopped
- 1 jalapeno, seeded and finely chopped
- 1/4 sweet onion, chopped fine
- 2 inch piece of fresh ginger, minced
- juice from 2 Meyer lemons (subs. lime or lemon, to taste)
- Pinch salt
- Pinch sugar (substitute stevia or honey)
- 1 t. finely chopped basil
- 1 t. finely chopped stevia leaves (if available)



Directions:

Prepare and mix all ingredients and refrigerate to chill. The salsa gets better the longer it sits. This is excellent with chips as an alternative to tomato based salsa or as a garnish on fish.



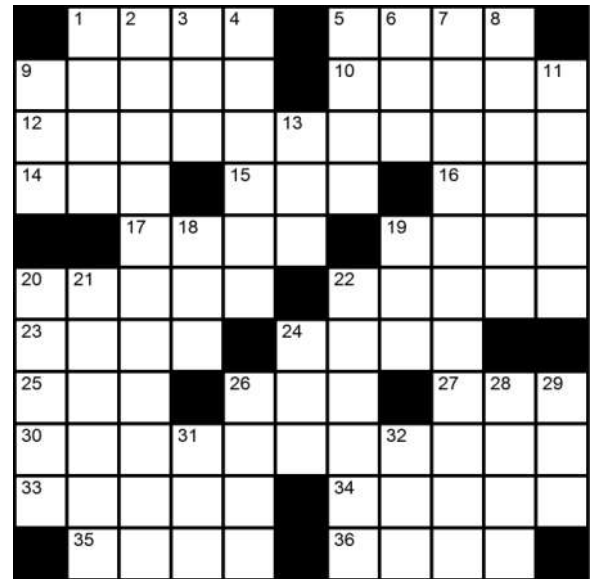
MULLET RAPPER CROSSWORD

Across

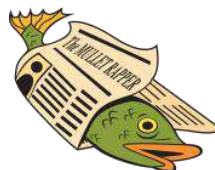
- 1 Continuous dull pain
- 5 Garage sale warning
- 9 What Rhett Butler didn't give
- 10 Ate at Island Café
- 12 What "A" represents
- 14 Cost-of-living measure
- 15 Electrically charged particle
- 16 Med. care choice
- 17 You drive it on the course
- 19 Shed tears
- 20 You weigh on it
- 22 They might swing
- 23 Detest
- 24 A blue tarp may be on it
- 25 Large flightless bird
- 26 Home of the NFL Colts
- 27 1918 pandemic
- 30 Flight science
- 33 A type of accident
- 34 Singer --- Ronstadt
- 35 Inquires
- 36 Ova

Down

- 1 Take --- (try the pool)
- 2 Cartoon likenesses
- 3 Pinafore's letters
- 4 Complete
- 5 Yemeni seaport
- 6 Act as a model
- 7 Looming
- 8 Sounded
- 9 Dolphins conference
- 11 Falls
- 13 You put a house on it
- 18 A type of dark beer
- 19 Solicit
- 20 Bundle of stalks
- 21 Image recorder
- 22 Space vehicle
- 24 Retrovirus material
- 26 Press fluids
- 28 Some TV screens
- 29 This publication is based in part of it
- 31 Bourbon flavoring
- 32 Welding method



1/27/18



TAXING THINGS

by Mike the Tax Guy

A Few More New Tax Rules

Health Insurance

The IRS extended the 2018 due date for certain employers and health coverage providers to furnish 2017 health coverage information forms to individuals. Because of these extensions, individuals may not receive their Forms 1095-B or 1095-C by the time they are ready to file their 2017 individual income tax return. While information on these forms may assist in preparing a return, taxpayers are not required to have these forms to file.

New mailing address for Forms 8809

All Forms 8809, Application for Extension of Time to File Information Returns, filed on paper are now processed by the IRS in Ogden, Utah. These paper forms must be mailed. Faxes will not be accepted.

**The mailing address is:
Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service Center
Ogden, UT 84201-0209**

The IRS will only grant extensions for very specific reasons. For example, records were lost in a disaster or someone responsible for filing the company's returns has an unavoidable absence.

And just in case you want to skip town:
WASHINGTON — The Internal Revenue Service strongly encouraged taxpayers who are seriously behind on their taxes to pay what they owe or enter into a payment agreement with the IRS to avoid putting their passports in jeopardy. This month, the IRS will begin implementation of new procedures affecting individuals with "seriously delinquent tax debts." The FAST Act requires the IRS to notify the State Department of taxpayers the IRS has certified as owing a seriously delinquent tax debt and requires the State Department to deny their passport application or deny renewal of their passport. In some cases, the State Department may revoke their passport.

In this world
nothing can be said
to be certain
except death
and taxes.

— Benjamin Franklin —

A Community Update From District Commander Lt. Jake Walker, MA



I have been the District Commander of the Everglades area for twenty-one months, and I would like to extend to each of our residents my sincere appreciation for the warm welcome that I have received and continue to enjoy. The relationships that we have developed have allowed us all to work collectively to identify and address the issues that are of concern to the residents, visitors, and deputies in the area. Although more in depth than expressed in this article, we have identified and endeavored to address our three priorities; crime prevention and suppression, community engagement, and traffic safety. While there are many facets to these issues, they are often interrelated. The most important and successful aspect of our law enforcement efforts has been the cooperation that we have received from members of the local community.

The method that the Sheriff's Office utilizes for accountability and tracking of Part I Crimes; murder, robbery, burglary, vehicle larceny, and rape, is the ComStat process. Every twenty-eight days all aspects of the Sheriff's Office come together to report on these crimes and the various strategies for preventing them, reducing them, and solving them. During the year 2017, the residents of the Everglades area experienced twenty-one (21) Part I Crimes. This is a fifty-three percent (53%) reduction from the forty-five (45) Part I Crimes experienced in the year 2016. The area also experienced twenty-eight (28) Grand Thefts in 2017, a four percent (4%) reduction from the twenty-nine (29) Grand Thefts experienced in 2016. Eight of the 2017 Grand Thefts were thefts of boat motors that occurred during, and were likely directly related to, Hurricane Irma activity. If not for these storm related thefts, I believe we would have seen a substantial decrease in this crime category as well. Additionally, there were five unintentional narcotics overdoses in 2017. This is a twenty-nine percent (29) reduction from 2016. Two of the 2017 overdoses involved the same person, and the person survived both brushes with death. In one incident, deputies arrived quickly and rendered lifesaving medical treatment. In the other incident, Collier County E.M.S. rendered the lifesaving medical treatment.

The real benefit to this lower crime number is that fewer of our residents and businesses have been victimized. There are many reasons for the reduction in crime. The most important factor is that of citizens who had partnered with law enforcement to report crime, serve as witnesses, and follow through with prosecution. Another significant factor is the fact that several known offenders were arrested and incarcerated during 2016 and early in 2017. Consequently, they were not moving about victimizing their neighbors. You should know that a handful of these incarcerated subjects have recently been released from incarceration and have returned to the area. The Sheriff's Office continues to employ a variety of traditional and non-traditional strategies and tactics to address the issues facing our area. However, we all must continue to work collectively to keep our community safe and crime free by reporting suspicious activity, whether it is drug related or involves other criminal activity. While arrests are not the measure of a successful law enforcement organization, these apprehensions are an element in enforcement and crime reduction strategies. In 2017 the Everglades Area deputies conducted one hundred and seventy-seven (177) arrests. Fifty-two (52) of these arrests were for narcotics related offenses; such as, trafficking in cocaine, trafficking in heroine, manufacturing methamphetamines, possession charges, etc.... Due to the cooperation of victims and witnesses, a number of arrests were also made for burglaries and thefts.

We all know that a small percentage of our population commit a disproportionately large number of crimes. This is why it is so important that when we are able to establish probable cause to arrest a subject for one of these predatory crimes, the victim and witnesses cooperate with the prosecution of the offender. This civic duty serves to prevent others around us from being victimized. If drug addiction is an underlying cause of a particular offender's predatory actions, arrest and separation from the dangerous drugs may save their life.

In addition to the various crime reduction strategies and tactics that we employ, I look forward to continuing to work collaboratively with all aspects of our community to further reduce victimization, drug related medical emergencies, and to improve the professional law enforcement services in the area. Most importantly however, the law enforcement and community partnerships are essential to ensuring that we receive the citizen generated information and intelligence that is invaluable to the crime prevention and crime solution process. There are many ways to get important information to the sheriff's office:

WHO TO CALL:

Collier County Sheriff's Office Dispatch Emergency: 911

Collier County Sheriff's Office Dispatch NON Emergency: 239-252-9300

Collier County Sheriff's Office TIPS line: 239-775-TIPS(8477) or e-mail: tips@colliersheriff.org

If you have information concerning narcotics activity or a crime that is under investigations, you can remain anonymous and possibly be eligible for a reward by calling CRIMESTOPPERS at 1-800-780 TIPS(8477)

I look forward to working with all of our residents to address the issues that face the area.

Thank you,

Lieutenant Jake Walker, MA

Collier County Sheriff's Office District Commander Patrol Division – District 5



Living Gulf Coast

by Charles Sobczak

Wild Boar (*Sus scrofa*) Other names: Wild Pig, Razorback, European Boar, Boar, Feral Pig, Feral Swine, Piney Woods Rooter / Status: FL = thriving, IUCN = LC / Length: 2.9-6 ft (.09-1.8 m) / Height at shoulder: 30-42 in. (76-109 cm) / Weight: 110-420 lb (50-190 kg) / Life span: to 20 years / Breeds: throughout SW Florida / Found: All Counties, coastal, near coast, inland / Wild Boars breed all year round.



The European wild boar is one of the most destructive invasive species ever introduced into North America. Originally transported by Hernando de Soto to the gulf coast of Florida in 1539 as domestic livestock, these escaped pigs have now expanded their range northward to the upper peninsula of Michigan, westward to California, and eastward to Virginia. Texas and Florida have the largest populations of wild hogs. In Texas the wild boar is outcompeting the native collared peccary, or javelina, which seldom weighs more than 50 pounds.

In Florida the wild boar population is estimated in excess of 500,000. More than 100,000 wild boars are taken by hunters in the Sunshine State annually, though this impressive harvest is still inadequate for keeping the soaring population in check. It breeds year round; the sow is capable of producing two litters a year, with as many as 12 piglets per litter. Left unchecked, the wild hog population in Florida could easily overwhelm the balance of nature and do immeasurable harm to other species by consuming too much of the available food sources. A single 400-pound boar can devour bushels of acorns in a week, leaving little for the other acorn-eating species such as deer, wild turkeys, opossums, raccoons, armadillos, and any number of birds. The wild boar also eats snakes, carrion, refuse, insects, and reptiles.

Another problem with the wild boar is its habit of using its six-inch tusks to root out grubs, roots, and tubers, causing irreparable damage to the understory of forests and pastureland. As a result, many of the region's parks and preserves such as Myakka River State Park have ongoing trapping operations to reduce, or optimistically eliminate, the wild boar from the ecosystem. The hogs taken from these traps are sold by the trappers as game meat.

The wild boar story has a silver lining. In the 1920s and 1930s Florida's white-tailed deer population was intentionally eradicated by the state because it was believed to be transmitting diseases to Florida's domestic cattle. With the deer population down to 20,000 animals statewide, the only substantial food source left for the Florida panther became the wild boar. This allowed the panther to survive into the 21st century. Today the deer population has rebounded, but feral pigs, especially piglets, still play an important part in the panther's survival.

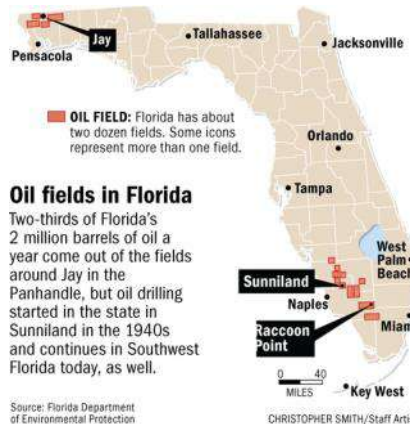
The trouble with the panther's diet of wild pig is that swine are known vectors of diseases. One of these is pseudorabies, a disease similar to rabies that is fatal to panthers. Another common disease is swine brucellosis, which can be fatal to humans as well. Care should always be taken when handling wild boar meat as both the mucous and blood can transmit disease, including trichinosis.

With a half-million wild hogs out there, it is unlikely Florida will ever be free of this intelligent and adaptive omnivore. Its primary cause of mortality is hunting by humans, followed by predation of smaller hogs by panthers; predation of piglets by owls, eagles, coyotes, bobcats, and black bears; and, finally, cannibalization by solitary male boars. Although not inherently dangerous to humans, a cornered or wounded boar wielding six-inch tusks is a formidable threat, and care should always be exercised when encountering one of these animals in the wild.

Please join Sanibel author Charles Sobczak on **February 20th, 2018**, at 4:00 p.m. for a presentation about this and other invasive species at the CROW Museum, 3883 San-Cap Road, Sanibel. The lecture is titled "The Great Florida Invasion – From Pepper to Pythons," and should be of interest to anyone living in Southwest Florida and wanting to learn more about how invasive species impact their lives. **Photo by Blake Sobczak**

Editorial Response by the National Park Service

This article was submitted by Adrianna McClane of the National Park Service as a response to the article published in the January 13th, 2018 edition of the Mullet Rapper titled, "The Florida Everglades is a Sanctuary for Wildlife, Not a Place for Oil Drilling Investment" submitted by Kevin O'Donnell, an FGCU student.



Oil fields in Florida

Two-thirds of Florida's 2 million barrels of oil a year come out of the fields around Jay in the Panhandle, but oil drilling started in the state in Sunniland in the 1940s and continues in Southwest Florida today, as well.

Source: Florida Department of Environmental Protection

CHRISTOPHER SMITH/Staff Artist

Big Cypress National Preserve anticipates that Burnett Oil Company will request to resume the Nobles Grade 3D Seismic Survey in 2018. Like last year, Burnett Oil Company is not permitted to start work until water levels and environmental conditions are met. We use hydrologic water levels, condition assessments, and observation to determine when soils are sufficiently dry to allow activity.

Burnett Oil Company will be required to provide monitoring and NPS approval for source and receiver lines. I don't have a specific date, as conditions in the field are largely weather dependent. If all conditions are met, there is some likelihood that activity could begin in March or April.

- ◆ Burnett Oil Company is conducting the Nobles Grade 3D Seismic Survey, a proposal that the National Park Service and Burnett examined and refined for more than two years before it was approved in May 2016
- ◆ The survey is being conducted to determine the nature and extent of private mineral interests underlying the Preserve, while protecting Preserve resources
- ◆ Burnett has been conducting its preliminary survey activities since March 27, 2017
- ◆ Burnett moved to the "data acquisition" phase of the Nobles Grade 3D Seismic Survey, which will involve the use of vibroseis buggies
- ◆ The survey will occur only during dry season conditions, and incorporates 47 mandatory measures to avoid or mitigate the impacts from the survey
- ◆ On April 24, 2017, the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida denied a motion for preliminary injunction filed by several plaintiff groups
- ◆ The Court also found no violation of law, and granted summary judgment in favor of the National Park Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on all legal claims

Here is a link to the NPS website where the Environmental Assessment and other related documents are located - <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/documentsList.cfm?parkID=352&projectID=53498>



Above: Active oil well in Big Cypress National Preserve

Local News
Large Group Turns Out for Community Cleanup II

A good turnout for the second post-Irma cleanup really helped us make some excellent progress! We worked in a group and covered quite a bit of territory to gather trash, glass and leftover hurricane debris. One volunteer, Calvin Close (left) bought and brought a strong magnet that picked up nails, screws and metal—waiting to puncture our tires. This was very needed!



Council Member Elaine Middelstaedt worked with the group as we raked, swept and gathered debris. Carolyn Thompson, who is one of my personal heroes, was out helping us sweep and gather debris even though she endured a very, very difficult 2017 capped off by Irma.

Thank you Connie Barker for her continued commitment and to all the volunteers who sacrificed their Saturday morning to help the community recover. We made progress and enjoyed each other's company. We will do it again after the Seafood Festival!

Welcome Back to Our Avian Visitors From Brazil!
 The purple martins are back! The first male scouts were sighted on January 22nd in Everglades City.
 Purple martins are in the swallow family. They occupy the bird "condos" you see around town. They love to eat mosquitoes. They migrate each year from Brazil to breed in our area after raising a brood in Brazil. Their happy chortling song is easy to recognize. If you have room, put up a house for them. Many were destroyed in the storm and they rely completely on man-made houses. They leave in July & August.

Collier County Medical Society Presents the 10th Anniversary Women's Health Forum – "Your Health, Your Future" A Free Public Event at Naples United Church of Christ, Saturday, Feb. 3rd

As part of its ongoing efforts to be a resource for residents of Collier County, Collier Medical Society (CCMS) and the Foundation of CCMS are pleased to host their 10th Anniversary Women's Health Forum, a free health education event, on Saturday, February 3rd.

The forum, with the theme "Your Health, Your Future" will take place at Naples United Church of Christ, McSpadden Hall from 8:30am-12:30pm, and will feature breakout sessions with educational talks from 25 local physicians, an exhibit hall with more than 20 vendors that provide services for women, and complimentary refreshments.

Topics of discussion will include healthy heart, osteoporosis, dermatology, vein disease, dementia, gastroenterology, fitness & exercise, and more. Each session allows time for attendees to pose questions to the physician presenters.

Interested attendees should register online at www.ccmsonline.org, or call 239-435-7727. Volunteer and support opportunities are also available; call 239-435-7727 for more information.

Annual ORA Bazaar on Chokoloskee Scheduled for Saturday, February 24th



Hurry! There's still time to reserve a booth!

The Annual ORA Bazaar, will be held on Chokoloskee Island, on Saturday, February 24th. The gates will open at 9:00.

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).

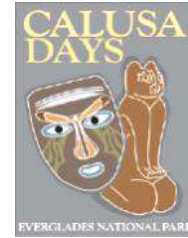
There will be local vendors and craft sales. Lunch and ice cream will be available starting at 11:00.

Spaces are available for vendors and crafters to rent for \$10 each. A limited amount of spaces are available indoors, so please call to reserve them early.

For more information please phone Sherri Parsons at 239-695-2281.

Park News

Calusa Days, March 24th



Join the fun on Saturday, March 24th for a free outdoor event! Help Everglades National Park celebrate Calusa Days by learning about the 10,000 Islands. Come discover how these fascinating islands have shaped many lives.

WHERE: Everglades National Park's Gulf Coast Visitor Center, 815 Oyster Bar Lane, Everglades City 34139

WHAT to Expect: 10 am-3:00pm engaging outdoor demonstrations * interesting activities* riveting storytelling * thought provoking programs.

WHO will be there: At 1:00pm-2:00pm hear local historian Marya Repko tell The Story of Barron Collier.

On Friday, March 23rd 7:30 pm-8:30 pm & Saturday March 24th 11:00 am-12:00 pm, see Florida Public Archaeology Network's, Mallory Fenn, archaeo-astronomy program- ancient stargazing presentation.

Call the Gulf Coast Visitor Center at 239-695-3311 for more information

National Park Fee-Free Days 2018

The free days for all national parks have been announced. The parks will waive their admission fees for special dates throughout 2018.

Take advantage of this opportunity to #FindYourPark at any of these sites across the nation!

You can also enjoy great scenery and history with great savings at a national park for free on any or all of the entrance fee-free days in 2018:

- April 21: First Day of National Park Week
- September 22: National Public Lands Day
- November 11: Veterans Day

"National parks connect all of us with our country's amazing nature, culture and history," said National Park Service Deputy Director Michael T. Reynolds. "The days that we designate as fee free for national parks mark opportunities for the public to participate in service projects, enjoy ranger-led programs, or just spend time with family and friends exploring these diverse and special places. We hope that these fee-free days offer visitors an extra incentive to enjoy their national parks in 2018."

During fee-free days, the 124 national parks that charge entrance fees waive them for all visitors. The entrance fee waiver for the fee-free days does not cover amenity or user fees for things such as camping, boat launches, transportation, or concession tours or rentals. For more information, please visit: <https://www.nps.gov/planyourvisit/passes.htm>.



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): 9:00 am – 6:00 pm; daily Supper Upstairs is Closed
Glades Haven Deli (695-2091): Deli Closed for Repairs Live bait available at marina
Havana Café (695-2214): 7 am to 3 pm daily Fri & Sat 5 pm to 8 pm
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; Mon - Saturday Closed Sunday
Oyster House Restaurant (695-2073): Currently closed for repairs Please check back!
Rod & Gun (695-2101): 11:30 am - 8:00 pm; daily
Tastes of the Everglades (695-0075) Closed---reopening soon!
Triad Seafood & Café (695-2662): 8 am to 5 pm ****MARKETS****
Right Choice Supermarket (695-4535): 9:00 am – 7:00 pm; daily
Grimm's Stone Crab (239-695-3222): 8 am to 5 pm M-Sat, Closed Sunday ****FRESH PRODUCE**** 1181 Hamilton Lane, Chokoloskee Fri & Sat 9 am to 3 pm
****SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES****
Chokoloskee Church of God Sunday: 10 am Sch., 11 am Worship We. 7 pm Hr. of Prayer
Copeland Baptist Church Sunday: 10 am School, 11 am Worship
Everglades Community Church 9:30 am Sunday Worship
1st Baptist Church of Everglades City 9:45 am Sunday School, 11 am Worship 6 pm Sunday, 6 pm Wed. Bible Study
Holy Family Catholic Church Sunday Mass 10:30 am
St. Finbarr Catholic Church, Naples Phone: 239-417-2084
San Marco Catholic Church, Marco Isl. Phone: 239-394-5181

EVERGLADES CITY -
BARRON RIVER TIDES
LAT: 25.87° N LONG: 81.37°W

1/27/18	Sat	6:08 AM	-0.28	L
1/27/18	Sat	12:10 PM	1.75	H
1/27/18	Sat	6:02 PM	0.67	L
1/27/18	Sat	10:52 PM	2.52	H
1/28/18	Sun	7:05 AM	-0.47	L
1/28/18	Sun	1:10 PM	1.9	H
1/28/18	Sun	7:03 PM	0.64	L
1/28/18	Sun	11:53 PM	2.7	H
1/29/18	Mon	7:58 AM	-0.61	L
1/29/18	Mon	1:55 PM	2.02	H
1/29/18	Mon	7:57 PM	0.57	L
1/30/18	Tue	12:46 AM	2.87	H
1/30/18	Tue	8:47 AM	-0.69	L
1/30/18	Tue	2:35 PM	2.11	H
1/30/18	Tue	8:47 PM	0.48	L
1/31/18	Wed	1:34 AM	2.97	H
1/31/18	Wed	9:34 AM	-0.69	L
1/31/18	Wed	3:13 PM	2.17	H
1/31/18	Wed	9:35 PM	0.38	L
2/1/18	Thu	2:22 AM	2.97	H
2/1/18	Thu	10:19 AM	-0.62	L
2/1/18	Thu	3:51 PM	2.22	H
2/1/18	Thu	10:24 PM	0.29	L
2/2/18	Fri	3:13 AM	2.85	H
2/2/18	Fri	11:03 AM	-0.47	L
2/2/18	Fri	4:29 PM	2.26	H
2/2/18	Fri	11:13 PM	0.22	L
2/3/18	Sat	4:06 AM	2.65	H
2/3/18	Sat	11:46 AM	-0.28	L
2/3/18	Sat	5:06 PM	2.29	H
2/4/18	Sun	12:03 AM	0.18	L
2/4/18	Sun	5:02 AM	2.38	H
2/4/18	Sun	12:28 PM	-0.07	L
2/4/18	Sun	5:45 PM	2.29	H
2/5/18	Mon	12:56 AM	0.17	L
2/5/18	Mon	6:00 AM	2.08	H
2/5/18	Mon	1:11 PM	0.16	L
2/5/18	Mon	6:26 PM	2.27	H
2/6/18	Tue	1:56 AM	0.17	L
2/6/18	Tue	7:07 AM	1.79	H
2/6/18	Tue	1:59 PM	0.38	L
2/6/18	Tue	7:13 PM	2.23	H
2/7/18	Wed	3:06 AM	0.16	L
2/7/18	Wed	8:23 AM	1.57	H
2/7/18	Wed	3:01 PM	0.55	L
2/7/18	Wed	8:07 PM	2.17	H
2/8/18	Thu	4:16 AM	0.11	L
2/8/18	Thu	9:52 AM	1.47	H
2/8/18	Thu	4:11 PM	0.67	L
2/8/18	Thu	9:05 PM	2.14	H
2/9/18	Fri	5:20 AM	0.04	L
2/9/18	Fri	1:05 PM	1.55	H
2/9/18	Fri	5:20 PM	0.72	L
2/9/18	Fri	10:06 PM	2.15	H
2/10/18	Sat	6:17 AM	-0.05	L

Obituary
Marian Corinne Brucker
May 1922 - January 2018



Marian Corinne Brucker (nee Johnson) of St. Charles, Missouri, on Tuesday January 9, 2018, at the age of 95 years. Beloved wife of 68 years to Lester Brucker; cherished daughter of the late Roy and Mildred Johnson; devoted mother of Ginny (Tim) Roussin, Betty Ann Schocklee, Robert (Mary Rojas) Brucker, Cathy (Curt) Glasper, Sue Brucker, Terri (Matt) Tarvid and the late Barbara Jean Sanchez; and loving grandmother of Christopher, Scott, Crissie, Patrick, Angie, Michael, Ben, Corey, Justine, Alexa and Samantha. Marian is survived by many great-grandchildren, great-great-grandchildren, and great-great-great-grandchildren, as well as many relatives and friends.

Marian proudly served her country in the United States Navy during World War II. A talented artist, she enjoyed painting with all mediums. She enjoyed fishing, was an avid golfer, loved to travel to Las Vegas and was an Chokoloskee, Florida snowbird, spending the winter there for over 35 years. A dedicated mother, Marian loved raising her family and spending time with them. She attended St. Roberts Bellarmine Catholic Church and Holy Family Catholic Church when in Florida. Marian was dearly loved and will be missed by all who knew her.

University of Florida/IFAS
Extensions Presents 2018
Educational Garden
Workshop Series
February 1st through March 15th

UF/IFAS Extension Collier County Master Gardener's Annual Educational Garden Workshop Series continues Thursday, Feb. 1, and every Thursday through March 15. The ten-week 2018 Series is being held at Unity of Naples, 2000 Unity Way, Naples, Florida 34112, on Thursdays from **10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.**

The series features a variety of speakers with diverse subjects sure to please any gardening enthusiast. **Pre-registration is not required;** the lectures are open to the public. The complete series is \$40.00, or \$10.00 per lecture and is open to the public.

For more information, call UF/IFAS Extension at (239) 252-4800.

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.

BOAT FOR SALE: 2016 Carolina Skiff 24 DLX. 2016 Yamaha F115 motor. 2nd Bimini top, Garmin 740, front bench/cooler. Used 3 months. Perfect boat for the Everglades. Very stable and perfect for commercial use, boating, guiding or photography. Mint. Asking \$28,000. Call Sandee Harraden @239-250-4662.

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.

NEW! FULL-TIME JOB: Experienced Restaurant Manager needed. Only serious applicants. Joanie's Blue Crab Café. The restaurant is located at 39395 Tamiami Trail E, Ochopee, FL. Please call Joanie to schedule an interview to be considered for this position at: 239-695-2682.

BOAT FOR SALE: 2000 Lowe Roughneck R1752VT; 17' All Welded Alum. Hull w/Side Console; 70hp Johnson; MotorGuide SW-HB 54 Lbs. Thrust; 14.5 gal tank; Bilge; Flush alum. Floor/decks; Livewell; 2 Batteries; Depth Finder; Poling Platform; Push Pole Holders; 5 Rod Holders. Asking \$4,400. Please call for pictures: 305-528-4694

CLASSIFIED ADS

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

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

FOR SALE: New Forest Wolf Pup Toy Hauler. Ltd Pkg. 13.5 K A/C, 14" alum wheels, 20 BTU furnace, 6 gallon gas/elec. DSI water heater, friction hinge door, high gloss seamless countertop, LED pancake lights, night shades, RV fridge, spare tire, stabilizer jacks, stereo with in and outside speakers, upgraded, hypoallergenic evergreen mattress, all hoses and propane tank. Brand new, never used. Brought from Indiana for someone in need of housing. Will sell "at cost", \$13,000. Can be seen in Everglades City. Call 812-327-7195.

JOB OPPORTUNITY: Become an election worker for the 2018 elections. 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 your application at www.CollierVotes.com. Call us if you have questions. By email at: ElectionWorker@colliergov.net. Or by phone: (239) 252-VOTE (8683).

The MULLET RAPPER

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

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PRODUCTION

DEB Printing & Graphics, Ft. Lauderdale, FL

PUBLISHER'S STATEMENT

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

We strive to present the facts accurately with no political or social bias.

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

\$40 annual by US Postal Mail, \$10 by email

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SUBSCRIBE TO THE RAPPER

Annual Rate by Mail: \$40

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