

The MULLET RAPPER



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

News, Stories, Classifieds & Tide Table

DECEMBER 26, 2020 - January 8, 2021

Happy New Year!!



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P. O. Box 134, Everglades City, FL, 34139

Volume XII • Issue # 380

How Does Santa Deliver Packages in the Everglades? By Swamp Buggy, Of Course!



Some may wonder how the reindeer do in warm southwest Florida. Well, this year Santa let them graze further north while he strapped himself into the perfect delivery vehicle!

Santa, Frosty the Snowman, Collier County Sheriff officers, EVG School officials, and others from our community

got together on this perfect December (21st) Monday morning to deliver gifts to the area's children.

For over 20 years, fundraising efforts, and the generous donations received from them, have made it possible to provide gifts or gift cards to every child in our community!

This year, the caravan of vehicles, including Santa's Swamp Buggy, rode the streets stopping at every home that has a child. Thank you to everyone who helped make this such a special day!



Gone But Never Forgotten A Look Back at 2020

For most of us, 2020 was a forgettable year. For some of our neighbors and friends, their year was made even more difficult because they lost a loved one.

Let's not forget about those who have passed on in 2020, and keep their families and friends in your thoughts and prayers during the holiday season.

The holidays can be difficult for those mourning a loss. Reaching out to say "hello" or to see how someone is doing can really brighten the day.

If you can, please take a few moments to let someone know that you are thinking about them and tell them that you care. A simple gesture of caring will make you feel better too.

Below is a list of the friends we lost in 2020. The date represents the (issue) date the obituary was/is published in the Mullet Rapper.

William "Peesy" Anderson	5/30/2020
James "Jimmy" Brewer	9/5/2020
Jessie Allen Browning	7/25/2020
Rose Daniels	12/26/2020
Kathleen Leoma Dejesus	9/22/2020
Sue Evans	2/8/2020
William "Billy" Joiner	8/8/2020
Donna Duke Orner	8/22/2020
Barbara Portz	4/18/2020
Caroline Faith Robinson	6/13/2020
Rob Rogers	4/18/2020
Sammy Katz	10/17/2020
Myrtie Mae Odom Smith	6/13/2020
Ray Stockner	7/25/2020
Daniel William Sylvest	8/8/2020
Renee Avril Weeks	5/16/2020
Leslie Jane Whitehead	4/18/2020
Janice Hamilton Wooten	6/13/2020

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FEATURED: CAPT. MERRITT, P 3

DECEMBER 27, 2020 — JANUARY 30, 2021 CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
27	28	29-Full Moon	30 Food Bank ECC, 11am—2pm Virtual Ladies Coffee, 9:30	31 New Year's Eve	January 1 Happy New Year!!	2 Meteor Shower, See p. 6
3 Meteor Shower, See p. 6	4 ESHP, 8:30 am	5 City Council. 7 pm	6 Food Bank ECC, 11am—2pm Virtual Ladies Coffee, 9:30	7	8	9 Rapper
10	11	12	13-New Moon	14 Lions Club, 6 pm	15	16
17	18 MLK Day No School	19	20 Food Bank ECC, 11am—2pm Virtual Ladies Coffee, 9:30	21	22	23 Rapper
24	25	26	27 Food Bank ECC, 11am—2pm Virtual Ladies Coffee, 9:30	Full Moon-28	29	30

February 2: Groundhog Day	February 7: Superbowl Sunday February 15: Presidents Day	February 14: Valentines Day
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AREA INFORMATION & NUMBERS:

AA: Wed., closed until further notice
 CARNESTOWN Recycle & Trash: 2nd Sat. of month, 9a-12p, 12:30p-3:30
 DR DEMARTINO: Seeing patients in Marco, call: (239) 642-5552
 DR MARTIN: Call for appointment: (813)-787-9738
 LIONS CLUB: Second Thursday of Month, 6 pm
 MUSEUM: Open Tuesday-Saturday, 9 am to 4 pm, 239-252-5026
 PANCAKE FLY-IN: Coming Soon!
 REACH OUT: closed until further notice
 SKATING RINK: Closed until further notice
 SMALLWOOD STORE: Fri, Sat, Sun, Mon 11 am to 5 pm, 239-695-2989
 THRIFT SHOP: Closed until further notice
 VETERANS SUPPORT: Closed until further notice
 VISITOR CENTER: (239)-232-4037 Closed until further notice

The Local Area Code is 239

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 Ochopee (239) 695-2099
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The Winter Bite in the 10,000 Islands by Captain Mike Merritt

The fishing has remained very good even though we have had some cold fronts come through. Colder water temps have moved most of the Snook fishing into the backcountry. There are lots of smaller fish, and they are being very cooperative. Using jigs or soft plastics is the way to go. A single hook is much easier for releasing these fish unharmed. Just make sure you use something with a good hook that won't straighten out when you finally hook up with that big fish. We have been catching plenty of fish in the rivers, back bays, and creeks. Cover as much shoreline as you can and something good is bound to happen.

Redfish continue to bite good on the outside on the rising tide. The backcountry is getting more Reds each week and the rivers are holding good fish too. Tip that jig with some shrimp and slow it down for these guys. If you find one, chances are, there will be more in that area.

Black Drum, Sheepshead, and Snapper are also being caught and the best bet for these is shrimp. Fish on a cork or on a knocker rig. A jig tipped with shrimp will also work for these. Hard bottom is what you want to find. That will increase your chances for these guys. Moving water is also critical. Sometimes, incoming tide will be better, and sometimes outgoing tide is best. It may depend on the spot your fishing as some are better on a certain tide. This is something you learn with experience.


Seatrout are a real popular winter fish as they are some of the easier prey. These can be found on the outside, in the rivers, and in the backcountry. Right now the bite is on fire! Popping corks with shrimp or my favorite the DOA shrimp. Jigs again will produce tipped with shrimp or not. If the tide is moving chances are you will find Seatrout.

Good luck with whatever you are chasing and enjoy the mild weather while you can. 'til next time! Capt. Mike Merritt

Mike Merritt is a fishing guide in Everglades City, FL.


You can reach Mike by calling 561-252-4324 or email SnookFishing1@juno.com

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A Note From the Principal, Dr. Cherie Allison



EVG has been especially blessed this year. Thank you to Ed Messer and the VFW for supplying more than enough toys and bikes for all students to receive a special gift for Christmas! In addition, we thank Mayor Grimm and City Hall for supplying enough gift cards for every single EVG student to receive one for the holiday!! The Marco Presbyterian Church also donated a gift card for every elementary student. Our kids feel so loved!

The Non-Fiction Challenge: The elementary classes at EVG had three fun weeks to explore the reading genre of non-fiction. The students were challenged to read as many non-fiction books as possible. They were competing against each other to see which class could read the most. We are thrilled that over 181 non-fiction books were read and Reading Counts quizzes successful passed! Congratulations to fifth grade – they came in third place with 21 books, third grade came in second place with 51 books. A huge congratulations to our second grade class for coming in first place. They read over 70 non-fiction books! Way to read second grade!



Mrs. Whitcomb shares the power of PBIS and positive behavior rewards. All students who earned the positive behavior for this month were able to go out on our last day before the holiday, pajama day, and draw with chalk on our new wall. The kids loved it!



With 2020 quickly coming to a close and Christmas right around the corner it's hard not to reflect on this past year and in looking back, I believe. I believe that our kids are resilient and strong with every day they come to school with smiling eyes over their masks. I believe that our teachers are the best in the district as they show up every day prepared to do the best that they possibly can for our kids. I believe there is kindness and hope when I see the secondary students helping the elementary students prepare special celebrations for their

teachers. I believe we have the best little school in the greatest community. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas, Happy Holiday and a Healthy New year!

Editors note: Thank you to all of our front line workers, school teachers, and administrators at EVG school. Your tireless efforts to figure things out with a moving target has allowed some "normalcy" to return to the children in our community. The entire community thanks you.

Show your commitment to our school by donating for a plant during our annual plant-sale fundraiser during the upcoming weeks. 100% of the proceeds will be donated to EVG to help fund any critical needs for our area's children. Read the details in the other column on this page!

Local News

Free Tree Giveaway
Plus Plant Sale-Fundraiser
Starting Saturday, Jan. 9th through February ?



Naples Botanical Gardens has been at it again! Since our last 350 tree giveaway in the Summer, they have started another 100+ plants and trees for our area and they are ready.

Additionally, the Mullet Rapper will host our annual plant sale fundraiser for Everglades City School. Last year we raised over \$1100 for the school.

Just like we did for the summer distribution, due to Covid-19 restrictions, the winter plant distribution and sale will take place at Tim & Kathy Brock's house at 406 Storter N, in Everglades City. We will start the distribution on January 9th at 10 am to 1 pm (on the Evergreen St. side by the back gate).

After January 9th, we will distribute throughout the month (and beyond) by appointment. Just give me a call or text at 954-662-7003 or email me at mulletrapper@gmail.com.

The selection of trees from Naples Botanical: Cassia grandis, Cassia rosea, Handroanthus riodicensis, Jamaican Caper, Caribbean Fiddlewood, Pigeonplum, and Taxodium, distichum. There are 5 or more of each type available.

Plants available for the fundraiser include: banana, plantain, herbs, milkweed, aloe, several types of palms, ferns, terrestrial orchids, pineapples, numerous flowering plants, succulents, seeds, and much more!

We look forward to seeing everyone. Please remember to wear a mask and to bring some plastic to lay down in your vehicle to put the plants on.

****Thrift Store Notice****

Due to Covid-19, the Thrift Store will be closed until further notice.



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Wednesday Bible Study: 7PM

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The Mullet Rapper Supports Everglades City School

Thank you to everyone who buys the Mullet Rapper every two weeks. The Mullet Rapper hosts an annual plant sale, and other events, to raise money for Everglades City School. Please help us support our local kids by attending one of our events!

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If you shop on Amazon, at no additional cost to you, you can support a local charity. Two (that we have been made aware of) have been set up for charities in the Everglades area. All you need to do is click on the link and accept the charity and Amazon does the rest. Below, the links are provided:

Everglades Society for Historic Preservation:
smile.amazon.com/ch/20-2229534

Everglades Lions Club:
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If you have a charity that is set up on Amazon, let us know so we can promote the link in the Mullet Rapper!

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Solution to December 12, 2020 Puzzle

	1	2	3		4	5	6	7							
	G	O	A		W	H	E	W							
8	S	I	N	N		9	E	U	L	O	G	Y			
12	A	V	O	N		13	D	E	L	R	I	O			
14	R	E	F	U	N	D					16	D	R	Y	
17	S	A	F	A	R	I					18	O	S	L	O
					19	L	A	N	D	A					
21	C	U	S	S		24	G	O	T	H	A	M			
28	U	G	H			29	D	E	M	I	S	E			
30	P	L	A	S	M	A					33	E	P	P	S
34	S	Y	R	U	P	Y					35	A	P	E	S
						36	K	E	G	S					
											37	L	O	N	

**Florida's Exotic Species
Top 10 Florida Invasive Species
Content by Chris Herlovich**

Florida is home to many interesting species of birds, reptiles, fish and marine life, and mammals. Our climate is mild and almost anything can find a way to make Florida their home.

For many years, the sale of exotic species came through the ports of south Florida. In the 1960's & 1970's many people had "exotic" pets. Snakes, monkeys, apes (Yes, monkeys & apes!), owls and other birds, Caiman Crocodiles, countless lizards and iguanas, and several fish species both fresh and salt water species.

It's always great getting that baby animal, but too often, those baby animals grew into something not quite as cuddly and owners were forced with a difficult decision. When that happened, off to the Everglades they would go!

Today, many of those on the top 10 list were the same species that were quite common as pets...back in the day, and still (illegally) today.

On a side note, some may have also arrived via ship, in plants, etc...no matter how they got here, they are here to stay now.

In the upcoming issues this column will provide information on each of the species on this list, its status, and what is being done to control it (if anything).

Florida's Top 10 Most Invasive Species:

1. Burmese Pythons
2. Feral Hogs
3. Cane Toads
4. Lionfish
5. Cuban Tree Frogs
6. Giant African land snails
7. Iguanas
8. Green Mussels
9. Feral Cats
10. Tegu lizards

**TIDE TABLE-BARRON RIVER
12/26/20—1/8/21**

12/26/2020	Sat	7:24 AM	-0.08	L
12/26/2020	Sat	1:13 PM	1.9	H
12/26/2020	Sat	7:22 PM	0.73	L
12/27/2020	Sun	12:07 AM	2.48	H
12/27/2020	Sun	8:04 AM	-0.21	L
12/27/2020	Sun	1:50 PM	1.95	H
12/27/2020	Sun	8:01 PM	0.75	L
12/28/2020	Mon	12:41 AM	2.54	H
12/28/2020	Mon	8:43 AM	-0.32	L
12/28/2020	Mon	2:27 PM	1.99	H
12/28/2020	Mon	8:36 PM	0.75	L
12/29/2020	Tue	1:10 AM	2.6	H
12/29/2020	Tue	9:21 AM	-0.4	L
12/29/2020	Tue	3:05 PM	2.03	H
12/29/2020	Tue	9:10 PM	0.74	L
12/30/2020	Wed	1:36 AM	2.66	H
12/30/2020	Wed	9:59 AM	-0.45	L
12/30/2020	Wed	3:45 PM	2.06	H
12/30/2020	Wed	9:45 PM	0.73	L
12/31/2020	Thu	2:01 AM	2.69	H
12/31/2020	Thu	10:38 AM	-0.47	L
12/31/2020	Thu	4:27 PM	2.09	H
12/31/2020	Thu	10:24 PM	0.71	L
1/1/2021	Fri	2:31 AM	2.72	H
1/1/2021	Fri	11:19 AM	-0.46	L
1/1/2021	Fri	5:11 PM	2.1	H
1/1/2021	Fri	11:05 PM	0.69	L
1/2/2021	Sat	3:12 AM	2.66	H
1/2/2021	Sat	12:00 PM	-0.38	L
1/2/2021	Sat	5:52 PM	2.12	H
1/2/2021	Sat	11:52 PM	0.65	L
1/3/2021	Sun	4:04 AM	2.54	H
1/3/2021	Sun	12:42 PM	-0.24	L
1/3/2021	Sun	6:32 PM	2.15	H
1/4/2021	Mon	12:47 AM	0.58	L
1/4/2021	Mon	5:08 AM	2.35	H
1/4/2021	Mon	1:28 PM	-0.07	L
1/4/2021	Mon	7:13 PM	2.18	H
1/5/2021	Tue	1:55 AM	0.48	L
1/5/2021	Tue	6:32 AM	2.12	H
1/5/2021	Tue	2:22 PM	0.14	L
1/5/2021	Tue	7:54 PM	2.23	H
1/6/2021	Wed	3:13 AM	0.33	L
1/6/2021	Wed	8:14 AM	1.92	H
1/6/2021	Wed	3:22 PM	0.34	L
1/6/2021	Wed	8:36 PM	2.3	H
1/7/2021	Thu	4:25 AM	0.12	L
1/7/2021	Thu	9:48 AM	1.8	H
1/7/2021	Thu	4:24 PM	0.51	L
1/7/2021	Thu	9:20 PM	2.4	H
1/8/2021	Fri	5:29 AM	-0.11	L
1/8/2021	Fri	11:26 AM	1.8	H
1/8/2021	Fri	5:26 PM	0.64	L
1/8/2021	Fri	10:11 PM	2.51	H

Obituary

Rose Daniels



Rose Daniels (77) of Chokoloskee, Florida, passed away suddenly Tuesday, December 8, 2020.

Rose is survived by her husband, Darrel Daniels, daughter, Lisa Daniels, grandchildren, Tiffany and Trevyr Daniels. Four great grandchildren: Triston, Kalen, Ivan and Alycia Kibodeaux.

There will not be a service. Family wishes to thank everyone for their wonderful support, love and prayers.

**Winter is Stargazing Time in SWFL
Quadrantids: Peak January 2 & 3**



The **Quadrantids** have the potential to be the strongest shower of the year but usually fall short due to the short length of maximum activity (6 hours) and the poor weather experienced

during early January. The average hourly rates one can expect under dark skies is 25. These meteors usually lack persistent trains but often produce bright fireballs. Due to the high northerly declination (celestial latitude) these meteors are not well seen from the southern hemisphere.

Shower details - Radiant: 15:18 +49.5° - ZHR: 120 - Velocity: 26 miles/sec (medium - 42.2km/sec) - Parent Object: 2003 EH (Asteroid)

Next Peak - The Quadrantids will next peak on the Jan 2-3, 2021 night. On this night, the moon will be 84% full.

(Information from amsmeteors.org)

Church Closed? Watch Pastor Bob Wallace's Sermons Online

Church services may have been canceled at Everglades Church, but you can still watch Pastor Bob's sermons online.

If you would like to watch his sermons go to www.ever-community-church.com, and click on "sermons" on the top menu.

You can view the most recent (and past) sermons on your computer or smartphone. Directions for viewing are on the page.

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The Island Life

Helpful Hints...

You can't get the darn bag open in the produce department. There is nothing more frustrating than trying to put the produce in a bag fumbling with dry fingers. Next time you go to the store, get a bag of frozen peas (you can always use a bag of frozen peas!) and use the condensation from the bag to wet your fingers. The bag will open right up with those nice moistened fingers (Some produce departments have misters. If yours does, head over there)! OR, you can always bring your own reusable bags and forget about the plastic altogether!

Do we really need a different cleaner for everything we do in the house? One trip to the store and it is obvious that there is a product for everything. To save money and space, learn about other uses for the stuff you may already have.

For example, hydrogen peroxide is reasonably priced and is a force in the household. It removes protein stains (blood) better than almost anything. It removes wine stains too (just sayin').

Hydrogen peroxide is an oxidizer and great whitener. Make a paste of hydrogen peroxide and baking soda and use it to brighten your teeth. It also freshens the breath, and promotes good gum health.

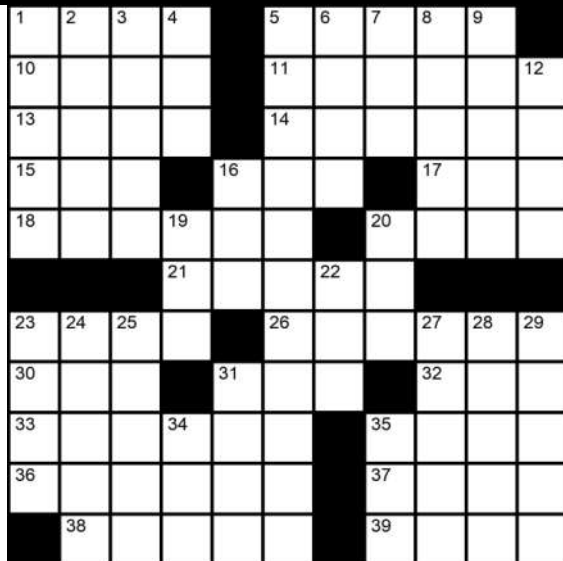
Hydrogen peroxide is a natural anti-bacterial and disinfectant. Use it to clean surfaces in your kitchen and around the home. 1/4 cup hydrogen peroxide added to cool water in your kitchen sink will clean fresh vegetables. Rinse them with cool water after taking them from the peroxide bath. These are just a few of the uses!

Have a great hint? Send it to us so we can share it in the Mullet Rapper!

MULLET RAPPER CROSSWORD

Across

- 1 Photosynthesis is its thing
- 5 Future fungus
- 10 Playwright Novello
- 11 Space shuttle commander --- Collins
- 13 --- a soul: zip
- 14 Last
- 15 Banned pesticide
- 16 Margaret nickname
- 17 "--- 'em!"
- 18 Per annum
- 20 Quick look
- 21 Rhyming things
- 23 Canned meat
- 26 Joined together
- 30 ___ King Cole
- 31 Bon --- (clever remark)
- 32 "Bobby Hockey"
- 33 False
- 35 Hockey great Gordy
- 36 Merrymaking
- 37 Middle East foe
- 38 "Me and Bobby ---"
- 39 "... two --- for a twenty?"



12/26/20

Down

- 1 Hop variety
- 2 Dodge
- 3 Big artery
- 4 Some are small
- 5 Be on the same page
- 6 Pong go with
- 7 --- Ironsides (the USS Constitution)
- 8 Put back into service
- 9 Strange and mysterious
- 12 Dracula's target
- 16 Yasser Arafat group
- 19 Rotational speed
- 20 Type of ad
- 22 Encountered
- 23 Cozy
- 24 Airline that flew Clippers
- 25 Overhead storage
- 27 Bullwinkle J, for example
- 28 General --- Rommel
- 29 Apparel
- 31 Silent
- 34 Normal abbreviation
- 35 Strike



My Little Slice of Paradise by Kathy Brock

As big box stores continue to gobble up local mom and pops and regional chains, the push to shop local is all around us. When our washer and dryer gave out this weekend, I reached out to several local companies to see if they will deliver to us here. Nope.

I know I have written about this subject before but it is baffling to me why any Naples company would refuse to deliver here yet traveling to Bonita Springs (equidistant) is no problem?

Then I checked for what I wanted at Lowes and Home Depot and they were either back ordered or the delivery dates were in late January or February...so online I went. It took about 30 minutes to find what I wanted, for the price I wanted, delivered before anyone else could.

No wonder brick and mortar stores are in trouble. Even when you try supporting retail you end up back online anyway.

Which brings me back to why a Collier County business would deny delivery in Collier County even when you offer to pay extra for delivery! Is the money here not green?

My neighbors may get mad at me for this but here goes. I want to let the outside world in on a little secret...

The roads are paved in Everglades City, and there are no alligators roaming our streets. Odds are pretty good that you will make it out alive.

In fact, Santa Claus himself was here today. He likes us so much he came here *early*. He delivered gifts to all of the kids in, town in broad daylight, from the comfort of his swamp buggy.

See, like I was saying before, we are just like everyone else down here. Right?



EVERGLADES COMMUNITY CHURCH
The Friendly Church on the Circle
Non-Denominational
 101 S. Copeland Avenue
 PO Box 177, Everglades City, FL 34139
 239-784-7318

Sunday Sermons are Online Until
 Further Notice at:
www.ever-communitychurch.com



CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE: Incredible! This waterfront home was the old Juliet Carnes Collier five room hospital in Everglades City until 1963 when it was converted into a private residence. Located next door to the Historic Rod & Gun Club, this home is zoned City Historic Preservation which allows various uses from Single Family or a Bed & Breakfast to Village Commercial uses. This home still has original wood floors, bead board walls, ceilings and original doors throughout. The potential is there! Asking ... \$549,000.. Glades Realty 239-695-4299 Karen@GladesRealty.com

FOR SALE: Cute 12 x 38 Park Model that must be moved. Next to road for an easy move. Corian countertops, large stainless sink, custom faucet. Bedroom has a large closet and is big enough for nightstands on both sides of the bed and a dresser. Fisherman's Cove 25, \$10,000 OBO. 702 340 3149

FOR RENT: Efficiency apartment (2 bdrm) and / or home (3 bdrm) in Everglades City. Each have 1.5 bath. Monthly or seasonal, for 2 adults; includes W/D, utilities and use of dock. No smoking or pets. For more information call 239-253-3942 or 239-232-0459.

FOR SALE: Big Cypress Fly-in Retreat: The historic Popenhager Camp, a 21-acre oasis of natural beauty, complete with an FAA approved airstrip and, an adorable, modern cabin, is looking for a new owner.

This stunning parcel is secluded on a high and dry prairie, and is completely off grid. The grounds are spectacular, the only thing missing is you!

The price on this private piece of paradise is \$2.5 million. Take a tour of the camp by visiting www.popenhager.com. For more information call 786-258-2227.

www.VisitEvergladesCity.com

LOCAL BUSINESS INFO

For a complete directory of businesses: www.visitevergladescity.com.

RIGHT CHOICE SUPERMARKET

9 am—7 pm Daily

WINCAR HARDWARE

8: 30 am—5 pm MON—SAT

CAMELLIA STREET GRILL

M-SAT, 11am—7 pm, (239) 695-2003

CITY SEAFOOD

9 am-3 pm M-F, 9am-5pm Sat & Sun

(239) 695-4700

HAVANA CAFÉ, daily 9—4

239-695-2214

GRIMM'S STONE CRAB

M-Sat 8am-5pm, 239-695-3222

HOLE IN THE WALL PIZZA

M-Th 11-7 pm, Fri & Sat 11-9pm

(239) 695-4444

ISLAND CAFÉ

6 am -9 pm Daily (239) 695-0003

MARATHON GAS/NELY'S

6 am—10 pm (239) 695-4222

ROD AND GUN CLUB

12 pm—8 pm (239) 695-2101

TRIAD SEAFOOD

Open Daily 10:30 am—4:00 pm

MUSEUM OF THE EVERGLADES

Open 9 am— 4 pm Tues-Sat

THE FOOD BANK IS OPEN!

Wednesday, 11 am to 2 pm

Everglades Community Church

Drive up service only. Food is

distributed on the back deck.

General Questions:

If you have any questions, call Everglades City Hall (239) 695-3781.

For more information about local businesses, tide predictions and area information, please go to:

www.VisitEvergladesCity.com

The MULLET RAPPER

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

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We encourage contrasting points of view

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