

The MULLET RAPPER

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

TIDE TABLE &
RESTAURANTS
PAGE 11

FEBRUARY 10, 2018 - FEBRUARY 23, 2018



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P O Box 134, Everglades City, FL, 34139

Volume X • Issue # 305

Everglades Seafood Festival Entertainment Lineup

Come out and enjoy the festivities! There is literally something for everyone. There are rides and games for the kids, arts & crafts booths, seafood, and great music.

Of course, you must get your annual seafood festival beer mug and T-shirts. Enjoy the festival!

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 Valli Tribute*
- 9:15: *Tim Elliott*

Saturday, February 10th

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

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*

Bring a chair or blanket to sit on to watch the music. Don't forget your sunscreen. Lock your cars.

Please do not bring coolers or pets to the Seafood Festival. Do not leave pets in vehicles while at the festival!

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FEATURE: MANATEE UPDATE, P. 8

14th Annual Marjorie Stoneman Douglas Festival February 20-24

The annual celebration of the life of the Grand Dame of the Everglades will be hosted by the Friends of the Museum of the Everglades on February 20th through 24th. Although Marjory 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."



This celebration features tours, speakers, arts and crafts and more. For more information regarding the festival, please visit evergladesmuseum.org. Please call 239-695-0008 for reservations, or to reserve your seat for the opening luncheon on Tuesday. See a list of speakers on the museum website @ www.evergladesmuseum.org.

Annual ORA Bazaar on Chokoloskee Island

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 contact Sherri Parsons at 239-695-2281.

Welcome! New Columnist & Poet, Katherine S. Tullie



We are so pleased to welcome a new columnist to our publication, Katherine S. Tullie. I am especially excited because she is an extremely talented poet that writes straight from the heart. Katherine's work is fun, inspiring and helps point out

some of the wonderful things in life that so many of us may not even notice.

Katherine is a poet based in Boca Raton, Florida. She is a former School Teacher who has an extensive background in music. Katherine is married to Richard, her Husband of 34 years. She writes this column especially for the Mullet Rapper.

Katherine's first submission is a poem that she wrote in honor of our annual Seafood Festival. We hope you enjoy it! We welcome Katherine to the Mullet Rapper family. Katherine's column will appear regularly.

Everglades City Seafood Festival by Katherine S. Tullie


*A seafood festival that cannot be beat
In Everglades City with
festivities in the street
People gathering together
from all around
Listening to the great music
with a positive sound
People getting together from
all walks of life for sure
It is a grand occasion so
come and take the tour
Everglades City is the place to be
During the seafood festival
much fun is the key
So do not miss out on
this great seafood event
I am sending you this message
for your time will be well spent
Pass the word to others that you know
Everglades City is definitely
the place to go!*

You can reach Katherine:
kathythepoet@gmail.com

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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.

FEBRUARY 10, 2018 – FEBRUARY 23, 2018

<u>SUN</u>	<u>MON</u>	<u>TUES</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THURS</u>	<u>FRI</u>	<u>SAT</u>
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 Port of Isl Sale, 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.1	23 ESHP Talk Island Café 5:30 pm MSD Fest, see p.1	24 RAPPER Art-in-Glades 10am-1pm ORA Bazaar, see p. 1 MSD Fest, see p.1
25	26	27	28 Ladies Coffee Havana Café 8 am	March 1 full moon ○	2	3
4	5 ESHP Mtg., 8:30 am, City Hall	6 City Council Mtg, 7:00 pm, City Hall	7 Ladies Coffee Island Café 8 am	8 Lions Club, 6 pm Havana Café	9	10 RAPPER
11	12	13	14 Ladies Coffee City Seafood 8 am	15	16	17 new moon ● Pancake Fly-in, see p. 3 Art-in-Glades

March 24: Calusa Days

April 8: Bear Island Bike Ride

April 17: Pancake Fly-in

April 21: FBA Meeting, Naples

April 29: Museum Birthday

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 (no phone now)	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

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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.

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

Feb. 15: The Orphan Train, Dianne Pollock will lead the discussion. Sadie Stroud will host the meeting at her winter home in Chokoloskee, 165 North Lopez Lane. Please RSVP Sadie via sstroud119@gmail.com or (865)209-3333.

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 Feb. 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!

Annual Garage Sale - Port of the Islands Saturday, February 17 8:00 am - 1:00 pm

Hundreds of neighbors are cleaning out their unwanted treasures and all three areas of the "Port" will have garage sales!

There are three entrances to the sales areas: Newport Drive, Cays Drive, and Orchid Cove.

Art-in-the-Glades

February 24th, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

There will be an arts & crafts fair in Everglades City on Saturday, February 24, to coincide with the last day of the annual Marjory Stoneman Douglas Festival at the Museum.

Art-in-the-Glades will take place under the pavilion in McLeod Park across from the Museum from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Local artists and crafters will offer photos, prints, handmade soaps, jewelry, and other items for sale. And, if you feel hungry, delicious baked goods will be available for a donation to benefit a local charity. For more information, call Marya @ 239-695-2905.

COMMUNITY SERVICES



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.

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.



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.

A Message from Fire Chief Kingman Schuldt



Recently, Rep. Emily Slosberg filed a Resolution to declare February 3-10, 2018 as Mental Health Awareness Week in Florida to help address the stigma that can be associated with mental illness. Over 660,000 adults and 181,000 children in the State of Florida live with some form of serious mental illness. The resolution seeks to bring awareness to the over 43.6 million Americans, including first responders, who experience some form of mental illness.

"Mental illness affects people of all walks of life, including first responders, who often face traumatic events in their line of work. First responders continually put their lives on the line to aid others," stated Representative Emily Slosberg, "The physical risk is unequivocal, and the resulting injuries are more easily identified. Unfortunately, the signs and extent of emotional damage are obscure and sometimes ignored. I am alive today because of the first responders' actions on February 23, 1996 after a devastating car crash in Boca Raton left 5 children dead and other passengers with severe injuries."

The Greater Naples Fire Rescue District (GNFD) is supportive of this initiative to help firefighters become comfortable discussing the importance of their mental health. The GNFD Health & Safety Committee has developed and will be implementing a mental health assessment tool to help identify the signs and bring awareness about the emotional effects that come with a career in the fire service. The District is committed to eliminating the stigma that often accompanies mental illness in the fire service and ensuring treatment is available for those who may need it.

The Mental Health Association of Southwest Florida is Here for You


The Mental Health Association of Southwest Florida is dedicated to promoting mental health, preventing mental and substance use conditions and achieving victory over mental illnesses and addictions through advocacy, education, research and service.

If you or someone you know needs help, please contact them today. You can reach the Association:

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 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
 For more information: 239-695-0008

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1/27/18 Puzzle Solution

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9	A	D	A	M	N	10	D	I	N	E	11	
12	F	I	R	S	T	13	L	E	T	T	E	R
14	C	P	I	15	O	I	O	N	16	H	M	O
17	C	A	R	T	19	W	E	E	P			
20	S	C	A	L	E	22	M	O	O	D	S	
23	H	A	T	E	24	R	O	O	F			
25	E	M	U	26	I	N	D	27	F	L	U	
30	A	E	R	O	N	A	U	T	I	C	S	
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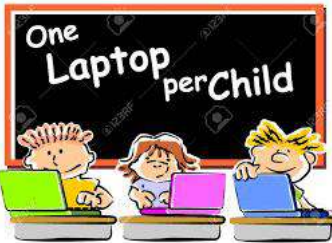
239-377-9800 or 239-695-2561 www.evgschools.com



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

An Exciting New Project!

Laptops are in almost every classroom as the school is part of a pilot project from the school district that provides every student in grades 3-12 with their very own laptop. They are able to take them home with them each night in addition to the many uses they have each day in their classrooms. We cannot thank the Superintendent enough for her commitment to our children. Enthusiasm is evident when observing classes as students are engaged and using this new tool to increase their achievement.



There are expectations that go along with this project. Students have been taught how to care for, and responsibly use, their new computer. The academic software programs that are available at school are also accessible to students at home. To provide access to the Internet at home, each laptop has an installed wireless card that provides them unlimited data for our students that don't have a

wireless connection this allows them online access. What a wonderful way to start 2018.

We look forward to seeing you at the Seafood Festival this year! This is an important fundraiser for the school that supports numerous programs for students each year. We would like to thank the Betterment Association and the City once again for their generosity in providing us with all the water and soft drinks sales revenue. You will see our teachers and students working through what looks to be another exciting weekend in Everglades City. Please stop by and say hello as we always appreciate your support of the school.

It IS 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>

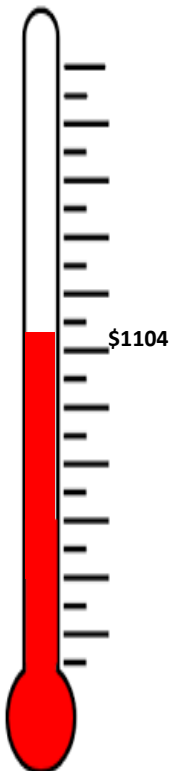
**Mullet Rapper Donations Raised for
School Athletics Tracking**

\$1104 so far in 2018!!!!

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!

When You Buy the Print Edition, It Helps a Kid!



This Time In History
February 1945 in the Everglades City Area
by Kathy Brock

In 1945 the United States was focused on readiness for World War II. The Everglades City area and Big Cypress was a big part of that effort because of a resource needed to assist in the effort.



According to an article published on February 18, 1945 by the Miami News, an average of 1 million board feet per week of red cypress was being hauled out of Big Cypress by the Lee Cypress Company of New York and Perry, Florida. Approximately nine forty car trains full of logs per month were used in the construction or reconstruction of war-craft, piers, docks and seawalls damaged by enemy forces.

The main customer for this logging operation was the US Government, and they chose red cypress because of its ability to hold up in and around water. When immersed, cypress will actually harden unlike other woods that deteriorate and rot in those conditions.

The Red Cypress stand just north and west of Everglades City was, at the time, considered to be the largest such stand in the world and soon it would become a part of US wartime history.

The Lee Cypress Company employed over 250 in the Everglades area; lumberjacks, haulers, drivers and other workers needed for the mammoth effort.

The logging camp was located north of the Tamiami Trail on Immokalee road. The community had its own water plant, power plant, and sewage disposal plant. Cottages were available for workers with families and the accommodations were considered favorably at that time, boasting hot and cold water, modern plumbing and comfortable beds.

Above photo: F.M. Warren assistant logging superintendent, J.R. Terrill, logging superintendent at the headquarters off Immokalee Road

Mother Panther & Kitten Struck by Vehicles & Killed



A mother Florida panther and her kitten were found dead on the same road in Hendry county one day apart.

The 3-year-old female panther was found on February 2nd; her 5-month-old male kitten was found near the same spot the next day, according to the Florida Wildlife Commission (FWC).

These two deaths on County Road 835 near Dooley Grade Road bring this year's panther road kill toll to six, with two in Collier and four in Hendry county.

It is quite rare for a mother and kitten to be found on the same road, but it has happened in the past. Officials say there is no evidence of other kittens, but they cannot rule out that the deceased mother only had one kitten.

Last year, 24 panthers were found dead on Southwest Florida roads, down from a record 34 road kills in 2016.

About Panthers

There are an estimated 100-120 panthers roaming the forested areas of SW Florida. Panthers live approximately 8 to 15 years.


Females will give birth starting at age 2. Males will have several mates in a territory during the breeding season.

Female panthers weigh approximately 75 pounds and males weigh approximately 120 pounds. They feed on deer, raccoons, wild boar and sometimes alligators and smaller animals.

Panthers are most active at dawn and dusk so please pay close attention when driving through wooded areas of SW Florida during those hours.

If you see a dead or injured panther, call the FWC's Wildlife Alert Hotline, 888-404-FWCC (3922).

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My Little Slice of Paradise

By Kathy Brock
The Rebirth of a City

If you were in Everglades after the hurricane in late September or October and come into town now, you will be shocked at our transformation. Soon after, even the most optimistic thought the idea of moving ahead with the Seafood Festival was nothing more than a pipe-dream.

Thank you to Carol Foss who immediately stated that we WILL have the festival. This put a date stamp on the city's recovery. As a community we simply had to be ready. In the days and weeks immediately following the storm, I was doubtful. How on earth could we get rid of all of the trash and mud? Oh, the mud! Well, not all of it is gone, but the transformation is astounding.

So many people came to our rescue...and many of them live right here in the tri-island area. But the most amazing thing is that so many of the people who actively took part in the recovery came from places far away. Some were motivated by an article they read in the paper, or a story they saw on the news. Others knew someone in town. The outpouring of charity is something I will never forget. It really gives you an entire new perspective on people.

And today, when tourists are coming into town they are looking for the "damage" and they don't see it because it is hidden inside. So many of our resident's homes are still stripped to the studs inside awaiting reconstruction. However, outside the buildings look "almost normal". I guess that is what is meant when one says, "you cannot judge a book by it's cover?" Even though many of us have reached a point of normalcy, there are many here in the tri-island area that are still in shambles, and we mustn't forget this.

But this summer's tragedies did not stop here. Puerto Rican residents are still without power in over 33% of the island in the aftermath of Hurricane Maria and FEMA has officially ceased operations there. Can you even fathom that? When we went ~15 days without power, but it seemed so much longer than that. However, the people of Puerto Rico are still dealing with the loss of power, lack of clean water and lack living quarters in many regions of their island 4 months later. Four months without power! That is truly mind-boggling.

We suffered a great hardship in September, there is no doubt about that. Many of our residents are still reeling, wondering what to do next. But we have all of our basic necessities restored. We have power. We have clean water. We have local leadership that is fighting for us. Additionally, we have others that came to our rescue from near and far. We cannot be allowed to forget about the other Americans on the island of Puerto Rico that are still suffering without the most basic needs, or the people in Houston that also suffered through flooding, or the Californians that lost homes due to fires.

The storms and fires are no longer in the news cycle, so it is very easy to forget about the "others" who suffered the same fate as we did, and some experienced even worse conditions. We must not forget about others that may still need help. Because they live far away and it is no longer discussed on the news, it is easy to do

so. It is important to reach out if you can, donate if you can and remember that there are people still sitting in homes without the most basic needs we had restored only 3 weeks after our area was hammered by Hurricane Irma.

Photo: Win-Car Hardware after Everglades City flood.



Recipes for Good Eating

by Kathy Brock
Jalapeno Poppers

Ingredients:
 10 large jalapeno peppers halved, deveined and deseeded
 1 pound bacon
 1 package cream cheese
 Cheddar cheese cut into 20 thin strips

Directions:
 Preheat oven to 400°. Prepare a shallow baking pan by wiping with olive oil. Cut the jalapeno peppers in half and cut the seeds and veins out with a paring knife. Make sure they are dried well.
 Fill each pepper half with cream cheese, top with a strip of cheddar and then wrap it completely with bacon. You can use a half of strip of bacon on smaller peppers or a full piece, making sure it is wrapped well.
 Place on the baking sheet cheese side up and bake for about 25 minutes or until the bacon is cooked crisp. Remove from pan immediately from oven and place on a serving dish and let them cool a bit before serving. You want them to be warm but not scalding! If you removed seeds and veins, they will not be to spicy-hot! Enjoy. They are delicious!

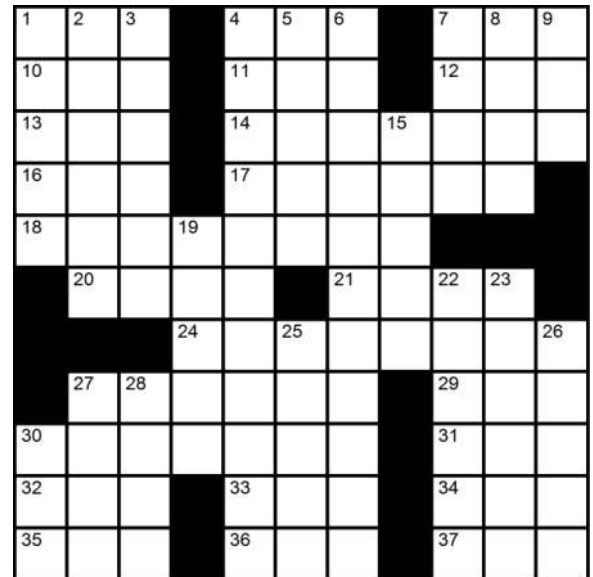
MULLET RAPPER CROSSWORD

Across

- 1 In favor of
- 4 Dashboard acronym
- 7 Ungentlemanly sort
- 10 Newsworthy N Y S E event
- 11 A Gershwin
- 12 Tint
- 13 And so on
- 14 Scooting
- 16 Old card game
- 17 User
- 18 Fix-all material
- 20 Mechanics need
- 21 Hazard
- 24 Rued
- 27 Rock concert venues, often
- 29 Before in verse
- 30 Inner city areas
- 31 Nelson Mandela's party
- 32 Silver state
- 33 Anger
- 34 Meadow
- 35 Monthly bane for women
- 36 Spanish literary hero
- 37 Mr. Stallone

Down

- 1 You play ball on it
- 2 Decide to quit
- 3 Post-Baroque architectural style
- 4 Delaware's region
- 5 Streep Movie, The Devil Loves _____
- 6 Put-upon
- 7 With it, sartorially
- 8 Agatha, to Bertie Wooster
- 9 MBA is one
- 15 Connection
- 19 Property manager's sign in Britain
- 22 Takes illegally
- 23 Essence
- 25 Native New Zealander
- 26 Rot
- 27 "May I interrupt?"
- 28 Guns an engine
- 30 Country's output, for short



2/10/18



Manatees Suffer in January Cold Snap (As reported in the Naples Daily News)

At least 35 manatees died from the cold between Jan. 1 and 26, compared with seven over the same period last year, according to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. An average of eight manatees died from the cold in the month of January from 2013 to 2017.

Manatees are ill-adapted to survive in frigid water. Their bodies are mostly lungs and ribs — they have deceptively little blubber.

The last time Florida saw an uptick in cold-related manatee deaths was in 2010 and 2011 when the number of manatees that died from the cold reached 282 and 114, respectively.

"It's been really busy," said Maya Rodriguez, a veterinarian at Miami Aquarium, which rehabilitates sick manatees.

A dead manatee seen Tuesday, January 30, 2018, washed ashore in Port of the Islands in southern Collier County. At least 35 cold-stressed manatees have been found dead in Florida waters from Jan. 1 to Jan. 26. This manatee's cause of death has not been determined. (Photo: Annika Hammerschlag/Naples Daily News)

Manatees can develop hypothermia, or cold shock, when exposed to very cold water. A manatee suffering from cold shock will die quickly.

Prolonged exposure to water below 68 degrees can cause a condition called chronic cold-stress syndrome. The animal may suffer from emaciation, dehydration, skin lesions and infections. If found in time, these manatees have a chance at being rescued.



Most of the cold-related manatee deaths in Florida occurred between Jan. 15 and 22 as nighttime air temperatures dipped into the 30s. At least 19 manatees died from the cold during that period, state figures show.

Most of those deaths were caused by cold shock; the manatees were already dead when they were found.

"It was really sad; we didn't even get a chance to help them," Rodriguez said.

Manatees are often referred to as the gentle giant of the ocean. There are three species of manatees found in the world: the West African, the Amazonian, and the West Indian. Thanks to conservation efforts, the West Indian manatee was removed from the endangered species list in 2017. Manatees can reach up to 13 feet long and can weigh up to 3,500 pounds. They're herbivores with a plant matter diet and their favorite thing to eat is sea grass. They have four rows of teeth which include 24 to 32 teeth in total. While they're capable of moving up to 20 miles per hour if needed, manatees prefer a much slower pace of a couple of miles per hour. And when they go under water, they can hold their breaths for up to 20 minutes.

Those found alive in cold water are very weak and often suffer from "flipper frost," Rodriguez said.

The manatees are placed in warm water and are fitted with life jackets to help support their heads. Then they're put on antibiotics and are tube-fed high-nutrient food.

In Collier County at least one manatee died from the cold in January. The manatee was found in Marco Island. Another two manatees were too decomposed when found to determine the cause of death, state figures show.

On Monday at Port of the Islands in southern Collier County, officials found another two manatees that were described as "emaciated" and in "critical condition." They were taken to the Miami Seaquarium. One died in transport; the cause of death has not been determined.

If you see a dead manatee or a manatee in distress, call the FWC's wildlife alert number 888-404-3922

SAWFISH NEWS by Tonya Wiley, Havenworth Coastal Conservation by guest author Andrea Kroetz, NOAA Southeast Fisheries Science Center *Tracking Endangered Smalltooth Sawfish*

Acoustic tagging has become increasingly important for science. Scientists are using this amazing technology to track critically endangered smalltooth sawfish in south Florida to better understand their movement patterns and habitat use. Telemetry data are helpful to fishery managers who are designing plans to recover and conserve this endangered species.

Scientists place stationary acoustic receivers in key locations to collect and archive data remotely from tagged sawfish as they pass within range of the receiver. Each acoustic tag has a unique identification number and transmit information on the date and time at which the animal passes near a receiver.

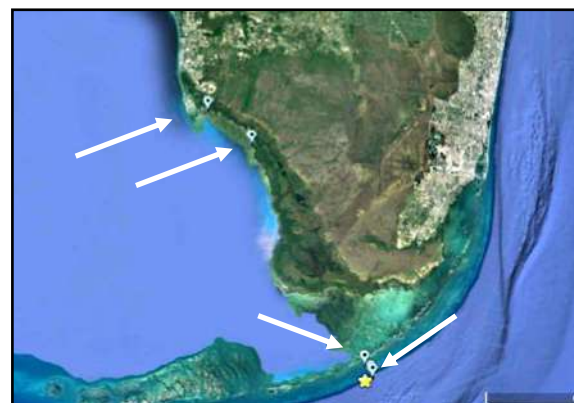
Photo left: Andrea Kroetz, NOAA Southeast Fisheries Science Center, surgically implants an acoustic tag into a juvenile smalltooth sawfish. All research conducted under permits ESA 17787 and EVER-2017-SCI-0022.



Although data collection by the acoustic receivers is

limited by the number and location of receivers in place (e.g., an animal must pass near a receiver for the data to be collected), large acoustic sharing networks are in place to allow multiple institutions with active acoustic arrays to collect and share data with colleagues tagging and tracking animals (e.g., iTAG and FACT networks, > 1000 receivers). So far over 30 smalltooth sawfish have been tagged with long-term acoustic tags and these tags have already provided invaluable data on the movements of both juvenile and adult smalltooth sawfish. Here is an exciting example of how the technology works.

In April of 2017, an adult female smalltooth sawfish was tagged offshore of the Florida Keys. The sawfish traveled up the west coast of Florida, and then a month later she was detected near the Charlotte Harbor Estuary. She spent the next several months swimming up and down the west coast of south Florida



before she was detected in the backcountry waters of Ten Thousand Islands National Wildlife Refuge and Everglades National Park. This is the first documented case of an adult smalltooth sawfish moving into the Charlotte Harbor Estuary and into backcountry waters. This also highlights the importance of protecting smalltooth sawfish critical habitat and the value of

protected areas such as the Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserves, Ten Thousand Islands National Wildlife Refuge, and Everglades National Park.

Map above: The map shows the tagging area (gold star) and movements indicated by the balloons.

As collaborative acoustic networks continue to expand, and the technology improves, the opportunities to gather vital information on smalltooth sawfish will increase and improve our ability to manage and protect the population to recovery.

All research is conducted under Endangered Species Act permit #17787 and Everglades National Park permit #EVER-2017-SCI-0022. To learn more, or if you have questions about ongoing sawfish research or management, please call 1-844-4SAWFISH.

Tonya Wiley, President

Tonya can be reached at 941-201-2685 or Tonya@havenworth.org

Photo of Andrea with sawfish: Desirée Gardner. Map by Google maps satellite view.



Living Gulf Coast

by Charles Sobczak

Yellow Rat Snake (*Elaphe obsoleta quadrivittata*) Other names: rat snake / Status: FL=stable, IUCN=LC / Life span: to 20 years / Length: 4.5-7 ft (1.4-2.1 m) / Weight: 2-4 lb (0.9-1.80 kg) Nests: on island / Found: All counties, coastal, near coast and inland.



After the black racer, the yellow rat snake is the second most commonly seen snake on Sanibel and Captiva. It is an impressive predator. Growing to lengths of seven feet, with a circumference about the same size as a man's wrist, this snake can be quite startling when you happen upon one. It is non-

venomous, however, and aside from a nasty bite, will not cause any real harm to a person. Nonetheless, it should never be picked up or handled.

The rat snake is a true constrictor. It seizes its prey, then coils its muscular body around the animal, slowly constricting the life out of it through suffocation. The yellow rat snake is one of the leading predators of invasive black and brown rats and is therefore very beneficial to wildlife. It also preys upon birds, frogs, lizards, eggs, insects, and small mammals. Extremely arboreal, the yellow rat snake can often be spotted climbing into trees and up onto porches, rooftops, and rafters. It has nowhere near the speed of the black racer on the ground.

The yellow rat snake is preyed upon by hawks, ospreys, eagles, and owls. It is also eaten by raccoons, bobcats, and otters. Unlike the black racer, the yellow rat snake takes readily to humans, and after it becomes socialized, seldom bites. Various sub-species and color variations extend the range of the yellow rat snake across most of the eastern U.S., as far west as western Texas.

Southern Black Racer (*Coluber constrictor priapus*) Other names: black racer, racer / Status: FL=stable, IUCN=LC / Length: 2-4.5 ft (0.61-1.4 m) / Weight: 0.75-1 lb (340-453 g) / Life span: to 10 years / Reproduces: deposits its eggs (7-22) in old logs, stumps, and sawdust / Found: All counties, coastal, near coast, inland / Months found: **JFMamjjasOND** (lower case indicates nesting season).

The most commonly seen snake in this region, the southern black racer is also one of the most common in Florida. One reason for the



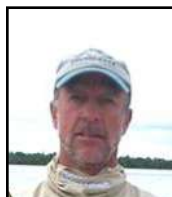
frequent sightings is that the black racer is a diurnal hunter, so it is out at the same time when

most people are working in their yards, biking, or doing other activities that might bring them into contact with this snake. The black racer has one of the most extensive ranges of any North American snake, extending to the Canadian border, west to Washington, and east to Maine. The black racer is nonvenomous but will inflict a nasty bite if grabbed. It will rattle its tail in the grass or dry leaves when cornered or threatened, imitating the eastern diamondback rattlesnake. It cannot be domesticated and should not be kept as a pet. It will continue to bite its captors throughout its life span and repeatedly bash its head against a glass enclosure until it seriously injures itself.

Despite its scientific middle name (*constrictor*), the black racer is not a true constrictor. It tends to chase down, bite, then suffocate or crush its victims on the ground rather than coiling around them in true constrictor fashion. Its diet includes brown and green anoles, insects, moles, birds, frogs, eggs, smaller snakes, and rodents. It is preyed on by red-shouldered hawks, owls, and larger snakes.

The black racer is extremely quick and agile, making it difficult to catch. When spotted crossing a trail or road, it vanishes into the understory with amazing swiftness.

This article is an excerpt from *Living Sanibel-A Nature Guide to Sanibel & Captiva Islands* by Charles Sobczak. Photos by Blake Sobczak.



Fishing the 10,000 Islands in February

With Captain Mike Merritt

Well, January brought us some really cold temps that left us with cold water. The Snook bite out in the islands definitely dropped off due to this. But there are plenty of fish to make up for that loss of action.

The Seatrout have been biting really good. It seems we are catching them on incoming and outgoing tides. The main thing is moving water. There are fish on the flats but fishing the bars and rock holes around the islands and rivers will produce lots of action. Live shrimp on a popping cork is a great way to find the fish. But I have been catching limits of Trout on 1/4 oz. jigs with DOA Cal Tails. Tip this with a piece of shrimp and work it along the bottom.

The Black Drum have shown up in good numbers and we have been catching them on shrimp under a cork and shrimp on a knocker rig. If they are not biting with one method then switch up and try the other. They can also be taken on a jig tipped with a big piece of shrimp or on gulps, just work it slowly.

Redfish have continued to bite. It seems they have continued to get better every year. They are biting best on live shrimp fish on a knocker rig. But a shrimp under a cork will also get it done. Incoming tide is generally best. Fishing the bars around the islands is a good place to start. There have been good size fish around even though there will be more small fish this time of year. This week my clients have been catching 10-12 Reds a day so there are good numbers around.

I know this time of year a lot of guys like to catch Sheepshead and there are plenty around. You can catch them on the wrecks, oyster bars, and in the rivers. They are spread out in a lot of places and will eat on rising and falling tide. So if you want action this month continue to use those live shrimp. Of course back country Snook fishing may produce more action on the artificials this time of year. But whatever you decide the action had been good so get out and enjoy the bite!

Good Luck Fishing, Capt. Mike Merritt

Recreational and commercial management changes for cobia in state waters of the Gulf effective Feb. 1



Several changes to the management of cobia in state waters of the Gulf of Mexico will go into effect Feb. 1. These changes were approved at the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) meeting in December.



These changes will further promote sustainable management of this fishery

and were developed in coordination with anglers who were concerned about the fishery. The changes will apply to all state waters north of the Monroe-Collier county line.

Changes effective Feb. 1, 2018, include:

- Making the recreational and commercial bag limits for cobia in Gulf state waters the same by reducing the commercial limit from two to one fish per person.
- Reducing the recreational and commercial vessel limit in Gulf state waters from six to two cobia per vessel, per day.
- The current 33-inch minimum size limit will not change.
- Learn more about cobia online at MyFWC.com/Fishing (click on "Saltwater Fishing," "Recreational Regulations" and "Cobia").

Photo: courtesy FWC


Feral Felines ~ Help is Needed
 Please help our feral cats by donating so Barbara can continue to help them! Send donations to:
Feral Felines, P O Box 564, Chokoloskee, FL, 34138


Obituaries

Susan Elizabeth Daniels 1938-2018



Susan Elizabeth Daniels 79, entered eternal rest on Wednesday, January 31, 2018, with her loving husband Dwain Daniels at her side. Sue and Dwain are residents of Chokoloskee Island, married for 59 years.

Sue is survived by husband Dwain Daniels, and (3) sons: Danny (Kathy) Daniels, Shane Daniels and Clay Daniels; (9) grandchildren, (13) great grandchildren. (1) great great grandchild. Sue was a very loving, devoted mother and grandmother. She will be greatly missed by all her family and many, many friends.

Joan Murray 1945-2018



Joan Murray was born on February 13, 1945 in Berrien Springs, Michigan. She passed away this past Tuesday, January 30, 2018 in Naples. Joan and her husband, Roger Murray loved to travel and explore new places. In 1992 their travels brought them to Chokoloskee, Florida. Falling in love with the area, they purchased their winter home in Parkway Village and have returned every year to their winter retreat from their Michigan. Home Joan faced many challenging and multiple medical issues over the last fifteen years with stoicism and only those closest to her truly knew the extent of her many illnesses.

Joan never complained or allowed her issues to slow her down. She was an inspiration to all, and was an encouragement to everyone she met. Joan could always be seen out and about in Chokoloskee, walking the causeway with her dog. Over the years Joan and Roger shared their life with their first Westie dog, Jock, then Molly. Now Joannie is survived by her husband Roger and their black pup, Casey. Joanie will be missed not only by Roger and Casey, but by her multitude of friends. Joan had a way about her that made so many of us feel we were so important to her. Joanie was a people lover, and she was deeply loved by her husband of 45 years. Joan will be cremated and leaves us with so many warm memories to share. In lieu of a service please celebrate your personal connection to Joan wherever you are.

Linda "Gail" Smith 1945-2018



On January 30th 2018 **Linda Gail Smith** left this earthly life to join her Lord Jesus Christ in the Promised Land.

We all knew her as "Gail." She is survived by her husband of 54 years L.I. Buddy Smith, daughters Monica Marie Smith and Kimberly Marie Bossert. Three grandchildren Jordan Smith 18, Grayson Bossert 9 and Abigail Bossert 7, and her sister Cecilia K Martin. Gail was born in Donaldsonville, Georgia on 1/10/1945 to her parents Cecil and Luvernie Drake who was known to all as Beanie or B.

The Drakes moved to Everglades City to join other family members when Gail was 6 months old and she greatly enjoyed the small town friendships and finished high school in 1963. She continued her education at Sherwin Williams Business School in Miami.

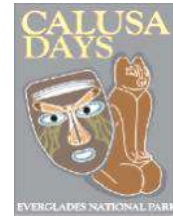
In 1964 she married her high school sweetheart Buddy Smith and moved to Ft Myers for her employment at Lee County Bank plus being a homemaker and mother to their oldest daughter Monica. The family lived in Ft. Myers until 1972 when Buddy's employment with IBM Corporation required them to relocate to Naples. Gail continued working in the business field mostly with Baron Collier Corporation, until the birth of her first grandson, Jordan, at which time she took early retirement.

Gail loved her grandchildren to the fullest and loved the name Nanny to all three grandchildren. Gail was a faithful and loving member at First Baptist Church Naples for 46 years knowing the love she felt for her Church Family was always returned in love. Gail not only looks forward to being in Heaven with her Birth Family but also all the Church Family Members that have gone on before her.

Visitation with family will be held at First Baptist Church Naples, 3003 Orange Blossom Drive, in the commons area on **Saturday, February 10, 2018** at 10:00am and followed by a Celebration of her Life at 11:00am in the First Baptist Church Chapel. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the First Baptist Church Children's Awana Ministry.

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: 10am-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 first fee-free day of 2018 is just around the corner! In honor of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Day, all national parks will waive their admission fees on January 15, 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."

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): M-Th 10:30-6 pm, Fri & Sat 10:30-9 pm Sunday 10:30-9 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, 7 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. 239-394-5181

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

2/10/18	Sat	6:17 AM	-0.05	L
2/10/18	Sat	1:41 PM	1.68	H
2/10/18	Sat	6:22 PM	0.72	L
2/10/18	Sat	11:06 PM	2.21	H
2/11/18	Sun	7:08 AM	-0.14	L
2/11/18	Sun	1:51 PM	1.77	H
2/11/18	Sun	7:14 PM	0.68	L
2/11/18	Sun	11:59 PM	2.31	H
2/12/18	Mon	7:51 AM	-0.21	L
2/12/18	Mon	1:55 PM	1.86	H
2/12/18	Mon	7:57 PM	0.63	L
2/13/18	Tue	12:42 AM	2.42	H
2/13/18	Tue	8:29 AM	-0.27	L
2/13/18	Tue	2:13 PM	1.96	H
2/13/18	Tue	8:34 PM	0.56	L
2/14/18	Wed	1:19 AM	2.52	H
2/14/18	Wed	9:05 AM	-0.29	L
2/14/18	Wed	2:38 PM	2.06	H
2/14/18	Wed	9:08 PM	0.49	L
2/15/18	Thu	1:52 AM	2.58	H
2/15/18	Thu	9:39 AM	-0.29	L
2/15/18	Thu	3:07 PM	2.15	H
2/15/18	Thu	9:43 PM	0.42	L
2/16/18	Fri	2:24 AM	2.59	H
2/16/18	Fri	10:12 AM	-0.26	L
2/16/18	Fri	3:37 PM	2.23	H
2/16/18	Fri	10:18 PM	0.34	L
2/17/18	Sat	2:56 AM	2.56	H
2/17/18	Sat	10:45 AM	-0.2	L
2/17/18	Sat	4:07 PM	2.27	H
2/17/18	Sat	10:55 PM	0.27	L
2/18/18	Sun	3:30 AM	2.48	H
2/18/18	Sun	11:17 AM	-0.1	L
2/18/18	Sun	4:36 PM	2.3	H
2/18/18	Sun	11:34 PM	0.2	L
2/19/18	Mon	4:11 AM	2.36	H
2/19/18	Mon	11:49 AM	0.03	L
2/19/18	Mon	5:02 PM	2.31	H
2/20/18	Tue	12:18 AM	0.15	L
2/20/18	Tue	4:59 AM	2.18	H
2/20/18	Tue	12:20 PM	0.18	L
2/20/18	Tue	5:26 PM	2.31	H
2/21/18	Wed	1:10 AM	0.1	L
2/21/18	Wed	6:00 AM	1.96	H
2/21/18	Wed	12:53 PM	0.36	L
2/21/18	Wed	5:55 PM	2.31	H
2/22/18	Thu	2:16 AM	0.06	L
2/22/18	Thu	7:26 AM	1.75	H
2/22/18	Thu	1:33 PM	0.54	L
2/22/18	Thu	6:38 PM	2.31	H
2/23/18	Fri	3:31 AM	-0.02	L
2/23/18	Fri	9:05 AM	1.63	H
2/23/18	Fri	2:53 PM	0.7	L
2/23/18	Fri	7:47 PM	2.31	H
2/24/18	Sat	4:43 AM	-0.14	L
2/24/18	Sat	10:45 AM	1.65	H
2/24/18	Sat	4:34 PM	0.77	L
2/24/18	Sat	9:20 PM	2.37	H

**Friends of Fakahatchee
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 Thursday, February 15, Thursday, February 22, and Saturday March 3. 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. 24. 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. 13 and Tuesday, Feb. 20, and Tuesday, March 6. This popular four-hour tour pairs a one-hour swamp walk with a guided tram tour for \$60 per person.



To make your required reservations and check for **additional dates through March**, visit: www.orchidswamp.org and click on the "Tours and Events" tab.

Explore Florida's largest state park!

The Friends of Fakahatchee lead guided swamp walks and tram tours of Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park each week during season. For complete details and required reservations, visit: www.orchidswamp.org
All proceeds benefit the Park

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.

SELL YOUR ITEMS HERE: Reach the Everglades community with an impactful ad in the Mullet Rapper. Call 954-662-7003 for rates & information.

REDUCED! 2 stilt houses EC: NOW \$239,900 for 408 Buckner; NOW 339,900 for 309 S. Storter. GREAT shape! Call Steve 910-599-2698. Available dock.

FOR RENT: 2 office spaces and one 2 room restaurant space, in the Glades Building @ the S. E. corner of Broadway and Allen Ave. For information and rates call- (239) 293 3033.

FULL-TIME JOB: Cashier at Joanie's Blue Crab Café. Experience preferred. Must be reliable and honest. The restaurant is located at 39395 Tamiami Trail E, Ochopee, FL. Please call Joanie about this position at: 239-695-2682.

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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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.

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