

The MULLET RAPPER



What's Happening in the Everglades & 10,000 Islands!
News, Stories, Classifieds & Tide Table

April 3, 2021 - April 16, 2021

HAPPY EASTER!



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

Volume XIII • Issue # 387

SAVE BANK OF EVERGLADES!



April 17, 2021
9:00 am to 2:00 pm
Rummage Sale Fundraiser
At Bank of Everglades

Come to the Bank of Everglades building and find the perfect treasure - and help the Everglades Society for Historic Preservation Save the Bank of Everglades building.

Furniture, lamps, pictures, collectibles and more. **EVERYTHING MUST GO!**

You never know what you may find in this old building. All proceeds of the sale will go towards the Save Bank of Everglades fund!

If you can donate time, we could use some labor help during the fundraiser!

Bank of Everglades Building
201 W. Broadway, Everglades City

Can the Iconic Bank of Everglades Building Be Saved?

New Owner, The Everglades Society for Historic Preservation, Says Yes it Can
 By Kathy Brock, ESHP President



Photo: Bank of Everglades Building Circa 1929. Collier Museum Photo Archive

On July 9, 1923, the Bank of Everglades opened its doors for the first time. In 1926, the bank moved to the 2-story iconic building across from the historic Rod & Gun Club on Broadway Ave. in Everglades City.

Since its heyday, the bank has been the home to several businesses. It was the headquarters for the old Everglades Echo Newspaper, and later it became bed and breakfast on and off for about 15 years.

Once the bed and breakfast closed, it fell into disrepair including windows missing, a leaky roof, and some structural damage.

Undeterred, the Everglades Society for Historic Preservation (ESHP) remained focused on finding a way to Save Bank of Everglades...and it looks like we may be on our way.

In late March, the owner, Robert Flick, gifted the building to ESHP so that we could develop a plan to restore the building. Immediately our group started working in the building to remove debris and clear it

out so that the building can be secured until renovations can begin.

The Bank of Everglades was the first bank in Collier County. It literally helped put the County on the map. It is incumbent upon us to save old buildings so future generations have more than just old photos. Preserving history is not easy.

The biggest obstacle? Money. Renovations will be costly, just how much is still being determined, but no matter the number, ESHP will push on.

Over the next several weeks, ESHP will have a clearer picture of the scope and cost of the entire project. Once the goal is clear, the fundraising will begin in earnest.

Details of the project including future plans, renovation plans, estimated cost, and fundraising goals will be made public once the initial evaluations are completed.

ESHP is committed to the preservation of the historic buildings, culture, and heritage of the Everglades area.

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SWFL Coast tide predictions, maps, tours & more at www.visitevergladescity.com! Call us @ 954-662-7003



Saturday, April 3, 2021
Easter-egg Hunt
See front page for details

Sunday, April 4, 2021
Easter Sunday Worship:

1st Baptist Church of Everglades
Service at 11: 00

Chokoloskee Church of God
Service at 11:00 am

Everglades Community Church
Service at 11:00 am

Holy Family Catholic Church
Mass held at 10:30

*Due to the Covid-19 Virus,
there will not be a sunrise service at
Everglades National Park.*

April 15, 2021
2:00 pm, Museum of the Everglades
Third-Thursday Lecture
"The Building of the Tamiami Trail"
See page 8 for details

April 24, 2021
93rd Annual
Tamiami Trail Celebration
Museum of the Everglades
10:00 am - 2:00 pm
See page 8 for details

Independence Day Celebration
Saturday, June 26th, 10 am
Mark the date, the parade will be back this year!

After a one-year hiatus, the Independence Day festivities will take place on June 29th in Everglades City.

The day starts off at City Hall where the now, almost famous, parade of golf carts will wow the crowd!

Later in the evening at 9 pm, the unbelievable fireworks display will light up our SWFL skies.

As we draw closer to the date, the full day's agenda will be published in the Mullet Rapper.

COMMUNITY SERVICES
& INFORMATION

THE FOOD BANK IS OPEN !
Wed. 10:30 am to 1:00 pm

Food is distributed from the rear of Everglades Community Church located at 101 S. Copeland Ave., Everglades City.



Thrift Store
Open Thursday &
Saturday
11 am to 3 pm

205 Buckner Ave, Everglades City
Please do not leave items on the porch when we are not open. They get wet from moisture overnight and get ruined. Thank you!

Everglades Area Visitor Center
Open Fri., Sat., & Sunday
10 am to 2 pm

Stop in the Everglades Area Visitor Center to learn about all of the things to do around the area. At the center we also have maps, brochures, art and crafts by area artists, photography and more. We hope to see you there! We are located at 207 Broadway West in Everglades City, FL.

Yard Debris Pick Up

Yard debris is picked up on Thursdays. Debris must be cut into pieces 4 ft or less and tied together, or put into paper bags (not plastic). Set them in the same area as your trash bins. If you put out unbound debris, they will not pick it up.

Everglades City Hall Contact Info:
239-695-3781

Fishing in the 10,000 Islands
By Captain Mike Merritt



Snook are starting to show up more on the outside. Water temps are finally rising again and bait is very plentiful. The big Snook will be moving in and fattening up on all the baitfish that are here.

They will be feeding in moving water but incoming tides will be best.

Next month, I will start targeting these fish with more top water lures like the old faithful Zara Spook. Snook season is open till the end of April and there are more slot-sized fish showing up.

The Redfish bite continues to be pretty good and we have caught some very big fish this month with our 2 largest being 17.5lb. and 18.5lb. beauties. But, there are plenty of slot size fish being caught also.

Seatrout have also been plentiful and are scattered in a lot of different places. We are catching them in channels, on bars, in rivers, and on some of the flats. Once you find them chances are they will be there for a while. *Remember, if you are keeping these fish you must measure them with their mouth closed. I have been fishing for 47 years and honestly did not know this. So, measure them accurately.*

Of course, Tarpon are here and there seems to be no shortage of guys chasing them. In fact, I have never seen so much boat activity in all my years. Some know what they are doing but it seems plenty, either don't know how to be respectful and cautious, or they just don't care. I am not sure which it is. So, be careful and don't be the one to be disrespectful to other boats.

Have fun, enjoy the fishing, catch your dinner, and be safe!

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Adventures of the Saltwater Cowboy - "White Pelicans"
Jon Edward Edwards



She had legs long as day with olive-toned skin; hair sun-kissed at the ends. She could have been a professional tennis player. Maybe she was ... It's not like he'd never seen famous people in the Havana Cafe.

He thought of her as he followed the wind trail across the shoal. I can see you, brown skin shining in the sun....

A flock of white pelicans loitered on the lee side of a familiar key as he banked into a grassy depression and shut the engine down. He walked the wake down to the bow and engaged the trolling motor; old school style – no GPS control.

The day was beautiful and reminded him of the '90s when the grass was healthier, the trout bigger, and the area less traveled.

He didn't know what about her had him thinking in lyrics, you got the top pulled back, and the radio up, baby ... Her devilishly good looks or what she said; with emerald green eyes, in accented English, "I had to come all the way to Florida to find freedom."

As he meandered through the outer Pavilion Keys, he imagined how it must've looked back in the days of the outlaw Edgar Watson and Everglades City lore and realized it was the latter.

Homeward bound in fading light, her statement was put in perspective. It doesn't get any freer than this

Jon Edward Edwards is a local author, fishing guide, and avid sportsman.
His stories often recount his adventures in and around the 10,000 Islands.

Email Jon at jedmls@mac.com.



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New Community Assistance Program will help residents and small business owners impacted by COVID-19. Aid is available for some past due bills and more.

Collier County residents and business owners impacted by COVID-19 may receive financial aid to pay for past due bills and more. The County will opened its new Collier Community Assistance Program (CCAP) on March 29. Payment assistance is available for households behind on mortgage, rent and utility bills. Small business owners, nonprofits and agricultural operations behind on utility payments and/or need to repay the Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) may also qualify for aid.

The financial relief program will be open on an ongoing basis this year or until funds are depleted, whichever one occurs first. Past due bills must have accumulated as the result of COVID-19 and must be documented. Income and other eligibility requirements may apply. Assistance is available on a first-come, first qualified basis. Food banks and pantries may also apply for assistance by reaching out to the Community Foundation of Collier County.

Aid is available for households with past due bills going back (arrearage) to March 13, 2020. Applicants must have been current on their rent or mortgage on March 13, 2020. Arrearage is available up to a maximum of \$10,000 for rent, mortgage and utility relief for those in CCAP. However, applicants will also be screened for benefits through the Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) program, which does not have a cap on funds and only assists with arrearage and future rent payments. Applicants should be aware that if they qualify for ERA, they will have to re-qualify every three months to continue to receive payment assistance.

Small businesses, nonprofits and agricultural operations must qualify by being in Collier County, with a business tax license, hold a Sunbiz registration, and employ 100 or less full-time equivalent (FTE) staff. Applicants should select small business during the application process.

Business owners that own more than one business, with each business having its own employer identification number (EIN) and meets all other eligibility requirements, may apply for assistance for each business. An application must be submitted for each business. For past due water and electric bill assistance, the utility account must be in the name of each business. Each qualified applicant may receive a one-time grant of up to \$25,000 toward EIDL repayment and utility assistance. Since this is a grant and not a loan, it does not need to be paid back.

More specific information is available at CollierFLAssistance.com or at 13245 Tamiami Trail East, Suite 102, in Naples.

Appointments are required. (239) 450- 2114 to set up an appointment or email CCAPinfo@colliercountyfl.gov to set up an appointment or more information. Remember to wear a mask to your appointment, please.

Study Finds Glyphosate in More Than Half of All Sampled Florida Manatees

Submitted by The Center for Biological Diversity

A scientific study published this week concludes that Florida manatees are chronically exposed to glyphosate because of application of the pesticide to sugarcane and aquatic weeds.

The study found glyphosate, the active ingredient in Roundup and the world's most-used pesticide, in the plasma of 55.8% of the Florida manatees sampled. The concentration of glyphosate in plasma has increased from 2009 to 2019.

Additionally, the study's authors determined that glyphosate concentrations in the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie rivers and Everglades Agricultural Area stormwater treatment areas were significantly higher before and during sugarcane harvesting, when glyphosate is more likely to be applied, than after harvest.


"Manatees are Exhibit A that Florida's waters are in crisis and they shouldn't be facing this kind of pesticide threat," said Jaclyn Lopez, Florida director of the Center for Biological Diversity. "Our beloved, chubby sea cows are dodging boat strikes, reeling from red tide and starving in the Indian River Lagoon because of water pollution. It's heartbreaking to add chronic glyphosate exposure to the list of factors threatening manatee survival."

"The results of this recent study are cause for serious concern about the chronic use, fate and effects of glyphosate on the manatee population in south Florida," said John Cassani of Calusa Waterkeeper. "An increasing trend for glyphosate in manatee plasma that correlates with concurrent increased usage of glyphosate is disturbing, especially at a time when manatee mortality is at very high levels. The authors report the same level of glyphosate exposure that manatees experience, causes kidney and liver damage in laboratory animals."

The study found that the amount of glyphosate sprayed by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to control aquatic weeds in Lake Okeechobee exceeded the sample waters, reaching up to 10,000 kilograms per year, and that the Army Corps' Lake Okeechobee discharges result in high concentrations of glyphosate in the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie rivers.

The study, published in Environment International, also found that manatees were exposed to glyphosate in non-agricultural areas, such as the Crystal River, and that exposure was higher during winter, when manatees depend on the warm water refuge. The study concluded that the chronic exposure in Florida water bodies may have consequences for Florida manatees' immune and renal systems, which may be further compounded by other environmental factors, such as red tide or cold stress.

Glyphosate is the most widely used herbicide, with about 280 million pounds a year used across 285 million acres in agriculture alone. Its total volume of application has increased by a factor of 12 from 1995 to 2014. The EPA recently determined that glyphosate's labeled uses are likely to adversely affect 93% of all listed species and 96% of critical habitats, including the Florida manatee.



Robert Wilhelm
Owner

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Removing the cork in the bottle: Reconstructing Tamiami Trail to restore water flow to Everglades National Park

By Antonia Florio, Science Communications Liaison, Everglades National Park



It's April 26, 1928, and the two-lane Tamiami Trail is finally complete. For the first time ever, people can travel easily by car from Tampa to Miami, hence the name Tamiami.

How did engineers get it done? Time, money and explosives. Also known as U.S. Highway 41, Tamiami Trail was considered a feat of engineering at the time. It took over 11 years and cost \$7 million to complete the 264-mile roadway. The builders used approximately 3 million sticks of dynamite in Collier County alone to create the canal adjacent to the highway and to provide the dirt fill to construct the roadway.

The road was great for the economy of Southwest Florida and allowed this part of Florida to become a center for real estate, business, and tourism.

It was disastrous for the Everglades ecosystem.

Specifically, the 25-mile stretch of the road heading east to west acted as a dam. It blocked the natural downward flow of the "River of Grass," holding back water from the plants and animals that desperately needed it to survive.

The negative effects on the Everglades ecosystem were recognized early. Beginning in the 1940s, a series of bridges, culverts, and conveyance structures were added to help prevent flooding and improve water flow.

These weren't complete fixes, and the eastern 10.7-miles, located between the L-31N and L-67 Extension levees, still greatly limited the amount of water that could flow into Northeastern Shark River Slough.

This part of Tamiami Trail was so low that it was impossible to raise water levels high enough in the adjacent L-29 canal to allow water to flow into the park without it flooding and damaging the road.

Water levels continued to drop south of the road. Because it was now drier than it should be, there were more wildfires and there were more exotic plants. The ecosystem continued to decline.

But there's a happy ending to this story. Starting in 1989, with follow-up efforts in 2009, Congress authorized a comprehensive plan that, although costly, aimed to finally fix the water flow problem created by the Tamiami Trail. The connection between southeastern and southwestern Florida would remain.



An elevated one-mile bridge was completed in 2013, and 2.3 miles of bridging was completed in 2019. Engineers and park managers put a lot of thought into these bridges.

They lined up each bridge with historic sloughs, or low-lying areas naturally found in the Everglades, to allow the

maximum amount of flow under them and to get the water further south as quickly and easily as possible.

They cut costs and gave drivers a glimpse into the Everglades by "super elevating" the north side of the bridge. This allowed them to

spend less money on drainage structures since the road now sloped downward, and it gave many people their first, and perhaps only, window into the River of Grass as they drove by.

What the engineers and park managers didn't expect was for it to work so well. By building this approximately 3.5-miles of bridging, they were able to increase the flow of water into the park by 80%, more than they anticipated.

The project was only midway complete when they realized they didn't need more flow, but instead the water needed to be distributed across the Everglades better.



"We did an analysis of the flow under the bridges and found that adding more bridging didn't increase water flow that much more," said Charles Borders, who was the National Park Service lead and former project manager on the Tamiami Trail Next Steps Project. "For about half of

the money, we could add in culverts which would solve the distribution problem as well."

With those surprise findings, they changed course and instead of adding more bridges, they started to plan where to add in more cost-friendly culverts, or tunnels that allow water to flow under the Trail.

The remaining 6.7-miles of the eastern Tamiami Trail will be reconstructed with additional culverts, in historic sloughs when possible, and with more structures for roadway safety and stormwater treatment. The entire project will finally be completed by 2024.

We are already seeing some promising results as water is now flowing more freely. This year we've seen high water levels throughout the park, definitely helped by high rainfall, but undoubtedly also facilitated by the completion of the bridges on the Tamiami Trail.

"The Tamiami Trail project will allow restoration to move forward in the park," said Amy Renshaw, hydrologist at Everglades National Park. "We couldn't put the additional water that is necessary for restoration into the park without the roadway work. It removes an approximately 100-year impairment to water flow and will help with endangered species issues by directing water where it's supposed to go."

Engineers may have made a mistake with the first road, but they've fixed it. The metaphorical cork in the Everglades bottle is out: Bring on the water!

Photos: Top left, the archway on the border of Collier and Dade County from opening day of the Trail on 4-26-28.

Bottom left: A photo of the elevated one-mile bridge completed in 2019. NPS photo.

Top right: Culverts are now the focus of the last steps in the Tamiami Trail Project. Culverts are cheaper to build than bridges, so engineers can put more of them along the Tamiami Trail to help distribute water through the Everglades in a way more similar to how it was distributed historically. NPS photo by Vincent DiFrenna

The Mullet Rapper Supports the Everglades Community and School

Each year, The Mullet Rapper hosts plant sales, and other events, to raise money for Everglades City School.

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If you shop on Amazon, at no additional cost to you, you can support a local charity. Three (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 Foundation:
<https://www.amazon.com/b?node=15576745011>

Everglades Community Church
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Solution to March 20, 2021 Puzzle

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10	S	I	X	11	I	O	N	12	R	E	X						
13	I	N	T	14	E	R	R	A	15	C	I	A	L				
16	T	O	R	E					17	A	C	R	E				
18	I	N	A	L	19	I	T	T	L	E							
22	S	A	P		23	M	I	A		24	F	A	D				
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30	T	A	L	L					32	E	X	E	C				
33	S	T	A	U	34	G	U	S	36	T	I	N	E				
37	A	R	T		38	U	S	A		39	N	U	N				
40	R	Y	E		41	N	B	C		42	G	E	T				



It's Tough Trying to get a Handle on Things These Days

By Pastor Bob Wallace

Just when you think you understand what's going on in the world these days, something happens to change your mind. Take football for example. I remember when there was a football team called the Baltimore Colts. That came to my mind one day when I saw Johnny Unitas on TV signing autographs at the Intellinet Golf Tournament.

He played in the National Football League for 18 seasons, primarily with the Colts, and was known as "Johnny U". He died in 2002. It was great whenever I heard the Baltimore Colts name. They were my favorite team, but in 1984 became the Indianapolis Colts. Somehow that doesn't sound right to my old ear! But since the Cleveland Browns moved to Baltimore right in the middle of the 1995 season, there was a lot of unhappiness and after a time Cleveland got to keep their Browns name and created another team in 1999 while the team that moved to Baltimore became the Ravens. Did you follow that? Now really, what went on to cause all of this? Will a person ever be able to unscramble it? Probably, but it's a challenge!

However, we have so many other things to think about these days that's far from the "good ole days". For example, "downsizing" is a term a lot of folks use these days. When some of us were told about companies laying off employees just when they were reaching retirement age, it was a shock! People used to say you were safe if you'd work for just one company and not change jobs. Surely the company would take care of you when it came time to retire! But look at what companies are doing with COVID-19. They're selling their building and moving away from cities and letting people work at home. Talk about change!

Downsizing has stepped in and is changing everything. Cutbacks. Bottom line fidgets. Investors worried over profits. And just when we had adjusted to the fact companies would have to downsize if they ever expected to make it. Now it's hard to find a company store or neighborhood bank. Talk about change!

Now a fella comes along and starts hiring thinking he can make a profit. I guess we'll have to call it upsizing. Makes you want to scream, doesn't it?

Politics isn't much better. We're faced with so many choices today in elections, and yet we really know so little about issues and candidates. The political rhetoric involves budget restraints, upper class, middle class, welfare reform, Medicare versus Obamacare, Green New Deal. Really, who can keep up with all of this?

We're told by the media that we, the voters, are being told only what the politicians think we, the voters, want to hear. Why? It's the result of each politician's poll, which conveniently don't always agree with other politicians' polls. Remember the good ol' days when a politician had a platform and stuck to it, even if it cost an election? Stop and think about that during the coming months.



Or, how about the place in Detroit where you can buy a car and not have to hassle with a salesperson, or figure out how you're going to pay for it? We're told that soon you'll be able to buy cars everywhere at a no-hassle price, arrange for the financing and insurance all by yourself, right on the spot. No kidding! But that sort of takes the fun out of it, doesn't it?

The world-wide web on the computer network lets you stay home and shop through the miracle of cyberspace. You can even have the stuff delivered next day – at no extra charge! Soon it will be delivered by drones! Computer people say the future software being developed will absolutely make your heads spin. Well, mine already is!

But don't think you're losing it, or you're way behind the times if you can't keep up with all the changes today. You're not alone, regardless of your age. Sometimes, it just makes a person want to get back in bed and start the day all over again rather than face a new one that's always changing.

MUSEUM NEWS



First opened in 1927 as a commercial laundry, the building that now houses Museum of the Everglades is one of several historic structures still standing as a testament to the town's time as a once-bustling center of business and the region's first County seat. Faithfully restored to its original, 1920s Collier-era appearance, the museum is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is located at 105 W Broadway Ave. in Everglades City, FL.

Due to Covid-19 safety protocols, the museum must limit attendance for some events and reservations are required to reserve your seat.

Please make reservations online at colliermuseums.com OR by calling the museum at 239-252-5026 during museum hours, Tuesday – Saturday, 9am-4pm.

**Dredges, Dynamite, & Determination The Building of the Tamiami Trail
April 15 • 2:00 pm**

This presentation explores the rare combination of technology and tenacity that ultimately yielded the miracle of modern engineering known as the Tamiami Trail. An analysis of the machinery and materials employed as well as rarely-seen photos and firsthand accounts of the work will leave no doubt as to why the massive project was—at the time—compared to the building of the Panama Canal.

**93RD Annual Tamiami Trail Celebration
Museum of the Everglades • April 24
10:00 am - 2:00 pm**

On April 26, 1928, Miami and Tampa were joined when the 284-mile Tamiami Trail opened. Plans for the road began around 1915 and took more than a decade to see the fruition of a great idea come to life. The last section of the highway, running through the Everglades, came to a stop due to lack of funding. But Barron Collier saved the day and offered to fund the completion of the highway in exchange for the county bearing his name. Join us for this annual event that includes speakers on the steps of City Hall, a convergence of car clubs (including both vintage and contemporary models) in the median of Broadway, the annual laundry cart races in front of the museum ("the Old Laundry Building"), live music, and lunch in the park.



EVERGLADES COMMUNITY CHURCH
The Friendly Little Church on the Circle
NON-DENOMINATIONAL
101 S. Copeland Avenue, PO Box 177
Everglades City, FL 34139, 239-784-7318
The Rev. Dr. Bob N. Wallace, Pastor
◆ Sunday Worship Service 11:00 am ◆
◆ Sunday School Oct. 13th—March ◆
www.ever-community-church.com

First Annual Everglades City Chili Cookoff A Huge Success!

The very first annual Everglades City Chili Cookoff was a tremendous success.

Spearheaded by Hazel Mitchell and the Chokoloskee Church of God Ladies Ministry, the event attracted over 100 guests and included 14 entries!

The community was obviously ready to compete and eat. For a \$5 donation, eventgoers could sample chili from each entry.

By day's end, a vote was taken and the winners announced.

Aaron (Right) & David(Center) Tabor of Parkway Motel & Villas took home the first place trophy and a \$100.



Havana Café and Carlos Valdez (below, left) brought home the second place medal for their delicious entry.



Island Café (below) was awarded the 3rd place medal for their flavor-packed entry.



All in all, it was a very successful day for the new event and a nice day out for the local community.

We congratulate the Chokoloskee Church of God's Ladies Ministry for a very successful event. We look forward to the 2nd Annual Chili Cookoff event in 2022.

Photo credit: Top, Hazel Mitchell

At 6-Weeks Old, Young Osprey Demand Food Throughout the Day

By Kathy Brock



With an osprey tower located directly in front of our property, we have been able to watch the entire nesting season cycle for the native Osprey up close each day.

Nest building, which began in earnest in December, seems to be an ongoing process. Throughout the cycle, the adults continue to reinforce their nest bringing twigs, grasses and even some crab trap rope as a reinforcement.

We think the chicks hatched February 8. Chicks typically stay in the nest for 60 days, so that would mean they should be ready to fly by April 6th. Several times a day the babies will exercise their wings preparing for the first flight, so they seem to be on target for early April.

The adults share the workload. The female spends the most time at the nest, but the male comes to the nest to relieve her on a regular basis.

Routinely, the male will bring a fish to his roost to eat on it for a bit before he takes it to the nest for the rest of the family. As he eats, his mate cries out continually to let him know that the two chicks are hungry.

We have seen several species of fish on the menu, tilapia, ladyfish, mangrove snapper and small snook.

Photo Above: The female osprey (left) communicating to one of her two chicks on March 29th.

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OPEN ALL YEAR...
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Want to book a private party?
 Call Richard or Candice at 239-695-4700

Lights Out, Stash the Trash. It's Sea Turtle Nesting Season!

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) is reminding beachgoers they can help protect nesting sea turtles by practicing some simple tips.

Each year, thousands of sea turtles nest on Florida's beaches. Because our state is so important to these special animals, beachgoers can help keep our beaches clean and dark so sea turtles nest successfully. Everyone benefits from clean beaches and, since most of Florida's sea turtles nest at night, it is important to keep our beaches dark because bright lights can disorient nesting turtles.

Stash the trash! Obstacles on the beach can prevent sea turtles from nesting as they crawl from the water, across the sand, to lay their eggs. They can also prevent sea turtle hatchlings from reaching the water once they emerge from their nests. Beachgoers can help sea turtles by properly disposing of all trash, filling in holes in the sand, and putting away boats, beach toys and furniture. Fishing line can be deadly to sea turtles and other wildlife, so be sure to dispose of it properly. To find a monofilament recycling station near you, visit mrrp.myfwc.com.

Lights out! Bright lighting can misdirect and disturb nesting sea turtles and their hatchlings, leading them away from the ocean and toward potential danger, so beachgoers should avoid using flashlights or cellphones on the beach at night. Anyone living along or visiting Florida beaches can do their part by turning out lights or closing curtains after dark to ensure nesting turtles are not disturbed as they come ashore and hatchlings will not become disoriented when they emerge from their nests. If lighting could still be visible from the beach, be sure it is long, low and shielded.

"As beachgoers, we can all do our part to help sea turtles survive," said Dr. Robbin Trindell, who heads the FWC's sea turtle management program. "By keeping beaches dark and clearing the way at the end of the day, we can help ensure that these amazing animals keep returning to our beautiful state."

Other ways to help sea turtles include reporting those that are sick, injured, entangled or dead to the FWC's Wildlife Alert Hotline at 888-404-FWCC (3922).

Purchasing a "Helping Sea Turtles Survive" Florida license plate contributes to sea turtle research, rescue and conservation efforts. People also can donate \$5 and receive an FWC sea turtle decal. For more information please, visit MyFWC.com/Sea Turtle.

The Island Life Recipes

Homemade Coleslaw, Delicious & Economical

Ingredients:

- 1/2 head of cabbage
- 3 carrots
- 1/4 head red cabbage
- 1 pint blueberries (optional)
- 2 cups mayonnaise
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 4 tablespoons apple cider vinegar
- 3 dashes of celery seed (optional)
- Salt and pepper to taste



Directions: Using a food processor, shred cabbage, carrots and red cabbage. Mix together well. If pieces are too large, put them through the processor a second time.

In a separate small bowl, mix the mayo, sugar, vinegar and celery seeds until well blended. Fold into the cabbage mixture until well blended and refrigerate until you are ready to serve.

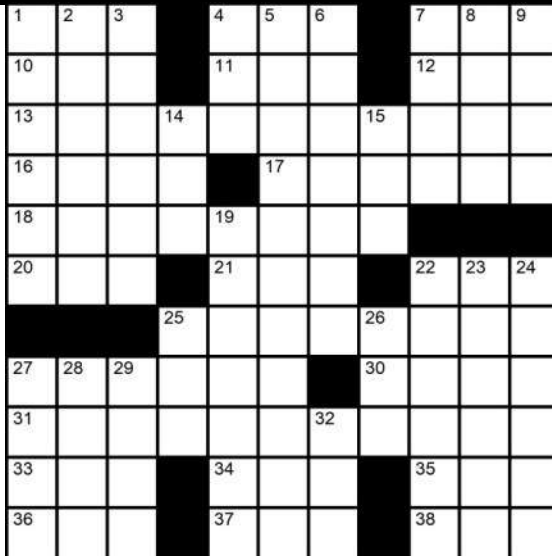
Before serving, mix the slaw well taste, and see if you need salt or pepper for your taste. Add the pint of blueberries and blend in. I know it sounds weird, but they add a burst of flavor and color that you are sure to love.

Warning: 1/2 head of cabbage makes a lot of coleslaw!

MULLET RAPPER CROSSWORD

Across

- 1 White House defense group
- 4 Meringue ingredient
- 7 I reckon
- 10 "Brilliant!"
- 11 Very small
- 12 Lyric poem
- 13 Numbers out of a hundred
- 16 "The Swedish Nightingale"
- 17 Ocean current off Ecuador
- 18 A hydrogen atom has one
- 20 Utter
- 21 Is infected with
- 22 "I think, therefore --"



4/3/21

Down

- 25 Small compensation
- 27 Eight-time tennis Grand Slam champion
- 30 A long way off
- 31 On pasta, oats came out badly
- 33 When the plane should come down
- 34 Very cold fuel
- 35 "Diamond ---" (Mae West play)
- 36 French rejection
- 37 "Best" ending
- 38 Ballad
- 1 Our neighbor to the north
- 2 Aussie lassie
- 3 Art ---, 1974 Oscar winner for "Harry and Tonto"
- 4 Meadow mom
- 5 Go in earnest to sort out age groups
- 6 "Beat it!"
- 7 The Yankees' odd quoter
- 8 Paradise
- 9 Cancun coin
- 14 Federal medical body
- 15 Raggedy ---
- 19 Prickly plant
- 22 Unabridged
- 23 Gum arabic
- 24 Simply
- 25 Message from M A D D, for example
- 26 Excellent, to Moody's
- 27 Sawbuck
- 28 Attend
- 29 "... you'll be ---, my son!" (Kipling, "If")
- 32 U S Army E-5



My Little Slice of Paradise

by Kathy Brock

The article on page 5 of this issue that summarizes a study published this March on the health of our beautiful manatee should be a warning for all of us.

Glyphosate, the main ingredient in the weed killer Roundup, is now found in the plasma of 55.8% of all Florida manatee.

The "how" may be less certain, but the "why" is quite clear; we love our Roundup.

Before Roundup, teams of work crews would work up and down the highways trimming weeds along the roadsides, canals and in public spaces. Today, all we need to do is spray it and forget it. About 10 days later, weeds be damned!

Another report released by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission this month warned that manatee mortality is up, way up. Each year approximately 600 to 650 manatee perish.

This year by March 5, 432 have perished. That alarming number can be partly attributed to some very cold weather this winter, but loss of habitat and compromised immune systems are also on the list of suspected causes.

How are the manatee coming into contact with the pesticide? There are several ways. Glyphosate is sprayed along canals, roadways and on private and public lands.

Big sugar sprays it on sugarcane to speed the ripening process and "make the cane sweeter". Hmm. Really? Yes.

We've read the reports that suggest that water from the agricultural lands just south of Lake O, that flow southward, were at least partially responsible for the green-blue algae outbreaks that plagued our area throughout 2019. Even a layperson can assume that some of that "sweetening Glyphosate" flows right along with it.

Loss of habitat is another cause for concern for the manatee. Starvation is apparently a common cause of death for the animals.

Many fishermen will tell you that the grass beds have moved, are shrinking...or both.

The manatees rely on seagrass to stay alive. Natural phenomena can erode the grass beds for sure. Hurricanes are known to wreak havoc on the sea floor.

But one has to wonder if an herbicide flowing into the 10,000 Islands from the Caloosahatchee River contributes to the decrease in the seagrass beds too? It sure is quite a coincidence.



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EATERIES & AREA WORSHIP

Angler's Cove, Port of the Islands (642-1025): Closed Mon– Tue-Thurs, 5-11 Fri-Sun Noon - 11 pm
Camellia Street Grille (239-695-2003): 11:00 am – 9:00 pm, Daily
City Seafood (239-695-4700): 8:00 am – 10:00 am; breakfast Noon-6pm Lunch & Dinner
Diving Pelican Restaurant (239) 232-0475 Open Sun-Thur 11 am to 8 pm, Fri & Sat till midnight
Everglades Fishing Co. / Nely's Corner Open M-Th 5:30 am to 8pm, Sat Sun till 10 pm 203 Collier Avenue, (239-695-4222)
Havana Café (239-695-2214): Open Daily 9am to 4 pm
Hole in the Wall Pizza (239-695-4444) M-Th 11am-3pm, Fri & Sat 11 am-9 pm
Island Café (239-695-0003): 6:00 am – 9:00 pm; daily
Ivey House (239-695-3299) (Private) 7:00 am – 9:00 am; daily (for guests only)
Joanie's Crab Café (239-695-2682): Open Daily 10:30 am to 5 pm, Closed Wed.
Rod & Gun (239-695-2101): 11:30 am - 8:00 pm; daily
Triad Seafood & Café (239-695-2662): Open Daily 10:30 am to 5:00 pm
MARKETS
Right Choice Market (239-695-4535): Open 7 days, 9 am to 7 pm
Grimm's Stone Crab (239-695-3222): Open 8-5, Mon—Sat. Closed Sunday.
Fresh Produce
Right Choice Supermarket
See listing under "markets"
SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES
Chokoloskee Family Church Sunday: 10 am Sch., 11 am Worship
Copeland Baptist Church Sunday: 10 am School, 11 am Worship
Everglades Community Church 11:00 am Sunday Worship, See ad p. 8
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 Mass at 10:30 am
St. Finbarr Catholic Church, Naples Phone: 239-417-2084
San Marco Catholic Church, Marco Isl. 239-394-5181

BARRON RIVER TIDES

4/3/2021	Sat	3:04 AM	-0.19	L
4/3/2021	Sat	9:28 AM	1.84	H
4/3/2021	Sat	2:32 PM	0.94	L
4/3/2021	Sat	7:05 PM	2.6	H
4/4/2021	Sun	4:20 AM	-0.1	L
4/4/2021	Sun	12:33 PM	1.86	H
4/4/2021	Sun	4:21 PM	1	L
4/4/2021	Sun	8:58 PM	2.45	H
4/5/2021	Mon	5:34 AM	-0.06	L
4/5/2021	Mon	1:28 PM	2.01	H
4/5/2021	Mon	5:52 PM	0.94	L
4/5/2021	Mon	10:36 PM	2.41	H
4/6/2021	Tue	6:39 AM	-0.02	L
4/6/2021	Tue	1:52 PM	2.13	H
4/6/2021	Tue	7:03 PM	0.8	L
4/6/2021	Tue	11:57 PM	2.46	H
4/7/2021	Wed	7:36 AM	0.02	L
4/7/2021	Wed	2:04 PM	2.24	H
4/7/2021	Wed	7:59 PM	0.64	L
4/8/2021	Thu	1:02 AM	2.55	H
4/8/2021	Thu	8:23 AM	0.07	L
4/8/2021	Thu	2:15 PM	2.36	H
4/8/2021	Thu	8:44 PM	0.47	L
4/9/2021	Fri	1:51 AM	2.62	H
4/9/2021	Fri	9:04 AM	0.13	L
4/9/2021	Fri	2:29 PM	2.48	H
4/9/2021	Fri	9:24 PM	0.32	L
4/10/2021	Sat	2:30 AM	2.64	H
4/10/2021	Sat	9:41 AM	0.2	L
4/10/2021	Sat	2:47 PM	2.6	H
4/10/2021	Sat	10:01 PM	0.18	L
4/11/2021	Sun	3:06 AM	2.62	H
4/11/2021	Sun	10:14 AM	0.29	L
4/11/2021	Sun	3:08 PM	2.69	H
4/11/2021	Sun	10:37 PM	0.08	L
4/12/2021	Mon	3:41 AM	2.56	H
4/12/2021	Mon	10:46 AM	0.39	L
4/12/2021	Mon	3:30 PM	2.73	H
4/12/2021	Mon	11:12 PM	0	L
4/13/2021	Tue	4:18 AM	2.46	H
4/13/2021	Tue	11:16 AM	0.5	L
4/13/2021	Tue	3:52 PM	2.73	H
4/13/2021	Tue	11:49 PM	-0.04	L
4/14/2021	Wed	4:58 AM	2.34	H
4/14/2021	Wed	11:43 AM	0.6	L
4/14/2021	Wed	4:11 PM	2.7	H
4/15/2021	Thu	12:26 AM	-0.06	L
4/15/2021	Thu	5:43 AM	2.2	H
4/15/2021	Thu	12:03 PM	0.7	L
4/15/2021	Thu	4:29 PM	2.65	H
4/16/2021	Fri	1:06 AM	-0.04	L
4/16/2021	Fri	6:35 AM	2.05	H
4/16/2021	Fri	12:14 PM	0.79	L
4/16/2021	Fri	4:50 PM	2.58	H

Obituary

ROBERT MICHELL HUGGINS
April 15, 1992 – February 27, 2021

It's with a heavy heart that we announce the passing of Robert Huggins. His Memorial took place next to the Copeland Baptist Church on Saturday, March 27th.

If you would like to send sympathy cards to the family please mail them to Copeland Baptist Church, PO Box 457, Copeland, FL 34137.

Keep the family in your prayers and join us in remembering Robert as a father, brother, son, and friend. A life lost way too soon.



Planting a Tree or Garden in Memory of Someone You Lost



When someone loses someone they love, it is not uncommon to have an overwhelming sense of emptiness. "What should I do next?" is a common question posed by those mourning the loss.

Planting a memorial tree or garden can help ease that feeling. It can provide you with a living memorial of the life lost.

If you do not have a yard to plant in, a beautiful planter can also serve as a type of memorial that you can grow flowers, herbs, or vegetables in.

Another idea is to have a plaque or sign made to place in your yard by your lost loved one's favorite tree or garden.

Whatever you choose, make it something that makes you think fondly of your lost loved one.



Chokoloskee Family Church

"Doing Life Together"

Sun. Marriage Class-9:am
Sun. Worship-11:am
Sun. 5:30 pm-Celebrate Recovery
Kids Program-Wed 7pm
Kids Program- Sun. 11:am
Wed. Bible Study -7:pm-
at Island Café-Free Coffee & Pie
239-232-0098

CLASSIFIED ADS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

FOR SALE 102 S. Copeland Ave. Location, location, location! This building is located right on town circle in Everglades City where over 1 million tourists pass by on their way to Everglades National Park. There is a caretakers / living qtrs upstairs from the main room. Village Commercial zoning offers plenty of opportunities; restaurant, ice cream parlor, gift shop, beer, wine, food, sports bar, rental office space and much more! Live and work in Paradise! Asking \$599,000.

239-695-4299, GladesRealty.com Karen@Gladesrealty.com

FOR SALE: Everglades City Captain's Table Hotel room. Great getaway or income investment. Includes the use of the pool, boat ramp, and boat parking. Asking \$33,900. For Information please call 954-435-8896.

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. This stunning parcel is secluded on a high and dry prairie, and is completely off grid. The price on this private piece of paradise is \$2.5 million. Take a tour of the camp www.popenhager.com. For more information call 786-258-2227.

JOB OPPORTUNITY: Local Electrical Contractor needs electrician or helper. No experience necessary, will train. Herb Kehoe, MARSON Electric, LLC 239-398-5093.

FOR RENT: Efficiency apartment in Everglades City. 2 bdrm, 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 Sandy, 239-253-3942 or 239-232-0459.

FOR SALE: Full set of MacGregor golf clubs (12), bag, MT- O.S. A little rust on some but in good condition. \$95 OBO. Located in E-City. 239-272-6095,

VOLUNTEERS WANTED: If you love meeting people, this is the perfect fit! The Everglades Area Visitor Center, operated by the Everglades Society for Historic Preservation, is looking for volunteers to staff the center.

Knowledge about the area and a pleasant attitude is essential! If you would like to volunteer at the center, please contact Kathy Brock at 954-662-7003 or Patty Huff at 239-719-0020, The center is currently open on Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 10 am to 2 pm.

FENCE FOR SALE: Approximately 400 ft, galvanized chain link plus some gates. Excellent condition.

For more information, please call Kathy at 954 662 7003.

ARTISTS WANTED: The Everglades Area Visitor Center carries art and crafts by local artists on a consignment basis. If you have items you would like to sell, please contact Kathy Brock at 954-662-7003 or email mulletrapper@gmail.com. The center is open Fri.-Sunday, 10—2.

The MULLET RAPPER

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

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We strive to present the facts accurately

We encourage contrasting points of view

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

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"The Everglades is a test. If we pass it, we may get to keep the planet." ~ Marjory Stoneman Douglas Visit us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/evergladescitynews/ or Online at www.visitevergladescity.com



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