

# The MULLET RAPPER



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



**May 1, 2021 - May 14, 2021**

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

Volume XIII • Issue # 389

## Giant Community Yard Sale! May 1, 8:00 am, McLeod Park

You won't want to miss out on this end-of-season blow-out yard sale so big we had to do it at the park!

Come and shop while the kids play safely at the beautiful playground. For those not looking for household items, there will be delicious, homemade baked goods for sale too.

There will be something for everyone:

- ◆ Rods & Reels
- ◆ Fishing Tackle
- ◆ Household Goods
- ◆ Tools
- ◆ Toys
- ◆ Treasures
- ◆ Homemade Baked Goods
- ◆ Much More!



The sale will be held at **McLeod Park** in Everglades City. There will be plenty of parking around the park's perimeter.

Don't forget to visit the Museum of the Everglades and the Visitor Center before you leave the area. They are both within walking distance of the park. We hope to see you there!

**Sponsored by the Chokoloskee Church of God Ladies Ministry**

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**FEATURED: EVENT UPDATE, P. 4**

## The Adventures of the Saltwater Cowboy – *Debunked Banana* By Jon Edward Edwards

Picturesque South Florida spring day it was, two to three feet seas, clear skies, and clean water, anchored near an artificial reef five miles off the Naples coast - Capt. Joel Pepper was doing what he does – putting people on gamefish.

Five miles is hardly offshore, not to mention the vastness between there and the Gulf Stream. Yet there they were, hooked up to a pelagic species generally associated with blue-water and the Atlantic Ocean.

“What chu got there, Bud,” Capt. Pepper says while videoing the angler/fish dance around the boat with

“Sailfish,” the junior angler replied, his father cheering in the background.

“Oh no, we’ve already got one on the deck!” yelled Capt. Pepper, aiming the camera at the one-hundred-pound billfish lying on the bottom of the boat.

Sailfish? Nearshore of Naples? Hogwash ..., one might say. But nothing is outside the wheelhouse for Joel, averaging one or two sailfish hookups per season.

“Watch your fish; be careful,” said Capt. Pepper to his charge. The young man shuffled from the stern up the bow and around, having found a rhythm with his opponent.

“That’s a fish of a lifetime, son. People go all the way to Costa Rica to catch a fish like that. You just caught it.” The angler turned the battle-fatigued fish one more time and brought it along the side of the boat. Deciding one sailfish was enough – even though they would have been well within regulation – Capt. Pepper reached over the side and removed the hook, making a clean release.

“Everybody says bananas on a boat are bad luck,” Joel says into the video, holding a banana in front of the camera. “Here on my boat, in the Gulf of Mexico, we just caught a sailfish, actually caught two.”

Not only was his catch phenomenal, but Capt. Pepper will go down in history as the waterman who debunked the banana on board superstition. I will thank Joel personally for freeing me of the ‘banana chains’ that have bound me. (Although fishermen are a superstitious lot, and I’m sure I’ll just substitute another one in its place.)

I must say I have made considerable efforts keeping bananas out of my boat. Sometimes I go so far as to recite a generic pre-trip spiel, not unlike a flight attendant announcing that all cell phones must be turned off and tray tables put in the upright position.

The spiel would usually go something like this: “Before we embark on our journey, is anyone in possession of a banana, or bananas? If so, please deposit them in the waste can or toss them to that assertive pelican over there,”

I’m kidding about feeding fruit to pelicans. I generally don’t give them anything but large filleted carcasses. I’m just playing; they have a proclivity for going big – as long as it almost fits in their mouth, which I imagine gives them a hell of a case of heartburn. Because I respect any creature whose heart is bigger than its brain, I make an effort not to endanger them.

For those outside the fishing community who are no doubt confused, feel free to google the origin of the banana superstition. Or maybe you could wait and see what The Saltwater Cowboy gets into next ... A sci-fi thriller perhaps where he slips through a tear in the space-time continuum, landing in the 1700s when pirates, buccaneers, bandits, and marauders ruled the seas? When the fruit would sometimes spoil on the long trips from afar. Legend has it that a parasite found in the bananas was particularly fond of the hardwood the ships were made of, boring in, eventually eating enough to render the craft structurally unsound and subsequently sinking.

And now you know ... the rest of the story.

*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.*





**Community Yard Sale  
(Now At McLeod Park)  
May 1, 2021, 8 am to ??**

**Sponsored by the Chokoloskee Church  
of God Ladies Ministry**

**Reserve a space at no cost to you!**

Items for sale include rod and reels, fishing tackle, household goods, tools, toys, delicious bake sale goods, and much more! You won't want to miss it. For more information contact Hazel at 239-719-0368.

**Evening on 5th Avenue  
May 13, 2021**

**5th Avenue Shops, Naples**

An array of live musical performances up and down the sidewalks of 5th Avenue South, plus dining, shopping, and more. May 13, 2021. Call 239.692.8436, or visit fifthavenuesouth.com for more info.

**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 26th 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.

To learn more about the day's events and to see the full schedule, see the article on page 9 in the center column.

**Before You Leave to Go Back Home**

- Please donate any unused or unwanted canned goods to the food pantry.
- Take any unwanted, clean items to the Thrift Store so they can sell them. They are open on Thursday's
- Don't forget to shut off your water before you go! Please call the city to ask them to shut the water off at the meter.

**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  
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.**

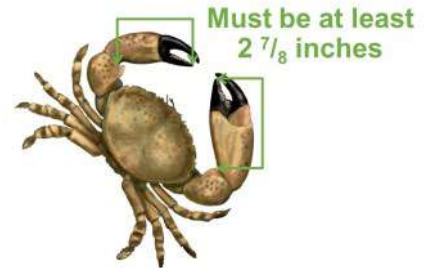
**Yard Debris Pick Up**

**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**

**Stone crab season ends May 2  
Submitted by FWC**

Florida's recreational and commercial stone crab seasons in state and federal waters will come to a close May 2, with **the last day of harvest being May 1.** This annual season closure date was modified last year as part of a suite of changes that were made in response to a long-term decline in harvest and because the stone crab fishery is likely undergoing overfishing. These changes are intended to increase the stone crab population and build resiliency in the fishery.



For more information on harvesting stone crabs for recreation, trap specifications, commercial stone crab regulations and licensing information, go online to [MyFWC.com/Marine](http://MyFWC.com/Marine). Keep up-to-date with saltwater and freshwater fishing regulations on your phone by downloading the Fish Rules app in the App Store or Google Play. Learn more at [FishRulesApp.com](http://FishRulesApp.com).

**\*\*\*CORRECTION\*\*\***

In the last issue we advised folks to "turn the water off at the meter".

It is a good idea BUT the City requests that you contact them to shut water off at the meter (versus you doing it yourself).

If you need your water shut off for summer call City Hall at 239-695-3781.



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**Preserving Our History Will Take Time, Money & Patience**  
 By Kathy Brock

April 17th was the first of what will be many events to raise awareness and the funds necessary to save the Bank of Everglades building.

On this beautiful, breezy day over 200 came out to see the building that opened with great fanfare in 1927 as the new, permanent home to the Bank of Everglades.

The goal for this day was to sell off any remaining items so the building could be cleared out and secured until renovations can begin. *Mission accomplished.*

The "Rummage Fundraiser" raised over \$3300 and provided those interested in the building an opportunity to see the building for themselves.

We spoke to visitors from Marco Island, Naples, Bonita Springs and Fort Myers. There were out of state visitors in the area that read about the event in the local papers who came out as well.

All in all, it was a fabulous day. Now the hard work begins; plans, contractors, grants, fundraisers and events all with one goal in mind –saving the Bank of Everglades building so it can serve our community proudly once again.

If you would like to follow our progress we have put up a special website: [www.saveboe.com](http://www.saveboe.com). Here are some photos from our kickoff event!



**Photos:**


**Top left,** Savannah and Rudy Oglesby find the perfect treasures!



**Top right:** The scene outside the bank building. The crowd started arriving before 9 a.m. inspiring us to open the doors early.



**Bottom right:** Tim Brock with WWII veteran from Marco Island, Don Mills.



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**Living Gulf Coast by Charles Sobczak**

Purple Martin (*Progne subis*) Other names: black martin, gourd martin, house martin / Status: FL = stable, IUCN = LC / Length: 7.5-7.9 in. (19-20 cm) / Wingspan: 15.4-16.1 in. (39-41 cm) / Weight: 1.6-2.1 oz (45-60 g) / Life span: to 14 years / Nests: throughout SW Florida / Found: All Counties, coastal, near coast, mainland / Months found: JFmamjjaSOND

Very few birds have their own websites. The purple martin, however, has several. The largest of these is The Purple Martin Conservation Association ([www.purplemartin.org](http://www.purplemartin.org)). All offer cornucopias of advice to purple martin fans on how to attract them into your yard, the best gourds to use or houses to construct, management tips, tending to sick or injured martins, and the 12 reasons why people lose their martin colonies. No other bird comes close to the symbiotic relationship between purple martins and the people who cherish them.

This lovefest between North America's largest swallow and humans began long before Columbus landed. Native Americans were the first members of the purple martin booster club. They learned early on that this bird is capable of consuming a prodigious amount of troublesome insects, including spiders, wasps, bees, beetles, and flies. Even though the myth persists that the purple martin eats 2,000 mosquitoes a night, scientific studies indicate that it seldom if ever eats mosquitoes at all. The purple martin feeds at heights up to 500 feet, which is higher than most mosquitoes fly.

Native Americans learned that the martin will readily abandon its cavity or cliff nest in favor of a gourd or other suitable hollowed-out cavity. Today an entire industry revolves around the construction of purple martin houses. You can order pre-built houses, house kits, and house plans, spending from a few dollars to more than \$1,000 on an elaborate, decorative, multi-unit bird house for these popular metallic-blue birds. In the east, the martin has nested in such birdhouses almost exclusively for the past 100 years. Few birds have so readily adapted to the rise of humanity as has the purple martin. As a result, its population is thriving across the entire range. Although the martin winters in South America, its stay is brief, sometimes lasting only a month or two. It ranges all the way into the Yukon and Alaska, but these sparse populations represent the fringe of its northern journey since its vulnerable fledglings are subject to frosts and freezes.

The purple martin is an insectivore. It not only eats entirely on the wing, but also drinks on the wing by skimming across ponds and taking in a sip of water in flight.

*Charles Sobczak is an author and photographer that lives on Sanibel Island. His books are available on Amazon, and other online booksellers.*



**Fishing the 10,000 Islands With Captain Mike Merritt**

April is coming to an end and the Snook fishing has been sporadic at best. I have had some really great days and then some really slow days. The weather has been a major factor. We just came off another front and the Snook bite was red hot this time. One of my clients actually landed a 43" beauty during a windy overcast and rainy day. You just never know. Just keep on fishing. End of April and early May should see some great fishing!

The Reds have been harder to find than the Snook lately. We have caught more of them in the back country than on the outside islands. Jigs have been best and tipped with shrimp always help.

Seatrout have also been biting in the back country. They are also biting on some of the outside flats when the winds allow you to fish those. And the river mouths are still holding some fish. Jigs, popping corks, or a shrimp on the bottom all work.

Mangrove Snapper are a great fish for the table and there are plenty of keeper size fish biting. I catch most of mine in the back country or in the rivers. Current but not too fast and a shrimp on the bottom.


Tarpon will continue to be around for a while. They can get scarce when the winds blow and stir everything up, but they are still around. If things ever calm down enough you will see them rolling or even free jumping offshore. There will be plenty around in the bays and coves also.

Enjoy the upcoming calmer weather! Wish I could tell you when that will happen but hey, then I would be a weatherman not a fishing guide. Good Luck Fishing! Capt. Mike Merritt

**Fishing Regulations Snapshot:**

- ◆ Snook season is closed from May 1 through August 31.
- ◆ Redfish and trout are catch-and-release only from the Hernando/Pasco county line south through Gordon Pass in Collier County, including all waters in Hillsborough County due to precautions for red tide. Areas south of Gordon pass (which includes Everglades City/ Chokoloskee) are not included in this zone
- ◆ Redfish slot: 18" to 27". You may keep one fish per harvester per day.
- ◆ Black Drum slot: 14" to 24". Harvester may keep up to 5 fish per day.,You may keep one over 24" per day.
- ◆ Spotted Seatrout slot: 15" to 19". Harvesters can keep only one fish over 19" per vessel. There is a limit of 3 fish per harvester per day.

Get Tides, Download Regulations:  
[www.VisitEvergladesCity.com/tides](http://www.VisitEvergladesCity.com/tides)  
[www.VisitEvergladesCity.com/fishing](http://www.VisitEvergladesCity.com/fishing)




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**Everglades City School News**  
**A Message From Principal Dr. Cherie Allison**

**Exciting Lady Gator Softball News!**

We have 2 Lady Gator varsity softball players who were selected as 2021 Class 2A All-State softball players by the Florida Athletic Coaches Association this week!

To be selected as a FACA All-State softball player, athletes must be the top performing players on their team both offensively and defensively. They must show leadership qualities that help lead their teams. Congratulations to Pitcher/shortstop, Taylor Dahlke and catcher Morgan Herrin! They are 2021 FACA Class 2A All-State players!

We also have more exciting news about the Lady Gators! The Florida Athletic Coaches Association also recognizes All-Academic athletes. To be selected as All-Academic, players must be key players to the team's success, they must have a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or more.

This year we have 6 starting players who earned this honor! Senior Kimberly Lopez-Valle with a 4.0214, Senior Lexie Hendrickson with a 4.244, Junior Taylor Dahlke with a 4.173, Junior Morgan Herrin with a 3.737, Freshman Katie Collins with a 4.08, and Freshman Kaitlyn House with a 3.67 GPA!

**Congratulations to our outstanding Lady Gator Athletes!**

**Preserving the Future of Florida's Fisheries**

**Become a Florida Friendly Fishing Guide**

*Free Course Gets You Listed on Popular Website*



The **Florida Friendly Fishing Guide Certification** is a program established by UF/IFAS, Florida Sea Grant and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission recognizing fishing guides who are committed to preserving the future of Florida's fisheries through sustainable boating and fishing techniques.

Florida Friendly Fishing Guides provide a richer fishing experience for their clients through their angling expertise and environmental stewardship.

**Become a Florida Friendly Fishing Guide**

*Participation in the Florida Friendly Fishing Guide program is completely voluntary, and the program involves no regulatory component.*

This online certification course covers science-based techniques that ensure minimal environmental footprint of fishing. The course can be accessed via computer or smart phone/tablet. The course takes approximately four hours to complete and can be taken at your own pace in 20- to 30-minute chunks.

Once you complete the course, you can display your certification on your website and vessel, letting your customers know that you adhere to the highest environmental standards. The certification is valid for three years. You will be listed on the Florida Sea Grant website as a certified guide at <https://www.flseagrant.org/find-a-florida-friendly-fishing-guide/>. The \$130 fee covers gear for the welcome packages for certified guides, program upkeep and evaluation, and administrative expenses such as web hosting.

**If you have additional questions prior to registering for the course, please email Savanna Barry at [savanna.barry@ufl.edu](mailto:savanna.barry@ufl.edu).**

**Bats in Your Building? Now's the Time to Check**  
**By FWC**

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) is reminding property owners to check your home and other man-made structures for bats. ***If you do not find any, you still have time to close up any entry holes they could use before bats move in.***

Bat maternity season is the time when bats gather to give birth and raise their young, and it runs from **April 15 through Aug. 15**. During this time, it is illegal to block bats from their roosts. If bats are excluded during maternity season, flightless young can become trapped inside the structure and die. Therefore, now is the time to check your home for any entry points, ensure that no bats are present and make any necessary repairs.

"It's important for homeowners to know the signs that bats might be present in their home, and to know how to prevent them from taking up residence," said Terry Doonan, mammal conservation coordinator for the FWC. ***"Remember, bats can enter through very tiny spaces, smaller than your thumb."***



Guidelines on how to safely exclude bats from buildings can be found at [MyFWC.com/Bats](http://MyFWC.com/Bats). Materials and methods used to exclude bats can affect the success of that

process. For more information on how to conduct a bat exclusion, watch this YouTube video: ***How to Get Bats Out of a Building***. Further details on how to conduct a legal bat exclusion can be found at Bat Conservation International. It is illegal to harm or kill bats in Florida, so guidelines have been developed to ensure bats are removed safely and effectively outside of the maternity season.

Florida is home to 13 resident bat species including threatened species, such as the Florida bonneted bat. Florida's native bats are an important part of our ecosystems and help keep insect populations under control.

There are several ways that Florida residents and visitors can help bats:

Preserve natural roost sites including trees with cavities and peeling bark. Dead fronds left on palms can also provide roosting spots for bats.

Report unusual bat behavior, or sick or dead bats to: [www.myfwc.com/BatMortality](http://www.myfwc.com/BatMortality).

Avoid handling or touching bats, or any wild animals, especially if they are not acting normally. Bats, like any other wild animal, might bite to defend themselves if handled and they can carry rabies. For more information about rabies, visit the Florida Department of Health at [FloridaHealth.gov](http://FloridaHealth.gov).

If you have questions or need assistance, contact your closest FWC Regional Office to speak with a wildlife assistance biologist for more information.

More information on bats can be found at [www.MyFWC.com/Bats](http://www.MyFWC.com/Bats).

**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. Please help us support our local children by attending one of our school fundraiser events!*

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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](https://smile.amazon.com/ch/20-2229534)

Everglades Lions Foundation:  
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Everglades Community Church  
<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/22-3934843>

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

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**Solution to April 17, 2021 Puzzle**

	1	T	2	H	3	A	4	W		5	C	6	H	7	I	8	T
	9	S	A	U	D	I				10	T	A	C	O			
11	S	O	U	N	D	S		12	Y	S	T	E	M				
	13	W	I	N			14	S	P	E	C						
	15	A	R	T	S			17	S	P	A	S	M	S			
	21	M	E	E	T						22	N	E	I	L		
	23	P	E	D	A	L	S				26	S	A	N	E		
					27	M	I	C	A			29	B	O	D		
30	F	I	V	E	D	O	L	L	A	R	S						
	34	A	K	I	N					35	F	L	O	S	S		
	36	R	E	P	S					37	F	I	T	S			

*Most People Who Listen to Advice Don't Always Follow It*

By Pastor Bob Wallace



My parents always told me I should never be afraid to ask a question. They also told me that if they didn't have an answer to my question, they'd get me one. Times sure have changed.

People today are flooded with all kinds of advice and opinions. There's hardly a newspaper that doesn't have advice columns for everything from gardening to home decorating or the lovelorn. People write all kinds of questions that are published together with answers, for all the world to see. But all the same, it's advice that probably helps somebody somewhere.

Then, there's advice kids get in school from their principals and teachers. Some of the best advice I ever received was from my high school football coach when he advised me to quit the team and go to college on my brains instead of by brawn. It worked. I'll always be grateful to him for that piece of advice.



Friends are a good source of advice, if they're the right kind of friend. Many times, some people have hidden agendas and try to manipulate other people. That's dangerous. It's why we're so often advised to be careful of the friends we keep. Good advice.

How about neighbors? Many people are just standing around their yard doing nothing when a neighbor will come over and start giving them advice on what they're doing. Remember, you gotta' be careful how you respond if you want to remain a good neighbor.

Brothers and sisters are often close enough as children to keep on giving advice to each other in their adult years. Grandparents can be a rich source of information and

advice, but too many times the younger generation doesn't listen – or so we think! **There's an awful lot of living experience that goes to waste when young people don't seek it from those who have gone down life's path a few years before them.** So many times, we want to help our kids avoid the same mistakes we made, and they won't listen. What does a body do?

Well, you have to be careful how you offer your advice. Remember when it was given to you – unsolicited? It was often rejected. Many times, I've heard people say that if they wanted someone's advice, they would ask for it. Parents and grandparents have to be especially careful with this one. They often do more harm than good by offering advice when it's not sought. What do you do then? Bite your tongue!

Live and learn is often the only advice that's given by some people. When the channels of communication are broken between parent and child, student and teacher, neighbor or friend there's really nothing which can be done to mend that relationship. That's sad, because reasonable people often make mistakes with one another. If only they'd learn that nothing's so bad, or awful, that it can't be resolved with trying.

Many times, the advice some people receive is the wrong advice. They ask the wrong person or read something into a situation that doesn't really exist. They are unable to stand back and become objective about themselves and their situation. What seems to help is, for someone to develop a level of trust with someone who had the skill, and is trusting enough, to let that person ask probing questions. That someone needs to be on a solid enough foundation in life personally in order to be of real help.

In spite of it all however, many people still would rather read the advice columns, listen to radio talk shows or watch certain TV programs for their advice.

With all the advice that's around, we still find people who are unwilling to take any whatsoever. I hope you're not one, and you don't mind this little advice.

*Rev. Dr. Bob Wallace is the pastor at Everglades Community Church in Everglades City, FL.*



**EVERGLADES COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
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 Everglades City, FL 34139, 239-784-7318  
 The Rev. Dr. Bob N. Wallace, Pastor  
 ♦ Sunday Worship Service 11:00 am ♦  
 www.ever-community-church.com

**MUSEUM NEWS**

*Museum of the Everglades  
 Everglades Oasis: Plumbing the  
 Depths of Deep Lake's History  
 Exhibit on Display Through May 29th*



This exhibit explores the fascinating history of the area surrounding Deep Lake—a geological anomaly situated nineteen miles north of Everglades City. Once the home of Seminole Chief Billy Bowlegs (who would die in battle there during the Third Seminole War), it was later the site of a commercial grapefruit enterprise, complete with its own narrow-gauge railroad carrying the fruit to port in Everglades for transport.

It was the first southwest Florida real estate purchased by Barron Gift Collier in what would eventually become Collier County. Now a part of the Big Cypress National Preserve, only traces of the railway as well as ruins of a road prison and Collier's luxurious hunting lodge remain, but the region's rich history lives on.

**The Everglades Art of Bob Fink**  
 May 20, 2:00 to 3:00 pm  
 Museum of the Everglades

A lifelong professional artist and illustrator, Robert "Bob" Fink's work was first published at the tender age of 14. Best known for the stark, black and white block prints, he created to illustrate Marjory Stoneman Douglas' environmental classic, "Everglades – River of Grass," Fink's career ran the gamut from architectural renderings for the Coral Gables Company to torrid covers for pulp fiction novels. This talk explores his relationship with Douglas through anecdotes about their travels on the Tamiami Trail (as shared by Fink's daughter) as well as the story of the Museum's serendipitous acquisition of one of the original prints created for Douglas' groundbreaking book.

This is an in-person lecture, however, in consideration of COVID-19, seating is limited so that we are able to practice social distancing. Masks are required. Please RSVP below to secure your space.

This lecture is available via Zoom (please RSVP below to receive a Zoom invitation) and will also be streamed on Facebook Live @colliermuseums (no RSVP necessary).

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



**Hurricane Preparedness Week is  
May 9-May 16  
Hurricane Season Starts June 1  
From FEMA.gov**



Having the proper supplies on hand is key to being prepared during this year's hurricane season, which starts on June 1 and lasts through the end of

November.

Keep your supplies in an easy-to-carry emergency-preparedness kit that you can use at home or take with you in case you must evacuate.

At a minimum, you should have these basic supplies:

- ◆ Water: one gallon per person, per day (3-day supply for evacuation, 2-week supply for home).
- ◆ Food: non-perishable, easy-to-prepare items (3-day supply for evacuation, 2-week supply for home).
- ◆ Flashlight.
- ◆ Battery-powered or hand-crank radio (NOAA Weather Radio, if possible).
- ◆ Extra batteries.
- ◆ First aid kit.
- ◆ Medications (7-day supply) and medical items.
- ◆ Multi-purpose tool, like a Swiss Army knife.
- ◆ Sanitation and personal hygiene items.
- ◆ Copies of personal documents (medication list and pertinent medical information, proof of address, deed/lease to home, passports, birth certificates, insurance policies).
- ◆ Cell phone with charger.
- ◆ Family and emergency contact information.
- ◆ Extra cash (ATMs might be inoperable).
- ◆ Extra fuel for generator and car.

Depending on your family's requirements, you may need to include: medical-care items, baby supplies, pet supplies and other things, such as extra car and house keys.

Additional supplies might include towels, plastic sheeting, duct tape, scissors and work gloves.

Resources that offer additional information on putting together emergency kits are online at <https://www.ready.gov/> and <http://www.redcross.org/get-help/prepare-for-emergencies/be-red-cross-ready/get-a-kit>.

**After A Year of Pent-up Creativity,  
Let Your Inner Artist Out and  
Enter the Golf Cart Parade  
Independence Day Celebration  
June 26, 2021, 10 a.m.. Everglades City**



It is official! The City will proceed with the traditional Independence day festivities this year which will take place on **June 29th**.

The creativity was at an all time high in 2019 and 2020 was expected to be the best ever...but then 2020 happened.

I can only imagine what Jaye and Scott Brunner would have done last year. With all of that creativity put on hold for a year, this year's parade should be a sight to see.

The theme for this year's parade is "founding fathers". From that, create what you will to represent that notion and stick it on a golf cart, swamp buggy or whatever else you can come up with.

The opening ceremony will take place at 10 am, with the parade following immediately at 10:30 am. The full day's schedule is as follows:

- 10:00 a.m. Opening Ceremony**
- 10:30 a.m. Theme: "Founding Fathers"**
- 11:00 a.m. Booths Open, Food, Contests**
- 11:30 a.m. Parade Winners Announced**
- 11:30 a.m. Kiddies' Contests**
- 12:30 p.m. Raffle Winners Announced**
- 9:00 p.m. Fireworks Display**

There will be prizes, games, hotdogs, beverages & raffles. We hope to see you there! For more information: [evergladeskmc@gmail.com](mailto:evergladeskmc@gmail.com) or call 239-695-4558.

**Governor Ron DeSantis Signs Gaming Compact with Seminole Tribe of Florida Agreement Expected to Bolster State Revenues by \$6 billion through 2030**

Tallahassee, Fla. – Today (April 23), Governor Ron DeSantis announced a historic gaming compact between the State of Florida and the Seminole Tribe of Florida. The agreement will generate the state a minimum of \$2.5 billion in new revenue over the next five years and an estimated \$6 billion through 2030.

"This historic compact expands economic opportunity, tourism, and recreation, and bolsters the fiscal success of our state in one fell swoop for the benefit of all Floridians and Seminoles alike," said Governor DeSantis. "Our agreement establishes the framework to generate billions in new revenue and untold waves of positive economic impact. I would like to thank Seminole Tribe of Florida Chairman Marcellus Osceola Jr., Senate President Wilton Simpson, and House Speaker Chris Sprowls for their collective commitment to modernizing the gaming industry in the state of Florida and setting the bar for the rest of the nation."

"The Seminole Tribe of Florida is committed to a mutually-beneficial gaming compact with the State of Florida and looks forward to its approval by the Florida Legislature, the Seminole Tribal Council and the U.S. Department of the Interior," said Marcellus Osceola Jr., Chairman of the Seminole Tribe of Florida. "The Tribe wants to express our sincere thanks to Governor DeSantis, Senate President Simpson, House Speaker Sprowls and many others who have worked hard to negotiate a historic agreement that cements our partnership with the state for decades to come."

"For years, there has been much ambiguity around the compact with the Seminole Tribe of Florida," said House Speaker Chris Sprowls. "Today, we thank Governor Ron DeSantis for bringing that to a conclusion and for giving us the opportunity to address this key issue for our state. Thank you also for the work of Chairman Marcellus Osceola Jr. and the contributions of Senate President Simpson. We look forward to reviewing the compact in an upcoming Special Session."

Larger and more expansive than any other gaming compact in U.S. history, the agreement increases the projected revenue to the State of Florida from the Seminole Tribe from no revenue to over six billion dollars over the next decade, with a guaranteed minimum of 2.5 billion dollars during the first five years. For details: [www.flgov.com/2021/04/23/governor-ron-desantis-strikes-historic-gaming-compact-with-seminole-tribe-of-florida/](http://www.flgov.com/2021/04/23/governor-ron-desantis-strikes-historic-gaming-compact-with-seminole-tribe-of-florida/)

## City Seafood

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## The Island Life Recipes

### Quick Cream Cheese Pie

**Ingredients:**

- 2 prepared crusts (graham cracker preferred)
- 2, 8 ounce packages cream cheese, softened
- 3 eggs
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract
- 1 cup powdered sugar
- Your favorite topping



Directions: Bake crusts until almost done and remove from oven and set aside. Using a mixer, blend the cream cheese, eggs, sugar and vanilla until smooth. Divide batter into two crusts. Bake at 350 for 35 minutes or until set and browning on top. Cool on the countertop and then refrigerate. Here is where the fun starts. You can use any fruit topping for this pie. Fruit preserves are also an excellent choice. No matter what you put on top it is sure to be delicious.

Our favorite is homemade guava jam. If that is not possible, make another fresh fruit like blueberries. Add 3 cups of blueberries, 1/2 cup of water and 1/2 of cup of sugar in a sauce pan. Cook over medium heat until berries are soft. Then mix 2 tablespoons of corn starch with a splash of cold water to the mixture to thicken it a bit. Add more if needed. Let it cool and serve it over the pie. Delish!



### My Little Slice of Paradise by Kathy Brock

Spring is in full swing here and that means many of the birds in our area are nesting.

It seems we can't get through a season without our fair share of what I call bird drama.

Recall that a few years back we recruited one of the local firemen to rescue the baby great horned owl that got himself hung up on the tower over the firehouse. He freed the baby and he was able to fly away with his family.

Over the nesting season we become emotionally invested in their wellbeing as we watch them grow up before our eyes...then disaster strikes, and then we scramble to try to help.

Last week we had a strong storm blow through that knocked down an osprey nest in front of the community center. The babies were still atop the light post so all seemed well until the next morning. Baby on the ground! Off to the wildlife hospital it went!

The next day I was called when a worker out on I-75 found two baby red-shouldered hawks that had fallen from their nest. He scooped them up, handed them off to me and I drove them to the wildlife hospital.

Fortunately, we live very close to one of South Florida's top wildlife care centers, The Conservancy of Southwest Florida's von Arx Wildlife Hospital in Naples.

The organization rehabilitates injured and orphaned animals. Of course they have a professional staff, but they also utilize volunteers like me. I am a "critter carrier". My job is to go and get them from wherever they are and bring them into the center in downtown Naples (very close to the zoo).

This cycle repeats itself multiple times a day, 7 days a week. Most of the 3200 animals they care for annually need care because of interactions with humans—car strikes, domestic pet attacks, window collisions, fishing line and hook injuries, gunshots, and toxicosis.

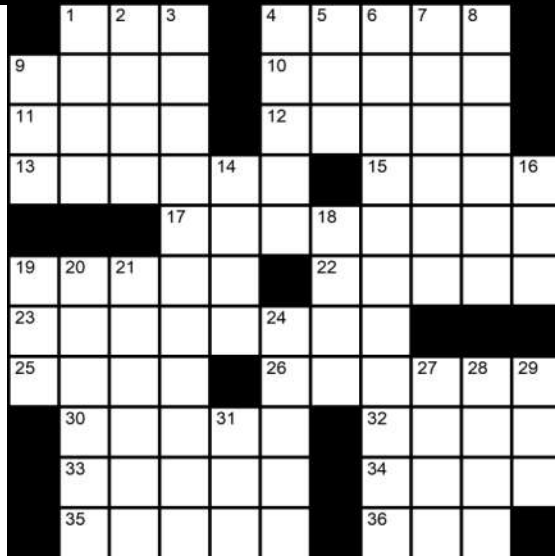
Some just suffer from bad luck...like our osprey. The good news is that in many cases, the animals can be rehabilitated and returned to where they were found so they either reunite with their parents or go back to familiar surroundings.

Organizations like von Arx rely on donations and volunteers. If you are interested in helping, contact the von Arx Wildlife Hospital at Conservancy of SWFL at 239-262-CARE (2273) 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. Eastern Time seven days a week.

## MULLET RAPPER CROSSWORD

**Across**

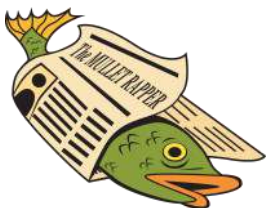
- 1 "Brave --- World"
- 4 Lawyer groups
- 9 Bean in Peru?
- 10 Crosswise, nautically
- 11 Prince Charles or Tony Blair, for example
- 12 Auntie's other half
- 13 Grave
- 15 Cash box
- 17 Legible
- 19 Momma's partner
- 22 Occupied
- 23 Getting going
- 25 47 for silver or 79 for gold
- 26 Cipher
- 30 Sun-dried brick
- 32 Bandit's refuge
- 33 Thin cookie
- 34 Supporter
- 35 Good on a balance sheet
- 36 Rodent



5/1/21

**Down**

- 1 Robert De\_\_\_\_\_
- 2 "\_\_\_ and the Detectives" (1964 Disney movie)
- 3 Makes impervious to a flood
- 4 The animal kingdom
- 5 "Son of" in Arabic
- 6 Elongated square shape
- 7 Beach in CA
- 8 Odors
- 9 A kg. is about 2.2 of these
- 14 Flesh
- 16 Majors or Merriweather
- 18 "Saw" actress --- Meyer
- 19 Freebie ad?
- 20 Capital where Senators skate on thin ice
- 21 Bamboo-eaters
- 24 Lifeless
- 27 Festive occasion
- 28 Fencer's grip
- 29 Give it a go
- 31 Essential pollinator





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**EATERIES & AREA WORSHIP**

<b>Angler's Cove, Port of the Islands</b> (642-1025): Closed Mon– Tue-Thurs, 5-11 Fri-Sun Noon - 11 pm
<b>Camellia Street Grille (239-695-2003):</b> 11:00 am – 9:00 pm, Daily
<b>City Seafood (239-695-4700):</b> 8:00 am – 10:00 am; breakfast Noon-6pm Lunch & Dinner
<b>Diving Pelican Restaurant (239) 232-0475</b> Open Sun-Thur 11 am to 8 pm, Fri & Sat till midnight
<b>Everglades Fishing Co. / Nely's Corner</b> Open M-Th 5:30 am to 8pm, Sat Sun till 10 pm 203 Collier Avenue, (239-695-4222)
<b>Havana Café (239-695-2214):</b> Closed for summer.
<b>Hole in the Wall Pizza (239-695-4444)</b> M-Th 11am-3pm, Fri & Sat 11 am-9 pm
<b>Island Café (239-695-0003):</b> 6:00 am – 9:00 pm; daily
<b>Ivey House (239-695-3299) (Private)</b> 7:00 am – 9:00 am; daily (for guests only)
<b>Joanie's Crab Café (239-695-2682):</b> Open Daily 10:30 am to 5 pm, Closed Wed.
<b>Rod &amp; Gun (239-695-2101):</b> 11:30 am - 8:00 pm; daily
<b>Triad Seafood &amp; Café (239-695-2662):</b> Open Daily 10:30 am to 5:00 pm
<b>MARKETS</b>
<b>Right Choice Market (239-695-4535):</b> Open 7 days, 9 am to 7 pm
<b>Grimm's Stone Crab (239-695-3222):</b> Open 8-5, Mon—Sat. Closed Sunday.
<b>Fresh Produce</b>
<b>Right Choice Supermarket</b>
See listing under "markets"
<b>SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES</b>
<b>Chokoloskee Family Church</b> Sunday: 10 am Sch., 11 am Worship
<b>Copeland Baptist Church</b> Sunday: 10 am School, 11 am Worship
<b>Everglades Community Church</b> 11:00 am Sunday Worship, See ad p. 8
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church of Everglades City</b> 9:45 am Sunday School, 11 am Worship 6 pm Sunday, 6 pm Wed. Bible Study
<b>Holy Family Catholic Church</b> Mass at 10:30 am
<b>St. Finbarr Catholic Church, Naples</b> Phone: 239-417-2084
<b>San Marco Catholic Church, Marco Isl.</b> 239-394-5181

**BARRON RIVER TIDES**

5/1/2021	Sat	1:44 AM	-0.34	L
5/1/2021	Sat	7:58 AM	2.08	H
5/1/2021	Sat	1:25 PM	0.93	L
5/1/2021	Sat	5:47 PM	2.88	H
5/2/2021	Sun	2:46 AM	-0.19	L
5/2/2021	Sun	9:22 AM	2.02	H
5/2/2021	Sun	2:34 PM	1	L
5/2/2021	Sun	7:07 PM	2.65	H
5/3/2021	Mon	3:55 AM	-0.04	L
5/3/2021	Mon	10:45 AM	2.05	H
5/3/2021	Mon	4:13 PM	0.99	L
5/3/2021	Mon	8:53 PM	2.46	H
5/4/2021	Tue	5:04 AM	0.08	L
5/4/2021	Tue	11:54 AM	2.15	H
5/4/2021	Tue	5:38 PM	0.88	L
5/4/2021	Tue	10:21 PM	2.38	H
5/5/2021	Wed	6:06 AM	0.18	L
5/5/2021	Wed	12:31 PM	2.28	H
5/5/2021	Wed	6:44 PM	0.71	L
5/5/2021	Wed	11:38 PM	2.36	H
5/6/2021	Thu	7:00 AM	0.27	L
5/6/2021	Thu	12:55 PM	2.41	H
5/6/2021	Thu	7:38 PM	0.54	L
5/7/2021	Fri	12:47 AM	2.39	H
5/7/2021	Fri	7:48 AM	0.35	L
5/7/2021	Fri	1:17 PM	2.54	H
5/7/2021	Fri	8:23 PM	0.36	L
5/8/2021	Sat	1:39 AM	2.42	H
5/8/2021	Sat	8:30 AM	0.43	L
5/8/2021	Sat	1:40 PM	2.67	H
5/8/2021	Sat	9:02 PM	0.21	L
5/9/2021	Sun	2:19 AM	2.44	H
5/9/2021	Sun	9:07 AM	0.51	L
5/9/2021	Sun	2:04 PM	2.76	H
5/9/2021	Sun	9:39 PM	0.08	L
5/10/2021	Mon	2:55 AM	2.42	H
5/10/2021	Mon	9:42 AM	0.59	L
5/10/2021	Mon	2:28 PM	2.83	H
5/10/2021	Mon	10:14 PM	-0.03	L
5/11/2021	Tue	3:31 AM	2.38	H
5/11/2021	Tue	10:13 AM	0.66	L
5/11/2021	Tue	2:50 PM	2.86	H
5/11/2021	Tue	10:51 PM	-0.1	L
5/12/2021	Wed	4:09 AM	2.32	H
5/12/2021	Wed	10:43 AM	0.73	L
5/12/2021	Wed	3:11 PM	2.85	H
5/12/2021	Wed	11:28 PM	-0.14	L
5/13/2021	Thu	4:52 AM	2.24	H
5/13/2021	Thu	11:09 AM	0.8	L
5/13/2021	Thu	3:29 PM	2.83	H
5/14/2021	Fri	12:06 AM	-0.15	L
5/14/2021	Fri	5:40 AM	2.17	H
5/14/2021	Fri	11:31 AM	0.86	L
5/14/2021	Fri	3:48 PM	2.79	H

**Enjoying Florida Parks**  
By Patty Huff


Everglades National Park (ENP) is one of the great marvels of the world, and Everglades City is centrally located in this wonderland and the many other parks/preserves in South Florida. I enjoy going out on the water with my husband to go fishing, and I spend many weekends hiking and biking through these natural open spaces.



Gliding through the waterways in a boat, I'm always enthralled by the flock of birds soaring through the channels and the variety of wildlife along the shorelines. The mangroves stand like pieces of sculpture. I never tire of just being out on the water in the Everglades National Park, feeling one with nature. Our grandchildren have spent many weeks with us throughout the years, and they have always enjoyed fishing with "Pops."

Cycling has been a passion for my husband and me since we rode our bikes across the United States in 2000 so taking a bike ride along the many roadways and pathways that are available to us near our home is another weekend adventure. Janes Scenic Drive in the Fakahatchee, Shark Valley in the ENP, and Loop Road in the Big Cypress National Preserve are all great places to bike or hike. Come out and enjoy the parks in South Florida! Great memories to be had!

Photo: Blue heron by Patty Huff



**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.

GOLF CLUBS 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.

BOAT FOR SALE: 2004 Pathfinder 2200V. 200HP Yamaha 2-stroke, power pole, trolling motor, GPS, fully loaded. Aluminum trailer. Asking \$26,000. Contact Dan: 352-455-3687.

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The MULLET RAPPER

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

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Lee Cypress, Copeland, Jerome & Ochopee

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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