

# The MULLET RAPPER

**What's Happening in the Everglades & 10,000 Islands**  
**JUNE 1, 2019 - JUNE 14, 2019**

**NEWS**  
**25¢**

**AREA INFO**  
**TIDES ~ EVENTS**  
**RESTAURANTS**

**Congratulations EVG Class of 2019! See the Grads on Page 5!**

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**Hook ‘em in the Glades Fishing Tournament is Set for Sept. 21st. All Proceeds to Benefit EVG School!**

Mark your calendars, sharpen your hooks and scout out your best fishing holes! The third-annual Hook ‘em in the Glades Fishing tournament is scheduled for **September 21st**.

This year’s tournament will feature two new categories. There will be a junior category for kids 18 and under, and you can also fish from shore if you do not have a boat! You can enter the tournament as a boat, fish from shore, or as one of the tournament sponsors.

This tournament awards for three target species, Trout, Snook and Redfish. For each species, the winner is based on the length of the fish. In the event of a tie, the person who caught the longest fish first is the winner.

This is a photo tournament meaning you do not have to keep the fish for it to be credited to your team. You will be issued a special measuring tape that is used when you snap the photo of your fish. Of course, you can keep any legal fish you catch if that is your preference.

The proceeds raised from this year’s event will help support athletic and academic programs at EVG School. Some of the types of ways your sponsorship will help our students might include student leadership groups, academic programs not funded by the district, student athletics, as well as students in need. For more information visit the website: [www.Hookemintheglades.com](http://www.Hookemintheglades.com).

**2019 Was a Very Good Year for the Students at Everglades City School! Awards Recap by Activities Director Mrs. Jill Whitcomb**



Congratulations to the students and staff at Everglades City School for a very successful school year. In addition to a “large” graduating class of 17, several students were honored for their accomplishments.

Taylor Dahlke, Alicia Kibodeaux, and Taylor Richards (top left) were named to the Naples Daily News honorable mention team for softball. All three girls are freshmen which means we should be fielding

a pretty good team for the next few years!



Ten students from Everglades City School competed in the District Noetic Math Challenge on May 21st. The school had two teams, one from the 3rd grade and one from the 4th grade and each had 5 students. This year Rylee Mayberry (3rd grade) won the top trophy for having the top score in the individual competition for all of the 3rd grade students at the competition. Joseph Ames (3rd grade) earned a trophy for being one of the top nine highest scores for all of the third graders at the competition. Both of the teams worked very hard and had a great time at the competition. Congratulations to all of the kids who participated! Pictured to the left is Rylee Mayberry and Joseph Ames with their trophies!

The 95210/Kids on the Go program encourages fun and health with fitness! EVG had two teams this year. A fall and a spring group of students in third through fifth grade. This spring EVG had 31 students running and walking during

lunch! After the students ate lunch, they walked or ran around the courtyard to earn their miles! The goal of the program is to earn 25 miles! If a student earns 25 miles, they get to participate in a grand event called the "Final Mile" run at Golden Gate high school track! At this celebration, the students run one more mile to earn 26 miles! The equivalent to a marathon!

Each school team selects two outstanding participants. EVG's students showed grit, determination, teamwork, kindness and were relentless runners! Our spring 2019 "Golden Sneaker" winners were - Jalen Escubi Mayberry and Miranda O'Connell, pictured bottom left. The entire team is pictured bottom right.



RAPPER TABLE OF CONTENTS			
Events, etc.	p. 3	Parks & Local News	p. 8
Sawfish News	p. 4	Charles Sobczak	p.9
School News	p. 5	Capt. Raffield	P. 9
Business Highlight	p. 6	Local –Regional	p.10
My Slice	p. 7	McLeod Park	p.10
Recipe & Puzzle	p. 7	Tide Table/ Hurricanes	p.11
Poetry Street	p. 8	Classifieds	p.12
FEATURE - SAWFISH NEWS, PAGE 7			

**JUNE 2, 2019 — JULY 6, 2019**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
June 2 New Moon	3 ESHM Mtg 8:30 am	4 EC Council Mtg 7 pm	5 Ladies Coffee City Seafood 8a	6	7	8
9	10	11	12 Ladies Coffee Island Café, 8a	13	14	Rapper 15
16 Father's Day	17 Full Moon	18 P & Z Mtg	19 Ladies Coffee City Seafood 8a	20	21	22
23	24	25	26 Ladies Coffee Island Café, 8a	27	28	Rapper 29 Independence Celebration, See p. 3
30	July 1 ESHM Mtg 8:30 am	2 New Moon EC Council Mtg 7 pm	3 Ladies Coffee City Seafood 8a	4 Independence Day!	5	6

July 18: Hot Summer Nights, p. 10      July 29 & 30: Build a Chair, p. 10      Sept. 1: Snook Season Reopens  
 Sept. 21: Hook 'em Fishing Tournament, p. 1      Sept. 28: Blessing of the Fleet      Oct. 15: Stone Crab Season Reopens

**AREA INFORMATION & NUMBERS:**

AA: Wed., 5:00 pm, Evg. Comm. Church, Fellowship Hall  
 CARNESTOWN Recycle & Trash: Dec 1st, Every Sat, 9 am to 2:00 pm  
 DR DEMARTINO: Little Gator Clinic, See info on page 3.  
 DR MARTIN: Call for appointment: 813-787-9738  
 LIONS CLUB: No meetings until fall  
 MUSEUM: Open Monday-Saturday, 9 am to 4 pm. 239-252-5026  
 PANCAKE FLY-IN: Closed for summer  
 REACH OUT: 3<sup>rd</sup> No meeting until fall  
 SKATING RINK: Now open! Fri. & Sat. 6 to 9 pm  
 SMALLWOOD STORE: Daily 11 am to 4 pm, 239-695-2989  
 THRIFT SHOP: Open Saturday 11 am to 3 pm, p.3.  
 VETERANS SUPPORT: 2nd & 4<sup>th</sup> Wed. of month, noon—2 pm

**The Local Area Code is 239**

**POST OFFICE INFORMATION:**

Chokoloskee (239) 695-4468  
 (M-F: 9:30 am to 1 pm, 2 pm to 4:30 pm, closed Sat. & Sun.)  
 Everglades City (239) 695-2174  
 (M-F: 9:30 am to 1 pm, 2 pm to 4:30 pm, closed Sat. & Sun.)  
 Ochopee (239) 695-2099  
 (M-F: 8 am to 10 am, noon to 4 pm; Sa: 10 am to 11:30 am)

**OTHER IMPORTANT NUMBERS:**

AIRPORT: 239-695-2778  
 BIG CYPRESS: 239-695-2000  
 CITY HALL: 239-695-3781  
 CURBSIDE TRASH PICKUP 239-252-2380,  
 (CALL TUESDAY FOR THURSDAY PICKUP)  
 EVG NATIONAL PARK: 239-695-3311  
 FAKAHATCHEE: 239-695-4593  
 PUBLIC LIBRARY: 239-695-2511  
 SHERIFF: 239-252-9300

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# UPCOMING EVENTS

**FATHER'S DAY IS JUNE 16TH**  
Plan a day together and create some nice memories!

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**  
**THE INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION IS JUNE 29TH**  
**DONATIONS BEING ACCEPTED FOR FIREWORKS FUND**



The planning is underway for the annual Independence Day Celebration in Everglades City that will take place on **Saturday, June 29th.**

In addition to the amazing fireworks that we all look forward to, the day is filled with fun things to do with the entire family, and Art-in-the-park!

Here is the schedule of events:

- 10:00 am: Opening Ceremony**
- 10:30 am: Parade, "Hats off to America" is the theme this year**
- 11:00: Booths open at McLeod Park - Art-in-the-Park**
- 11:30: Parade winners announced, contests for the kids**
- 12:30 pm: Raffle winners announced**
- 9:00 pm: Amazing fireworks!**

Everyone is invited to attend, and all of the day's events are free. There will also be hotdogs and refreshments available. Donations are appreciated and help to fund the day's event. To contribute to the Independence Day celebration, please send a check to: Everglades City Fireworks Fund, PO Box 110, Everglades City, FL 34139. You can also use the donation boxes around town. The business with the most collected will be awarded a trophy! All donations are needed and appreciated. Thank you!



**BLESSING OF THE FLEET**  
**Saturday, September 28th**

Planning for the annual blessing of the stone crab fleet is underway. The event will be held at the historic Rod & Gun Club in Everglades City. The full



**Hook'em in the Glades Fishing Tournament**  
**September 21, 2019**

Help support Everglades City School and win great prizes for the longest Snook, Redfish and Spotted Seatrout.

To register visit the website:  
[www.hookemintheglades.com](http://www.hookemintheglades.com)  
See more on page one, left column.

## COMMUNITY SERVICES

**FREE DENTAL, BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS & BEHAVIORAL HEALTH INFORMATION FOR ALL**  
**June 18th, 8 am to 4 pm**

*The Healthcare Network of Southwest Florida's Health & Smiles Mobile Dental Bus* will be in Everglades City on **June 18th**, from 8 am to 4 pm, in the **Everglades Community Center (or by Thrift)** parking lot, providing free dental checks, blood pressure screenings and behavioral health information if requested. For more info or to schedule an appointment: call 239-986-7323.

**THE FOOD BANK IS OPEN!**  
**Wednesdays noon to 2pm**

Everglades Community Pantry, a proud partner agency of the Harry Chapin Food Bank, is open every Wednesday from noon to 2 in Jinkins Fellowship Hall at Everglades Community Church. This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

### DOCTOR'S CLINIC



Dr. Kirk DeMartino is seeing patients in his Marco Island Office. You may call his office to schedule an appointment at his Marco office: Call to schedule an appointment: (239) 642-5552.

### NATURAL MEDICINE



Dr. John Martin can see patients in Everglades City on Fridays. Appts: from 10 am to 6 pm. Call to confirm: 813-787-9738.

### CEDR Hurricane Disaster Recovery Aid

Communities of Everglades Disaster Recovery works in conjunction with disaster case managers from several agencies and have a team set up in Everglades City Hall (in the old council room). They will have advocates there from **10 am to 3 pm on Mondays** to assist people still in need of help. Stop in the office or you can call Elaine at 239-695-2695 for more information.

### E-CITY THRIFT SHOP

**Open Saturday 11am -3pm**

The Everglades City Thrift Store is open Saturday from **11 am to 3 pm**. Come see the new store located between the fire station and community center.

## New National Park Survey Shows Huge Economic Impact to Local Economies

A new National Park Service (NPS) report shows that 1,916,800 visitors to the four national parks in South Florida collectively spent \$156.3 million in 2018. That spending resulted in 2,089 jobs and had a cumulative benefit to the South Florida economy of \$225.4 million.

Big Cypress National Preserve added \$63.9 million in visitor spending and 848 jobs to area economies. Biscayne National Park boosted the local economy with visitors spending \$30.3 million on hotels, gas, restaurants, and other services resulting in 399 jobs in the local communities. Dry Tortugas National Park, in spite of its remote location, generated \$3.4 million through visitor spending and 39 jobs. Everglades National Park added a total of \$58.7 million in visitor spending and created 803 jobs.

"We are so fortunate in South Florida to have four National Park Service sites that attract visitors from across the country and around the world," said Superintendent Pedro Ramos, who has oversight for the South Florida national parks. "We are eager to share the stories of these unique places and the recreational opportunities they provide. National park tourism is a significant driver in the national economy, returning \$10 for every \$1 invested in the National Park Service, and it's a significant contributor to our local economy as well. We appreciate the partnership and support of our neighbors and are glad to be able to contribute to sustaining our local communities."

The peer-reviewed visitor spending analysis was conducted by economists Catherine Cullinane Thomas and Egan Cornachione of the U.S. Geological Survey and Lynne Koontz of the National Park Service. The report shows \$20.2 billion of direct spending by more than 318 million park visitors in communities within 60 miles of a national park. This spending supported 329,000 jobs nationally; 268,000 of those jobs are found in these gateway communities. The cumulative benefit to the U.S. economy was \$40.1 billion.

Report authors also produced an interactive tool that enables users to explore visitor spending, jobs, labor income, value added, and output effects by sector for national, state, and local economies. Users can also view individual park data as well as year-by-year trend data. The interactive tool and report are available at the NPS Social Science Program webpage:

[www.nps.gov/subjects/socialscience/vse.htm](http://www.nps.gov/subjects/socialscience/vse.htm)

**Sawfish News by Tonya Wiley of Havenworth Coastal Conservation**



The population of smalltooth sawfish (*Pristis pectinata*) in the United States experienced a dramatic decline during the 20th century caused by overfishing, habitat loss, and limited reproductive potential. Given the decline in the population of US sawfish, in 1999 The Ocean Conservancy (then the Center for Marine Conservation) petitioned the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) requesting the North American population of smalltooth sawfish be listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA). On March 10, 2000 NMFS determined the petition presented substantial information indicating listing may be warranted for smalltooth sawfish and initiated a status review for the species, gathering all known public, commercial, and scientific data to consider during the status review process. The status review was completed in 2000 and determined that the population of smalltooth sawfish in US waters was in danger of extinction throughout its range. As a result, NMFS proposed to list the species under the ESA and solicited public comment, then on April 1, 2003 listed the US population of smalltooth sawfish as an endangered species under the ESA.

The ultimate goal of the Endangered Species Act listing is to recovery the population to the point that it no longer needs the protections of the ESA. Therefore, after the listing, NMFS convened the Smalltooth Sawfish Recovery Team to develop a plan to recover the US smalltooth sawfish population. The team worked several years to build additional knowledge of the species and to identify the most severe threats to the population. The recovery plan was published in 2009 and recommends specific steps to recover the population, focusing on (1) educating the public to minimize human interactions with sawfish and any associated injury and mortality, (2) protecting and/or restoring important sawfish habitats, and (3) ensuring sawfish abundance and distribution increase. After the plan was published NMFS assembled the Smalltooth Sawfish Recovery Implementation Team, a multi-institutional panel of experts working to implement the recovery plan—protecting the remaining sawfish population in the US while rebuilding the population. (Sawfish News author Tonya Wiley is an appointed member of the Smalltooth Sawfish Recovery Implementation Team)

Juvenile smalltooth sawfish, like many other marine species, use specific habitats commonly referred to as nurseries and the recovery plan states that protecting nurseries is important to the recovery of the species. In September 2009, NMFS designated two areas as Critical Habitat for juvenile sawfish: the Charlotte Harbor Estuary Unit (~ 221,459 acres) and the Ten Thousand Islands/Everglades Unit (~ 619,013 acres). Two specific habitat features within these areas are essential to the survival and recovery of smalltooth sawfish: (1) red mangroves and (2) shallow euryhaline inshore habitats with water depths less than 3 feet at mean lower low water. These essential features provide safe habitat for juvenile sawfish to use as nurseries, protecting small sawfish from predators and providing ample food for quick, early growth.

Under the ESA, NMFS is required to periodically re-examine the listing classification of all threatened or endangered species to ensure accuracy. Similar to the initial status review, these periodic reviews (called 5-year reviews) require NMFS to collect and consider all available public, scientific, and commercial information on the listed species. The reviews consider information from the public, recovery plans, critical habitat designations, previous 5-year reviews, and all scientific literature, reports, and presentations. Since the ESA listing, two 5-year reviews have been published in 2010 and 2018, and both determined smalltooth sawfish remains in danger of extinction throughout its range and continues to meet the ESA definition of endangered.

All documents are available at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/species/smalltooth-sawfish>. A video looking at smalltooth sawfish conservation and recovery in the United States is available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NSRWUjVU3e8&t=3s>.

For more information visit [www.SawfishRecovery.org](http://www.SawfishRecovery.org) or call 1-844-4SAWFISH.

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*Congratulations Class of 2019  
Good Luck in Your Next Journey*



Brandon Beaty



Samantha Bruschini



Ricardo Cangas



McBeth Collins



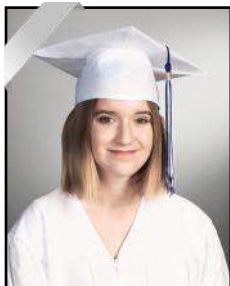
Kalen Kibodeaux



Alexys Melanson



Stephanie Ramirez



Wendy Raffield  
Valedictorian



Bailey Richards



Tyler Richardson



Miguel Segui



Seth Hooks



Claybrook Story  
Salutatorian



Natalie Thompson



Paula Valesquez



Cailor Weeks



Dustin Young



2019 Boy Grads with Mr. Tribble




2019 Girl Grads

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**Camilla Street Grill's Adds Freshness & Flavor With Homegrown Herbs**

Camilla Street Grill offers an unique menu that often includes herbs, spices and sometimes even an edible flower!

Just walking up to the eatery a visitor gets a glimpse of what may show up on their plate.

Hurricane Irma took out the carambola tree at Camilla, but the avocado tree is still standing and producing quite well. But, it is the herb garden that really catches your eye as you make your way to the seating area.

You can find almost anything in their little garden, dill, rosemary, thyme, mint, leafy greens and more.

The restaurant has an excellent view of the Barron River and the outside eating adds a nice touch. Throw in a splash of color and you have a nice, tropical ambiance.



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Camilla Street Grill is just another example of local businesses beautifying their surroundings and entrance ways.

In future editions we will highlight other businesses in our area. You can find area businesses on [www.swflgo.com](http://www.swflgo.com) and click on the directory tab.

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1	P	2	A	3	N	4	G	5	A	6	N	7	D	8	A						
9	A	R	I	A				10	F	O	R	M	A	N							
13	R	E	G	R	E	T	T	A	B	L	E										
15	K	N	E	L	L							16	G	E	M	S					
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36	S	T	A	S	I	S						37	N	I	N	E					
							38	L	E	A	P						39	T	E	E	S

Solution to May 18, 2019 Puzzle



*My Little Slice of Paradise*  
by Kathy Brock

"Decisions are made by those who show up." That is a quote attributed to many famous and not so famous people, and there is good reason. It doesn't matter if it is an issue in your own home, something at work, topics in your community or issues on a grander scale, decisions are made by those who are present and accounted for. If you are sitting on the sofa watching TV and not contributing to the conversation, you can be certain that your opinion is not even being considered.



Catastrophic events such as Hurricane Irma force changes upon an area. Here, our base flood elevation (BFE) was adjusted, more stringent building standards are being enforced and other changes are bound to happen. Be forewarned, change is coming. But what will that change look like?

In a small community like ours, we have easy access to decisionmakers. Where I grew up in Broward County, you could never have a casual conversation with the Mayor or one of the councilmembers unless you knew them intimately or were a part of the inner circle. Here, we pretty much know everyone. You can speak to the councilmembers and Mayor almost any time.

The local City Council meetings are conducted monthly in an open public forum. Anyone can sign up to speak if they do so in a respectful, civil manner. Meeting times are published, and they generally take place after working hours. If you want to know what is being considered all one must do is show up. If you want your solution to be considered, speak.

In the coming months many decisions will be made by our City government. Some of these decisions have already been made. Others are still in the discussion stages. There are several issues that could have a great impact on our community. Things we will have to live with for many years, if not the rest of our lives here.

It is really easy to sit around in a circle and complain to your friends about what is going on, discussing ad nauseum about all of the things wrong with whatever changes are happening in and around town. It may make you feel better at the moment, but it has zero effect on what may or will transpire.

What is productive is providing an alternate solution. If you don't like what is being considered, what is the superior solution? If you have that solution or idea, show up and share that idea at the next public forum. The same can be said for issues at work, school or in the home.

I used to tell my employees that their opinions mattered and I wanted to hear them, but what I did not want was just one-sided criticism. Anyone can be a hole-poker pointing out all of the things they don't like. Have a solution in mind, I'd love to hear that! Simply whining and complaining about something doesn't solve the problem. It often makes it worse and it will still be there tomorrow. Show me the better option, that's productive.

One thing for certain is that change is coming. If that scares you, show up, learn the facts, offer up a solution and be heard.


*Island Life Recipes*  
**Super Easy Mac & Cheese**  
By Elaine Middelstaedt

**Ingredients:**

- ✂ Elbow macaroni, ½ to 1 lb., cooked according to package directions
- ✂ Extra sharp cheddar, grated – one or two bricks
- ✂ Evaporated Milk – whatever strength you prefer
- ✂ Butter

**Directions:**

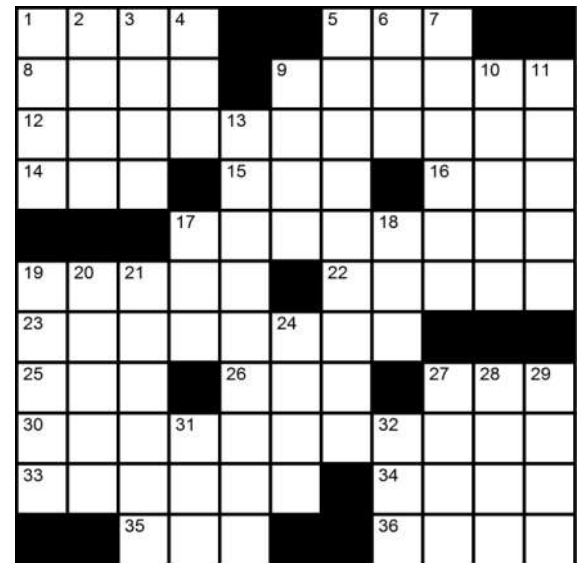
- ✂ Preheat oven at 350°. Grease a glass casserole with butter or olive oil spray. Put half the cooked macaroni in the casserole dish, and then about ½ the grated cheddar.
- ✂ Add another layer of macs, then the cheese. Pour evaporated milk over all, then dot with butter.
- ✂ Bake at 350° without stirring, until milk is absorbed, and top is crunchy, about 30 minutes, maybe a bit more.
- ✂ Serve with Del Monte original stewed tomatoes on the side (or poured on top) – incredibly delicious!



**MULLET RAPPER CROSSWORD**

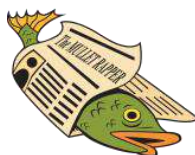
**Across**

- 1 Substitution word
- 5 Opposite of 'tain't
- 8 One of the WWII Allies
- 9 Circles and such
- 12 Stand-in
- 14 Lock opener
- 15 Keg part
- 16 Fuss
- 17 Interrupted
- 19 Diplomat's department
- 22 Tend the turkey
- 23 Energy maker
- 25 Well, --- monkey's uncle!
- 26 Air-pressure measure
- 27 Healthy
- 30 They get elected
- 33 Wears slowly
- 34 Hess or Breckinridge
- 35 Deity
- 36 Equal



**Down**

- 1 Wait in ambush
- 2 Now it makes sense!
- 3 Catch sight of
- 4 Online address
- 5 Type of event
- 6 "--- the Walrus"
- 7 Talks
- 9 Surgical mark
- 10 Initiate a break-up
- 11 Rock
- 13 Tried
- 17 Usual amt.
- 18 MLB record-holder --- Ripken
- 19 You do it with a credit card
- 20 Indonesian island
- 21 Not digital
- 24 Horn-wearing goddess or queen
- 27 Ms. Dunaway
- 28 Concerning, in legal memos
- 29 Former Russian ruler
- 31 Words to wed
- 32 Mischievous child



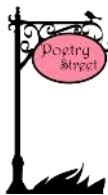


**Poetry Street**  
by Katherine Tullie

*We all have nights where we lie awake and worry. No matter how hard we try, we just can't get back to sleep. Sometimes, if you think about the positive things in your life, you can achieve a peace that will let you fall back to sleep. That is the theme of my poem today called "Focus On The Positive At Nighttime."*

**It's All Good**

If you have a negative thought in your head  
A worrisome thought as you go to bed  
You can't get to sleep,  
so you toss and turn about  
It is surely a feeling you can do without  
Start thinking of all the positive aspects of your days  
There in your Bed thinking of good things in every way  
If that doesn't work for you,  
get up and relax with a cup of herbal tea  
Turn on soft melodic music to relax as much as you can be  
Start counting the positive things in your life  
So your worries will be just in the past.  
The negative thoughts will be gone at last  
After a while, you'll probably get tired and go back to bed  
Forgetting what originally worried you in your head.



Look for  
**#PoetryStreet on Twitter**  
**or at PoetryStreet.com**  
**Kathythepoet@gmail.com**  
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Katherine S. Tullie,  
Poetry Street, Inc.

**Area Parks & Recreation**  
**Kids Can Become Junior Rangers!**  
**Great Summer Activity!**

Explore, Learn, and Protect. That's the motto of the National Park Service **Junior Ranger program**. When you visit Everglades National Park with children, drop by the Visitor Center and ask for a Junior Ranger book. It's filled with fun activities that help kids learn about the Everglades Ecosystem.

When kids complete the requirements, they earn a junior ranger badge, just like the badge proudly worn by our park rangers. The program is designed for kids ages 8 – 17, but is open to all who are young at heart.

**The Gulf Coast Station is located in Everglades City at 815 Oyster Bar Lane.**  
**The Visitor Center is open daily from 8 AM to 4:30 PM.**

**FREE Ranger Led Programs at Big Cypress. Reserve Your Spot Now**



Join us as we get out and explore the wonders of the Big Cypress Swamp! Protecting over 729,000 acres of this vast swamp, Big Cypress National Preserve contains a mixture of tropical and temperate plant communities that are home to a diversity of wildlife, including the elusive Florida panther.  
**For general information call 239-695-4111.**  
**For reservations call 239-695-4758.**

**Everglades Lions Club McLeod Park Playground Renovation Closer...but More Donations are Still Needed**

The Everglades Lions Club hosted several events throughout the winter season to raise funds and awareness about the McLeod Park playground renovation.

Hurricane Irma destroyed the park's playground equipment and the new equipment will cost approximately \$95,000 and the City does not have the funds to renovate the park so the Lions stepped up!



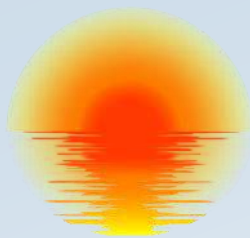
To date, the Lions have collected \$69,839.50, or 73.5% of the funding needed to start the project. The new equipment (pictured above) will feature the standard swings and playground equipment plus a covered area for those extra hot days.

If you would like to contribute to the playground, please contact Tammy Pernas at tpernas@aol.com, or contact Kathy Brock at 954 662-7003 for info.

**Need Area Information?**  
**Everything You Need is at**  
**www.swflgo.com**

**Find area park info, tour guides, trail maps, restaurants, gear rentals, events, and more!**

**Quiet Cruises, Sunset Cruises & Fishing Trips**  
**By Everglades Old Time Charters**



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**ALL TRIPS ARE LED**  
**BY 4TH & 5TH GENERATION GLADESMEN**  
**WITH AMAZING LOCAL KNOWLEDGE & STORIES**  
**ABOUT LIFE IN THE 10,000 ISLANDS**



**To Book a Tour Call: 239-241-1482 or Visit our Website: www.EvergladesOldTimeCharters.com**





**Living Gulf Coast by Charles Sobczak**

Mourning Dove (*Zenaidura macroura*) Other names: turtle dove, Carolina dove, wood dove / Status: FL=thriving, Florida's population alone is estimated at 50 million birds, IUCN=LC / Life span: to 31 years / Length: 12 in. (30 cm) / Wingspan: 17-19 in. (37-48 cm) / Weight: 4.3 oz (120 g) / Nests: year round throughout SW Florida / Found: AC, coastal, near coast, mainland / Months found: JFMAMJJASOND (Mourning doves mate and nest year round).



With a total population in the United States of approximately 350 million birds—even with an annual harvest of more than 20 million doves by hunters (2 million are taken in Florida alone)—the mourning dove is in no imminent danger of extinction. Although impressive, these numbers pale in comparison with its extinct cousin, the passenger pigeon, whose numbers at the time of European contact have been estimated at 5 to 7 billion.

The mourning dove has two characteristics that distinguish it from its European relative, the Eurasian collared-dove: it is the dove responsible for the familiar ooah, woo, woo, woo call; and it whistles when it takes flight. It is also considerably smaller but that difference can be easy to miss when either bird is in motion.

A highly adaptable bird, the mourning dove has flourished under the environmental changes brought on by mankind. It has learned to live comfortably in urban, suburban, and agricultural settings. Across Southwest Florida the mourning dove is ubiquitous, seen perched on telephone wires, sign posts, and almost any tall tree.

It feeds predominantly on grains and seeds, and it can be found filling its crop with sandy grit along almost any unpaved road. The grit assists in digesting the various seeds and fruits the dove thrives on. It is also famous for its “crop milk” or “pigeon’s milk,” which it regurgitates and feeds to its chicks for the first few weeks after hatching.

The mourning dove is preyed upon by falcons, bobcats, and sportsmen. It is monogamous, often pairing for life, and it nests in individual nesting sites, often in very unusual places. It is the most heavily hunted game bird in Florida.

**Common Ground-Dove** (*Columbina passerina*) Other names: eastern ground-dove / Status: FL=declining populations throughout the Southeast and along the gulf coast, IUCN=LC / Life span: to 7 years / Length: 67 in. (15-18 cm) / Wingspan: 11 in. (27 cm) / Weight: 1.1 oz (31 g) / Nests year round throughout SW Florida / Found: AC, coastal, near coast, mainland / Months found: JfmamjjasoND (lower case indicates nesting and breeding season).



The translation of its scientific name accurately describes this beautiful, small bird: sparrow-like dove. The underside of the common ground-dove has a reddish hue, and its wings have gray, brown, and purplish spots. It is an attractive bird and relatively common throughout Southwest Florida. The ground-dove is readily spotted at Harn's Marsh in Lee County and along the Indigo Trail at J.N. “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge on Sanibel.

Most often seen in pairs or groups of four, it is usually happened upon by accident as it feeds along shell-covered hiking trails or gravel roads. Because of its diminutive size, the ground-dove is easy to distinguish from either of the region's two larger doves.

When disturbed it tends to fly a short distance and land, only to do the same thing again and again until it finally turns and flies behind you. Like its larger cousins, the ground-dove feeds on seeds, grains, and small berries. It is monogamous, and it is widely believed that pairs mate for life. Because of its small size, the ground-dove is seldom hunted.

**Mullet Rapper Donations to  
Everglades City School in 2019 ~ \$1160**

*Thank you to everyone who buys the Mullet Rapper every two weeks. Remember, the Mullet Rapper donates 100% of the proceeds from the sale of the print edition of the paper to Everglades City School to help fund the Leader-in-Me Program!*  
*When you see the coin receptacle, please put your quarter (or more) into the slot!*  
**Remember, When You Buy the Print Edition of the Mullet Rapper  
It Helps Everglades City School Students!**



**The Backcountry  
Experience with  
Captain Rodney Raffield**

Hello my Mullet Rapper friends Capt. Rodney from EBE here with another Report from the Everglades National Park.

Summer weather is here and the fish are behaving just as they should for this time of year.



Snook are moving onto the oyster reefs as well as the Reds. We are catching some big Trout on the oyster reefs in the Islands but the

best Trout are on the outside flats as well as the points of the Outer Islands. We are producing best on 1/4oz jig heads fitted with either a Zman or Mr. Wiffelure paddle tail. We have been catching pretty well on



Yozuri Inshore Minnows as well with best colors being Chartreuse and Pearl but Smoke being a close second.

Remember Summer is Big Snook time but you want to get out early as possible for the best chance. Don't forget to follow my Facebook page (Everglades Backcountry Experience) for the latest videos and photos of my Charters.

So until next time my friends, get out there and put that fish of a lifetime on your favorite lure. **Capt. Rodney Raffield**

**Fish With Captain Raffield**  
Call: 239-695-4626  
CaptRodney@centurylink.net  
EvergladesBackcountryExperience.com

Download the Fishing Limits Guide  
<https://swflgo.com/florida-saltwater-fishing-regulations-2018/>

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- Rec 90 gas at the dock
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Rental Rooms, Efficiencies

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www.parkwaymotelandmarina.net

Council Member Tim Smith Responds to Cell Tower Article



In the May 18th edition of The Mullet Rapper, the City Council Update article on page one accurately quoted Council Member

Tim Smith stating that "he does not even see the tower anymore," however he felt it did not fully articulate his reasoning for voting to approve the new tower in the existing location.

Council Member Smith forwarded a letter that fully articulated how his decision was made and we are happy to include this update to provide additional clarity on his position.

"My concern was that if we continued to postpone this agreement they (Century Link) could have decided it was easier to erect the new one somewhere such as Carnestown, and that would not have improved service in our communities and would have been a financial loss to the city.

So, I made my decision based on the positives being the increased communication for cell service, the repeater that will be added for better radio communications for the local deputies, the financial income to the City, and the removal of the current tower and guide wires with a new more current design.

The cellular tower sits in the center of town and has been in that location since the 1940's when the National Park Service installed it to enhance communication within the park.

The existing tower is antiquated and does not provide the technology needed for today's cellular operators.

There is no debate that a new tower is needed in the area to improve cellular service. The issue of debate was the location of the tower and whether it could be moved to a less noticeable location.

It was determined by council that the current location is the most feasible and the new tower will sit where the current tower is, but without the concrete slabs and guy wires that stabilize the existing tower.

The City will receive \$2000 per month plus a one time payment of \$10,000 contract that will go towards landscaping that will be used to beautify the circle on the perimeter of the fence that will be erected to protect the equipment and the tower.

A date for the construction has not yet been announced.

The Mullet Rapper invites the Mayor or any Council Member to submit opinions and information on topics of interest for readers.

Fakahatchee Strand News Spring Fakahatchee Tram Tours June is Beautiful at the Park!

June is the perfect time to experience a swamp walk or tram tour in Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park. The park, east of Naples, is Florida's largest and has been called "the Amazon of North America."

Ghostrider Tram Tours of the park are from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The naturalist led tours are offered for \$25 per person most Thursdays in June and are named for the famous ghost orchid found in the park.

The Naturalist Led Tram Tour and Swamp Walks are from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. This \$60 excursion takes visitors into knee-high water and is offered on most Tuesdays through June.

For directions, complete details and required reservations for all Fakahatchee adventures: www.orchidswamp.org and click on Tours and Events. Please be advised that tours sell out quickly so it is recommended to call and schedule your dates as soon as possible!

You can reach us by phone at (800) 362-8590. We look forward to seeing you there!

About the Fakahatchee Strand

The Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park is perhaps the best example of a subtropical, strand swamp in the United States. The Fakahatchee Strand is a linear swamp forest, approximately twenty miles long by five miles wide and oriented from north to south. The Strand harbors one of the largest concentrations and diversity of native orchids in North America, and supports numerous rare and endangered animal species. It is also one of the core areas of the current range of the Florida Panther.

The Strand's 85,000 acres are part of the main drainage slough of the Big Cypress Swamp. The Fakahatchee Strand is linked hydrologically to the Everglades system and is particularly important to the estuarine ecosystem of the Ten Thousand Islands area.

CCSO Sponsored Activities For Summer Fun for Kids!

Each summer the Collier County Sheriff's Office sponsors activities for kids during the summer break.

This year's Build-a-Chair event is scheduled for July 29 & 30 at the Everglades Community Center. This activity is for kids ages 10-13. Reservations are required! Please call the Youth Relations Office to reserve your child's spot: 230-252-0144.

Hot Summer Nights will be held at McLeod Park on July 18th at 6pm. No reservations are required and kids of all ages are invited to attend.

For more information, contact the Youth Relations office.

Visit the Museum of the Everglades to See Beautiful Artwork by Everglades City School Students

Summer is a great time to visit the beautiful Museum of the Everglades. Currently, you can see some of the amazing artwork submitted by Mr. Tribble's art students at Everglades City School.

Check out some of the summertime activities for adults and kids at the museum!

The Museum is open daily from 9 am to 4 pm and is located at: 105 W. Broadway, Everglades City, FL.

Visit the website for event info: www.evergladesmuseum.org

1st Baptist Church Educational Series "The Apostles Doctrine" A 22-Week Series Wednesday Evenings @ 6:00 PM



We are closed for the summer. See you in October!



Enjoy an Authentic Dining Experience in Historic Chokoloskee, Florida Prepared by Chef Carlos Valdes

Breakfast. Fresh-Caught Seafood. Cuban Delicacies. Sandwiches & More.

191 Smallwood Drive, Chokoloskee, FL 34138

Phone: 239-695-2214

www.HavanaCafeoftheEverglades.com

**EATERIES & AREA WORSHIP**

**Angler's Cove, Port of the Islands**

(642-1025): Monday - Wed 5 to 11 pm,  
Thurs to Sun Noon - 11 pm

**Camellia Street Grille (695-2003):**

11:00 am – 9:00 pm daily

**City Seafood (695-4700):**

8:00 am – 10:00 am; breakfast  
Noon-6pm Lunch & Dinner

**Glades Haven Marina (695-2091):**

Deli Closed. Marina is open.  
Live bait available at marina

**Havana Café (695-2214):**

Closed for Summer. See you in October!  
See our ad on page 10!

**Island Café (695-0003):**

6:00 am – 9:00 pm; daily

**Ivey House (695-3299):**

7:00 am – 9:00 am; daily

**Joanie's Blue Crab Café (695-2682):**

11:00 am – 4:00 pm

Open: Mon., Fri., Saturday & Sunday

**Rod & Gun (695-2101):**

11:30 am - 8:00 pm; daily

**Triad Seafood & Café (695-2662):**

We are Closing June 3rd for Summer  
See You in October

**MARKETS**

**Right Choice Supermarket (695-4535):**

Open 7 days, 9 am to 7 pm

**Grimm's Stone Crab (695-3222):**

Closed Until October

**Fresh Produce**

**Right Choice Supermarket**

See listing under "markets"

**SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES**

**Chokoloskee Family Church**

Sunday: 10 am Sch., 11 am Worship  
Sun. 6 pm & Wed. 7 pm Bible Teaching

**Copeland Baptist Church**

Sunday: 10 am School, 11 am Worship

**Everglades Community Church**

11:00 am Sunday Worship, See ad p. 11

**1<sup>st</sup> 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**

Closed for Summer, See San Marco

**St. Finbarr Catholic Church, Naples**

Phone: 239-417-2084

**San Marco Catholic Church, Marco Isl.**

239-394-5181

**BARRON RIVER TIDES**

**LAT: 25.87° N LONG: 81.37°W**

More Tide Locations On: [www.SWFLGO.com!](http://www.SWFLGO.com)

6/1/19	Sat	2:23 AM	2.35	H
6/1/19	Sat	8:56 AM	0.66	L
6/1/19	Sat	1:51 PM	2.89	H
6/1/19	Sat	9:41 PM	-0.1	L
6/2/19	Sun	3:05 AM	2.38	H
6/2/19	Sun	9:32 AM	0.7	L
6/2/19	Sun	2:14 PM	2.99	H
6/2/19	Sun	10:22 PM	-0.24	L
6/3/19	Mon	3:51 AM	2.38	H
6/3/19	Mon	10:08 AM	0.75	L
6/3/19	Mon	2:37 PM	3.08	H
6/3/19	Mon	11:05 PM	-0.34	L
6/4/19	Tue	4:41 AM	2.36	H
6/4/19	Tue	10:46 AM	0.79	L
6/4/19	Tue	3:05 PM	3.14	H
6/4/19	Tue	11:50 PM	-0.39	L
6/5/19	Wed	5:36 AM	2.33	H
6/5/19	Wed	11:29 AM	0.84	L
6/5/19	Wed	3:41 PM	3.14	H
6/6/19	Thu	12:37 AM	-0.38	L
6/6/19	Thu	6:33 AM	2.3	H
6/6/19	Thu	12:17 PM	0.87	L
6/6/19	Thu	4:27 PM	3.07	H
6/7/19	Fri	1:27 AM	-0.31	L
6/7/19	Fri	7:30 AM	2.29	H
6/7/19	Fri	1:11 PM	0.89	L
6/7/19	Fri	5:27 PM	2.92	H
6/8/19	Sat	2:21 AM	-0.19	L
6/8/19	Sat	8:27 AM	2.31	H
6/8/19	Sat	2:19 PM	0.89	L
6/8/19	Sat	6:48 PM	2.72	H
6/9/19	Sun	3:21 AM	-0.03	L
6/9/19	Sun	9:20 AM	2.37	H
6/9/19	Sun	3:44 PM	0.82	L
6/9/19	Sun	8:31 PM	2.53	H
6/10/19	Mon	4:24 AM	0.14	L
6/10/19	Mon	10:09 AM	2.46	H
6/10/19	Mon	5:03 PM	0.66	L
6/10/19	Mon	10:01 PM	2.4	H
6/11/19	Tue	5:24 AM	0.29	L
6/11/19	Tue	10:54 AM	2.58	H
6/11/19	Tue	6:09 PM	0.46	L
6/11/19	Tue	11:23 PM	2.33	H
6/12/19	Wed	6:20 AM	0.43	L
6/12/19	Wed	11:39 AM	2.71	H
6/12/19	Wed	7:09 PM	0.24	L
6/13/19	Thu	12:43 AM	2.32	H
6/13/19	Thu	7:14 AM	0.55	L
6/13/19	Thu	12:22 PM	2.85	H
6/13/19	Thu	8:03 PM	0.04	L
6/14/19	Fri	1:49 AM	2.33	H
6/14/19	Fri	8:04 AM	0.64	L
6/14/19	Fri	1:02 PM	2.98	H
6/14/19	Fri	8:52 PM	-0.11	L

**June 1 is the Start of Hurricane Season  
Here are Some Things You'll Want to  
Have On Hand...Just in Case**



None of us want to even consider the possibility of another hurricane, but we must. It's that time of year again and there are some items to have on hand to make the prep work less stressful IF the unthinkable happens

Keep non-perishable emergency supplies on hand. When a hurricane warning is issued, people run for the stores. As much as possible, get ahead of the rush having the following on hand:

**Extra batteries**

◆ Candles or lamps with fuel

◆ Matches (keep these dry)

◆ Materials and tools for emergency home repairs—such as heavy plastic sheeting, plywood, a hammer, etc.

◆ Prescription drugs, cash on hand

◆ A three-day supply of drinking water

◆ Food that you don't have to refrigerate or cook

◆ First aid supplies

◆ A portable NOAA weather radio

◆ A wrench and other basic tools

◆ A flashlight

If you need to evacuate, you'll bring these supplies with you. As expirations dates approach (for example, food or batteries), use the items and replenish your emergency stash.

For flooding you'll want chlorine bleach, squeegees and cleaning supplies. If you have pets, get some extra pet food so you are not short on that, and of course diapers, and medications are a must for those who need them.

**Download the complete hurricane guide on [www.swflgo.com](http://www.swflgo.com) by clicking the hurricane icon on the left column.**



**EVERGLADES COMMUNITY CHURCH**

*The Friendly Church on the Circle*

**Non-Denominational**

101 South Copeland Avenue

P.O. Box 177, Everglades City, FL 34139

(239) 732-5878

The Rev. Dr. Bob N. Wallace, Pastor

Sunday Worship Service 11:00 A.M.

Sunday School Nov. 17th – April, 9:45 A.M.

[www.ever-community-church.com](http://www.ever-community-church.com)

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE: Condo #409 at Captains Table, 1 bed, 1 bath, fully furnished, newer appliances, new porch, windows, community pool, \$105,000 call Bill 763-443-7419.

FOR SALE: Completely remodeled mobile home with lot (9000sf) in Copeland. 2/Br, 2/Bath, large living room, open kitchen and back porch. Fenced property with large shed, city water & sewer. \$42000, negotiable. 241 Swain Street. Call 941-203-0694

FOR SALE: Great commercial investment - The Oyster House Restaurant and Glades Haven Marina and Store in Everglades City. The Marina Store also had a deli, bait & tackle, dockage, boat rentals and much more. Plenty of uses! The Oyster House had seating capacity of 200. Dining room, bar / lounge, banquet room with private bar. Buy separately or together! Hurricane Irma damage, being sold As Is. Call Karen at Glades Realty 239-695-4299 for more information.

FOR SALE: Concrete Block Home @ 1213 Chokoloskee Dr. Chokoloskee. 2Br. 1.5 Ba Ground Level Home that has never been Flood, Small screen front porch & large screen side porch. 960 sq. ft. On corner lot. Can be seen on Zillow & Trulia with photos. Asking 174,900. Call: 813 763 1944.

JOB: Miami-Dade Auxiliary Airport Specialist. Full-time, great benefits. For details: <https://swflgo.com/airport-job/>

CLASSIFIED ADS

RV HOOKUPS, Everglades City. Two Sites, 30 and 50 amps. Service, water, no sewage. Rent nightly or weekly. Rough boat ramp, 100 ft. dock. Private & secure. Contact Capt. Wayne of Fish Hunt Charters at 239-695-2445.

FOR SALE: Canal front vacant lot on Lopez Ln, Chokoloskee. Quick & easy access to the Chok. Bay and Gulf no bridges! A stilt home could offer views of the Bay. Zoned for homes or mfg. homes. Asking \$115,000. Glades Realty 239-695-4299 [www.GladesRealty.com](http://www.GladesRealty.com)

RV PAD FOR RENT: In Everglades City RV park. Full hook-up, 30 amps, 25 x 35 pad, restroom, shower, laundry & rec. privileges, 55+. Quiet time 10 pm. Weekly, monthly. Call 269-214-8623 or 941-374-0277.

FOR SALE: Condo @ The Estuary. Corner unit, 2 BR 2 BA + den. Nicely furnished. Large double car garage. Boat ramp & pool onsite. Glades Realty, 239-695-4299, [www.GladesRealty.com](http://www.GladesRealty.com), \$274,000.

FOR SALE: Condo #418 in Captain's Table, 1bed/1bath, totally renovated, fully furnished, new appliances, high impact windows/door, community pool. \$109,500. Call Vivian 786-395-9253. MLS 218025142 For Rent:

FOR SALE: Newly renovated modular home on Plantation Island canal lot. Long term lease 6 month minimum. Sleeps 2-3. Call Chip @ 281-358-7884 or Bob @ 239-695-0007.

The MULLET RAPPER

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

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Lee Cypress, Copeland, Jerome & Ochoppee

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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