

The MULLET RAPPER



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



July 24, 2021 - August 6, 2021

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

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Back to School Tax Free Days July 31 through August 9, 2021

During this sales tax holiday period, Florida law directs that no sales tax or local option tax (also known as discretionary sales surtax) will be collected on:

- purchases of clothing, footwear, and certain accessories selling for \$60 or less per item,
- purchases of certain school supplies selling for \$15 or less per item, and
- the first \$1,000 of the sales price of personal computers and certain computer-related accessories, when purchased for noncommercial home or personal use.

This sales tax holiday does not apply to:

- Any item of clothing selling for more than \$60;

- Any school supply item selling for more than \$15;
- Books that are not otherwise exempt;
- Computers and computer-related accessories purchased for commercial purposes;
- Rentals or leases of any eligible items;
- Repairs or alterations of any eligible items; or
- Sales of any eligible items in a theme park, entertainment complex, public lodging establishment, or airport.

Everglades Avian Baby Boom!



If you pay attention when you are driving around town at this time of year, you may see some “unusual” looking birds. The juveniles from many of our wading bird species leave the nest before they are fully feathered with their adult plumage. Above, this unusual looking, mottled wader is actually a juvenile little blue heron.

It is also quite common to see brownish juvenile ibis roaming around amongst the pure white adults, and young herons of all types that just don't look quite like what we are used to seeing.

Regular rains in July have flooded many of the low-lying areas providing breeding grounds for worms, frogs (tadpoles) and insects. Many of the wading birds in our area are venturing out into these areas to feed on these delicacies on a daily basis making it very easy to spot them from a distance.

If you like watching the birds, take a drive through Everglades City and pay close attention to the empty fields. You can easily spot ibis, snowy egrets, cattle egrets, great white herons, and even an occasional glossy ibis or a roseate spoonbill.

Birds generally feed throughout the day, but early morning and late afternoon times are best. A high-quality pair of binoculars will greatly enhance your birdwatching pleasure!

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



School Starts August 10th

Collier County Public Schools (CCPS) students report to school on August 10, 2021. The new school year starts earlier and has more half days than previous school years.

Tax free days (see page 1) for purchases of school related supplies are July 31 through August 9.

Other important school year dates:

- ♦ Last day of school — June 2
- ♦ Winter break — Dec. 20 - Jan. 3
- ♦ Spring break — March 11 - 18

Exclusive Tour of Bank of Everglades Building, Lunch at Rod & Gun Club September 25 & October 30, 2021

These exclusive tours include a discussion about the history of the Bank of Everglades Building, lunch at the Rod & Gun Club, and a beautiful Donald Sunshine framed print of the historic building. Tickets are \$150. Each tour is limited to 10 persons. For ticket information, go to www.SaveBOE.com, and click on "events".

Everglades City Music Festival November 6, 2021, 11:00 am—6:00 pm At the Historic Rod & Gun Club



Mark your Calendar! You won't want to miss the Everglades City Music Festival!

The day will feature great local performers, live auctions, and arts and crafts booths. The event is hosted by the Everglades Society for

Historic Preservation (ESHP), and proceeds from the event will go towards the renovation of the Bank of Everglades Building, the permanent future home of the Everglades Area Visitor Center and Trail Town Headquarters.

Reserved Seats are \$50/person, includes souvenir program, and general admission is \$40/car or \$20/motorcycle or \$20/pedestrian. For tickets or more information about the event visit www.SaveBOE.com and click on "events". For information about ESHP and the bank building renovation project visit www.eshp.org.

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. "This institution is an equal opportunity provider."

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 Information

There are two brochure racks at City Hall with information about local businesses. You can visit City Hall Monday—Friday from 9 am to 5 pm.

You may also go to the area website www.VisitEvergladesCity.com. Here you can access our business directory by category. Each business listing provides a map and link to the business' website.

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

Collier County Recycling Rules And Garbage Guidelines

Collier County has mailed out a flyer about what items you can place in recycle containers and put out on garbage days. Everglades Area garbage days are Monday and Thursday. Recycling and bulk pickup is on Thursday. Here is a recap of Trash 101:

Recycling:

What goes in the recycle buggy must be clean dry and loose. DO NOT BAG RECYCLABLES.

Here is what can be put into the container:

- Paper, cardboard, boxes, mail, newspapers, books, magazines.
- Dairy & juice cartons (prefer flattened)
- Aluminum, tin and steel cans. Rinse cans, please.
- Plastic bottles or containers labeled as # 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 7.
- Glass and bottles. Clear, brown and green glass.

Garbage Collection: Place household waste in the green buggy, and any overflow in black garbage bags next to the buggy.

Yard Waste: You may put yard waste in bags, tied bundles, or a 45 gallon personal container. No more than 10 per household. NO plastic bags are accepted.

Bulky Item Pickup: Place bulky items at the curb on your recycle day (Thursday). Bulky items include furniture, appliances, tires and other item too large to fit in the garbage buggy. You must call 48 hours prior to your Recycle Day (call on Tuesday) to obtain this pickup service. Customer Service: 239-252-2380.

For more details, visit their website colliercountyfl.gov/solidwaste or call the number above.



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OBITUARIES

NORMAN "PUNCH" ALLEN HERREN



Norman "Punch" Allen Herren Jr. passed away in Naples on July 8, a month after his 82nd birthday. His father, also Norman, was an executive for the Collier Corporation and his mother Jane worked in the Bank of Everglades. Punch grew up in Everglades City and graduated from Everglades City School before joining the Army.

He settled in Naples in 1964, working for Collier Development before graduating from USF and setting up his own accountancy practice.

He is survived by his wife Joanie of 54 years and his sister Judy Herren Humphrey, who also grew up here, plus numerous other family members.

Read the complete obituary here: <https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/naples-fl/norman-herren-10263501>

THOMAS PATRICK (PAT) NOLAND



Thomas Patrick (Pat) Noland, age 61, passed away on July 15, 2021, in Buncombe, Illinois. Pat was born to Iris Rudd Noland and Curtis Noland in Tampa, Florida on April 24, 1960 and lived his entire life in the State of Florida before relocating to Illinois two years ago to help his wife's aging parents.

He grew up in Hialeah and was a long-time resident of Chokoloskee where he was loved by all who knew him. Pat was known for helping others and for his kindness. He was an avid fisherman from the time he was a young boy and could be found on the water any time the opportunity presented itself. He was

also a gifted Marine Mechanic and all-around handyman. He was known in the community as the one to call on if something needed to be fixed.

His brothers and extended family and friends will treasure their many memories of time spent together fishing with Pat. Pat is survived by his loving wife of six years, Marilee Wilkinson Noland of Buncombe, Illinois; brothers David Sweat (Cheryl) of Stuart, Florida and Tim Noland (Ruth) of Gainesville, Florida; sisters Sue Gumm (John) of Westfield Center, Ohio and Colleen Jones (Ray) of Pembroke Pines, Florida; nieces Paula, Amy, Katie, Emily, Valerie, Bonnie and Becky; great-nieces Rachel, Grace, Nora, Hanna, Tristyn and Minnie; nephew Robert. He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Michael Noland; nephew, Joshua Brothers. As per his wishes, Cremation has taken place and his ashes will be returned to Chokoloskee where he spent countless hours doing what he loved. A beautiful soul is never forgotten, and his legacy of kindness lives on.



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All-ages Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Worship: 11:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Worship: 6:00 p.m.

Adventures of the Saltwater Cowboy – “Ride the Lightning” by Jon Edward Edwards

On a picturesque 10,000 Islands summer day drifting with the incoming tide along the Fakahatchee River, the tarpon rolled almost on top of one another. They weren't the big bruisers that the record chasers followed from Homosassa to Islamorada for decades. Tom Evans, Steve Huff, and Thomas McGuane come to mind. These fish, dark from the tannic backwater, were around the forty to sixty-pound class.

My compadre, Hegar, and I had never seen tarpon so eager to inhale a bait. Therefore, as sportsmen, we made a conscious decision to ignore the incoming weather system. Comfortably numb to the danger among the zinging drags and snapped leaders, a thermocline settled in, and the temperature dropped. The taste in the air reminded me of when a friend dared me to lick a 9-volt battery, which I did. Thunder began to crack. The Western horizon was a sinister black with streaks of grey, shards of lightning spiking at close intervals. But the greenback shiner on the end of my line was looking sexy with his #5 circle hook nose ring. I'd lobbed the bait up current, leaving enough slack for the live pilchard to make his way to an eddy between two mangrove lay-downs. I stood at the bow, hip against the trolling motor handle, making slight adjustments to the boat position. Unlike the aggressive strike from most gamefish of the region, a more appropriate description of a tarpon bite is to abscond subtly with unmatched speed and agility. Tense as one of those goats that feint upon varying degrees of stress, hand white-knuckled around the Calcutta 400, the water erupted around my bait. Gulp! Zzzzzzzzz ... Another fish on!

“Man, this isn't looking good,” Hegar said as I pulled hard to the inside, trying to turn the fish's head and stop its blistering run before I was out of line.

“Awe, it's just a clear-up shower,” I replied as the bottom fell out of the sky.

“Clear up shower?” Hegar said, wondering if he'd heard me right.

“Yeah, clear up to your rear.” Our fear became all too real as the lightning strikes were no longer distant but close, real close. We scrambled, taking the rods out of the holders and laying them down on the deck. Careless we were, but not dumb enough to surround ourselves with lightning rods. We jammed the boat as far as we could into the mangrove foliage and hunkered down. I might have even recited a little prayer under my breath.

About thirty sphincter clenching minutes later, the electrical storm moved to the SSW, but another system loomed behind it. If we were going to get the hell out of Dodge, now was the time.

I pushed the Pathfinder to its limit southbound on the serpentine tidal river. The rain felt like shards of fiberglass pelting your bare skin, stinging like a tattoo machine - bzzzzzzzzzz - relentless and unforgiving. I realized how well I knew my backwater path in almost zero visibility as I felt my way across Faka Union Bay, through Panther Key, and behind Four Brothers Key. Crossing Dismal Key



Pass, I looked south over the Gulf. Squinting through the rain, I saw a lightning bolt as thick as an old live oak tree spike from a thunderhead and grow four jagged legs, like a demonic Eiffel Tower dancing across the water.

We finally made it to the Goodland Bridge, rode hard, and pruned from the relentless deluge. Idling into, what was in 2002, Moran's Barge Marina, the world erupted in a white

flash. The whitest of all whites.

In Jr. High School in Monroe, Louisiana, one of my chores was cutting the grass with my Dad's Yazoo push mower, the kind with large diameter Skyway Mag wheels, yellow in color. Imagine pushing a pallet jack loaded with drywall but a little bit lighter. One day the engine began shaking and shimmying uncontrollably. I thought something looked loose, the sparkplug maybe. In my infinite wisdom, with the motor running, I decided to grab it. My hand fused to the engine block, and my arm felt as if a Russian Slap Champion wielding a cattle prod shook the hell out of it. That's the sensation I felt when the residual electricity crawled up the throttle into my right arm.

Hegar and I lifted ourselves off the bottom of the boat, where we had atavistically retreated upon the event. The lightning strike was so close that it took us a few seconds to determine whether or not we were still of this world. Hegar looked his arms up and down, felt around on his legs and body, mouth agape. I held my hand in front of my face expecting to find it filleted with burn exits. We looked at each other in disbelief. We were fine.

I'm sure we looked like trauma victims as we tied up to the dock, having been meters away from riding the lightning on a direct train to electrocution. It was then I reckoned it might behoove me to pay more attention to thunderstorms building in the Gulf of Mexico.



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**Everglades and Dry Tortugas National Parks
Four Remaining Entrance Fee-Free Days for 2021**

Everglades and Dry Tortugas National Parks are waiving their entrance fee for six dates in 2021. The remaining four entrance fee-free days for 2021 are:

- Wednesday, August 4 – Great American Outdoors Act anniversary**
- Wednesday, August 25 – National Park Service Birthday**
- Saturday, September 25 – National Public Lands Day**
- Thursday, November 11 – Veterans Day**

“We are pleased for the opportunity to welcome new visitors to the parks,” said Pedro Ramos, Everglades and Dry Tortugas National Parks Superintendent. “Fee free days are a great way to discover our national parks for the first time.”

Everglades National Park normally charges \$30.00 per vehicle or vessel, \$25.00 per motorcycle, and \$15.00 per person for pedestrians, cyclists and paddle-craft, for a 7-day pass.

Dry Tortugas National Park normally charges \$15.00 per person over the age of 16, which is good for 7 days. Fees are ordinarily included in the ticket prices for ferry and seaplane tours, but they will not be included on fee free days.

The entrance fee waiver for the fee-free days does not cover amenity or user fees for activities such as camping, transportation, or special tours.

Everglades and Dry Tortugas National Parks are two of approximately 100 national parks that have an entrance fee. There are more than 300 other national parks that do not charge an entrance fee. The National Park System includes more than 85 million acres and is comprised of more than 400 sites, including national parks, national historical parks, national monuments, national recreation areas, national battlefields, and national seashores.

Last year, 327 million people visited national parks and spent \$21 billion which supported 340,500 jobs across the country and had a \$41.7 billion impact on the U.S. economy. In 2019, Dry Tortugas National Park welcomed 79,200 visitors who contributed \$4.8 million to the local economy, and Everglades National Park welcomed 1,118,300 visitors who contributed \$110 million to the local economy.

Everglades National Park also offers an annual pass for \$55.00, which covers unlimited admissions to the park for 12 months from the date of purchase. The new 2021 Everglades National Park annual pass became available January 1, 2021. It features a photo of a Great White Heron submitted by park intern Rachel DiPietro.

Active duty military and fourth grade students will continue to have free access with discounted passes also available for senior citizens. For other visitors who love visiting our public lands, the annual \$80 America the Beautiful National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Pass is a great option, which allows unlimited entrance to more than 2,000 federal recreation areas, including all national parks.

Other federal land management agencies offering their own fee-free days in 2021 include the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Forest Service and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

For more information on fees and passes at Dry Tortugas National Park see: <https://www.nps.gov/drto/planyourvisit/fees.htm>. For general information, visit [nps.gov/drto](https://www.nps.gov/drto) or follow the park on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

For more information on fees and passes at Everglades National Park see: <https://www.nps.gov/ever/planyourvisit/fees.htm>.

Calling All Fishing Guides! Your Help is Needed

Captain Mike Merritt, longtime resident of Everglades City and fishing guide, is working on a project to photograph all of the fishing guides who have worked and fished the 10,000 Islands out of our area.

He is also looking for any guides who went to Everglades City School.

The fishing guides in our area are the ones who first “put us on the map”. Without them, our local businesses providing food and accommodations would have never thrived.

The guides of the past, present, and future should be recognized for their contributions to our community.

If you are a guide, or if you know one, who may be interested in this project being spearheaded by Captain Merritt, please call him so he can explain the details. You can call **Captain Merritt at 561-252-4324**.

You may not hear it enough...so we will say it here again, Thank you to all of those who have helped this community grow and prosper. The fishing guides of our area bring new people to our community that are vital to our economy and our future. The guides who share their love and knowledge of the area, and help educate others about the importance of the 10,000 Islands, should be remembered as ambassadors of the Everglades forever.

Everglades City July Council Meeting Recap

The July Council Meeting addressed the tower contract. CenturyLink has until Aug. 14 to start the project. The council voted 4-0 to not extend the contract should the company not meet the August 14 deadline. If that happens, a new contract will be negotiated.

The City is working on a landscape plan for City medians with a grant provided by the Community Foundation of Collier County and Naples Botanical Gardens. The city will be adding some fill to the medians, and then the landscape plantings will begin.

Bids were received for the storm drain cleaning using a FEMA grant. We should learn more at the August 3rd council meeting.

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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

Everglades Lions Foundation:
<https://www.amazon.com/b?node=15576745011>

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 July 10, 2021 Puzzle

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10	W	A	T	C	H					11	G	O	A	T		12	S
13	A	S	T	A	R					14	A	N	I	S	E		
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36	S	T	E	E	R					37	L	O	G	O	S		
				38	U	R	G	E				39	Y	E	A	R	S

How to Stop Delaying Medical Decisions

By Pastor Bob Wallace



All of us delay making decisions at one time or another. We seem to take longer than necessary correcting some situations. We've been told not to put off until tomorrow what we can do today, and it sometimes appears to others our important decisions take longer than necessary. But there are times when we wait too long. We have to be cajoled into going ahead and getting it over with. It's this delay which causes frustration among our friends and family members. However, procrastination appears to be in a lot of us.

People often go along with things like they don't have a care in the world. Their loved ones or friends try to bring certain facts to their attention about how they look or circumstances for which they should be concerned. These shared feelings often go unheeded, much to the consternation of friends and loved ones. Some people call it procrastination.

However, when specific illness is finally observed and a serious diagnosis is rendered by a physician, fear often sets in. Sometimes a person becomes scared over a physical problem which should have been diagnosed earlier and which had become life-threatening. It's a rough way to learn about something which could and should have been cared for earlier. At least the physician finally catches the attention of the patient and treatment begins. That's a good thing. It's too bad some people have to be scared into treatment, but they are. This is true so many times when people don't want to admit they're sick. They're afraid they'll find out the truth about what they've suspected for some time about themselves. They know, and yet they don't want to know. However, when they finally feel bad enough, they'll do something about it.

Sometimes, people have to experience a heart attack before they see a doctor in the emergency room under life-threatening circumstances. Others become extremely ill and require extensive medical treatment and therapy due to their inaction. It appears the only way a lot of people ever receive medical attention is because they're afraid they'll die if they don't, and then sometimes it's too late. That's sad. People seem to have an I don't care attitude. This is often referred to as a whistling in the dark attitude. It's like making noise so imagined fears will somehow disappear.

Unfortunately, a lot of medical problems are not due to imagination. They're real, and they're dangerous to your health. It's almost as if they want something bad to happen to them – and then they will die. True, especially in older folks. People often wait too long to take care of medical problems. Their hope is their problems will just go away. This can be true in some instances, but it's not always the safest approach to finding a cure.

If you have something you think needs attention, seek a solution to it. Many major problems have been discovered and corrected with minor, routine visits to the doctor's office. When we're frightened, we have a sudden shock of fear or alarm, a feeling of sudden terror. It's like turning a corner and running into someone you didn't expect. When we're scared, we become afraid which arouses our senses and causes alarm. This reaction occurs when we receive bad news about someone or something. It can often work against us. But fear is a basic instinct for human survival.

Most all of us have been scared nearly to death. We hear a noise in a darkened house after watching a scary movie and suddenly our hearts beat faster. We react by quickly turning on a light to dispel the darkness which offers a feeling of warmth and security. Taking positive action in a time of crisis is like turning on a light in the dark. After the experience is over, you're glad you did something about it.

A lot of people procrastinate because they say they've lived too long to worry about their problems now. It's always important to consult a physician if you, or someone you know, thinks there's a problem. Just because someone doesn't think it's important isn't reason enough. None of us is so wise that we can diagnose ourselves and prescribe our own medication. If you do, you have a fool for a physician and an idiot for a patient. Try to encourage someone who manifests symptoms you believe should be called to the attention of a doctor.

Don't ever let it be said of you that you procrastinated too long.

The Reverend Doctor Bob N. Wallace was called to be Pastor of Everglades Community Church March 19, 2006 where he currently serves.



EVERGLADES COMMUNITY CHURCH
The Friendly Little Church on the Circle
NON-DENOMINATIONAL

101 S. Copeland Avenue, PO Box 177
Everglades City, FL 34139, 239-784-7318
The Rev. Dr. Bob N. Wallace, Pastor
◆ Sunday Worship Service 11:00 am ◆

www.ever-community-church.com

What's Happening At The Museum of Everglades

→ **Event**

**Stories of a Sportsmen's Paradise:
A Folk Art Experience**
August 12, 2021, 5:00-7:00 pm

Step back in time at the Museum of the Everglades, where you'll hear rich stories of how the Ten Thousand Islands became a magnet for avid anglers and enthusiastic adventurers—including why Everglades City just might be the birthplace of the modern fishing lure. But this experience offers much more than fanciful fish tales. Step behind the scenes with the museum's curator, and explore an exclusive archive of previously unseen works of local folk art.

To complete the adventure, each participant will receive their own personal rustic masterpiece as a souvenir of the experience. This immersive encounter redefines how stories are told and will leave every guest wanting more – ready to explore. **Reservations are required. See registration information below.**

→ **Exhibit**

**BANKING ON THE PAST,
SAVING FOR THE FUTURE: THE
LEGACY OF BARRON
COLLIER'S BANK OF
EVERGLADES**
June 1- August 27, 2021
Museum of the Everglades

This new exhibit celebrates the Bank of Everglades building—a grand neo-classical structure erected by Barron Collier in 1926. It was the only bank in Collier County for almost 40 years. The exhibit details the history of the institution, including its two previous (and far less impressive) homes and the bank's 1962 relocation to Immokalee, as well as the businesses that later occupied the space. The local effort to save and restore the structure by the Everglades Society for Historic Preservation and the possible ways the preserved structure might serve the community in the future will also be explored.

FREE SUMMER EVENTS
for Kids At MOE

August 7: Museum of the Everglades "Florida Fishing" 10 am to 2 pm

RESERVATION INFORMATION

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!



Living Gulf Coast By Charles Sobczak

Ruby-throated Hummingbird (*Archilochus colubris*)

Other names: none / Status: FL=stable, IUCN=LC / Life span: to 9 years / Length: 2.8-3.5 in. (7-9 cm) / Wingspan: 3.1-4.3 in. (8-11 cm) / Weight: 0.1-0.2 oz (2-6 g) / Nests: in northern Florida to southern Canada / Found: throughout all but the summer months in Southwest Florida.

The regions' smallest bird, the ruby-throated hummingbird is an amazing creature. One of the few birds able to truly hover and the only bird able to fly backwards and upside down, the ruby-throated hummingbird beats its wings so fast it creates a humming sound. When in flight its feet virtually disappear into its tiny body, making it more aerodynamically perfect.



This bird is found on the islands only on occasion and is far more commonly seen in the summer throughout its

northern range.

Despite its tiny size, the ruby-throated hummingbird stores enough fat to enable it to fly nonstop across the 600-mile expanse of the Gulf of Mexico twice a year.

The hummingbird is found only in the Americas, from Tierra del Fuego to Alaska. There is an amazing 325 species of hummingbirds, though the vast majority of these birds live in Central and South America.

Unlike humans, the hummingbird is able to see things in the ultraviolet color spectrum, which lies far above our eyesight capabilities. This allows the hummingbird to spot the flowering plants upon which they rely for nectar. Fascinating to observe at feeders, it seems to be attracted to the color red. Sadly, this is also a cause of mortality, since it is attracted to the red tops of certain power-line capacitors and is electrocuted when attempting to feed on them.

The hummingbird is an important pollinator, but it also eats nectar-eating insects and tiny spiders. The high-energy diet of nectar is essential to its metabolic needs, with some hummingbirds known to have heart rates as high as 1,260 beats per minute. That is roughly 1,200 times faster than the heartbeat of a well-trained athlete. As if that isn't enough of an amazing feat, it has been calculated that when flying forward, a hummingbird's wing can exceed 4,500 beats a minute, or 75 beats per second.

The ruby-throated hummingbird will readily come to artificial feeders, attracted by sugar water. Only white granulated sugar has been proven safe to use: a ratio of one cup sugar to four cups water is the most common recipe.

The hummingbird is seldom preyed upon as an adult, but the size of its tiny eggs—smaller than jellybeans—and chicks make them vulnerable to being eaten by predators as small as lizards, mice, and tiny snakes. Some of the South American species, especially the highly specialized birds, are endangered, but the ruby-throated hummingbird appears to be doing well throughout its range, possibly in part because of the innumerable feeders put out across the backyards of North America every summer.

Editors Note: Resident Hummingbirds are present in the Everglades City area during the summer months. Migratory hummers will arrive in October and stay through late April. I use 1 cup of sugar to 3 cups water for feeders. Plant Fire spike, coral honeysuckle and firecracker plants to attract them to your home.

Photo: Hummingbird by Kathy Brock

Teen Struck By Lightning on Marco Island Beach

A 17-year old boy was struck by lightning on Saturday, July 17th at 3:45 pm. The boy's father provided CPR until rescue crews arrived. No information was provided by Marco authorities regarding the boy's condition.

Lightning Safety Tips

“When Thunder Roars, Go Indoors”



Chances of getting struck by lightning are about 1 in a million. However, it does happen, and did happen in Marco Island over the weekend.

In Everglades City, there is a siren on the school that goes off when lightning is within 5 miles. The warning alarm goes off one time. The “all clear” alarm will go off three times. It can be heard by residents on the north end of town.

When lightning is present, it is always best to go inside. However, sometimes that may not be possible. Here are some tips in staying safe during a lightning storm:

- ◆ Immediately get off elevated areas such as hills, balconies, and elevated surfaces.
- ◆ Never lie flat on the ground. Crouch down in a ball-like position with your head tucked and hands over your ears so that you are down low with minimal contact with the ground.
- ◆ Never shelter under an isolated tree.
- ◆ Never use a cliff or rocky overhang for shelter.
- ◆ Immediately get out of and away from ponds, lakes, and other bodies of water.
- ◆ Stay away from objects that conduct electricity (such as barbed wire fences, power lines, and metal pipes).

When indoors you should also take precautions. Electricity can travel through metal support beams, electrical wiring and plumbing. Experts say to never shower or take a bath during a lightning storm.

During storms, stay away from windows and avoid going outside.

Never use a corded phone during a lightning storm. Cellular phones and cordless phones are safe to use.

Unplug computers and expensive equipment whenever possible. If you are leaving for the day and are not sure of the weather, unplugging your electronics can help you avoid returning to a disaster. A neighbor recently lost an entertainment center from a lightning strike...and he did have a surge protection device installed! Always take lightning very seriously. Remember, lightning can strike 10 to 12 miles from a storm, a distance farther than the sound of thunder travels...meaning if you can hear thunder, you are within the lightning zone.

Perseids Meteor Shower Expected to Light Up Sky Peak: August 11 –12

According to EarthSky.com, “the waxing crescent moon will set at early evening, providing dark skies. Start watching for these meteors in early August. Their numbers will gradually increase. Predicted peak in 2021 is the night of August 11-12, but try the nights before and after, too, from late night until dawn.”

“These swift and bright meteors radiate from a point in the constellation Perseus the Hero. The meteors will appear in all parts of the sky.

Perseid meteors tend to strengthen in number as late night deepens into midnight. The shower typically produces the most meteors in the wee hours before dawn.”

The Island Life Recipes

Melissa Holmes Buzzard Dip submitted by Elaine Middelstaedt
Super Easy & Versatile!

Ingredients:

- 2- 8 ounce packages cream cheese
- 1 can mild Rotel diced tomatoes (or hot if you like)
- 1 pound breakfast sausage (mild or hot) cooked and crumbled, drained



Directions:

Crumble the sausage into small pieces and cook on the stovetop or microwave. Drain off grease and set aside.
Mix the cream cheese and Rotel together well. Microwave or cook on stovetop until melted. Add the sausage and mix through. Serve warm with tortilla chips. This is also good with eggs and wilted spinach for breakfast, or on rice.
Variations: Add 1 cup of shredded cheddar cheese to the cream cheese and Rotel mixture.
Some recipes call for Velveeta in place of the cream cheese. No matter how you choose to make it, it will be tasty!



My Little Slice of Paradise By Kathy Brock

There is so much pressure on young families today to acquire and keep up with all of the stuff you need (supposedly) today to get by.

Many of today's "monthly expenses" were either free, not needed, or far less costly years ago.

Television was free. Sure, we did not have the variety of what is on today, but all of the additional programming hasn't seemed to improve our lives very much. There is still quite a bit of "free" TV as long as you have the internet...which costs about \$100 per month!

Phones were not free, but we got by with one attached to the wall in the kitchen. Today, every member of the family has a phone, and the phone bill to match it. Oh, and those phones we use today are very expensive, and become obsolete quite quickly. As soon as you get close to the end of a contract, the cellular providers start making offers to wrap you into another contract with an "upgraded" phone.

The situation with cars is even worse. The cost of cars is out of control. The explanation for this big jump in prices is a computer chip shortage. Really? I understand there is a shortage on chips, but that should not cause such a drastic increase, should it? The reasoning behind the spike is explained in the laws of supply and demand. When supplies are low and demand remains high the prices are driven higher.

Make no mistake that the car manufacturers could have kept prices lower, but they chose to raise them because their inventory levels are lower due to the chip shortage. To keep profits up, they needed to increase the profit margins on the cars they have to sell.

The chip shortage has also increased used car prices by 48%! Again, this is a choice by the car industry. A 10 year old truck is selling for more today than it did 5 years ago. Is it really worth more or is the industry taking advantage of the buying public?

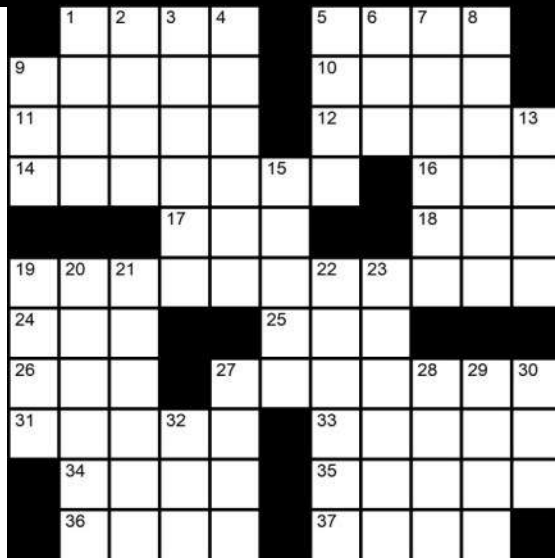
Our van has two payments remaining. The dealership is emailing, calling and texting me to let me know I qualify for another loan. Only this time the loan would look more like a mortgage! Thanks but no thanks. I'll keep what I have.

A good lesson for us "older" folks to teach is the value in keeping the things we have working for as long as they can. Every extra day you keep something you already own is money in your pocket.

MULLET RAPPER CROSSWORD

Across

- 1 "Just the facts, --- "
- 5 Window section
- 9 1970s and 80s dance music
- 10 Charlie ---, fictional Honolulu 'tec
- 11 Single things
- 12 Persian Gulf port
- 14 Negatives
- 16 "Cursed" team, informally
- 17 Contend
- 18 Entirely
- 19 Item for future historians
- 24 20 Down's temperature
- 25 Fish eggs
- 26 Alpha wave chart, for short
- 27 It's not ---, according to Tom Jones
- 31 Complains bitterly
- 33 Fast
- 34 Grating
- 35 Mosque leaders
- 36 Poet --- Wheeler Wilcox
- 37 Brings home



7/24/21

Down

- 1 Not yours
- 2 "B --- boy"
- 3 On the go
- 4 Tile style
- 5 Banned contaminants
- 6 "By George, I think I've got it!"
- 7 Bahamian capital
- 8 Become a member
- 9 Turkey
- 13 Wheel shaft
- 15 Get familiar with renal change
- 19 Ballpark level
- 20 Mammoth cold spell?
- 21 1991 Macaulay Culkin drama
- 22 Enter en masse
- 23 Seed found on Kaisers sometimes
- 27 Farming agency
- 28 --- the crack of dawn
- 29 Intentions
- 30 Many Salt Lakers
- 32 "--- Abner" (Comic strip)



NOW OPEN!

Kim's Hair Studio

at Everglades Isle

(239) 537-1273

Open Monday, Wednesday, & Friday
9:00 am to 5:00 pm
And By Appointment

EATERIES & AREA WORSHIP

Angler's Cove, Port of the Islands (642-1025): Closed Mon- Tue-Thurs, 5-11 Fri-Sun Noon - 11 pm
Camellia Street Grille (239-695-2003): 11:00 am – 9:00 pm, Daily
City Seafood (239-695-4700): Open All Year 8 am to 3 pm
Diving Pelican Restaurant (239) 232-0475 Open Sun-Thur 11 am to 8 pm, Fri & Sat till midnight
Everglades Fishing Co. / Nely's Corner Open M-Th 5:30 am to 8pm, Sat Sun till 10 pm 203 Collier Avenue, (239-695-4222)
Havana Café (239-695-2214): Closed for Summer.
Hole in the Wall Pizza (239-695-4444) M-Th 11am-7pm, Fri & Sat 11 am-9 pm
Island Café (239-695-0003): 6:00 am – 9:00 pm; daily
Ivey House (239-695-3299) (Private) 7:00 am – 9:00 am; daily (for guests only)
Joanie's Crab Café (239-695-2682): Open Daily 10:30 am to 5 pm, Closed Wed.
Rod & Gun (239-695-2101): 11:30 am - 8:00 pm; daily
Triad Seafood & Café (239-695-2662): Closed for Summer
MARKETS
Right Choice Market (239-695-4535): Open 7 days, 9 am to 7 pm
Grimm's Stone Crab (239-695-3222): Closed for Summer
Fresh Produce
Right Choice Supermarket See listing under "markets"
SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES
Chokoloskee Family Church Sunday: 10 am Sch., 11 am Worship
Copeland Baptist Church Sunday: 10 am School, 11 am Worship
Everglades Community Church 11:00 am Sunday Worship, See ad p. 8
1st Baptist Church of Everglades City 9:45 am Sunday School, 11 am Worship 6 pm Sunday, 6 pm Wed. Bible Study
Holy Family Catholic Church Closed for Summer. Reopening Dec. 5, 2021
St. Finbarr Catholic Church, Naples Phone: 239-417-2084
San Marco Catholic Church, Marco Isl. 239-394-5181

BARRON RIVER TIDES

7/24/2021	Sat	4:28 AM	2.38	H
7/24/2021	Sat	10:20 AM	0.83	L
7/24/2021	Sat	3:04 PM	3.49	H
7/24/2021	Sat	11:16 PM	-0.29	L
7/25/2021	Sun	5:04 AM	2.41	H
7/25/2021	Sun	11:09 AM	0.77	L
7/25/2021	Sun	3:52 PM	3.4	H
7/26/2021	Mon	12:00 AM	-0.17	L
7/26/2021	Mon	5:39 AM	2.46	H
7/26/2021	Mon	11:57 AM	0.71	L
7/26/2021	Mon	4:43 PM	3.24	H
7/27/2021	Tue	12:42 AM	-0.01	L
7/27/2021	Tue	6:14 AM	2.52	H
7/27/2021	Tue	12:46 PM	0.67	L
7/27/2021	Tue	5:36 PM	3.02	H
7/28/2021	Wed	1:22 AM	0.18	L
7/28/2021	Wed	6:50 AM	2.58	H
7/28/2021	Wed	1:36 PM	0.65	L
7/28/2021	Wed	6:30 PM	2.77	H
7/29/2021	Thu	2:03 AM	0.39	L
7/29/2021	Thu	7:29 AM	2.62	H
7/29/2021	Thu	2:31 PM	0.63	L
7/29/2021	Thu	7:28 PM	2.51	H
7/30/2021	Fri	2:46 AM	0.58	L
7/30/2021	Fri	8:10 AM	2.63	H
7/30/2021	Fri	3:36 PM	0.6	L
7/30/2021	Fri	8:34 PM	2.28	H
7/31/2021	Sat	3:36 AM	0.76	L
7/31/2021	Sat	8:56 AM	2.63	H
7/31/2021	Sat	4:44 PM	0.54	L
7/31/2021	Sat	9:47 PM	2.1	H
8/1/2021	Sun	4:36 AM	0.91	L
8/1/2021	Sun	9:45 AM	2.63	H
8/1/2021	Sun	5:47 PM	0.45	L
8/1/2021	Sun	11:07 PM	2	H
8/2/2021	Mon	5:38 AM	1	L
8/2/2021	Mon	10:37 AM	2.65	H
8/2/2021	Mon	6:46 PM	0.34	L
8/3/2021	Tue	1:15 AM	2.02	H
8/3/2021	Tue	6:38 AM	1.06	L
8/3/2021	Tue	11:33 AM	2.71	H
8/3/2021	Tue	7:40 PM	0.23	L
8/4/2021	Wed	2:20 AM	2.12	H
8/4/2021	Wed	7:33 AM	1.07	L
8/4/2021	Wed	12:27 PM	2.82	H
8/4/2021	Wed	8:27 PM	0.13	L
8/5/2021	Thu	2:37 AM	2.21	H
8/5/2021	Thu	8:20 AM	1.05	L
8/5/2021	Thu	1:14 PM	2.95	H
8/5/2021	Thu	9:10 PM	0.04	L
8/6/2021	Fri	3:02 AM	2.3	H
8/6/2021	Fri	8:59 AM	1.02	L
8/6/2021	Fri	1:53 PM	3.09	H
8/6/2021	Fri	9:49 PM	-0.03	L

Direction
By Diallo Xia

There are certain things in life that grab you by the throat and force you to acknowledge them, and this was one of those moments. There is nothing more crushing than the lack of direction. I was at sea, and there was no wind for my sails, no power in my arms to row myself to shore, but that's because I never taught myself to row.




That's a drastic situation, and it's enough to make anyone want some fresh air. With a dash, I mounted my bicycle and raced myself towards the southside park, along the one and only highway. There's a place where the trees surround you and the water moves alongside you, but that's every place in the Everglades. I was looking for the place the sun melts into a thousand reflections. I sat on the wall made of bricks, slightly molding, slightly falling apart, to ponder my future.

It reminds me of a place in Uruguay, where they built a wall fifty feet tall out of bricks, and they had an area carved into the side where one can walk, but not tall enough to see over. Probably to keep out arrows. Right?

Again I return; I don't know where I'm going. How can I? No commitments, no values, no path, I must be a terrible being. Must I pick a career that I disagree with for the rest of my life, or will I permanently be windless?

But as the sun sets, I realize that I'm never going to know where the wind will take me. All I can do is steer a desirable course. And as the wind picks up, I realize I was sailing in the wrong direction. Time for a broad reach.

Diallo Xia, 16, is a writer and student who lives in Everglades City. We are happy to welcome Diallo to the Mullet Rapper Family and we look forward to his future contributions to our publication. To reach Diallo, contact the Mullet Rapper and we will forward your request or questions to him.



Chokoloskee Family Church

“Doing Life Together”

Sun. Marriage Class-9:00 am
Sun. Worship-11:00 am
Sun. 5:30 pm-Celebrate Recovery
Kids Program-Wed 7:00 pm
Kids Program- Sun. 11:00 am
Wed. Bible Study -7:00 pm
at Island Café-Free Coffee & Pie
Phone: 239-232-0098

CLASSIFIED ADS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

FOR SALE: 936 Panther Creek Lane, Du Pont Island. Rare find in Everglades City! Waterfront single family three bedroom / two bath stilt home in the Commercial Fishing District. 80 feet of water frontage on almost half acre of land. Plenty of storage / workshops / garage and a Quonset hut. Asking \$469,000.

FOR SALE: Glades Haven Cozy Cabins. Your vacation get-away! One bedroom / one bathroom (RV) cabin with docks. Quick easy access out the Ten Thousand Islands and Gulf of Mexico. A fisherman's paradise right here in the famous Everglades. Rental potential. Multiple cabins available with different amenities. Asking \$119,000.

For more information contact Glades Realty 239-695-4299. GladesRealty.com Karen@Gladesrealty.com

NOW HIRING: Retail associate needed for the Big Cypress Preserve Oasis Visitor Center. Position is part-time to full-time. Pay rate is \$12 per hour. Email resume to monique@evergladesassociation.org or call 305-247-1612.

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.

UNWANTED PLANTS? Don't throw them away! We can recycle them for the annual plant sale benefiting the school. Call before you discard them. One person's trash is another's treasure! Call 954-662-7003.

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. The center is located in Everglades City across from the Rod & Gun Club. Summer hours vary.

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.

HELP WANTED: 25- 30 hours per week. Multi-tasker: Cleaning, Laundry, light maintenance. Contact Jaye at River Wilderness 239-695-4499.



Help Save the Bank of Everglades Building. Learn how you can help:

www.SaveBOE.com www.ESHP.org

The MULLET RAPPER

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

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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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