

The MULLET RAPPER

**What's Happening in the Everglades & 10,000 Islands
JULY 27, 2019 - AUGUST 9, 2019**

**AREA INFO
TIDES ~ EVENTS
RESTAURANTS**

CONGRATULATIONS EVERGLADES CITY SCHOOL!



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

Volume XI • Issue # 343

Welcome Back to School Parties!

Glow Party: Aug. 3, Community Center, 6-10 pm.

**Free hot dogs & water
Welcome back picnic.**

Sponsored by area churches

**Saturday, August 10, 10 am to 1 pm
Lunch, prizes & more!**

Two fun events to celebrate the upcoming school year. On August 3rd, at the community center, come to the Glow party! There is no charge.

On August 10th, our area churches are sponsoring a welcome back party and celebration for achieving the A-rating!

Please come to show the children how proud we are of their great accomplishment last school year and to welcome the new principal. Principal Cheryl Allison will be at the park to meet parents and children. We hope you can attend.

**Meet the New Principal, Cheryl Allison!
Both Events are FREE!!!**



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FEATURE - GOLF CART RULES, P. 4

Everglades City School Got an "A" Rating What does that Really Mean?

By Kathy Brock

Now that it is official, it would be a good time to better understand it. What does an "A" grade actually mean for Everglades City School? How did our small school achieve this ranking for the first time in the grading system's 20-year history?

According to the website www.stateimpact.org. "The Florida Department of Education has a formula for grading schools. Every year the state gives each public K-12 school an A through F letter grade." For kindergarten through middle school, school letter grades are based on a schools FCAT scores. But for high schools, there is a new formula. Only 50 percent of a high schools grade comes from FCAT results.

Here's the breakdown of how high schools are measured:

- ◆ There are a total of 1600 points a high school can earn.
- ◆ 800 points: come from a schools FCAT scores
- ◆ 300 points: come from graduation rates
- ◆ 200 points: come from college readiness, which is measured by SAT results
- ◆ 175 points: come from student participation in college-level classes, like Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), and Dual Enrollment where students can earn actual college credit as well as high school credit. As well as Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) courses.
- ◆ 125 points: come from performance in college-level courses, meaning whether students earn college-credit for the college-level courses they enroll in.

To try and understand the system's impact on the quality of education is a bit more difficult. Florida is one of only 15 states to use such a rating system. Proponents point out that the grading system provides some type of measurement as to a school's progress. Is there improvement? What are the problem areas? This is what the grade is supposed to highlight.

Critics point out that the school grades are almost in perfect alignment with socioeconomic status. Florida's household median income (HHI) is \$50,000. In school districts where the HHI exceeds \$50,000, the average school grade is an A. In districts where the HHI falls below \$38,800, the average grade slips to a C.

Schools like Everglades City School can really feel the pinch because of small school population too.

In the case of high school rating where graduation rate is tied to the school grade, a small class size makes each students performance critical to the overall grade. In a graduating class of 10 students, each student represents 10% of the overall score. Compare that with a school of 1000 students (where 100 students would represent 10%) and it is easy to see how our small size makes it difficult to sustain.

Me, I admit that I am not a big fan of "grading" the schools—I see little upside in calling a school out for a struggling student body, but I will also admit it feels good to know ours got an A, regardless of the criteria used. I cannot see how labeling a school an "F" is fair to students or the staff. An honor student at an F school feels shame for something they have zero control over. It cannot be motivating for staff either. It just seems counter-intuitive. But, it is the system we use for now in Florida.

Currently, Florida is one of 15 States to participate in this annual school-grading ritual...and our little, tiny school is finally able to take a bow and appreciate what last year's class was able to do...against the odds... and only 2 years removed from the devastating impact from Hurricane Irma.. The bottom line is that we are proud of our kids and very appreciative of the dedicated staff that greets them each morning. Thank you for making us all very proud!

JULY 28, 2019 — AUGUST 31, 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28 Delta Aquarids Meteor Shower, See p. 8	29 Build a Chair, See p. 10	30 Build a Chair, See p. 10 Dental Bus, See p. 3	31 New Moon Ladies Coffee City Seafood 8a	August 1	2 Tax-Free School Items, See p. 5	3 Tax-Free School Items, p.5 Glow Party, p 1 6-10 pm
4 Tax-Free School Items, See p. 5	5 Tax-Free School Items, See p. 5	6 Tax-Free School Items, See p. 5	7 Ladies Coffee Island Café, 8a	8	9	Rapper 10 Welcome Back To School Bash. McLeod Pk, p.1 10-1
11	12	13 School Begins Perseids Meteor Shower, p. 8	14 Ladies Coffee City Seafood 8a Kids Program, Museum, p. 3	15 Full Moon Museum Talk, See p. 3	16	17
18	19	20 Dental Bus, See p. 3	21 Ladies Coffee Island Café, 8a	22	23	Rapper 24
25	26	27	28 Ladies Coffee City Seafood 8a	29	30 New Moon	31

Sept. 1: Snook Season Reopens! Sept. 2: Labor Day Sept. 19: Museum Event Sept. 21: Hook 'em Fishing Tournament, p. 3
 Sept.28: Blessing of the Fleet Oct. 15: Stone Crab Season Reopens Oct. 26 & 27: Swamp Walk, p. 10

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: 3rd 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 & 4th Wed. of month, noon—2 pm

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
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 PUBLIC LIBRARY: 239-695-2511
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The Local Area Code is 239

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 Everglades City (239) 695-2174
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 Ochopee (239) 695-2099
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UPCOMING EVENTS

KIDS PRESCHOOL PROGRAM
Invasive Species of the Everglades
August 14, 2019
10 am - 11 am



Join the **Museum of the Everglades** for a preschool program! This free program is for 2-5-year-olds who have not yet entered kindergarten. Each one-hour program will focus on learning and play, with a specific topic in mind. This month's program will focus on invasive species of the Everglades. Space is limited to 10 children per session, RSVP required. **Museum of the Everglades, 105 Broadway, Everglades City, FL, 239-695-0008.**

MUSEUM LECTURE SERIES
Edison & Ford in the Everglades
August 15
2 PM - 3 PM



Join us at the **Museum of the Everglades** every month for our Third Thursday lecture series. Presented by museum staff or local authority, these lectures will explore the lesser known and often-overlooked areas of our region's past.

Every lecture is free, begins at 2 pm and will include an opportunity for questions and discussion. **Museum of the Everglades, 105 Broadway, Everglades City, FL, 239-695-0008. Next Talk: Florida Pirates, Sept. 19th.**

SNOOK SEASON REOPENS
September 1, 2019

Sunday, September 1st will mark the opening of the Gulf Coast Snook season.

Anglers must possess a saltwater fishing license and a snook stamp to harvest the fish. Regulations: 1 per harvester per day, or 2 per vessel. Slot size: Not less than 28", not more than 33". For all regulations visit <https://swflgo.com/fishing-regs-2019/>

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 schedule of events will be included in future editions.



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

COMMUNITY SERVICES

FREE DENTAL, BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS & BEHAVIORAL HEALTH INFORMATION FOR ALL
July 30th & Aug. 20th, 8 am to 4 pm

The *Healthcare Network of Southwest Florida's Health & Smiles Mobile Dental Bus* will be in Everglades City on **July 30th**, from 8 am to 4 pm, at the **Everglades Community Center (by Thrift Shop)** 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.



A Message From Fire Chief Kingman Schuldt

Did you know that an estimated 500,000 pets are affected each year by fires? Did you also know that pets can sometimes contribute to the start of a fire that could result in injuries of pets and even family members?

July 15 is recognized each year nationally as **Pet Fire Safety Day** to help bring awareness and provide education to pet owners on how to reduce the risk of losing their beloved pet in a fire or pets causing a catastrophic fire. Here are some safety tips to keep in mind for your furry loved ones:

- ◆ Keep pets away from cooking equipment. Remove stove knobs or cover them before leaving home.
- ◆ Keep candles and lamps out of the path of pets and their tails. Investing in flameless candles can add further protection.
- ◆ Keep pets from chewing on cords or wiring.
- ◆ Do not use space heaters or other electrical heating devices in a room where pets have access.
- ◆ Secure young pets in a crate or behind a gate.
- ◆ Place your pet's crate near an entrance to make it easier for firefighters to rescue them in a fire.
- ◆ Include your pet in your family's emergency disaster plan.

Here is How to Keep Pets Safe In the Event of a Fire

- ◆ Keep your dog's collar on at all times and place leashes near the door so first responders can use them to lead pets to safety.
- ◆ If you live in a fire-prone area or are concerned about a fire potentially starting, consider installing monitored smoke detectors so firefighters will be notified of and can respond to a fire even if you're not home.
- ◆ Have an emergency plan and practice routes of escape with your dog. Include all members of the family in this plan. Make sure they know what to do and where to go.
- ◆ Make an emergency kit that you can easily grab on the way out. Pack a leash, medication, and any immediate needs your family and dog might have for the next few days.
- ◆ Alert firefighters to the presence of pets with window stickers that display the number and types of pets inside, Free stickers are available at www.ASPCA.org, then type "disaster" in the search at the top.

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Golf Cart Rules 101

The First Thing To Know is that the Rules are Different in Different Communities
Chokoloskee & Plantation's Rules Differ from Everglades City

Well, *The MULLET RAPPER'S* first attempt to celebrate Chokoloskee & Plantation getting approved as "golf cart" communities went a little off course (pun intended). It seems the rules are a bit different in Chokoloskee & Plantation, which are governed by the rules set forth by Collier County. Everglades City has its own set of rules as an independent municipality. We reached out to Sgt. Adam Hall of the Collier County Sheriff's Office to clarify what the rules are and how we can all expect to see them enforced. Here is what we found out...



Minimum Age: The minimum age for an unlicensed driver to operate a Golf Cart in Chokoloskee and Plantation is 15. In Everglades City it is 14.

Hours you can operate a Golf Cart: In Chokoloskee & Plantation, you can only use the cart during the daylight hours, you cannot use the cart at night. In Everglades City, you may operate the cart anytime of day providing your golf cart has headlights, brake lights, directional signals, reflectivity on the sides of the cart, and a windshield. However, *in Everglades City, you must be at least 18 years of age to operate a golf cart after sunset.*

Where to use them: Golf carts may only be operated on county roads and streets on Chokoloskee and Plantation Islands, with exception of Plantation Pky. from approximately 850 feet north of Spoonbill Ave to CR29 and also on CR29 from approximately 1120 feet north of Demere Ln north to end of County Maintenance (approximately 2750 feet south of Plantation Pkwy). Signs have been installed in both areas to show people where they are and are not allowed to operate a golf cart. In Everglades City you must not drive a golf cart on CR 29 (Collier Ave).



Number of Occupants: The number of occupants in any golf cart operated by an unlicensed driver must not exceed the number of seats on the golf cart and **none of the occupants are permitted to stand on the golf cart while it is in motion.**

Unlicensed Drivers: In Chokoloskee & Plantation, before a golf cart can be operated by an unlicensed driver, the owner must first purchase and maintain liability insurance insuring against personal injury and property damage. In Everglades City, it is recommended that operators of golf carts have insurance.

If you are still unclear about the rules in your community, read the ordinances. Below there is a link. You can also reach out to the Collier Sheriff's Office with any questions.

Download a copy of the complete ordinances:
<https://swflgo.com/ecity-chok-plantation-golf-cart-ordinances/>

THE EVERGLADES CITY SCHOOL CORNER

P: 239-377-9802, F 239-377-9801 www.evgcollierschools.com

A Message From Everglades City School Principal Cheryl Allison



It is with great excitement that I would like to introduce myself as the new principal of Everglades City A+ School! Everglades is a school I have always wanted to be a part of because it has many similarities to the school I grew up in. As a mother of three, I started my career in a K-8 school that had a family oriented environment so I could bring my children with me. It was very important to me as a parent that I had my children in a nurturing environment that knew every child by name and whose teachers treated every student as if they were their own. I am a product of a K-8 school from a very small town and I knew the importance of a school community. After 17 years in education, my oldest son graduated from the University of Florida, my second son is getting his Master's degree at Indiana University and my daughter just graduated from UF and will be pursuing her Masters in Nursing. It is an awesome time to dedicate myself to this school and community.

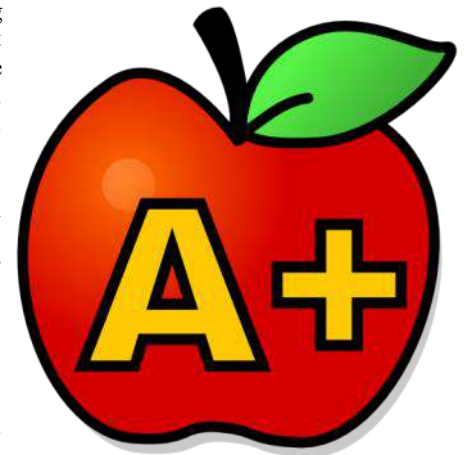
Jim Ragusa and Michelle Wheeler were a strong leadership team that worked alongside an outstanding staff here at Everglades City School. **Ed Laudise**, our new Assistant Principal and I are very excited to continue the wonderful work that has been done and to carry on the forward momentum here at Everglades. Becoming an A+ school with a unique population is an incredible accomplishment and a testimony to the fact that teachers are elevating every student, every day! To achieve an A, means that Everglades City School did an incredible job in a state accountability formula with eleven different components.

Kudos to the students, parents, teachers, staff and community members that made this a reality!

Speaking of staff, we are sad that a few of our teachers are leaving us. However, we would like to welcome our new 5th grade teacher, Mr. Jason Mayberry. Mr. Mayberry is from Everglades and has been working at the school in another capacity. Because of his knowledge of the students and his passion for teaching, we think he is an outstanding addition to our faculty! Also, we would like to welcome our new 4th grade teacher, Ms. Stephanie Gonnely. Ms. Gonnely comes with prior teaching experience and is a very active hands on teacher, she is very excited to be with us! We would also like to welcome the new English Language Arts teacher, Ms. Carrie Gilcher. Ms. Gilcher has been with Collier County for several years wearing a variety of hats and is a Golden Apple recipient for her expertise in the Language Arts classroom. She is extremely student centered and will be an invaluable addition to our high school.

Everglades City School is an outstanding school with an incredible student body and a faculty like no other in Collier County. I encourage you to celebrate your children as each and every one has risen to the occasion to make this school such a success. Please show your appreciation to your teachers, everyone has a vested interest, in not only the school, but also in your children. Lastly, please feel free to get involved. It is so important to have your voice heard when it comes to the education of your children and I encourage you to run for our SAC, join PTO, or volunteer and be an active part of the school. I look forward to getting to know everyone and to serve the school and community. *Everglades City A+ School is going to have a great year!*

Editors note: Come out to McLeod Park on Saturday, August 10th from 10 am to 1 pm and meet Principal Allison! We will be ushering in the new school year with a great day of fun and food including; hot dogs, pulled pork, pulled chicken, delicious sides and beverages. Everyone is invited and it is a FREE family day. There will be a waterslide for the kids, raffles and much more. It's a great time to meet the Principal...and for your kids to meet her before school starts on August 13th! We will see you there!



**Mullet Rapper Donations to
Everglades City School
\$1525 to Date and Counting...**

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!

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neighbors helping neighbors

**Storm Takes Down Bat House
Animals Saved With Quick Action**

On June 26th in late afternoon, a very strong thunderstorm rolled through Everglades City. We were smack dab in the center of the red cell on the radar. The rain did not subside until hours later that evening.

The next morning Pat McKee called us to ask, "what happened to the bat house?" When we went outside, we saw that the house literally snapped off of the pole and was on the ground on our neighbors lot.


Tim (Brock) and Pat covered the house to shade it until we would have time to do something...



About 3 pm, the threat of another storm was upon us. Tim called Cecil Barker and he came right over to help us put up our neighbors bat house. If it was not erected, the bats would perish. Their quick thinking and willingness to help our neighbors kept the bat colony from an untimely demise! Thank you Tim & Cecil for stepping up!

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Solution to July 13, 2019 Puzzle



My Little Slice of Paradise
by Kathy Brock

The USA Today and locally, the Naples News recently published an article on how dogs are being used in medical testing by the Veterans Administration for various health issues veterans may face. As the daughter of a WWII veteran, and daughter-in-law of a man I never met because he died as a result of medical problems related to the Viet Nam war, I am very sensitive to veterans causes...but this story took me by surprise.

Animal testing has been a hot topic for decades. My article in the January 12th, 2019 edition outlined my thoughts about the monkey farms in Florida...specifically, what these primates are bred for (medical testing) and the risks they could present to our state.

However, reading the very graphic descriptions of the tests being performed on dogs left me thinking that there must be a better way. I want to preface my comments by saying that I understand if you or someone you know could benefit by such research, your opinion may be different. However, by the VA's own admission, the last time any medical breakthrough came about because of testing on dogs was in 1960...so that is a lot of time and a lot of testing in between resulting in nothing at all.

Yes. I am more sensitive to this because I have had a dog 90% of my life...only during a few college years have I been "dogless". I know how sensitive they are. I know how fearful they can be. They are truly domesticated, meaning they rely on us...because we bred them to. They are referred to as "man's best friend". But, we sure don't always return the affection...

Whenever a person, business, government has a goal, and makes public the goal (lower taxes, better jobs, medical discovery, etc.) you cannot ONLY measure the achievement of the goal. **The path we use to get there matters.**

We need to make sure that we are not slowly and surely eroding our humanity and our empathy in the name of "achievement". Even if something good eventually comes from an action or actions, if a path of destruction is left in its wake, we lose far more than we gain. We lose our humanity.


Placing a pacemaker in a dog, then placing him on a treadmill...while tweaking the pacemaker causes terrible pain to the animal. Deliberately severing the spinal column to "test the coughing reflex" is not something that makes me feel all warm and fuzzy and patriotic. Is this the only way this can be tested? One thing that gave me some peace was knowing the animals are euthanized shortly after the very painful process. At least their suffering stops at some point.

I do understand how someone afflicted by paralysis would want testing to take place that could potentially help them. Looking back several decades will show that testing of all kinds was commonplace. However, when many of the details about the tests were revealed publicly, there was outrage **because much of it was beyond our comprehension. It was outrageous!**

Our history as a nation on this subject is very sketchy. In the drive for discovery we have shown that we do not always take the moral high-ground. Sometimes we veer off-course to save money or save time or to spike profits.

We need to keep these issues in front of the public so we are aware of what is going on behind closed doors, and make adjustments to get us back on track...

Island Life Recipes
By Kathy Brock
One Pan Cookie Bars



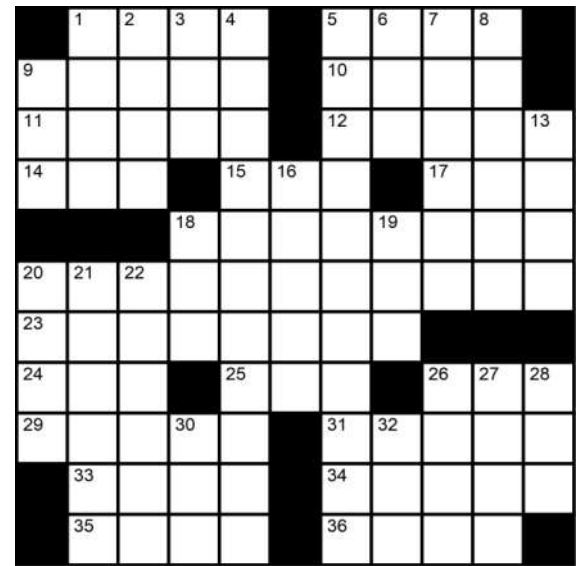
✂ 2 cups graham cracker crumbs
 ✂ 1/2 cup sugar
 ✂ 1 stick butter
 ✂ 1 can sweetened, condensed milk
 ✂ 1 small bag (10 oz) semi sweet chocolate chips
 ✂ 1 cup coconut
 ✂ 1/2 cup crushed walnuts

✂ Preheat oven to 350°. Melt butter in 13 x 9 x 2 pan. Combine crumbs and sugar and mix with butter. Press mixture into the bottom evenly.
 ✂ Pour the can of sweetened condensed milk evenly over crumb mix.
 ✂ Spread chocolate chips, nuts and coconut on top of milk. With your hands, gently press it down so they come into contact with the milk.
 ✂ Bake for 25 to 30 minutes. Let cool completely and cut into bars.
 ✂ You can also use butterscotch chips, different nuts, or Reese's Pieces.
 ✂ It's an easy base recipe to make whatever you want!

MULLET RAPPER CROSSWORD

Across

- 1 It's good from a crow's nest
- 5 One in a book
- 9 Spiny desert features
- 10 Wickedness
- 11 NBAer Shaq
- 12 Celebrate noisily
- 14 Affirmative reply
- 15 You have one only when seated
- 17 Actress Longoria
- 18 Called the shots
- 20 Meanings of words
- 23 --- to (concerning)
- 24 Not-for-profit TV spot
- 25 Edward Snowden's former employer
- 26 Bolt's partner
- 29 The Everly's woke her
- 31 Tantalize
- 33 Cabernets, for example
- 34 Versifier Nash
- 35 Times which include periods
- 36 Laugh loudly



7/27/19

Down

- 1 Wind indicator
- 2 Cold confections
- 3 Est. arrival
- 4 Biddability
- 5 Criminal
- 6 Madison or Lexington, in NYC
- 7 "But to --- you and to --- me, ..." (Cole Porter, "High Society")
- 8 Craps natural
- 9 Bashful
- 13 Young 'uns
- 16 Divas' solos
- 18 Expire
- 19 El --- (Charlton Heston role)
- 20 Pickpockets
- 21 Make certain
- 22 "The Mummy" star
- 26 Nothing
- 27 Employer
- 28 Maximum Scrabble tile value
- 30 First Lady McKinley
- 32 Self-esteem





Poetry Street™

Children deserve a world of support, love and positivity surrounding them. They deserve a future where they can develop to their potential and thrive. As a former School Teacher I think about this often. I wrote this poem "Children Need Our Prayers" about these issues.

Pray for all the children in society
They are a very important priority
Children are growing up in an upside down land
Let's guide them with good values, much in demand
Children need positive role models to look up to
Let's help the children see what is good and true
Show them good examples by stepping up to the plate
Before it is too late
Children are the future of our society
We must always remember they are our priority
Let's treat the children with tender caring ways
They are our future for more positive days
We must stand up for the children, I say
Help them to build the future in positive ways
Help the children sow positive seeds all around
And help them to hear only positive sounds
With positive sounds coming from the universe above
Let's help the children with our undying love!

Look for #PoetryStreet on Twitter or at PoetryStreet.com
Kathythepoet@gmail.com

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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.

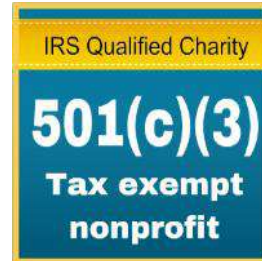
For general information call 239-695-4111. For reservations call 239-695-4758.

Stargazing in the Everglades Meteor Showers Light Up the Sky On July 28th and in August

July 28th, Delta Aquarids Meteor Shower - The Delta Aquarids are an annual meteor shower that will peak on July 28th of this year. At its peak, the shower is known to produce up to 20 meteors per hour. The radiate for this shower is within the constellation Aquarius, so your best viewing will be 30° - 40° away from that spot. This allows you to see the long meteor trails streak across the sky. The Delta Aquarids are known to stretch out for days, even weeks before and after the peak, so if you miss the crescendo, be sure to look for the Delta Aquarids in the days afterward.

August 13th, Perseids Meteor Shower - The Perseids are arguably one of the best meteor showers to see in 2019. The Perseids are comprised of dust particles from the Comet Swift-Tuttle that shoot through the sky at up to 60 meteors per hour, especially at its peak after midnight on August 13th. Although the radiant is within the constellation Perseus, it is possible for meteors to shoot through any part of the night sky. Because the Perseids Meteor Shower produces a lot of bright meteors, this a great opportunity for budding astrophotographers to capture a meteor shower, as long you are in a dark sky location (Note: Everglades City & Chokoloskee are recognized dark sky locations!).

Taxing Things by Mike the Tax Guy THE TAX-EXEMPT APPLICATION PROCESS



Organizations that want to apply for tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the tax code use a Form 1023-series application. Here are some things

organizations should know to help them understand the process:

The application must be complete. It must also include the user fee.

There are a few types of organizations that do not need to apply for 501(c)(3) status to be tax-exempt. These are churches and their integrated auxiliaries, and also public charities whose annual gross receipts are normally less than \$5,000.

An employer identification number is an organization's account number with the IRS and is required for the organization to apply for tax exempt status. Every tax-exempt organization, including a church, should have an EIN regardless of whether the organization has employees. After getting an EIN, the organization must include it on the application. Organizations may get an EIN by calling 1-800-829-4933 or by applying online.

Generally, an organization that is required to apply for recognition of exemption must notify the IRS within 27 months from the date it was formed. When the IRS determines an organization qualifies for exemption under Section 501(c)(3), it will also be classified as a foundation, unless the organization meets the requirements to be treated as a public charity.

A charitable organization must make certain documents available to the public. These include its approved application for recognition of exemption with all supporting documents and its last three annual information returns.

The organization must provide copies of these documents upon request. The organization may charge a reasonable fee for reproduction and copying costs. Organizations that fail to comply may face penalties.

Mike "the Tax Guy" Klein has a home in Everglades City and provides tax advice for individuals and small businesses. You can reach Mike at 239-695-0595, or nfn19842@naples.net

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Living Gulf Coast by Charles Sobczak

Swallow-tailed Kite (*Elanoides forficatus*) Other names: none / Status: FL=stable, but endangered in South Carolina, IUCN=LC / Length: 19-25 in. (46-64 cm) / Wingspan: 48 in. (122 cm) / Weight: 13-21 oz (.37-.60 kg) / Life span: to 12 years / Nests: throughout Florida and southern Alabama and Mississippi during the summer / Found: All Counties, coastal, near coast, mainland / Months found: **JFmamjJASOND** (lower case indicates nesting season) Note: The swallow-tailed kite visits South America from November through February.



The swallow-tailed kite, like the magnificent frigate bird, is an impressive bird to witness in flight. In fact, you are most likely to spot and identify this bird when it is soaring high above. With its pure white body, large black-tipped wings and deeply forked black tail, this bird resembles an enormous, snowy barn swallow.

Unlike most of the migratory birds that arrive in Florida, the swallow-tailed kite comes up from Central and South America during the summer. In effect, Florida is its northern breeding grounds. Once a common nesting bird as far north as Minnesota, the swallow-tailed kite has suffered from extensive habitat loss through most of its former North American range.

There is a small resident nesting population at Corkscrew Swamp on the mainland, and more than likely some of the birds found flying over Lee County originate from there. They predominantly eat flying insects including dragonflies, bees, and beetles but while in flight will also pick off snakes, crickets, cicadas, and small birds from the canopy top. A skilled flyer, the swallow-tailed kite can turn its tail feathers almost 90 degrees, allowing it to make sharp turns and quick dives. Its only long-term threat is habitat loss, although some efforts are under way to reintroduce the kite into its former northernmost ranges.

Author's Note: Over the past several years Sanibel and Captiva Islands have witnessed a steady increase in the resident swallow-tailed kite population, as has much of southwest Florida. They can be found almost daily flying

effortlessly above the Sanibel Post Office or along San-Cap Road. There are several confirmed nesting sites currently established on the island and we seem to have a permanent kite population here on the islands. Once extremely rare throughout all the barrier islands of Florida, this migrant from South America has rebounded to the point where we can enjoy watching this charismatic bird on a regular basis.

Charles Sobczak is an author and photographer from Sanibel Island. His books about area wildlife depict the flora and fauna of the southwest Florida area.

Photos: Top swallowtail kite, Judd Patterson. Bottom photo by Charles Sobczak



Everglades Backcountry Experience with Captain Rodney Raffield

Hi Mullet Rappers Capt. Rodney with EBE here with some more fish stories from the Everglades National Park.



This past month has been very productive on the oyster reefs for both Snook and Redfish.

Trout are a little slower but we are catching some good sized fish. With the warm temps I have been doing best with shrimp tipped jigs rigged with Mr. Wiffelures and Zman soft plastics.



There are some big Snook around and with persistence we have been rewarded as you can see by the photos. This a great time of the year for fishing with less traffic on the water so get out there and take advantage of the wide open spaces. That trophy of a lifetime is just one cast away so

get on the water and make it happen. Till next time, tight lines my friends.

~Capt. Rodney

Fish With Captain Rodney Raffield
239-695-4626
captrodneym@centurylink.net

Download the Fishing Limits Guide
[/swflgo.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/fishing-regs-2019.pdf](http://swflgo.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/fishing-regs-2019.pdf)



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EXPERIENCE THE SWAMP!

CLYDE BUTCHER SWAMP WALKS
October 26 & 27, Big Cypress
Reserve Your Spot Today!



Vermont has its leaf-peepers. Munich has Oktoberfest. Here in South Florida, we celebrate the fall season with swamp walks in the

Big Cypress National Preserve. Join us on October 26 & 27 at Clyde Butcher's Big Cypress Gallery and take a walk on the wild side!

Clyde and Niki Butcher host a fall festival at their Big Cypress Gallery in October every year. As part of the fun, special swamp walks behind the gallery are available for the brave (and not-so-brave) at heart.

The walks are \$50 per person (kids 17-and-under are free, no tickets required) with 100% of the proceeds supporting the Swamp Water and Me Program (SWAMP) in Big Cypress National Preserve. SWAMP is an outdoor science education program that introduces thousands of 6th-grade students from Collier County to the Big Cypress every year on school field trips.

Walks are offered both days in the morning and afternoon. Sign up to arrive between 9 AM and 12 noon for a morning walk, or between 12 noon and 3 PM for an afternoon walk, and you'll be assigned to the next available walk when you arrive on Saturday or Sunday. Walks will leave every half hour, rain-or-shine.



What to know: Be prepared to get wet. The walks are approximately 2-hours long and water levels may be waist deep in places with submerged obstacles and uneven terrain. Wear closed-toe shoes, clothes that can get wet and/or muddy (long pants, a long-sleeved shirt, and shoes with laces that will stay on your feet), and bring some dry clothes to change into after your walk. Children must be over 48 inches tall for the standard 2-hour walk. We will have special walks that are less strenuous for families with young children.

Questions? Call office for details 305.665.4769. Visit the Gallery (location of the swamp walk): Clyde Butcher's Big Cypress Gallery, 52388 Tamiami Trail, Ochopee, Florida 34141

Here We Go Again..
S. American Thrips Seen as a
Possible Way to Control Invasive
Brazilian Pepper Trees

In late June in Florida, a group of scientists released about 1000 thrips (small insects) that feast on the, very difficult to control, Brazilian Pepper tree.

Throughout our history it seems we see the same movie playing out over and over again...

We create a problem and then we try to come up with a solution, and often that solution comes with a laundry list of other problems *it causes*, but not this time, say scientists.

Brazilian pepper is a hearty, leafy green shrub or small tree that produces thousands of red berries birds love. The seeds pass through the birds undigested spreading the plant's seeds in their feces.

The plant also sends suckers off of the roots so there is a double-whammy in the proliferation of the trees.

With progress in eradication slow and expensive, enter science! The thrips. their scientific name is Pseudophilothrips ichini, eat only the Brazilian pepper (Much like a monarch only eats milkweed), and they prefer the tips which interferes with the plant's ability to flower (seed).

The researchers are confident that the bugs won't turn to another plant if and when all of the Brazilian Peppers are gone so the risk is viewed as minimal to non-existent.

The critical hurdle is what's called a starvation test. Only insects that prefer to starve rather than eat a plant other than Brazilian pepper were considered. This thrip passed with flying colors.

Up to this point all tests have been performed in quarantine but now is a new phase where the federal government has issued a permit to allow for the release of this insect in Florida. The next phase is to see how it establishes, and whether it is good and hungry and doing its job when it's out there. Let's keep our fingers crossed!

Visit the Museum of the Everglades to See Incredible Artwork by Local 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. This exhibit will be on display through August 3rd.

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

Sea Turtle Hatchlings Emerging,
Females Still Laying Eggs

Loggerhead turtles are the predominant turtles seen nesting in Southwest Florida. They make their way ashore from May to August.

Eggs incubate for approximately 60 days. Some females were seen as early as late April this year meaning those eggs, and those from early May, are now ready to emerge.

Most often, the young will do this at night, but sometimes beachgoers get a special show with the nestlings emerging from their nest during daylight hours.

Night lights on the beaches cause much confusion for the hatchlings. They are drawn to the light at night. For this reason, shore lights are restricted during nesting season.

If you see a nest of hatchlings or a nesting female, please to not disturb them in any way. If you see hatchlings at night, flash photography can also lead them astray.

Enjoy our beautiful sea turtles, but please do so from a respectful distance. Their survival depends upon our care and cooperation.



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



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EATERIES & AREA WORSHIP

Angler's Cove, Port of the Islands

(642-1025): Monday - Wed 5 to 11 pm,
Thurs to Sun Noon - 11 pm, see ad on p. 6

Camellia Street Grille (695-2003):

11:00 am – 9:00 pm, Mon to Sat

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) (Private)

7:00 am – 9:00 am; daily (for guests only)

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 Closed 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

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, 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

7/27/19	Sat	5:57 AM	0.91	L
7/27/19	Sat	11:11 AM	2.76	H
7/27/19	Sat	7:17 PM	0.18	L
7/28/19	Sun	1:00 AM	2.15	H
7/28/19	Sun	6:56 AM	0.95	L
7/28/19	Sun	12:01 PM	2.92	H
7/28/19	Sun	8:09 PM	0.01	L
7/29/19	Mon	1:57 AM	2.28	H
7/29/19	Mon	7:52 AM	0.95	L
7/29/19	Mon	12:50 PM	3.11	H
7/29/19	Mon	8:58 PM	-0.16	L
7/30/19	Tue	2:44 AM	2.39	H
7/30/19	Tue	8:43 AM	0.92	L
7/30/19	Tue	1:36 PM	3.32	H
7/30/19	Tue	9:45 PM	-0.28	L
7/31/19	Wed	3:26 AM	2.49	H
7/31/19	Wed	9:31 AM	0.86	L
7/31/19	Wed	2:19 PM	3.49	H
7/31/19	Wed	10:31 PM	-0.33	L
8/1/19	Thu	4:08 AM	2.56	H
8/1/19	Thu	10:19 AM	0.78	L
8/1/19	Thu	3:05 PM	3.57	H
8/1/19	Thu	11:17 PM	-0.31	L
8/2/19	Fri	4:51 AM	2.62	H
8/2/19	Fri	11:09 AM	0.7	L
8/2/19	Fri	3:55 PM	3.55	H
8/3/19	Sat	12:03 AM	-0.21	L
8/3/19	Sat	5:32 AM	2.67	H
8/3/19	Sat	12:00 PM	0.61	L
8/3/19	Sat	4:53 PM	3.41	H
8/4/19	Sun	12:48 AM	-0.05	L
8/4/19	Sun	6:14 AM	2.72	H
8/4/19	Sun	12:54 PM	0.54	L
8/4/19	Sun	5:56 PM	3.17	H
8/5/19	Mon	1:34 AM	0.16	L
8/5/19	Mon	6:56 AM	2.77	H
8/5/19	Mon	1:51 PM	0.48	L
8/5/19	Mon	7:04 PM	2.88	H
8/6/19	Tue	2:21 AM	0.4	L
8/6/19	Tue	7:40 AM	2.81	H
8/6/19	Tue	2:57 PM	0.45	L
8/6/19	Tue	8:18 PM	2.58	H
8/7/19	Wed	3:15 AM	0.63	L
8/7/19	Wed	8:31 AM	2.83	H
8/7/19	Wed	4:10 PM	0.4	L
8/7/19	Wed	9:40 PM	2.33	H
8/8/19	Thu	4:18 AM	0.81	L
8/8/19	Thu	9:26 AM	2.86	H
8/8/19	Thu	5:22 PM	0.32	L
8/8/19	Thu	11:11 PM	2.19	H
8/9/19	Fri	5:23 AM	0.93	L
8/9/19	Fri	10:24 AM	2.88	H
8/9/19	Fri	6:28 PM	0.24	L

Florida Ranks Last in Mental Healthcare Spending

If you consider mental health critically important to the wellbeing of our children and our state, then you may want to start a letter writing campaign.

In a series put out by the News Press and Naples Daily News, it was pointed out that Florida has no mental health czar, and no agency that is looking at the problem.

What's more, Florida spends the least per day per person (\$36) than any other state in the country. Last. Only Puerto Rico has fewer resources going towards mental healthcare, with their spending at \$20 per day per person.

The problem is so far reaching reporters found that children in crisis under the State's Baker Act often have to wait several days and travel several hours to obtain sufficient care.

Southwest Florida is one of the oldest areas in the State demographically however, there is a lack of children's treatment providers, programs and funding.

In a Forbes report from 2010, the Naples/ Marco Island area ranked as the number one area for wealthy retirees and Fortune 500 executives. The area ranked third in the country for per-capita income (2010 Census).

It is true that the area was once thought of as only a "retirement" community. But that is no longer the case. Young families moved in and the area is much more diverse than it was only a decade ago.

It is time for Florida and Collier County to catch up with the changing population and allocate the necessary resources to help these children in need.

Early intervention can mean the difference between an temporary mental health setback or an entire lifetime of mental health issues.



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www.ever-community-church.com

CLASSIFIED ADS

JOB: Florida National Parks Association is seeking a sales associate for our store in Big Cypress National Preserve. This is a part-time, year-round position and candidates are expected to be available to work weekends and Holidays.

Qualifications: excellent customer service skills, strong communication and computer skills, sales and cash handling experience. Email resume to corey@evergladesassociation.org.

FOR RENT: Newly renovated modular home on Plantation Island canal lot. Long term lease 6 month minimum. Sleeps 2-3. See it on: <https://tinyurl.com/y96k2c73> For more information contact Chip Chipman 281-358-7884 or Bob Chipman at 239-695-0007.

FOR SALE: Great commercial investment - The Oyster House Restaurant and Glades Haven Marina and Store in Everglades City. 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.

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

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, \$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: Two bayfront lots in Chokoloskee, side by side, For more information call 561-622-6011.

The MULLET RAPPER

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

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PRODUCTION

The Print Shop, Marco Island, FL

PUBLISHER'S STATEMENT

We provide local news of interest to the extended communities of Everglades City, Chokoloskee, Plantation Island,

Lee Cypress, Copeland, Jerome & Ochopee

We strive to present the facts accurately

We encourage contrasting points of view

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

\$40 annual by US Postal Mail, \$10 by email

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THE MULLET RAPPER
P.O. Box 134
Everglades City, FL 34139

"The Everglades is a test. If we pass it, we may get to keep the planet." ~ Marjory Stoneman Douglas
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