

# The MULLET RAPPER



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



**August 21, 2021 - September 3, 2021**

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

Volume XIII • Issue # 397

**“Thank You” Naples Botanical Gardens & The Community Foundation of Collier County.  
The New Trees in the Medians in Everglades City Look Absolutely Amazing**

Returning snowbirds will be in for a bit of a surprise when they start filtering in during the next few months. Some of the medians in Everglades City are now replanted with gorgeous, much-larger-than-you’d-expect trees and palms. Thanks to a grant by the Community Foundation of Collier County and a grant request by Naples Botanical Gardens, Everglades City was awarded a \$50,000 grant to design and replant the medians that were damaged by Hurricane Irma.

Everglades City Councilman Tony Pernas headed the project for the city that has been in the works for months. Trees and palms were chosen for color, durability and resilience, and the results are nothing short of spectacular.

Expecting to see smallish trees, I was very pleasantly surprised to see such large trees. The colors they will produce will be fantastic.



**Above left: Tony Pernas looks on as the truck delivering the trees pulls along Broadway Street. Right: A pigeon plum tree is planted in the median down Broadway. The Pigeon Plum is one of many native trees planted in the medians.**

RAPPER TABLE OF CONTENTS			
Calendar	p. 2	Pastor Bob	P. 8
Event Calendar/ Announcements	p. 3	Museum Events Book Review	P. 9
Planting Day!	P. 4	My Slice/ Recipe/ X word	P. 10
Clyde Butcher Water Notice	p. 5	Biz listings/ Tides/ Parks	p.11
Living Gulf Cst Redfish News	p. 6	Red Tide Info	p.11
Diallo	p. 7	Classifieds	p.12

**FEATURED: PASTOR BOB, P. 8**

Flowering trees planted in the medians include Royal Poinciana, Yellow Tabebuia, Geiger trees, and Hong Kong Orchid trees. Others include Pigeon Plum, and Royal Palm Trees.

With dark skies on the horizon, the team of workers from Naples Botanical Gardens, City of Everglades staff, and local volunteers hustled to form the mounds, plant the trees, mulch, and stake them up before any afternoon storms moved in.

Fortunately, our weather has cooperated and spared us of any high winds during and after the new plantings. What we need now are some nice, drenching rains to get them growing.

The two and a half day effort completed the first of what will hopefully be multiple phases. The Community Foundation has pledged over \$1 million towards the replanting of trees lost to Hurricane Irma throughout Collier County.

In August 2020, Naples Botanical and the Community Foundation teamed up to distribute free sapling trees to Collier residents. Over 500 small trees were provided to our area residents in multiple tree giveaways in 2020. **See more photos on page 4.**

~ **EVENT CALENDAR - AUGUST 22, 2021 SEPTEMBER 25, 2021** ~

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
August 22 Full Moon	23	24	25 Food Bank ECC, 10:30-1pm	26	27	28
29	30	31	September 1 Food Bank ECC, 10:30-1pm  Snook Season!	2	3	Sept 4—Rapper Clyde Butcher Event, p. 5
5 Clyde Butcher Event, p. 5	6-New Moon Labor Day Holiday	7 City Council, 7 pm	8 Food Bank ECC, 10:30-1pm	9	10	11
12	13 ESHP, 9 am	14	15 Food Bank ECC, 10:30-1pm	16 Museum Event See p.9	17	Sept 18—Rapper
19	20-Full Moon	21 P & Z	22 Food Bank ECC, 10:30-1pm	23	24	25 Bank Event See p. 3

Oct. 23 & 24: Butcher Event, see p. 5      Oct. 23 & 24: Hook'em Fishing Tourney, p. 3      Oct. 30: Bank Event, see p. 3  
 Oct. 30: Local Halloween      Oct. 31: Halloween      Nov 6: E City Music Festival, see p. 3

**AREA INFORMATION & NUMBERS:**

AA: Wed., closed until further notice  
 CARNESTOWN Recycle & Trash: 2nd Sat. of month, 9a-12p, 12:30p-2:00p  
 DR DEMARTINO: Seeing patients in Marco, call: (239) 642-5552  
 DR MARTIN: Call for appointment: (813)-787-9738  
 LIONS CLUB: Closed for Summer  
 MUSEUM: Open Tuesday-Saturday, 9 am to 4 pm, 239-252-5026  
 PANCAKE FLY-IN: Closed for summer  
 SKATING RINK: Open Friday & Saturday, 7 pm to 10 pm  
 SMALLWOOD STORE: Fri, Sat, Sun, Mon 11 am to 5 pm, 239-695-2989  
 THRIFT SHOP: Open Thursday. 11 am to 3 pm, more info on p. 3  
 VETERANS SUPPORT: Wednesdays at the food pantry, 10:30am-1pm  
 VISITOR CENTER: (239)-232-4037 Summer Hours Vary. Please Call!

**OTHER IMPORTANT NUMBERS:**

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

**POST OFFICE INFORMATION:**

Chokoloskee (239) 695-4468  
 Mail pickup is at Everglades City Post Office, see times below  
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*What's  
Happening!*

**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](http://www.SaveBOE.com), and click on "events".

**Hook 'em in the Glades Fishing Tournament October 22-23**

Hook 'em is back! This year's tournament will feature great prizes and a fantastic Captains Meeting & Dinner which will be catered by Camellia Street Grill.

Best of all, proceeds from this event support Everglades City School programs including, Leader-in-me, and athletics! Sign up and learn more at our official site [www.HookemintheGlades.com](http://www.HookemintheGlades.com)

**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 future permanent 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](http://www.SaveBOE.com)** and click on "events". For information about ESHP and the bank building renovation project visit [www.eshp.org](http://www.eshp.org) or [www.SaveBOE.com](http://www.SaveBOE.com). Thank you for your support!



**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](http://www.VisitEvergladesCity.com). Here you can access our business directory by category. Each business listing provides a map and link to the business' website.

**Veterans Assistance**

Every Wednesday the Department of Veterans Affairs Readjustment Counseling Service will have a tent at Everglades Community Church on the circle. No appointment is needed. Gloria Salmeron and David Soldano are there to assist and answer any questions.. The Naples Vet Center is located at 2705 Horseshoe Drive South, Suite #204, Naples FL 34104. Office Phone (239) 403- 2377. Office FAX (239) 403-2388.

**Snook Season Will Reopen  
September 1st**

**Gulf, Monroe, & Everglades National Park Regulations**

Gordon Pass and north are catch and release only. Areas south of Gordon Pass (which includes Everglades City, Chokoloskee, Marco Island) can harvest snook.

**Season: Closed Dec. 15-Jan. 31 and June 1-Aug. 31**

**Slot Limit:** Not less than 28" or more than 32" total length

**Daily Bag Limit:** 1 per harvester per day; zero captain and crew for-hire limit.

**Tips to Handle & Safely Remove a Fish From a Hook**

1. Use wet hands or rubber gloves. When using a net, use a knot free, rubberized net.
2. Hold the fish horizontally and do not drop them onto hard surfaces!
3. Keep fingers out of the gills and eyes which can injure the fish.
4. You may use a de-hooking tool to release the hook or your hands.
5. Try to release your fish gently head first into the water, which helps push water through the mouth and over the gills, and helps to resuscitate the fish. Revive exhausted fish by placing the fish in the water, facing the current if possible, with one hand underneath the belly and the other hand holding the bottom lip or tail.

**Do You Repair Antique Furniture?**

**If So, We'd Like to Hear From You.**

The Everglades Society for Historic Preservation needs help with repairing old furniture that was left in the Bank of Everglades Building. Most are smaller wooden pieces like end tables, chairs, desks that have cracks or broken pieces.

If you are interested in helping, please contact Patty Huff at 239-719-0020 or email [snookcity@gmail.com](mailto:snookcity@gmail.com).



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EVERGLADES CITY PLANTING DAY IN PICTURES

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Clyde Butcher & Big Cypress Gallery Events

**Big Cypress Gallery Open House**  
September 4 - September 5  
11:00 am—4:00 pm



Meet Clyde & Niki Labor Day Weekend at their Big Cypress Gallery, Saturday & Sunday 11am-4pm September 4 & 5, 2021. This will be Clyde's first public appearance and book signing since his new book "The Everglades" has been released.

**Swamp Celebration for the Parks**  
8th Annual / Big Cypress Gallery  
October 23 & 24, 8:00 am-3:00 pm



Our annual two-day swamp walk fundraiser is back once again! This exclusive event gives supporters of The Alliance for Florida's National Parks an opportunity to explore the private property surrounding Clyde Butcher's Big Cypress Gallery within Big Cypress National Preserve.

These adventurous outings are in support of Big Cypress's youth environmental education program, which serves every 6th-grade student in Collier County each year. With support from The Alliance, around 3,000 kids are able to experience the natural and wild wonders of Southwest Florida through this program.

During the Swamp Celebration, swamp walks will take place on Saturday, October 23, and Sunday, October 24, from 8 am – 3 pm each day.

Each walk will be spaced 30 minutes apart and will be limited to 10 adults and up to five children per walk. Tickets are \$75 per adult and \$25 per child age 12 and under. The first 25 adult tickets purchased can receive the \$50 early bird ticket price using code SWAMP2021.

This event sells out every year so get your tickets early! Call (305) 665-4769 with questions, or go to [clydebutter.com](http://clydebutter.com).



\*\*\*PUBLIC NOTIFICATION\*\*\*

TEMPORARY MODIFICATIONS OF DISINFECTION TREATMENT PROCESS

August 09, 2021 through August 29, 2021

Attention: Residents of City of Everglades City and Users of Everglades City Water

U.S. Water Services Corporation will be temporarily converting its disinfectant process from chloramines to free chlorine residual beginning at: **8:00 am, Monday, August 09, 2021, through August 29, 2021.** This is a routine measure to ensure customers clean and safe potable water.

*If you are on home dialysis we encourage you to contact your physician or dialysis provider to make sure you understand the proper steps you should take. For aquatic species you are advised to contact a professional aquarist to avoid any problems associated with chlorine.*

This process will not cause adverse health effects. However, during this period, you may notice some discoloration and or cloudiness in your water. You may also find air pockets in the system. The discoloration and air are harmless. If you do experience this, you may want to run water through the tap, until it runs clear. Some areas may also experience a temporary fluctuation in water pressure or a slight increase in the taste and odor of chlorine.

For questions regarding the change in the disinfectant process, please contact US Water Services at 866-753-8292.



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*Living Gulf Coast by Charles Sobczak*

**Yellow Warbler** (*Dendroica petechia*) Other names: Cuban golden warbler, golden warbler, wild canary, summer yellow-bird / Status: FL=stable, IUCN=LC / Life span: to 10 years / Length: 4.7-5.1 in. (12-13 cm) / Wingspan: 6.3-7.9 in. (16-20 cm) / Weight: 0.3-0.4 oz (9-11 g) / Nests: north of the Mason-Dixon Line to Alaska,

as well as a remnant nesting population in the Florida Keys / Found: in the winter throughout Southwest Florida.

This nearly solid yellow warbler can sometimes be confused with the goldfinch, but has a softer coloration that includes streaks of light brown. Like most warblers, the yellow warbler has a beautiful song that almost always begins with a rapid sweet, sweet, I'm so sweet followed by a dozen variations on that call. This is truly one of the most stunning of all the warblers.

Although the yellow warbler suffers from cowbird parasitism, it has evolved a fascinating countermeasure to deal with the problem. If a cowbird lays an egg in a yellow warbler's nest, the female quickly builds a new nest over the old one, entombing the cowbird's egg beneath it. If the cowbird lays another egg in the nest, the yellow warbler responds in kind by building yet another nest on top of the second egg. This process has been observed to create nests that are up to six layers high. Eventually the cowbird elects to choose another host bird for its egg deposit.

The yellow warbler forages in bushes, shrubs, and trees. It eats mostly insects, caterpillars, and fruit. It suffers from the use of herbicides and pesticides, which results in the poisoning of the bird and its chicks. As is true of all warblers, the adult is taken by kestrels and merlins, but the bird is in far more danger from habitat loss and the behavior of man than any of its other predators.

**Palm Warbler** (*Dendroica palmarum*) Other names: yellow palm warbler, western palm warbler / Status: FL=stable, IUCN=LC / Life span: to 6 years / Length: 4.7-5.5 in. (12-14 cm) / Wingspan: 7.9-8.3 in. (20-21 cm) / Weight: 0.2-0.5 oz (7-13 g) / Nests: in far northern Canada and Newfoundland / **Found: from September through April throughout Southwest Florida.**



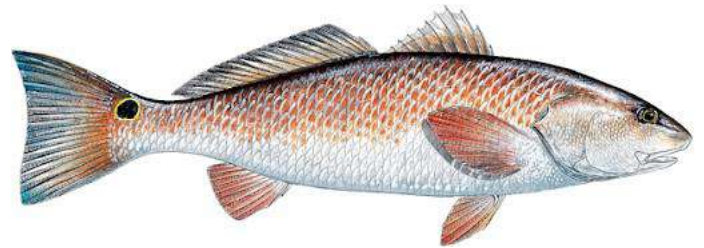
A winter resident of the islands, the palm warbler in a way belies its namesake. During the summer it migrates to the distant north, far from its winter palms, breeding in the open boreal coniferous forest as far north as the open tundra. The palm warbler is the second most abundant winter warbler; only the yellow-rumped warbler can be as easily spotted. Although the palm warbler has a yellow rump as well, it is easily separated from the yellow-rumped warbler by its brown cap and yellow eyebrow and throat. It is also known to bob its little tail continuously.

Its primary diet consists of insects, beetles, caterpillars, and grasshoppers, but during cold fronts when insects can prove scarce, it turns to small fruits and seeds for nourishment. The adult is sometimes taken by kestrels and merlins, but by and large it has a fairly stable population throughout Florida.

Photo: Palm Warbler by Sara Yunsoo Kim

Charles Sobczak is a writer and photographer from Sanibel Island. His books can be found on Amazon and by other online booksellers.

**Redfish Summit 2021, August 24th:  
Attend, learn, share your input  
(You Can Watch & Comment Online)**



The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) is hosting the first ever Redfish Summit 2021 on **Aug. 24** in Ocala. The summit will be a day-long public discussion on redfish biology and management in Florida including a presentation on an updated stock assessment, information about habitat and water quality, and interactive discussions about future management of the fishery.

This event would not be possible without the support of our many sponsors including:

- ◆ **Diamond sponsor: Coastal Conservation Association of Florida**
- ◆ **Platinum sponsor: Sea and Shoreline Aquatic Restoration**
- ◆ **Silver sponsors: American Sportfishing Association,**
- ◆ **Fish and Wildlife Foundation of Florida**

The summit will be at the Hilton Ocala, 3600 SW 36<sup>th</sup> Ave., Ocala. In-person Event registration is now closed but you can still watch online (see below). You can find information at [MyFWC.com/Redfish2021](http://MyFWC.com/Redfish2021).

Those who would like to watch the summit can do so on [TheFloridaChannel.org](http://TheFloridaChannel.org) and submit comments and questions to potentially be addressed during the summit at [MyFWC.com/SaltwaterComments](http://MyFWC.com/SaltwaterComments).

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**Swamp Life  
By Diallo Xia**



This week's article was likely headed for the mortality and the musings and the musings on the mortality of buckets and buckets of dead bait, but instead I'd like to dedicate this week's article to all involved parties who helped push our golf cart home and later drag our car out of the mud. So, thank you!

I'd also like to add a warning: Do not drive in muddy grass! We got stuck in such non-suspicious muddy grass and spun our wheels out, digging a trench a foot deep. Swamp life, I suppose.

But I'd like to end with a positive message, and thus I truly am glad that we live in the Everglades, where people are willing to help a muddy car or a dead golf cart on the side of the road reach its destination, where it now safely resides. I doubt you'd find that anywhere else. So, thanks again, and God bless!

*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.*



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**Solution August 7, 2021 Puzzle**

1	S	C	U	D		5	M	E	N	L	O			
10	L	O	N	E		11	I	N	F	E	R			
12	E	L	E	C	13	T	R	I	C	I	T	Y	14	
15	D	I	M		16	H	E	D		17	S	E	A	
		18	O	W	E	D			20	H	U	G	H	
		21	S	T	E	M			22	T	O	R	A	
23	T	W	I	N		24	R	A	G	E				
25	L	O	O		26	L	A	X		27	T	B	A	
30	C	O	N	D	O	M	I	N	I	U	M			
		33	P	A	U	L	O			34	E	M	M	A
		35	S	L	O	A	N			36	Z	E	S	T



Is Neighborliness A Dirty Word?

By Pastor Bob Wallace

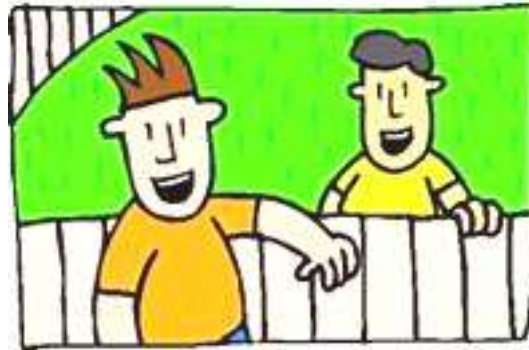
There's a great line that was used by comedian Rodney Dangerfield - - "I get no respect!" That says it all for a lot of seniors these days. It appears there's no respect for gray hair among some people. I was taught to "respect your elders". But that is not always apparent within our society these days. And you don't have to be ancient or decrepit to notice. For example, there's a considerable lack of courtesy among drivers today. If you happen to indicate to a discourteous driver your displeasure at certain driving antics, you're probably going to get a response that's anything but flattering. It's downright insulting what some drivers do and say. And the hand gestures are really rude! But, there's nothing you can do about it. Obviously, there are drivers who think they own the road and they're doing you a big favor by letting you drive on "their" road.

How about when you try to thank someone for waiting on you in a store? They just look at you as if you don't exist! That's one reaction I've never gotten used to receiving. But I guess I'm old fashioned. Manners just don't seem to exist for some people these days. Remember what used to be taught at home, in school and at church? "Respect your elders!" That was the lesson. It was called "good manners." But manners don't seem to count anymore. Why I've even heard of people who are neighbors living right next door to each another and never speaking. One just looks at the other as if he/she weren't even on the same planet. It's kinda' like what led to the problem between the Martins and the McCoy's.

Or there are neighbors who could care less about what grows over into their neighbor's yard. The attitude that prevails among so many neighbors is, "if it bothers you, cut it off yourself! It's not my responsibility. Don't bother me about it!" Real neighborly!

The one problem which seems to dominate communities today is the size of some homes being built. It's quite a shock driving down a street to visit a friend and seeing a huge, out-of-proportion house being built right next door or just down the street. It's one thing to want to move into a certain neighborhood, but when the "new kid on the block" completely overwhelms everyone else's structure, is that being a good neighbor? Some think not! At the very least, it's not a good way to begin a neighborly relationship.

How about the problem of loud voices, music and barking dogs?



These are probably the most obvious problems within neighborhoods. And the ones most deliberately ignored. Just try to do something about it. If you try and talk to the neighbor about the problem, you'll likely as not, have a door slammed in

your face. And if you call the police, that pretty much ruins your chance of ever speaking to your neighbor again. So, what's one to do?

Neighborliness is something that's kind of gone by the board in the last few years. There are some people who don't know the names of the families who live directly in the front and back of them, let alone on either side. If you ask the name of a person who lives down the street, they're not aware that anyone lives down the street! Are these neighbors? What's happened to the Neighborhood Crime Watch program? If you don't know who your neighbors are could they be suspicious? Strange isn't it. We're concerned about ourselves and our possessions, yet we don't care enough about our neighbors to even know their names or anything about them.

There's a solution to the problem of crime in our cities. And that's neighborliness! It would be a good thing if we got to know one another better and really became concerned about our neighborhoods and how they look, who lives in them and what really happens in them. There's nothing like pride in one's home and neighborhood. And there's nothing better than having a good neighbor!

It used to be like that when I was growing up. Every house on our block was painted. The lawns and the shrubs were trimmed. Everybody know everyone and their families and what was happening to them. Of course, times were tough in the Depression years of the 30's, but so what? Friends, neighbors, schools and churches were why you chose to live where you did. Nope, it's not like that anymore. You choose to live where you live because you want to live there and can afford it. That doesn't necessarily mean you're going to be living next to a good neighbor. Not at all! I'd like to see this change. Our children need to be taught that being a good neighbor means respect for the property of others and respect for their rights as citizens. Or is it the parents we need to teach this? Either way, neighborliness doesn't have to be a dirty word.

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

\*\*\*\*\*

Customers of Everglades City Sewer and Wastewater



Please do not pour grease down the drain or flush grease into the sewer system. It solidifies in the pipes and causes clogs and other costly problems for the system,

Please dispose of grease by putting it in a container and disposing of it properly. Doing so will help keep your plumbing clear and the City's as well. Thank you!



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

### —————> 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 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.

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

### —————> Event

**Stories of a Sportsmen's Paradise: A Folk Art Experience**  
September 9 5:00 PM - 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.

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

### —————> Event

**Third Thursday Lecture Series: Finding the Brickells**  
September 16 @ 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Miami Historian and "Everglades Evangelist" Cesar Becerra, the guest curator of the current exhibit at Museum of the Everglades, will describe his 30-year quest to learn the real story of Miami's origin and discover the truth behind the often-mysterious Brickell Family. A man on a mission, Mr. Becerra's history detective work has taken him literally around the world – even following the couple's footsteps down under in Australia where William and Mary Brickell originally met and married. Cesar's infectious enthusiasm promises to make this presentation informative, fun, and enlightening.

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

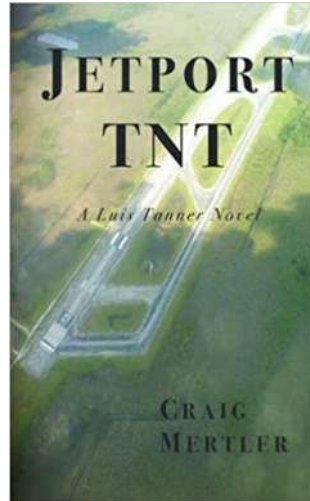
### —————> Event

**Third Thursday Lecture Series:  
The Skunk Ape, "South Florida's Bigfoot"**  
OCTOBER 21 @ 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Just in time for Halloween, this presentation explores the cryptozoological mystery of the Everglades bogeyman known as the Skunk Ape. The roots of the Bigfoot/Yeti archetype in cultures around the world will be examined along with local Native American legends and historic sightings of this odiferous, swamp-dwelling furry humanoid. A Q&A session following the talk will feature local authors and experts on the topic.

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

## Author Publishes Third Novel, This One Set in Everglades City



Arizona State University professor Craig Mertler has released his third novel, titled Jetport TNT. With twenty-five years of experience as a professor of education and as an author of academic textbooks, Craig decided to venture into the world of fiction writing in 2018. All three of his novels fall under the genre of suspense, crime fiction. His first novel, Tequesta University, was published in 2018 and his second, The Last Page, was published in 2019. All three of his novels are set in South Florida.

*Jetport TNT* follows the story of retired police detective Luis Tanner as he inadvertently discovers and struggles to end a decade-long crime

organization. When retired detective Luis Tanner receives a call from a former colleague—with whom he had a torrid relationship—pleading for his help, he is extremely hesitant to offer his services. However, Everglades City Police Chief Brenda Walker convinces him that he is the only person who can break up a years-long illegal dog-fighting operation in the Ten Thousand Islands off of Chokoloskee Bay. As Luis gains access to the organization, he begins to discover that the crimes and corruption run much deeper than just the dogs. Is it possible that the same organization is responsible for drug trafficking, money laundering, and—worst of all—sex trafficking of minors from a foreign country into the U.S.? And how is it all connected to a mysterious, seemingly abandoned airport in the middle of the Everglades? As Luis infiltrates the organization to its core, he is appalled and sickened by what he witnesses and he knows it may end his life, but he vows that he must put an end to the atrocious crimes associated with Jetport TNT.

Below are a couple of quotes from early reviews of Jetport TNT:

*"I'm always looking for a novel that intrigues me and teaches me something at the same time. The ability of a writer to do those things is a sign of a great storyteller!"*

*"When looking for a good read, I always like to find ones that I cannot put down. "Jetport TNT" was definitely a page-turner for me. Mertler's character development and plot twists enabled me to become invested in the well-being of the characters and the plot as they were unfolding within the novel."*

All of Mertler's novels—including Jetport TNT—are available for purchase on Amazon.com, in both paperback and Kindle formats.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dr. Craig Mertler is Professor of Education at Arizona State University. He began his career as a high school biology teacher and has been an educator for 32 years. Over his career, he has taught courses focused on action research, classroom assessment, research methods, and statistical analyses. He is the author of 30 textbooks, 9 invited book chapters, 23 refereed journal articles, and 3 novels. Dr. Mertler can be reached at [craig.mertler@gmail.com](mailto:craig.mertler@gmail.com) for consulting and speaking engagements.



Visit his website at [www.craigmertler.com](http://www.craigmertler.com).

### The Island Life Recipes

*Fresh Fruit Jell-O by Kathy Brock  
Use up fresh fruit in a creative way!*

**Ingredients:**

- Box Knox unflavored gelatin, 4 packets
- 3 cups fresh fruit (I used guava)
- 1 cup water to add to fruit
- 1 cup cold water
- 1/2 to 3/4 cup sugar depending on sweetness of fruit



**Directions:** Cut up fresh fruit and place into a sauce pan. Add in 1 cup of water and heat until fruit is boiling, stirring constantly so it does not burn. Stir in sugar. If your fruit is very sweet, 1/2 cup will do. If it is not sweet, add the extra 1/4 cup! When your fruit is softened, set aside.

In one cup of cold water add in the gelatin. Whisk until fully blended for about a minute. Add gelatin into the fruit mixture and then pour it into a 13 x 9 x 2 glass baking dish. Chill for 3 hours or overnight. Once set, cut into squares for easy serving.

I have tried this with guava and mango. It works for almost any fruit except pineapple (which inhibits gelatin from setting). Serve cold with whip. YUMMY!



### My Little Slice of Paradise By Kathy Brock

I have always been fascinated by birds. As far back as I can remember I have had the urge to lure them into my yard so I can watch them or go out into nature to see them in their native environment.

In an earlier edition of the Rapper, I mentioned that we created a "pond" or area on our property that retains some water. We did this so the wading birds would continue to come by our way...and it is working well.



In July, a snowy egret appeared, and it was obvious that he had some type of accident or encounter that resulted in the loss of a limb. He was very awkward trying to balance on one leg and hunt at

the same time. Worried, I phoned the VonArx Nature Conservancy in Naples to see what we could do. Nothing. Not much can be done for a wading bird with one leg.

Because of his condition we started referring to him (or her) as "Stumpy." From the beginning, it was obvious that Stumpy had the will to live. At first, he would use his wings to keep upright. As the days passed, he got more and more proficient navigating around by flying from spot to spot to hunt. After spending the first few days of his recovery at our yard, he left. We did not see Stumpy for a few days. I was convinced that Stumpy didn't pull through...but I was wrong.

One day we noticed him behind the Catholic Church. Another day we saw him along the Barron River by the docks. Then he returned to our yard. His leg looks "healed" and his one-legged hunting technique is much improved.

Rather than hopping around, Stumpy has taken to a different hunting method. Waiting. When food is plentiful, standing in one location is paying off for him. There is no doubt that a wading bird with one leg is at a huge disadvantage, but when there is the will there is a way and Stumpy has the will to forge ahead.

From everything I have read, birds can live with such an impairment. It makes life much more difficult for them, and it makes them more vulnerable to predation. But unlike people, animals do not suffer from the emotion of the loss. They take it in stride and move on.

If you pay attention, you can learn a lot from the birds. When adversity hits, they go into survival mode. No whining. No complaining. Just doing.

Today, whenever Stumpy visits us, he (or she) serves as a reminder to focus on the present so we can enjoy the moment. Fretting about what's already done is just wasted time and energy.

## MULLET RAPPER CROSSWORD

**Across**

- 1 Ladybug food
- 6 Sound made by many things, these days
- 11 Actress Keaton
- 12 Competitor
- 13 Start a match
- 14 Egg producer
- 15 It's the same old story
- 17 Sets of clothes, all of the same design
- 19 African expedition
- 23 Julia Roberts classic movie
- 25 Literary ridicule
- 26 MLB Team in OH
- 27 Obtained
- 29 Dry stalks
- 32 Throw out
- 35 Path
- 36 Copycat phrase
- 37 Big name in chips
- 38 "Stir Crazy" co-star Richard ---

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11					12				
13					14				
		15			16				
17	18				19		20	21	22
23				24					
25						26			
			27			28			
29	30	31			32			33	34
35					36				
37					38				

8/21/21

**Down**

- 1 Lifeblood of TV and the web
- 2 Filled pastry crust
- 3 Ozzie's wife
- 4 Detectives do it
- 5 Consider
- 6 Long-running anchor Tom ---
- 7 Aaron's Rod
- 8 Model --- Marcille
- 9 Corn spike
- 10 Tire layer
- 16 Thus far
- 17 "Brown" delivery co.
- 18 Gun lobby
- 20 Agreeable quality
- 21 "Awesome!"
- 22 Outs opposite
- 24 Bricklayer's tool
- 28 Short-term worker
- 29 Mr., in Madras
- 30 100 cubic feet on a ship
- 31 Furrow
- 33 Dove sound
- 34 High craggy hill



**EATERIES & AREA WORSHIP**

**BARRON RIVER TIDES**

**Sharks Seek Shelter In Canals in Pinellas County to Avoid Red Tide**

<b>Angler's Cove, Port of the Islands</b> (642-1025): Closed Mon- Tue-Thurs, 5-11 Fri-Sun Noon - 11 pm
<b>Camellia Street Grille (239-695-2003):</b> 11:00 am – 9:00 pm, Daily
<b>City Seafood (239-695-4700):</b> Open All Year 8 am to 3 pm
<b>Diving Pelican Restaurant (239) 232-0475</b> Open Sun-Thur 11 am to 8 pm, Fri & Sat till midnight
<b>Everglades Fishing Co. / Nely's Corner</b> Open Fri, Sat., Sunday, 6:00 am to 4:00 pm 203 Collier Avenue, (239-695-4222)
<b>Havana Café (239-695-2214):</b> Closed for Summer.
<b>Hole in the Wall Pizza (239-695-4444)</b> M-Th 11am-7pm, Fri & Sat 11 am-9 pm
<b>Island Café (239-695-0003):</b> 6:00 am – 9:00 pm; daily
<b>Ivey House (239-695-3299) (Private)</b> The Restaurant is Closed
<b>Joanie's Crab Café (239-695-2682):</b> Open Daily 10:30 am to 5 pm, Closed Wed.
<b>Rod &amp; Gun (239-695-2101):</b> 11:30 am - 8:00 pm; daily
<b>Triad Seafood &amp; Café (239-695-2662):</b> Closed for Summer
<b>MARKETS</b>
<b>Right Choice Market (239-695-4535):</b> Open 7 days, 9 am to 7 pm
<b>Grimm's Stone Crab (239-695-3222):</b> Closed for Summer
<b>Fresh Produce</b>
<b>Right Choice Supermarket</b>
See listing under "markets"
<b>SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES</b>
<b>Chokoloskee Family Church</b> Sunday: 10 am Sch., 11 am Worship
<b>Copeland Baptist Church</b> Sunday: 10 am School, 11 am Worship
<b>Everglades Community Church</b> 11:00 am Sunday Worship, See ad p. 8
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church of Everglades City</b> 9:45 am Sunday School, 11 am Worship 6 pm Sunday, 6 pm Wed. Bible Study
<b>Holy Family Catholic Church</b> Closed for Summer. Reopening Dec. 5, 2021
<b>St. Finbarr Catholic Church, Naples</b> Phone: 239-417-2084
<b>San Marco Catholic Church, Marco Isl.</b> 239-394-5181

8/21/2021	Sat	3:25 AM	2.53	H
8/21/2021	Sat	9:24 AM	0.85	L
8/21/2021	Sat	2:22 PM	3.52	H
8/21/2021	Sat	10:13 PM	-0.06	L
8/22/2021	Sun	3:50 AM	2.61	H
8/22/2021	Sun	10:09 AM	0.74	L
8/22/2021	Sun	3:06 PM	3.52	H
8/22/2021	Sun	10:54 PM	0.03	L
8/23/2021	Mon	4:17 AM	2.69	H
8/23/2021	Mon	10:54 AM	0.64	L
8/23/2021	Mon	3:49 PM	3.44	H
8/23/2021	Mon	11:33 PM	0.16	L
8/24/2021	Tue	4:45 AM	2.77	H
8/24/2021	Tue	11:37 AM	0.57	L
8/24/2021	Tue	4:32 PM	3.29	H
8/25/2021	Wed	12:11 AM	0.31	L
8/25/2021	Wed	5:16 AM	2.82	H
8/25/2021	Wed	12:21 PM	0.53	L
8/25/2021	Wed	5:18 PM	3.09	H
8/26/2021	Thu	12:46 AM	0.47	L
8/26/2021	Thu	5:48 AM	2.84	H
8/26/2021	Thu	1:04 PM	0.51	L
8/26/2021	Thu	6:05 PM	2.87	H
8/27/2021	Fri	1:20 AM	0.65	L
8/27/2021	Fri	6:21 AM	2.83	H
8/27/2021	Fri	1:50 PM	0.51	L
8/27/2021	Fri	6:57 PM	2.63	H
8/28/2021	Sat	1:52 AM	0.82	L
8/28/2021	Sat	6:57 AM	2.78	H
8/28/2021	Sat	2:45 PM	0.53	L
8/28/2021	Sat	7:59 PM	2.4	H
8/29/2021	Sun	2:20 AM	0.97	L
8/29/2021	Sun	7:41 AM	2.71	H
8/29/2021	Sun	3:52 PM	0.53	L
8/29/2021	Sun	9:13 PM	2.23	H
8/30/2021	Mon	2:03 AM	1.1	L
8/30/2021	Mon	8:42 AM	2.66	H
8/30/2021	Mon	5:03 PM	0.5	L
8/30/2021	Mon	10:36 PM	2.14	H
8/31/2021	Tue	1:46 AM	1.19	L
8/31/2021	Tue	2:30 AM	2.1	H
8/31/2021	Tue	4:55 AM	1.19	L
8/31/2021	Tue	9:52 AM	2.66	H
8/31/2021	Tue	6:08 PM	0.44	L
9/1/2021	Wed	2:42 AM	2.21	H
9/1/2021	Wed	6:12 AM	1.21	L
9/1/2021	Wed	11:00 AM	2.72	H
9/1/2021	Wed	7:06 PM	0.36	L
9/2/2021	Thu	2:04 AM	2.3	H
9/2/2021	Thu	7:11 AM	1.18	L
9/2/2021	Thu	12:03 PM	2.86	H
9/2/2021	Thu	7:57 PM	0.27	L
9/3/2021	Fri	2:04 AM	2.43	H
9/3/2021	Fri	7:59 AM	1.11	L
9/3/2021	Fri	12:55 PM	3.04	H
9/3/2021	Fri	8:41 PM	0.19	L

Our neighbors to the north in Sarasota, St. Petersburg and other coastal towns have been experiencing a severe outbreak of red tide. It began back in December 2020 and it has persisted.

The blooms are caused by *Karenia brevis*, a type of algae that causes several health issues for marine life and humans because of a neurotoxin that is released by the organism.

This outbreak is considered severe and the behavior of the sharks reinforces that.

Four species of shark have taken refuge in canals in Sarasota county. Bonnet head sharks, lemon sharks, black tip sharks, and nurse sharks have crowded into the canal to stay clear of the neurotoxins released by the tiny plant.

Thus far, over 800 tons of dead and decaying marine life, including manatee and dolphins, have been removed from the beaches along their coastline.


According to a report by **LifeScience**<sup>1</sup>, "experts believe that a recent malfunction at the Piney Point power plant in Manatee County may be partly to blame for this year's long-lasting red tide. In late March, a dam at the plant's reservoir, which stores water full of phosphorus and nitrogen, began to fail. On March 30, Florida officials released more than 35 million gallons (132 million liters) of contaminated water into Tampa Bay, which is connected to the Gulf of Mexico, to ease pressure on the dam so it could be repaired."

Tropical cyclones are also known to exacerbate red-tide conditions, and no end is yet in sight.

The most recent testing in Sarasota county showed very high concentrations of the toxin, and experts are not sure how long the sharks can survive in the canal systems in such concentrated numbers.

This week tropical storm Fred made its way through the area raising concerns that more red tide may be on the way.

1. <https://www.livescience.com/sharks-hide-in-florida-canals-red-tide.html>



**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, DuPont 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

FOR SALE: Air conditioner, window unit. 14,000 BTU, 120 volt. Still under factory warranty. Only used for 3 weeks. Asking \$429. For more information, please call 239-695-2208.

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.

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 305.247.1216.

HOUSE FOR SALE: Unique 3 bedroom, 2 bath home in Everglades City. Original Collier home with upstairs addition and upgrades. Impact windows & doors. Free standing 2 car garage, built in swimming pool. City dock with lift. Asking \$650,000 as is. Call 239-450-2376 for more information or to set an appointment to see the house.

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

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The Everglades Area Visitor Center needs volunteers to staff the center. If you like to meet people and share information about our beautiful area we would like to hear from you. No experience is necessary, we can show you everything you need to know. If you're interested call Kathy at 954 662 7003!



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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Lee Cypress, Copeland, Jerome & Ochopee

We strive to present the facts accurately

We encourage contrasting points of view

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

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



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