

# The MULLET RAPPER



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



**August 7, 2021 - August 20, 2021**

© 2021, K Bee Marketing, Inc.

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

Volume XIII • Issue # 396

**~Area Fishing Guide Memorial~  
Your Input is Needed!**

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

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

The fishing guides in our area are the ones who first “put the 10,000 Islands on the map”. Without them, our local businesses providing food and accommodations for visiting anglers would have never thrived.

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

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

The guides who share their love and knowledge of the area, and help educate others about the importance of the 10,000 Islands, should be remembered as ambassadors of the Everglades forever. Please contact Mike with any information.

**\*\*\*IMPORTANT\*\*\***

**PUBLIC WATER NOTICE!**

**PLEASE READ ON PAGE 5**

RAPPER TABLE OF CONTENTS			
Calendar	p. 2	Pastor Bob Museum News	P. 8
Event Calendar/Announcements	p. 3	Book Review Feral Cats	P. 9
Sawfish News	P. 4	My Slice/Recipe/ X word	P. 10
School News Water Notice	p. 5	Biz listings/ Tides/ Parks	p.11
Capt. Merritt Living Gulf Cst	p. 6	Obituary	p.11
Diallo	p. 7	Classifieds	p.12

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

**Air Tours Over the Everglades? The National Park Service Wants Feedback**

HOMESTEAD, Fla – The National Park Service (NPS) and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) are seeking public feedback on a draft Air Tour Management Plan (ATMP) that is being proposed for Everglades National Park.



The agencies encourage anyone with an interest in or concern about air tours over Everglades National Park to review and comment on the draft ATMP. The proposed plan would authorize up to 64 air tours per year on eight defined routes. There were on average 64 air tours per year reported at Everglades National Park from 2017 – 2019.

The NPS and FAA will host a virtual public meeting regarding the Everglades National Park Air Tour Management Plan on August 19 from 6:30-8 pm ET that will be livestreamed at [https://youtube/YED\\_w6Bkztg](https://youtube/YED_w6Bkztg). Members of

the public who wish to observe the virtual meetings can also access the livestream from the following FAA social media platforms on the day of the event: <https://www.facebook.com/FAA>, <https://twitter.com/FAANews> or <https://www.youtube.com/FAANews>.

Public feedback can be provided through the NPS Planning, Environment and Public Comment (PEPC) website from July 29 through Aug. 28. The NPS and FAA will consider comments to help inform the final ATMP for Everglades National Park. The project website is available at: <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/EvergladesATMP>

“We welcome and encourage anyone who is interested in air tours over the park to share their input on the proposed Air Tour Management Plan for Everglades National Park,” said Sabrina Diaz, deputy superintendent for Everglades and Dry Tortugas national parks. “The draft plan is based on current operations and reported air tour levels at the park. Its purpose is to ensure that all park resource values are protected by mitigating or preventing impacts on natural and cultural resources, visitor experiences and tribal lands.”

Everglades National Park is among 24 parks of the National Park System developing air tour management plans in cooperation with the FAA. The agencies hope to complete all air tour management plans by the end of August 2022. The schedule is part of a plan approved by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit for the agencies to comply with the National Parks Air Tour Management Act of 2000 within two years.

The FAA and the NPS have determined that each ATMP constitutes a Federal undertaking subject to compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations (36 CFR Part 800). The FAA and the NPS are consulting with tribes, State and Tribal Historic Preservation Officers, and other interested parties to identify historic properties and assess the potential effects of ATMPs on them.

Please visit the NPS site and the FAA site for more detailed information about air tour management plans. Links to meeting notifications, recordings, and slide decks (where applicable) will be posted to the NPS site.

**\*\*\*Volunteers Needed On Tuesday, August 10th to Help Plant New Median Plants\*\*\*  
McLeod Park, Everglades City, 9:00 am**  
Please help us plant the new, beautiful plants for the Everglades City medians. Wear gloves, and bring a shovel lots of water! We will be meeting at the park at 9:00 am!  
*Thank you!*

~ EVENT CALENDAR - AUGUST 8, 2021 —SEPTEMBER 11, 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
August 8	9 ESHP, 9 am	10 1st Day of School Plant Median, p 1 Meteor Shower See P. 9	11 Food Bank ECC, 10:30-1pm Meteor Shower See P. 9	12 Museum Event 5:00-7:00, p. 8 Meteor Shower See P. 9	13 Meteor Shower See P. 9	14
15	16	17	18 Food Bank ECC, 10:30-1pm	19 Museum Event 2:00-4:00 pm, p.8	20	Aug 21—Rapper
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
5	6-New Moon Labor Day Holiday	7 City Council, 7 pm	8 Food Bank ECC, 10:30-1pm	9	10	11

September 25: Bank Event, see p. 3                      October 30: Bank Event, see p. 3                      October 31: Halloween  
November 6: Everglades 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  
 SHERIFF: (239)-252-9300

**The Local Area Code is 239**

**POST OFFICE INFORMATION:**

Chokoloskee (239) 695-4468  
 Mail pickup is at Everglades City Post Office, see times below  
 Everglades City (239) 695-2174  
 (M-F: 9:30 am to 1 pm, 2 pm to 4:30 pm, closed Sat. & Sun.)  
 Ochopee (239) 695-2099  
 (M-F: 8 am to 10 am, noon to 4 pm; Sa: 10 am to 11:30 am)

**RIGHT CHOICE SUPERMARKET**

- ATM
- Shirts/Caps
- Camping Gear
- Hardware
- Medicine

- Groceries
- Beer/Wine
- Meats
- Fresh Produce
- Greeting Cards



104 S. Buckner Ave.,  
 Everglades City, FL  
 239-695-4535

\*\*\*\*\*Open 7 Days from 9 am to 7 pm!\*\*\*\*\*

Knife Sharpening , 2nd Tuesday of Month, 9 am to noon  
[www.RightChoiceSupermarket.com](http://www.RightChoiceSupermarket.com)



**School Starts August 10th**

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

**Tax free days for purchases of school related supplies will end on August 9.**

Other important school year dates:

- ◆ Winter break — Dec. 20 - Jan. 3
- ◆ Spring break — March 11 - 18

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

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

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

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

The day will feature great local performers, live auctions, and arts and crafts booths. The event is hosted by the Everglades Society for Historic Preservation (ESHP), and proceeds from the event will go towards the renovation of the Bank of Everglades Building, the permanent future home of the Everglades Area Visitor Center and Trail Town Headquarters.

Reserved Seats are \$50/person, includes souvenir program, and general admission is \$40/car or \$20/motorcycle or \$20/pedestrian. For tickets or more information about the event visit [www.SaveBOE.com](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.



**Back to School Tax Free Days Last Day is August 9, 2021**

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

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

**This sales tax holiday does not apply to:** • Any item of clothing selling for more than \$60;

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

**Teen Struck by Lightning on Marco Beach Passes Away**

William Bethune, the 17-year old teen who was struck by lightning while wading on a Marco beach has died. The Macon, GA teen was with his family on vacation. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.



Check Us Out on TripAdvisor!

**We are Closed for Summer!**



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

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

191 Smallwood Drive, Chokoloskee, FL 34138

Phone: 239-695-2214

[www.HavanaCafeoftheEverglades.com](http://www.HavanaCafeoftheEverglades.com)

**JOANIE'S BLUE CRAB CAFE**

*Everglades Dining at its Best!*  
 US Hwy. 41, Ochopee, Florida 34141  
 1/4 Mile East of Ochopee Post Office


**239-695-2682**  
**We are Open**  
**Please Call for Hours**

*Gator Nuggets with Inaian Fry Bread & Salsa*  
*Save Room for the Homemade key Lime Pie!*



[www.bobwellsrealestate.us](http://www.bobwellsrealestate.us) Office: 239-695-2660  
[bob@bobwellsrealestate.us](mailto:bob@bobwellsrealestate.us) Fax: 239-695-0967

**Bob Wells Real Estate**



Bob Wells, Broker  
 Vicky Wells, Sales Associate  
 Liza Wells, Sales Associate  
 P.O. Box 250 • Everglades City, FL 34139

**PLEASE**  
**HELP ESHP SAVE THE**  
**HISTORIC**  
**BANK OF EVERGLADES BUILDING**

Learn more at  
[www.SaveBoe.com](http://www.SaveBoe.com)  
[www.ESHP.org](http://www.ESHP.org)



**DEBBIE MOSHIER** 954.520.5429

**DEBBIE MOSHIER INTERNATIONAL**  
**USED TRUCK CENTER**

2240 DAVIS BOULEVARD • NAPLES, FLORIDA 34104  
 email: [debbiemoshiertrucks@icloud.com](mailto:debbiemoshiertrucks@icloud.com)  
 web: [debbiemoshierinternationalusedtruckcenter.com](http://debbiemoshierinternationalusedtruckcenter.com)



**Fish Florida's**  
**"Last Frontier" with**  
**Captain John Hand,**  
**Guide and Master**  
**Fly Casting**  
**Instructor.**

(239) 842-7778 [www.captjohnhand.com](http://www.captjohnhand.com)



**WIN-CAR HARDWARE**  
**GENERAL STORE**  
*"We Have Just About Everything"*

*At Win-Car Hardware*  
*We Have Just About Everything*

Unique Apparel, Nav Charts,  
 Fishing Tackle, Camping,  
 Biking, Hiking, Gifts, Books,  
 Souvenirs, Marine Hardware,  
 Stainless & More!

209 Collier Ave, Everglades City  
 M-Sat 8:30 am - 5 pm. 239-695-3201




**SAWFISH NEWS by Tonya Wiley, Havenworth Coastal Conservation**  
**Investigating death – what we can learn from recent sawfish mortalities.**

Several institutions conduct research activities on the biology, distribution, and ecology of endangered smalltooth sawfish in the United States. These partners include state and federal governments, universities, nonprofits, museums, and international organizations. Results of these research projects inform management decisions and enhance recovery efforts for this endangered species. In this Sawfish News we are going to focus on the information we gather from necropsies, the thorough examination and dissection of sawfish carcasses.

The purpose of necropsies is to collect samples for gaining insight into the biology of the species and to attempt to determine the cause of death. Necropsies of sawfish which have died in the wild provide the opportunity to collect data necessary for understanding age, growth, maturity, and reproduction. In the case of other, non-endangered species this type of biological data is typically gathered by sacrificing some individuals within the population. But sacrificing any endangered sawfish is not an option given their reduced population size, so carcass recoveries provide scientists with these valuable opportunities.

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) sawfish biologists recently responded to collect several large smalltooth sawfish which had died in the Florida Keys. Curiously all were large females; one a mature 16-foot female, <https://www.facebook.com/FWCResearch/photos/a.611845082164895/4713223488693680> and another an immature female measuring 12 feet, 4 inches long <https://www.facebook.com/floridakeyssheriff/posts/10157727440136816>. The 16-foot sawfish was particularly interesting as it was the longest measured by scientists in the United States since research began on the species. There were no obvious causes of death for any of the sawfish recovered from the Keys this spring (whether natural or environmental); however, a number of samples were collected from each. At the very least though, valuable life history information will continue be collected from each carcass due to the swift response from Keys-based FWC Fish and Wildlife Research Institute staff and Monroe County Sheriff's Office personnel to secure the carcasses for study.

Sawfish biologists are working to learn as much as possible from all samples they collect from necropsies. The vertebrae will be used to determine the age of each sawfish. Reproductive tissues will be used to assess the reproductive status (mature or immature) of each dead sawfish. and used in combination with age and length to fine tune both age and length at maturity for females in the wild population. DNA collected from tissue samples will be sequenced to compare to other sawfish throughout Florida, which is useful in understanding population structure, diversity within the population, and both the size and health of the current population in comparison to the historical one. Stable isotopic analyses can be run on tissue samples and compared to a variety of potential prey items in the environment to determine the diet and trophic position of smalltooth sawfish within the food web. Blood samples are collected from sawfish to investigate reproductive status as hormones within the blood can be used to assess reproductive maturity and timing. Samples are preserved for further analysis in the future which may provide insight into environmental conditions at their time of death. Collection of the sawfish and necropsy activities were conducted pursuant to NMFS ESA Permit No. 21043.

**First Baptist Church**  
*Knowing Him and making Him known!*

416 School Drive / P.O. Box 550  
 Everglades City, FL 34139  
 Call Us:(239) 695-3871

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



**Triad Seafood**  
**Market & Café**

Stone Crabs • Shrimp • Conch  
 Crab Cakes • Homemade Key Lime Pies  
 Orlo & Pam Hilton (239) 695-2662

Closed for the summer.



**NOW OPEN!**  
**Kim's Hair Studio**  
 at Everglades Isle  
 (239) 537-1273

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





A Message From Principal Dr. Cherie Allison

I hope everyone is enjoying their last bit of summertime!

The Florida Department of Education (FDOE) released 2021 spring assessment results for schools across the state. Particular highlights include:

First the first time ever, Collier County Public Schools (CCPS) outperformed the state in all 21 assessed areas.

Student performance in English Language Arts (ELA) was strong at every grade level and outperformed the state, most significantly at the elementary level.

Similarly, we saw strong performance in math, outperforming the state at each grade level and Algebra I and Geometry End of Course assessments.

In science and social studies, the same pattern of outperformance as compared to the state was seen in all assessed grades.

In considering the impact of the pandemic and the differences in learning conditions from 2019 to 2021, the state averages decreased in all 21 assessed areas. We believe that the District's efforts to return over 91% of students back to on campus instruction in second semester mitigated learning loss. It is notable, that CCPS ranked among the highest for having the lowest decrease in percentage change.

Similar to the state, CCPS experienced some decreases in year-over-year performance; some were minimal and none as significant as the state decreases. More importantly, CCPS gained in year-over-year performance in grades 4 and 5 English Language Arts, 1 and 2 points respectively, in grade 8 math by 7 points and grade 5 science by 3 points.

And how did Everglades City School fair? Well school grades are not out and have not been calculated but our Math, Science, Biology, US History, Algebra and English scores look excellent and our student gains are also high. EVG students are proving that even with a pandemic they are willing and able to rise to the challenge.

We are excited for the new year as we are welcoming several new teachers to the campus as well as to the community. EVG has a collier county optional mask policy but for the first semester we will be unable to have visitors on campus.

We will continue to incorporate the Leader in Me Program actually expanding its scope to teach twice a week in both the elementary and secondary grade levels. We will have elementary and secondary Leadership teams again this year to inspire students to be involved as leaders and make and execute good decisions. EVG where we LEAD!

Learn, Encourage, Aspire and Dream.

Advertisement for Wilhelm Landscapes, featuring a logo with a pond scene and contact information for Robert Wilhelm, Owner. Services include Beach Sanding, Brick Paving, Retaining Walls, Seawalls, Hydroseeding, and Waterfalls. Contact: 231-944-9661, 32 Plantation Dr., Everglades City, FL 34139.



\*\*\*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 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.

Advertisement for Parkway Motel & Marina, featuring a logo with a boat and contact information. Services include Rental Rooms, Efficiencies, Cottages, 3/2 Unit, Clean & Comfortable. Valvteck Marine- Rec 90 gas at the dock, Dock, Water & Electric, Boat lift, Ice, Groceries. Contact: (239) 695-3261, 1180 Chokoloskee Dr., Chokoloskee, FL, www.parkwaymotelmarina.com

*Living Gulf Coast by Charles Sobczak*



Osceola Wild Turkey (Meleagris gallopavo silvestris) Other names: gobbler, turkey / Status: FL = stable, IUCN = LC / Life span: to 12 years / Length: 43-45 in. (110-115 cm) / Wingspan: 49-57 in. (88-392 cm) / Weight: 5.5-24 lb (2.5-10.5 kg) / Nests: throughout SW Florida, mostly inland / Found: All Counties, near coast, mainland / Months found: JfmamjJASOND (lower case indicates nesting season).

The male wild turkey is the heaviest bird living in Florida. Almost entirely terrestrial, this huge gobbler is nonetheless

capable of short, powerful flights, seldom exceeding a quarter of a mile. Most of its days are spent foraging on the ground and its evenings roosting in trees, where it is safe from predators such as raccoons and bobcats. This is an important game bird throughout Florida where it is found in all 67 counties. Although the wild turkey was once common on many of the gulf coast's barrier islands, extensive development has eradicated these flocks, and the wild turkey is now found exclusively inland.

Benjamin Franklin proposed the wild turkey as the national bird and was disappointed when Congress chose the bald eagle instead. Once abundant throughout North America, the turkey was hunted to extirpation in almost the entirety of its former range. The Florida population, however, remained healthy throughout the 1800s and 1900s, and was instrumental in repopulating the species starting in the 1950s. Today, because of the success of this reintroduction program, the wild turkey not only thrives in its former range, but can also be found in every state except Alaska and Hawaii. It has even moved into parts of southern Canada, where it was historically never a native species. The turkey also occurs in Mexico, where the domesticated stock originated. Prior to its near eradication, the turkey was an important food source for Native Americans and pilgrims.

The Osceola, or Florida, wild turkey, named for the famous Seminole chief, is a subspecies. It is slightly smaller than other wild turkeys, and its body feathers are an iridescent green-purple. The wild turkey is an omnivore, foraging on acorns, insects, worms, grubs, seeds, and even snakes and small reptiles. One of the best spots in Southwest Florida to see this large bird is Myakka State Park and Babcock Ranch, where the uplands and oak forests provide ample habitat. The wild turkey is legally hunted by man but also falls victim to a variety of natural predators including raccoons, opossums, skunks, foxes, eagles, great horned owls, bobcats, coyotes, panthers, and any number of larger snakes.

Reduced to a U.S. population of a mere 30,000 birds in 1901, the wild turkey today numbers more than 7 million birds worldwide and counting. This is a clear-cut example of how a well-monitored conservation effort coupled with a reintroduction program can make a huge difference for the future of wildlife.

Photo by Judd Patterson

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

It's hot! August is upon us and this is the hottest month of the year most of the time. That being said it can also be one of the best Snook bites of the year too. It may be in the back country and it may be on the outside but you will find them ready to feed this month. I have been catching plenty of big Snook with the main problem being the big sharks that show up. I have spots that I just won't fish because I know if we hook a big one it will not make it to the boat. There is nothing worse than seeing a big Snook get bit off by a big shark.

Thankfully, there are not as many big sharks in the back country. There are plenty of Snook to catch in places where you don't have to compete with these killers. The jigs have really been getting it done for me and I have found some really good ones made by Roos Bait Company. I use anywhere from 1/8 OZ to 1/2 OZ depending on depth and current. Getting down along the bottom really makes a difference. There are lots of colors that work but a root beer/chartreuse combo is hard to beat. If you're not getting action on yours try changing up your retrieve. Sometimes slower is better but then you will find sometimes too slow won't get it done. Alternate and you will find what's working. Every day is not the same so keep this in mind when working that jig.

The Reds seem to be showing up in better numbers. We have been catching some good ones with a few being over size fish. The incoming tide is what you want right now as the bait starts moving the fish are feeding. My best bite has been the outside islands. This should continue and by the end of the month we should be seeing good numbers of Reds.

There are still plenty of Tarpon around. Anywhere from 12" fish in the back country to the fish that are over 100lbs. on the outside and rivers. Sometimes you need to be an opportunist when it comes to these fish. You may be fishing for Reds or Snook and all of the sudden Tarpon show up on the opposite side of the boat. You better be ready as these fish may not stay long! Just be ready and sooner or later you will have your shot. Enjoy the great summer bite but be aware of your limits when it comes to the heat. Stay hydrated, stay covered up and you will be fine! Good luck fishing! *Capt. Mike Merritt*

## City Seafood

702 Begonia Street, Everglades City

**OPEN ALL YEAR...**

We are one of the most affordable restaurants with one of the most beautiful waterfront locations.

**Open 8 am to 3 pm Daily**

We Serve  
Delicious, Local  
Seafood & Cuisine



Want to book a private party?  
Call Richard or Candice at 239-695-4700

**The Mullet Rapper Supports the Everglades Community and School**

*Each year, The Mullet Rapper hosts plant sales, and other events, to raise money for Everglades City School. Please help us support our local children by attending one of our school fundraiser events!*

**Clyde Butcher's  
BIG CYPRESS GALLERY**  
Fine Art Black & White Photography



239-695-2428  
23 miles east of Everglades City  
52388 Tamiami Trail East, MM 54.5  
Ochopee, FL 34141  
Open 7 days a week 10 am to 5 pm  
clydebutcher.com


**Epic  
EVERGLADES  
Adventures** Call for availability 239-695-2428

-Guided Swamp Walks  
-Overnight accommodations



Behind Big Cypress Gallery  
23 miles east of Everglades City  
52388 Tamiami Trail East, MM 54.5  
Ochopee, FL 34141  
clydebutcher.com

**Kinda Like Venice**  
By Diallo Xia



When you take the time to appreciate the places around you, you can really see the beauty in them. But when you see the places in movies, you can forget that you live in paradise. Funny, isn't it?

So, when you're traveling at 30 miles per hour along the highway, and your entire job is to help someone else appreciate paradise, the heavens open up, and from the painted clouds shine forth a radiant sun, and the water and the mangroves hug the horizon.

Riding a Vespa in the warm summer day makes it feel kinda like Venice. But when you regale a tourist with the tale of Ed Watson, the stories of gator hunters and python-hunting contests and skunk apes and gladesmen, you come to realize you're not in Venice.

Today feels kinda like Everglades City. Thank God.

*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.*



**Island  
CAFE**  
BREAKFAST, LUNCH, & DINNER  
Your Favorite Foods  
with a Local Flavor



**ISLAND ICE CREAM  
& Gift Shop**  
305 Collier Avenue, Everglades City, FL  
695-0003



**Glades Realty, Inc.**  
Karen Cochran,  
Licensed Real Estate Broker

New Location!  
City Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Everglades City, FL 34139

Serving Everglades City  
Since 1988




Residential • Commercial • Rentals • Land

Visit us online to view our full portfolio of listings in Everglades City, Plantation Island, Chokoloskee and the surrounding areas.

[www.GladesRealty.com](http://www.GladesRealty.com)

Office: (239) 695-4299 Cell: (239) 777-6614  
Fax: (239) 695-3849  
Email: [Karen@GladesRealty.com](mailto:Karen@GladesRealty.com)


**THE OFFICIAL 10,000 ISLANDS  
BOAT TOUR**

**FOR RESERVATIONS:  
EVERGLADESFLORIDAADVENTURES.COM OR CALL: (855) 793-5542**

**PICK UP AND BUY TICKETS  
AT THE NATIONAL PARK OFFICE**  
815 OYSTER BAY LANE,  
EVERGLADES CITY, FL. 34139

**EVERGLADES FLORIDA  
ADVENTURES**  
AT EVERGLADES  
NATIONAL PARK



Authorized  
Concessioner

**Solution to July 24, 2021 Puzzle**

1	M	A	A	M	5	P	A	N	E																								
9	D	I	S	C	O	10	C	H	A	N																							
11	U	N	I	T	S	12	B	A	S	R	13	A																					
14	D	E	N	I	A	L	S	16	S	O	X																						
						17	V	I	E			18	A	L	L																		
19	T	I	M	E	C	A	P	S	23	U	L	E																					
24	I	C	Y				25	R	O	E																							
26	E	E	G				27	U	N	U	S	28	U	A	L	30																	
31	R	A	I	L	S							33	R	A	P	I	D																
													34	G	R	I	D	35	I	M	A	M	S										
																								36	E	L	L	A	37	N	E	T	S



**70 MPH is the Speed Limit, But What's the Hurry?**

By Pastor Bob Wallace

I was driving along the Interstate the other day doing 70 mph, legally. I sorta' had mixed feelings about it. Because on the one hand it felt good to be going fast, though people were still passing me like I was standing still. On the other hand, I felt a little sad because some drivers feel they always have to drive faster and harder than the other guy. It's a fearsome thing!

I've put one of those little things on my rear-view mirror that lets me see down both sides of the car at once. It's supposed to keep you from pulling over into the path of someone who's passing you and may be in your blind spot. However, I still turn to look over each of my shoulders before I turn on my turn signal and pull out to pass.



You know, we've really speeded up since I got my very first driver's license. That was way back in 1948 – about the time Cadillac put those huge tail fins on their cars and Goodrich introduced tubeless tires. Back then, we didn't have anything but narrow, two-lane highways. And zillions of hills. Those hills kept you from passing the truck in front of you. And it wasn't until the 1956 Eisenhower presidency that we began to connect our major cities with super-highways called Interstates. Of course, it took us almost 40 years to do it. But, driving from Naples, Florida to Ohio or

Michigan now is a snap! Do you remember when it used to be a three- or four-day, hard drive, with all the windows down to cool you off? No air-conditioning! Oh, we had water coolers hanging from the car windows, but they didn't really do much down here in humid Florida! It was cooler with the windows down fighting the lovebugs and mosquitoes than it was fooling with one of those little things.

Driving in the fast lane didn't arrive with the first radial ply tires, either. They were neat, until the tread started coming off. We began to think that maybe the old tires were okay after all, and fast driving should be left to the boys at the Indy 500. And cruise control? It was an exciting addition to your car, if you could get it to work properly. Regardless, it made your accelerator foot more comfortable after hours of driving. But we still couldn't go 70 mph. And Ike's "super slab"? It wasn't finished, yet!

Finally, we got the answer to our dreams. 70 MPH was posted, and we went along the road monitoring the trucker's talk on our new CB radios. Who didn't dream of getting to ride in the "rocking chair" between two 18-wheelers all the way to Miami? You put the "pedal to the metal" and enjoyed your 25-cent gasoline. Then, WHAMMO! The brakes were put on. We were told there was a gas shortage. There was a Mideast oil crisis and the price of gas was going to go up to over \$1.00 a gallon. 70 MPH signs were replaced with 55 MPH signs. And we slowed down to begin driving down-sized cars.

Who doesn't remember the good ole' days when fuel was cheap? Cars were big? And you could find a straight-away where you could go as fast as you wanted? What happened? Smaller cars. That's what happened! We were used to cars that measured power in terms of horsepower. Not cubic inches and displacement.

We understood horsepower. Then, the cars began to get bigger again. But what now? We're told people don't want station wagons anymore! They want SUV's and trucks. Well, let me tell you, if people wanted to drive a truck, they would have bought one in the first place. As for me, I'll take a station wagon any day!

So, what's the deal? After you buy or lease a car, and then have to pay the price of gas these days, it sorta' takes the fun out of driving 70 mph. But who cares? I'd rather have my old green four door rag top '36 Plymouth with all its windows open driving 45 mph thinking I was really moving . . . and in a way I was, than out on a "super slab" being passed on either side by maniacs who may, or may not get where they're headed. Life was simpler then. And it was less complicated.

Ah, for the good ole' days!

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



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

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

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

**What's Happening At The Museum of Everglades**

Event

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

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

To complete the adventure, each participant will receive their own personal rustic masterpiece as a souvenir of the experience. **Reservations are required. See registration information below.**

Event

**Bandits & Bank Robbers in the Everglades**  
**August 19, 2021 2:00-4:00 pm**

This presentation will recount the dark deeds of desperate men (and women!) who committed crimes and hid out in the Everglades. These true crime adventures will include the illegal escapades of the Rice Gang, the notorious John Ashley, "Queen of the Everglades" Laura Beatrice Uptegrove, and more. Was the Bank of the Everglades ever robbed?

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**

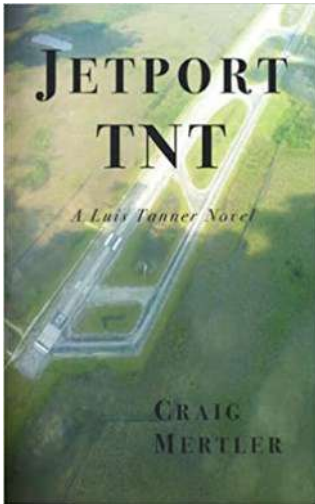
This new exhibit celebrates the Bank of Everglades building—a grand neo-classical structure erected by Barron Collier in 1926. It was the only bank in Collier County for almost 40 years. The local effort to save and restore the structure by the Everglades Society for Historic Preservation and the possible ways the preserved structure might serve the community in the future will also be explored.

**FREE KIDS SUMMER EVENTS**  
**August 7:** Museum of the Everglades "Florida Fishing" 10 am to 2 pm  
**RESERVATION INFORMATION**

*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!*



## College Professor Publishes Third Novel, 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).

Please Spay or Neuter Your Pets!  
Our Feral Feline Population is Growing

A young and friendly cat recently started living under the Bank of Everglades building. We suspect it was dumped because it is not feral and had never been seen before, and we are there frequently. We were eventually able to capture the cat to bring her in to be spayed and get her vaccinations. We are now looking for a forever home for her.

The attending vet told us that she has had at least one litter, possibly many more, and one was very “recent”.

Cats of breeding age can produce as many as five litters in one year. Most litters produce 3 to 4 kittens. In one year a single cat can produce up to 15 kittens. She and her offspring can start producing at only five months old. When you do the math, the numbers are staggering if you do not neuter and spay. A small population can quickly swell to 100’s if left unchecked.

When kittens are not quickly exposed to humans they become feral making it very difficult to place them in a home.

Life on the streets for a cat is not easy, especially in our area where mosquitoes and other factors make life more difficult for them. They can also fall victim to other predators as snakes, owls and other larger mammals consider them prey.

Additionally, feral cats often suffer from numerous diseases while living a life on their own. Feline AIDS, leukemia, and malnutrition are just a few of the issues these animals must deal with while living a life on the streets.

It is our responsibility to spay and neuter our animals. And, this is a critical time because there is no space in any rescues at the moment. They are all full, and I am told it is because it is “kitten season”.

Although cats do breed all year long, spring and summer are the most prolific times, and we are seeing that in our area right now.

Fortunately, we have a few “angels” who take the time to capture these cats to have them “fixed”. Unfortunately, if no home is found, they are released to live out their lives on the streets from which they came.

If you have an animal that needs to be spayed or neutered and you cannot afford it, there is help. If you reach out to the Mullet Rapper, we can connect you with the right people to help you.

If you need help getting cat OR dog spayed or neutered, please contact us by email. You can reach us at [mulletrapper@gmail.com](mailto:mulletrapper@gmail.com).

Please provide your information and the location and send us any photos (if you have them). We will contact you back and connect you with someone that can help.

Perseid Meteor Shower to Light Up Sky  
Peak: August 10th through 13th  
From [www.EarthSky.org](http://www.EarthSky.org)

2021 is a great year for the Perseids! The waxing crescent moon will set at early evening, providing dark skies.

**Start watching for these meteors in early August.** Their numbers will gradually increase. Predicted peak in 2021: the night of August 11-12, but try the nights before and after, too, from late night until dawn.

## The Island Life Recipes

### My Mom's Noodle Pudding by Kathy Brock Why not try something different?

- Butter, for greasing the baking dish
- 16 oz. wide egg noodles
- 5 large eggs
- 1/2 cups butter, melted
- 16 oz. sour cream
- 8 oz. cottage cheese or ricotta cheese
- 3/4 c. sugar
- 1/2 tsp. cinnamon
- 1 cup raisins (optional)



Directions: Preheat oven to 350°. Grease a 9" x 13" baking dish. In a large pot of boiling water, cook pasta until al dente, about 5 minutes. Drain and set aside.

In a large bowl (or the pot you cooked the noodles in) mix together eggs, butter, sour cream, cottage cheese, sugar, and cinnamon then stir in noodles and raisins. Pour into buttered baking dish and bake until set, approximately 1 hour. If the top starts to get over browned, put foil on top until the pudding is set.

You can serve this warm or cold, try topping it with some whipped cream. A small amount goes a long way!

Enjoy this yummy old-time recipe!



### My Little Slice of Paradise By Kathy Brock

In September, we will hit the four-year anniversary of Hurricane Irma. If you did not know we had a devastating hurricane and storm surge, you may not believe it ever happened the way things look around here today.

Not all of the damage has been repaired, and some of our families are still in the process of rebuilding, but the town looks pretty darn good when you look back at photos from that fateful day.

We learned quite a bit from that experience...the hard way. If you are not in an elevated home you may want to consider storing important documents and heirlooms in a separate location.

When my father passed away in 2016, we took his books and some other of his things and boxed them up. We stored them in our workshop on the ground level. From there they went into the trash, ruined by the floodwaters. Had I thought about it, I would have put some of the more meaningful items in a more secure and dry location.

Anyone that follows my articles knows I love to garden. My greatest FYI on the gardening front is to look around at the mature palms and trees in the area. Those are the types that can survive a flood, and we know this because they survived the flood!

I have officially given up on growing citrus and other types of trees or shrubs that cannot tolerate inundation or "wet feet". Why waste your money on something that will struggle to survive when there are plenty of great natives (and some exotic species) that will thrive here? I've learned my lessons (Wilma and Irma are to thank for that).

Most herbs and vegetables won't survive a flood, but that's okay. They are easy to plant and replant whenever needed. The one herb that survived...and even seemed to thrive was my onion chives. It is still going strong 4-years later!

Remember that plants in pots will float and/ or topple over in a flood so you will either want to move them to higher ground or strap them in place so the pots do not break by smashing into things. The plants inside the pots may not survive, but you can salvage the pots to reuse them when things return to normal.

Tiedown straps, come-alongs, and strong wire are invaluable in preparing for a storm. They can be used to secure furniture, ceramic pots, and other yard items that cannot be brought inside. Find something to secure them to and strap them to it. You may still lose one or two, but it will minimize the damages for sure.

We lost our golf cart and tractor mower in the last flood (in addition to many other items). Now, we have a contingency plan to move them out of town if a severe flood is in the forecast.

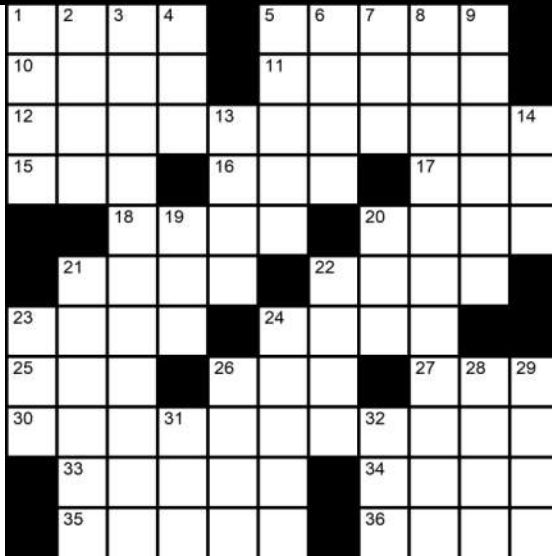
We may not see another flood here for many years...but we do live in a floodplain! Planning when you have time is far better than reacting when a hurricane is barreling down on you.

That's my 2 cents....

## MULLET RAPPER CROSSWORD

### Across

- 1 Type of missile
- 5 Facebook HQ locale
- 10 Type of wolf
- 11 Suggest
- 12 Current source?
- 15 Low light
- 16 "I Guess --- Rather Be in Colorado"
- 17 It's about three-quarters of the Earth's surface
- 18 Had liabilities
- 20 Actor Grant
- 21 Bud supporter
- 22 One-third of a 1970 Pearl Harbor movie
- 23 Same aged sibling
- 24 Anger
- 25 Old card game
- 26 CA airport
- 27 "More info later"
- 30 Owned apartment
- 33 Sao ---, Brazil
- 34 Soap actress Samms
- 35 US Tennis pro Stevens
- 36 Grated citrus peel



### Down

- 1 Snow vehicle
- 2 Health menace E --
- 3 Stoic
- 4 Last month
- 5 Stuck
- 6 Geraint's wife in "Idylls of the King" (Tennyson)
- 7 Packers' division
- 8 Reason for a vacay
- 9 Salsa brand
- 13 Not us
- 14 Informal "yes"
- 19 Skin lump
- 20 Harley nickname?
- 21 Owls do it
- 22 Joni Mitchell's was big and yellow
- 23 Nurses provide it
- 24 Manor reorganized a Spanish fellow
- 26 Kinks classic
- 28 Mooches
- 29 "I --- a loss for words!"
- 31 Batman and Robin, for example
- 32 --- Percé (Northwest Native Americans)

8/7/21



**EATERIES & AREA WORSHIP**

<b>Angler's Cove, Port of the Islands</b> (642-1025): Closed Mon- Tue-Thurs, 5-11 Fri-Sun Noon - 11 pm
<b>Camellia Street Grille (239-695-2003):</b> 11:00 am – 9:00 pm, Daily
<b>City Seafood (239-695-4700):</b> 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> 7:00 am – 9:00 am; daily (for guests only)
<b>Joanie's Crab Café (239-695-2682):</b> Open Daily 10:30 am to 5 pm, Closed Wed.
<b>Rod &amp; Gun (239-695-2101):</b> 11:30 am - 8:00 pm; daily
<b>Triad Seafood &amp; Café (239-695-2662):</b> 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

**BARRON RIVER TIDES**

8/7/2021	Sat	3:31 AM	2.4	H
8/7/2021	Sat	9:35 AM	0.96	L
8/7/2021	Sat	2:28 PM	3.21	H
8/7/2021	Sat	10:27 PM	-0.07	L
8/8/2021	Sun	4:02 AM	2.49	H
8/8/2021	Sun	10:12 AM	0.9	L
8/8/2021	Sun	3:00 PM	3.3	H
8/8/2021	Sun	11:04 PM	-0.07	L
8/9/2021	Mon	4:35 AM	2.58	H
8/9/2021	Mon	10:50 AM	0.82	L
8/9/2021	Mon	3:34 PM	3.33	H
8/9/2021	Mon	11:41 PM	-0.03	L
8/10/2021	Tue	5:09 AM	2.65	H
8/10/2021	Tue	11:32 AM	0.74	L
8/10/2021	Tue	4:13 PM	3.29	H
8/11/2021	Wed	12:19 AM	0.07	L
8/11/2021	Wed	5:41 AM	2.71	H
8/11/2021	Wed	12:16 PM	0.65	L
8/11/2021	Wed	5:01 PM	3.18	H
8/12/2021	Thu	12:56 AM	0.21	L
8/12/2021	Thu	6:13 AM	2.76	H
8/12/2021	Thu	1:04 PM	0.56	L
8/12/2021	Thu	5:57 PM	2.99	H
8/13/2021	Fri	1:34 AM	0.39	L
8/13/2021	Fri	6:44 AM	2.8	H
8/13/2021	Fri	1:59 PM	0.48	L
8/13/2021	Fri	7:04 PM	2.74	H
8/14/2021	Sat	2:15 AM	0.6	L
8/14/2021	Sat	7:18 AM	2.85	H
8/14/2021	Sat	3:05 PM	0.4	L
8/14/2021	Sat	8:26 PM	2.48	H
8/15/2021	Sun	3:04 AM	0.81	L
8/15/2021	Sun	8:01 AM	2.89	H
8/15/2021	Sun	4:21 PM	0.31	L
8/15/2021	Sun	9:58 PM	2.29	H
8/16/2021	Mon	4:11 AM	0.98	L
8/16/2021	Mon	9:00 AM	2.94	H
8/16/2021	Mon	5:34 PM	0.19	L
8/16/2021	Mon	11:41 PM	2.21	H
8/17/2021	Tue	5:25 AM	1.08	L
8/17/2021	Tue	10:11 AM	3.02	H
8/17/2021	Tue	6:42 PM	0.08	L
8/18/2021	Wed	1:36 AM	2.29	H
8/18/2021	Wed	6:35 AM	1.1	L
8/18/2021	Wed	11:26 AM	3.13	H
8/18/2021	Wed	7:45 PM	-0.02	L
8/19/2021	Thu	2:28 AM	2.39	H
8/19/2021	Thu	7:39 AM	1.05	L
8/19/2021	Thu	12:36 PM	3.29	H
8/19/2021	Thu	8:40 PM	-0.09	L
8/20/2021	Fri	2:59 AM	2.47	H
8/20/2021	Fri	8:35 AM	0.96	L
8/20/2021	Fri	1:33 PM	3.44	H
8/20/2021	Fri	9:28 PM	-0.1	L

**OBITUARY**

**William Otis McMullen  
1951-2021**



William Otis McMullen was born on December 19, 1951 in Dixie County, Florida to James McMullen and Fredie (Williams, McMullen) Hurley. His parents preceded him in death. Otis passed away in Everglades City, Florida on July 26, 2021.

Surviving is his beloved companion of 27 years, Jeanne Rhodes and her children Tammy Davis and James Melanson (Deanna). Grandchildren Amber Lopez, Jeanne Bagley (Brandon), Brandon Jr., Stacia, Nicolas, Tod, and Avery with whom he loved spending time.


Otis is also survived by his and Faye Hanna's children James McMullen (Laura), grandson, J.W., Angel Palmer (Phil), Desireaux Smock (Jason), Clint McMullen (Lisa), William McMullen, Jr.

Surviving brothers and sisters are Evelyn Johnson (Buddy), J.W. McMullen (Kay), Walter McMullen (Trish). Otis was preceded in death by his siblings Lester McMullen and Gail Weeks. Otis had more family, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren than there is room to mention!

Otis McMullen was a member of the Tamiami Trail Lodge #262 F&AM. He was a swamp buggy tour guide and loved the outdoors. He touched the hearts of all he met with his warm heart and giving nature. He was a true southern gentleman.

A graveside committal took place on Monday, August 2 at Hurley Hill Cemetery in Spring Creek, Florida.





**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, wall 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.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED: If you love meeting people, this is the perfect fit! The Everglades Area Visitor Center, operated by the Everglades Society for Historic Preservation, is looking for volunteers to staff the center.

Knowledge about the area and a pleasant attitude is essential! If you would like to volunteer at the center, please contact Kathy Brock at 954-662-7003. The center is located in Everglades City across from the Rod & Gun Club. Summer hours vary.

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

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



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

www.SaveBOE.com www.ESHP.org

The MULLET RAPPER

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

PUBLISHER

Kathleen Brock, K Bee Marketing, Inc. P.O. Box 134, Everglades City, FL 34139 (954) 662-7003, MulletRapper@gmail.com

PUBLISHER EMERITUS

Patricia A. Huff, Snook Publications

PUBLISHER/ EDITOR

Kathleen Brock

PHOTOJOURNALIST

Helen Bryan

CONTRIBUTORS to this Issue

Marya Repko, Elaine Middelstaedt Capt. Mike Merritt, Dr. Cherie Allison, Diallo Xia Pastor Bob Wallace, Charles Sobczak, NPS

PRODUCTION

Palm Printing, Naples, 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

\$45 annual by US Postal Mail, \$15 by email ©2021, K Bee Marketing, Inc.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced without written permission.

\*\*\*\*\*

SUBSCRIBE TO THE RAPPER

Annual Rate by Mail: \$45 Annual Email Subscription: \$15

To subscribe, please send name, address, email, and mail a check in the correct amount to:

K Bee Marketing, Inc.

PO Box 134

Everglades City, FL 34139

Call or Text Us: (954) 662-7003

Read Us Online at:

www.VisitEvergladesCity.com

"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



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