

The MULLET RAPPER



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

November 25, 2023 - December 8, 2023



© 2023, Paradise Web

P.O. Box 513, Copeland, FL, 34137

Volume XXIII · Issue # 444

Standing Room Only

by John Nipper



The anticipation was felt as residents of Everglades City gathered in droves to meet the individuals contending for key leadership positions in their community. The spotlight was on candidates for both the mayoral and city council elections.

Running for Mayor, there was the Incumbent Howell Grimm Jr. a familiar face seeking re-election, bringing experience and a proven track record. Mr. Grimm's opponent a longtime resident and local businesswoman, Dulce M. Valdés, a new entrant with a fresh perspective, eager to serve as the city's mayor.

Running for the City Council Positions; Naiara Rementeria Freeman, Steven Lenz, Michael McComas, Parker Oglesby, and Tony Pernas. All of which had great ideas and showed a genuine passion for the people of Everglades City.

The Meet-the-Candidates event was not just a formality; it was a dynamic platform

where the community engaged with the candidates. The primary focus was on meeting the candidates, understanding their ideas, and delving into their commitments to the roles they sought.

The buzz of excitement echoed through the halls of the City Hall building, the chosen venue for this civic affair. Standing as a symbol of democratic participation, City Hall provided a central and accessible location for residents to connect with the potential leaders of their community.

As the clock struck the hour, citizens filled the venue, eager to participate in the democratic process and gain insight into the individuals who could shape the city's future. This gathering wasn't just a routine meet-and-greet; it was a vital opportunity for the public to get to know the officials aspiring to represent them in city matters. Understanding the candidates' visions and principles is crucial for an informed electorate, and events like this bridge the gap between citizens and their potential leaders.

Questions presented from the public, fueled by genuine curiosity, were presented to the candidates through a chosen panel. Each contender was allotted equal time to respond, ensuring a fair and balanced exchange of ideas. The standing room-only crowd spoke volumes about the community's commitment to being actively involved in the democratic process.

See **Standing** p3

Spotlight on Mayoral Candidates

Mayor Howell Grimm:

"Meet the Candidates" was great. I would like to reiterate I am all for the community but my main priority is the infrastructure. We need the infrastructure in order to continue to move forward with all the other projects as we have been moving forward with the community center.



Dulce Valdés:

Your engagement, both in-person and on Zoom, shows our community's dedication to tackling our concerns. This drives my commitment to an open-door policy if I become mayor. I prioritize issues like infrastructure, drainage, and city aesthetics, pledging accountability. Let's nurture spaces where ideas turn into action. My dedication goes beyond words—I aim for concrete solutions. Retirement allows me the time to serve diligently.



Get Your Christmas Lights Out

THE EVERGLADES GATORS BOOSTER CLUB AND THE CITY OF EVERGLADES PRESENT

Christmas Tree lighting & light parade December 9th

PARTY

FOOD, DRINKS & RAFFLE @ 5:00PM	Tree lighting 5:30 pm City Hall	LINE UP BEHIND FIRE SCAGON 6:00 LIGHT PARADE 6:45
--------------------------------	------------------------------------	---

ALL PROCEEDS HELP OUR GATOR ATHLETES

LIGHT PARADE THEME: SKUNK APE

GOLF CARTS \$10
TRAILERS, BUGGIES, AIRBOATS \$20

IT'S CHRISTMAS TIME!

DON'T MISS OUT ON THE OPPORTUNITY TO WIN A \$5 TV AND MUCH MUCH MORE!

Everglades City and the Booster Club are gearing up for the Christmas Tree Lighting and Parade! Bring out your Christmas lights and join us for a joyful family evening. Raffle prizes, food, and Christmas cheer await.

RAPPER TABLE OF CONTENTS

Calendar	p.2	Rev. Bob	p. 8
Events	p.3	Museum	p. 9
Fishing	p. 4	Xword/Recipe	p. 10
History	p. 5	Tides/Biz List	p. 11
City Hall	p. 7	Classifieds	p. 12

EVENT CALENDAR - November 26, 2023 to January 6, 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	27 Full Moon	28  EC Elections	29 Food Pantry p3	30 Ladies' Coffee Island Cafe 8:30a	December 1	2 Swamp Fest p9
3	4	5 City Council p3	6 Food Pantry p3	7 Ladies' Coffee City Seafood 8:30a	8	9 - RAPPER Art-In-Glades p3 Light & Parade p1
10	11	12 New Moon	13 Bio Blitz p4 Food Pantry p3	14 Ladies' Coffee HavAnnACafe 8:30a Book Club p6	15	16
17	18	19 P&Z p3	20 Xmas Dessert p3 Food Pantry p3	21 Ladies' Coffee Island Cafe 8:30a Third Thurs p9	22 Santa In Town p11	23 - RAPPER Santa In Town p11
24 Christmas Eve Xmas Blessing p3	25 	26 Full Moon	27 Food Pantry p3	28 Ladies' Coffee City Seafood 8:30a	29	30 Praise Night p3
31 New Years Eve	January 1 	2 City Council p3	3 Food Pantry p3	4 Ladies' Coffee HavAnnACafe 8:30a	5	6

AREA BUSINESS & CLUB HOURS & NUMBERS

AA: Wed., 5p, 1st Baptist Church, 416 School Dr., Everglades City
 Carnestown Recycle & Trash: 2nd Sat. of month, 9a-12p, 12:30p-2p
 Everglades City Visitor Center: Open Daily, 10a-2p
 Lions Club: 2nd Thurs. of month, 6p, Jinkins Fellowship Hall
 Museum: Open Tues.-Sat., 9a-4p (239) 252-5026
 Smallwood Store: Open daily 11a-4p (239) 695-2989
 Everglades Community Church Food Pantry: Wed., 9:30a-Noon
 Mobile Pet Vet: hsnaples.org/mobile-veterinary-clinic

POST OFFICE INFORMATION

Hours: Mon.-Fri., 10a-3:30p
Box
 Everglades City: (239) 695-2174
Inside Pickup
 Chokoloskee: (239) 695-4468
 Copeland (239) 695-2202
Delivery
 Ochopee (239) 695-2099

OTHER IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Airport: (239) 695-2778
 Big Cypress: (239) 695-2000
 City Hall: (239) 695-3781
 Curbside Trash Pickup: (239) 252-2380
 Dr. Demartino, Marco Island: (239) 642-5552
 EVG National Park: (239) 695-3311
 Fakahatchee Preserve Office: (239) 961-1925
 Public Library: (239) 695-2511
 Visitor Center: (239) 232-0473

RIGHT CHOICE SUPERMARKET

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •ATM •Shirts/Caps •Camping Gear •Hardware •Medicine | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Groceries •Beer/Wine •Meats •Fresh Produce •Greeting Cards |
|---|---|



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

104 S. Buckner Ave., Everglades City, FL. (239) 695-4535
www.RightChoiceSupermarket.com

What's Happening

December 2 | 10 am - 3 pm Swamp Heritage Festival

A day full of music, art, food, history, culture, and kids' activities at the Nathaniel P. Reed Visitor Center Festival Grounds in Big Cypress National Preserve, Ochopee, FL.

December 9 | 10 am - 1 pm Art-in-Glades

Do your holiday shopping at the Art in Glades event on December 9th from 10 am to 1 pm at McLeod Park! Discover a treasure trove of unique gifts crafted by local artisans. Entry is free! Don't miss this opportunity to find one-of-a-kind gifts while supporting our talented community! Vendors call Marya at (239) 451-0265.

December 20 | 6:30 pm Christmas Dessert & Contest

Join us for the Chokoloskee Family Church Annual Christmas Dessert & Ugly Sweater Contest on December 20 at 6:30 pm. Don your ugliest sweater for a chance to win prizes.

December 24 | 10 am Christmas Blessing Service

Join us for the Chokoloskee Family Church Annual Christmas Blessing Service on December 24 at 10 am. Worship with us and win great prizes as we celebrate the holiday!

December 30 | 6:30 pm Praise Night

On the last Saturday of each month, First Baptist Church of Everglades City will have a "Praise Night" with a light supper at 6:30 pm, followed by praise music and fellowship.

Community Services

Food Bank Wednesdays | 9:30 - Noon

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."

Everglades Area Information Daily | 10 - 2 pm

The Everglades Area Visitor Center is located at 207 Broadway W., Everglades City. The Visitor Center is open daily 10 am to 2 pm.

Save The Date

January 12, 13 & 14 | 10 am Everglades Roots Festival

Join us for the Everglades Roots Festival at Trail Lakes Campground in Ochopee, Florida, featuring Swampy JamGrass, good times, and a celebration of Gladesman culture and heritage. Get your tickets at <https://www.evergladesrootsfestival.com/contact>.

February 2, 3, & 4 Everglades Seafood Festival

The 54th Annual Everglades Seafood Festival is set to commence Friday, February 2, 2024, at 4:30 p.m., just outside Everglades City Hall at 102 Copeland Ave. North. The festival will conclude at 6 p.m. Sunday, February 4, 2024. The festival will include live music, creative works by local artisans, an array of seafood, a variety of beverages and carnival rides. More Info: <https://evergladesseafoodfestival.org/>

February 24 | 11 am - 3 pm Rumble in the Glades

Chokoloskee Family Church is hosting a fundraiser that includes blessing of the bikes, music, a chili cook off, food trucks, vendors, old cars, and a silent auction in McLeod Park.

March 9 & 10 | 10 am - 4 pm Harbor Arts & Music Festival

Come to the 12th Annual Harbor Arts & Music Festival on March 9-10 at MarGood Harbor Park. Showcasing top-tier artists and diverse cuisines, enjoy captivating raffle prizes and live performances by Florida's top musicians. Don't miss this blend of great food, art, and music! More Info: taraogallery@gmail.com.

Everglades Music Festival

The Everglades Society for Historic Preservation would like to thank the following businesses and individuals whose donations helped make our music festival this weekend such a big success. We certainly have the community behind us in our endeavor to preserve our history.

Thank you to Franklin Adams and Nick Penniman, Hannah Ineson, Clyde Butcher, Varick Niles, Dianna Pollock, Smallwood Store Boat Tour, Everglades City Airboat Tours, Tour the Glades. Captain Steve's Swamp Buggy Tour, Dark Sky Everglades Jeep Tour, Tight Line Fishin' Charter with Captain Scout Morris, Kenny Brown at ORA, Steve Huff, Bill & Betsy Roth, Win-Car Hardware General Store, John Apte, and the following restaurants for donating gift certificates: Camillia St Grill, Captain Morgan's Seafood Grill, City Seafood, HavAnnA Café, Island Café, Triad Seafood Café, and Wildman's Pizza.

We would also like to express our appreciation to Mayor Howie Grimm, the Rod & Gun Club, the Lions Club, all our community volunteers, the various vendors, and the wonderful musicians, especially Pete Gallagher who organized the performers. Thank you all!

Standing

Continued from p1

Once the meeting concluded the residents



seized the opportunity to question and engage further with the candidates, ensuring they were not merely spectators but active participants in the democratic dialogue. The event stood as a testament to the community's dedication to understanding and shaping the future of their beloved city. The turnout was not just a numerical feat; it was a display of the vibrant



Moderators Don Kim, Connie Barker, Geoff Swets

spirit that defines a community invested in its own governance. ~

2023 Holiday Shipping Dates

Recommended First Class Mail send-by dates for delivery before December 25th.

Military Dec 9 | USA: Dec 16 | Alaska, Hawaii: Dec 16 | International: Dec 6

<https://about.usps.com/holidaynews/mail-by-dates/>



Mike Lyne
Mercury - Yamaha - Suzuki


- * 100 Hour / Annual Service On Your Lift
- * Boat Systems & Electrical Troubleshooting

MOBILE MARINE SERVICE
On The Water Or At Your Dock!

Servicing Everglades City to Marco Island
(305) 619-3774
lowermatmike@gmail.com

Fishing The 10,000 Islands

by Captain Mike Merritt



I am still in Brazil at this time but have been keeping up with the other local Captains. Redfish and Snook continue to be caught throughout the Islands. This should continue all month. As the water temps drop we can expect backcountry fishing to improve.



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** ♦
Listen to past sermons online:
www.evergladescommunity.church

www.bobwellsrealestate.us Office: 239-695-2660
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

Fishing live shrimp will produce even more variety this time of year and that will increase with the cooler water as fall progresses.

Snook fishing in the backcountry with artificial soft plastics is a great way to cover shorelines and find that trophy!

Redfish in the backcountry generally gets better later in the year. These guys will stay in the Islands all month. Jigs tipped with shrimp fished at a slow pace will find them.

If you're not sure what's working stop in your local tackle store and ask. They will help and be happy to accommodate. Support your local businesses.

Enjoy these awesome Everglades and good luck fishing. Capt. Mike Merritt

Mike Merritt, Fishing Guide
(561) 252-4324
SnookFishing1@juno.com

New Packaged Goods Service is Now Available

Everglades Isle RV Resort's Marlin Bar
Now Offers Packaged Goods!

Order online, select your pick up time, and then pick up at the gate!

Either scan the QR code below, click below, or go to the link online!

<https://bit.ly/3qUgmMA>

When you reach the gate, push the intercom button to let us know you are here to pick up!




Note: You must be 21 or older to order and to pick up.

Everglades Isle
803 Collier Avenue
Everglades City, FL 34139

Just look for the Lighthouse!



Fish Florida's "Last Frontier"
With Captain John Hand
Guide & Master
Fly Casting Instructor
Ph: (239) 842-7778
www.captjohnhand.com



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

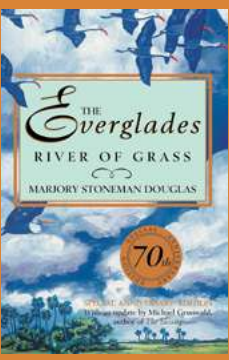
209 Collier Ave, Everglades City
Mon-Sat 8:30 am - 5 pm. (239) 695-3201

Triad Seafood Market & Café



Stone Crabs • Shrimp • Conch
Crab Cakes • Homemade Key Lime Pies
Orlo & Pam Hilton (239) 695-2662
Monday - Saturday, 10:30-6
Sunday 10:30 - 5

Celebrating 76 Years
The Everglades: River of Grass
by Marjory Stoneman Douglas.



This 1947 book sparked ongoing conservation that still inspires!
Get Your Copy
<https://bit.ly/3R0YhLs>

Help Us Count The Animals
Participate in the Fakahatchee Strand Bio Blitz series a unique opportunity to help our local wildlife.



Next Two Wednesdays
December 13
January 10
Alex.gobel@floridadep.gov
(239) 961-1925



First Baptist Church
Knowing Him and making Him known!

Praise Night, last Saturday of the month, light supper, music, fellowship at 6:30 pm!

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

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

It's a Wonder the Town Didn't Sink

by Lila Zuck

The weekend of December 5th and 6th of 1947 was a historic period for Southwest Florida. Hotels in Miami, Fort Myers and Naples were completely booked in advance of President Harry S. Truman's arrival for the dedication of the Everglades National Park on December 6, 1947.

The creation of the park had been anticipated across the United States since as early as 1930, as noted by Governor of Pennsylvania Gifford Pinchot, the first Chief of the United States Forest Service in 1905. He said " ... It is a land of strangeness separate and apart from the common things we know so well. A new world to play in, and a good place to be in summer as well as winter. There are more fish around Cape Sable than I ever saw anywhere else in a lifetime of fishing."

On May 30, 1934, the Bill creating the Everglades National Park Project was approved by Congress and signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, who knew that his signature had preserved the future of the beautiful Everglades. Unfortunately, he died in 1945 before the park was dedicated.

In November 1947, Colonel Henry T. Myers began scouting Southwest Florida for a suitable landing field for the presidential plane, the Sacred Cow. It was a World War II four-engine transport C-54 built by the Douglas Aircraft Company, and the first United States presidential plane. Capable of flying at 350 mph, it was referred to as the Flying White House. After World War II it was given to President Truman's predecessor, the late U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt and was equipped with an elevator to transport him aboard. Colonel Myers selected the Naples Airfield as an appropriate landing field, since it was in excellent condition, and still under lease to the U.S. War Department.

The preservation of land within Collier County for the purpose of creating national parks was a dream of Barron G. Collier. His sons Barron Collier, Jr. and Samuel Carnes Collier had the same aspiration, however it was his youngest son Cowles Miles



Collier who was the driving force behind their donation of 30,000 acres in the Ten Thousand Islands for the creation of the Everglades National Park and was in charge of site selection for the dedication ceremony.

The Friday, December 5, 1947 issue of *The Collier County News* was the Special Everglades National Park Edition. Printed in two colors, it was designated by Everglades National Park Commission as the official program for the dedication. It contained maps, pictures, and in-depth articles about the park.

The morning of December 6th, the Sacred Cow landed in East Naples, where a convertible Cadillac Coupe and a crowd of residents and City of Naples officials welcomed President Truman. Smiling and tanned from a sojourn in Key West, he was reported to have been in high spirits. He disembarked and, sitting beside Florida Governor Millard F. Caldwell, proceeded to the Town of Everglades, followed by Naples Mayor W. Roy Smith and Naples Police Chief Cale Jones.

Eighteen cars and a bus carried White House photographers, reporters, members of the Office of Strategic Services, and military officers from Mac Dill Air Base in Tampa, across the Tamiami Trail to Everglades, where they were welcomed by Seminole Chief William McKinley Osceola, members of the Seminole tribe, residents, and Collier County officials. Scouts Bert Arthur Williams, A. E. Canant, Jr., Henry Yonce, John Anson Smith, and Sonny Fugate of the Boy Scouts of Naples, directed by Scoutmaster Rev. A. Waldo Farabee, ushered the guests to their seats.

At the Everglades Airfield, from a wooden platform decorated with palm fronds, Deaconess Harriet Bedell gave the invocation, followed by President Truman, who gave a brief 15-minute speech dedicating the Everglades National Park to the people of the world. After Chief Osceola presented President Truman with a Seminole jacket, he attended a barbeque at the Rod and Gun Club, and then returned to the Naples Airport, where he boarded the Sacred Cow and flew to Key West for a few days rest.



The Town of Everglades hosted close to 15,000 visitors for the dedication ceremony on Sunday December 6, 1947. Referring to the See **History** p6



Hooked on the Old Florida Lifestyle



Fishermen & Nature Lovers Dream Getaway
This home is a 2020 one bedroom one bath built on stilts with boat dock located in a waterfront community. The community has a boat ramp and screened fish cleaning station and additional storage. You are just minutes away from the 10,000 islands and onto the Gulf Of Mexico for some of the best fishing, kayaking, canoeing, wildlife watching and camping.

Property Address: 675 Copeland Ave S, Unit 12 Everglades City Florida
\$255,000 Beds:1 Baths:1 Sq Feet: 560
MLS# 223024627

239-289-4400

Jennifer@JenniferBarnett.realtor



Collier County News, who was the host to all the newspapermen who covered the dedication.

“After receiving a press ribbon and sticker and instructions, we ambled up to the grandstand site, where the Ringling Circus fellows were still installing the seats and whose Frank Bozarth, of Everglades, was briskly engaged in trying to be everywhere at the same time. There we saw many old friends of Naples and Collier

History

Continued from p5

fact that the Town of Everglades was built on the Barron River, Norman Herren, Assistant Manager of the Collier Development Corporation at the time and present on the platform with President Truman, recalled 50 years later during U.S. Vice-President Al Gore’s rededication of Everglades National Park on December 6, 1997, “It’s a wonder the town didn’t sink.”

“Did you see the President?” wrote Ed Watson in *The Collier County News* on December 12, 1947. “That’s what everybody in Naples wanted to know after the dedication. Our party saw him all right, and here is what happened to our party during the day.

“Our party, raring to go, left Naples at 8:30 am Already Cale Jones (looking a little sleepy) and the highway patrolman were on the job at the airport road.

“As we drove on down the trail, it seemed that even the birds and small animals had been informed of the anticipated great event, as they were stationed along the canal banks as though someone had planted them there.

“Arriving at Everglades, we proceeded to the temporary press office (in the bus station) and were greeted by Stuart Rabb, editor of *The*



County, many of whom were putting the finishing touches to the grandstand, speakers, platforms ...” A ladder was provided for the photographers, who motioned to each other to bring it to them when they found a high, unobstructed vantage point from which to snap pictures.

For those residents of Collier County who could not attend the dedication, *The Collier County News* temporarily removed its hat as the voice of Collier County, and became its eyes, watching and taking notes for articles in the next issue of the newspaper and for us, 76 years later. ~

Everglades Book Club 23-24

Meetings are open to all. We just read the book, have wonderful discussions and make new friendships.

Dec. 14 *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus
10 am at the home of Linda Williams, 943 Panther Creek Lane - DuPont

Jan. 18 *Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott
10 am at the home of Geri Freiberger, 300 Kumquat

Feb. 15 *The Brilliant Life of Eudora Honeysett* by Annie Lyon
10 am at the home of Sharon Nykiel, 301 S. Copeland, Unit 101

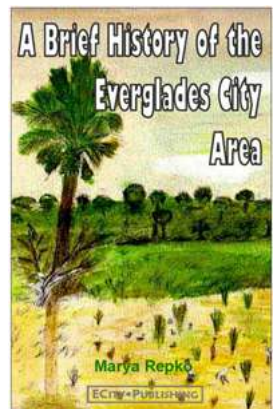
Mar. 21 *Miss Dreamsville and the Collier County Women’s Literary Society* by Amy Hill Heath
10 am at the home of Elaine Middelstaedt, 410 Storter Ave. South

April 11 *Last Train to Paradise* by Les Stand
10 am at the home of Patty Huff, 207 North Storter Ave

Questions
Call: (812) 361-7402
Diann Lock

Marya Repko: Chronicling Everglades City’s Tale

When Marya Repko landed in Everglades City in 2000, she embarked on a quest to resurrect the forgotten narratives of this distinctive community. Disheartened by the absence of documented history, she scoured the local Museum, libraries, and even City Hall, persistently seeking the elusive threads of the city’s past. Her relentless pursuit led to the creation of *A Brief History of the Everglades City Area*, a testament to her unwavering dedication and meticulous research.



Under her publishing imprint, “ECity Publishing,” Marya’s book became a beacon, shedding light on the city’s rich heritage. Available at local outlets and through her website, it serves as a gateway for those curious about Everglades City’s story. Transitioning from a bustling career as a software engineer in Europe to the tranquil embrace of Everglades City, Marya’s commitment to preserving its essence is evident in her publications, encompassing not just one book but over a dozen dedicated to capturing the soul of this unique locale.

Check out all the books at: www.ecity-publishing.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

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

Update from City Hall

by Michael McComas
Everglades City Council



At our most recent meeting City Council approved the agreement between the City of Everglades City and the Florida Division of Emergency Management for the \$13 million grant to build an Emergency Operations Center/Fire station (EOCFS) to replace Station 60. The EOCFS will be constructed above the floodplain to provide workspace for our First Responders to ride out a storm or if they are ordered to evacuate, have an operational workspace available upon their return. The intention is to bid this project out on a design/build basis so work can start as soon as possible. Once vacated Station 60 will be temporarily converted to a Community Center until a permanent replacement can be funded and built.

Council also began the process of selecting a general engineer to help our staff and Council with design and grant funding for community projects including working with FEMA on our local streets.

On Wednesday the 15th Mayor Grimm and I met with School Superintendent Leslie Riciardelli, Principal Cherie Allison, Darren Burkett, Carlos Artime and John Monda to discuss the long term plans and opportunities for Everglades City School.

There are 8 Charter amendments on the ballot which will help update and modernize City Charter and have all been work shopped for community input. The Council encourages yes votes on all the amendments Please familiarize yourself with each of them before casting your vote.

Hope you had a great Thanksgiving!



Mullet Rapper Merchandise
Now Available!



Shop Now

CAPTAIN CRAIG'S ADVENTURES
1-4 hour Adventures into Everglades National Park!



DOLPHINS BIRDING
SHELLING SUNSETS HISTORY

Our 3 Hour Adventure Tour Is Everything You Want.

come see the Dolphins

239-227-7186
100 SMALLWOOD DR CHOKOLOKEE, FL
CAPTAINCRAIGSADVENTURES.COM

November 11, 2023 Puzzle Solution

1	C	U	R	S		5	A	L	B	E	D	O		
11	A	N	E	W		12	B	A	R	R	O	W		
13	N	I	P	A		14	O	N	E	I	L	L		
15	A	C	E	R	B		17	G	A	E	L	S		
18	P	E	N	D	U	L	U	M						
20	E	F	T		21	L	E	A		22	I	S	M	
				25	E	L	E	G	A	N	C	E		
27	L	A	P	I	S		30	E	T	H	E	R		
31	A	P	O	G	E	E		33	M	A	N	E		
34	Z	E	P	H	Y	R		35	A	L	E	S		
36	E	X	E	T	E	R		37	N	E	S	T		

A Thanksgiving Tale

by Rev. Bob Wallace



Once upon a time, there was a family of four who lived in a small town in the United States. The family consisted of a mother, a father, and two children: a boy, and a girl. They were all excited about Thanksgiving which was just around the corner. The mother had been planning the Thanksgiving dinner for weeks. She had bought a turkey, potatoes, cranberry sauce, and all the other trimmings she needed to make a delicious meal. The father had been busy decorating the house with fall leaves, pumpkins, and other festive decorations. The children had been making Thanksgiving cards for their grandparents and other relatives.

On the day of Thanksgiving, the family woke up early to start cooking. The mother put the turkey in the oven, while the father peeled the potatoes. The children helped by setting the table and making sure everything was perfect. The house was filled with the delicious aroma of roasting turkey and the sound of laughter and chatter.

As the family sat down to eat, they held hands and said a prayer of thanks for all the blessings in their lives. Then they began to eat the delicious meal the mother had prepared. The turkey was juicy and tender. The potatoes were creamy and buttery. The cranberry sauce was sweet and tangy. And the family ate until they were full. Then they sat back in their chairs, feeling content and happy.

After dinner they sat in front of the fireplace. The father read a story to the children. It was a story about the first Thanksgiving which has its origins in a 1621 feast shared by the Pilgrims who had arrived in Plymouth, Massachusetts the previous year. They held a three-day feast to celebrate their first successful harvest, attended by around 90 Wampanoag Native Americans and 53 Pilgrims. Then, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed a national Thanksgiving Day to be held each November to promote unity and healing in the country during the Civil War. And today, Thanksgiving is celebrated with family gatherings, parades, football games, and, of course, a big feast which includes turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy, cranberry sauce, and pumpkin pie.

The children listened intently to their father's story; their eyes wide with wonder.

Finally, it was time for bed. The children hugged their parents and went to sleep, dreaming of turkey, pumpkin pie, and all the other wonderful things that Thanksgiving had brought.



HAPPY
Thanksgiving

Reverend Dr Bob N. Wallace
Everglades Community Church
<https://evergladescommunity.church>



Delicious Cuban & Cracker Cuisine
Unique Beer/Wine Inspired Craft Cocktails
Just in time for the holidays!

Daily | 8am-8pm
Full Kitchen Menu
Live Music & Events Weekly



Hav.AnnaCafe HavannaCafe 191 Smallwood Dr, Chokoloskee, FL | (239) 695-2214

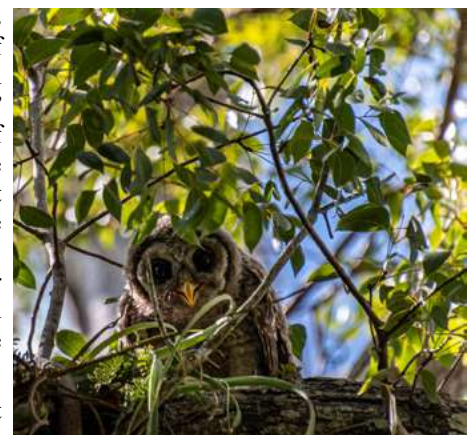


Lions Club Inductees: L-R. Ginger May, Kevin Bell, Club President Cecil Barker, sponsor Connie Barker, sponsor Caryn Wells, Lisa Redix, Denise Steinhaue. *Photo Credit: Patty Huff*

National Parks Annual Photo Contest

It's time for our annual Everglades Photo Contest!

This year's theme is "The Healing Power of Nature." Stories abound of the Everglades' power to heal itself and sometimes the humans who seek out (or stumble upon) one of the benefits of nature. Show us through your photo(s) what you find healing about the Everglades.



2022 NPS Photo Winner - by Peter Aronson

Now is the perfect time to browse your collection of photos and select your favorites that you've taken in Everglades National Park.

Enter from Nov. 4 to Nov. 28 by posting your photo to Instagram with a caption related to the theme and the hashtag #EvergladesPhotoContest2023. Be sure to tag us @evergladesnps.

The winning photo will be featured as the main banner image on our park website, and additional finalists will receive 'Honorable Mentions' on our photo contest webpage. Winners will be announced in early December.

Only photos posted from Nov. 4 to Nov. 28 will be eligible for the photo contest. Contest rules [go.nps.gov/EvergladesPhotoContest](https://www.nps.gov/EvergladesPhotoContest)

Museum of the Everglades

105 West Broadway Avenue Everglades City, FL



Originally a 1927 commercial laundry, the Museum of the Everglades building testifies to the town's history as a bustling business center and the region's first county seat. Now a museum, it's open Tuesday to Saturday from 9 am to 4 pm with free admission.

Certain events may require reservations. Book your reservation at colliermuseums.com or call (239) 252-5026. Come explore Everglades heritage today!

Exhibits & Events

Ebbets in the Everglades: The Unusual Story of the World-Famous Photographer You Never Heard Of
September 12 – January 20



Charles C. Ebbets, a versatile 1920s photojournalist, blended his diverse interests like outdoor pursuits, aviation stunts, racing, and wrestling with photography, elevating his craft. His iconic "Lunch atop a Skyscraper" photo earned a spot in TIME magazine's "100 Greatest Images." Ebbets

explored the Tamiami Trail early, capturing wildlife and landscapes, and developed a close bond with Seminole tribal leader Ingraham Billie. On January 18th there will be a lecture by Ebbets' daughter, Tami Ebbets Hahn, who will share personal insights into her father and his work.

We Are Still Here: The Past & Present of the Miccosukee Indians
January 23 – May 11



Pauline Reeves Gallery will present both the past and present of the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida. Created in collaboration with the tribal council, the exhibit explores the Miccosukee's culture and heritage while celebrating their unique achievements in self-governance, education, environmental protection, and more. During the Seafood Festival (February 3rd & 4th) there will be demonstrations of traditional crafts, cooking, and even alligator wrestling on and around the museum grounds.

Third Thursdays Talk

12/21 at 2 pm – Low Bush Lightning: Illegal Liquor in the Everglades



Prohibition fueled the illicit liquor trade in the Everglades, but moonshining has deep roots in gladesman culture. For those in the 10,000 Islands, distilling spirits wasn't just about income; it was a way of life. Some even profited from smuggling Bahamian rum. Museum Manager Thomas Lockyear will cover the area's rum runners, moonshiners, and the Sheriff's office's efforts to combat lawlessness in Florida's last frontier and maintain a dry Collier County.

Celebrating Swamp Heritage

Big Cypress National Preserve spans 700,000 acres of wetlands, harboring diverse life and a unique culture, the "Gladesmen." Laura Ogden's 2010 study revealed these descendants of South Florida settlers who mastered life in the Everglades, learning, collaborating, and forming lasting bonds with indigenous tribes, emphasizing cooperation and coexistence.



The Swamp Heritage Festival at the Big Cypress Visitor Center is a long-standing local tradition established to celebrate the collaborative cross-section of people and cultures for whom the swamp has become central to their lives. Sadly, the annual event went dormant for nearly a decade.

This year, Big Cypress staff and partners have joined forces to revive the Festival. On Saturday, December 2nd, this family-friendly event returns at the Nathaniel Reed Visitor Center on Sea Grape Drive, near the Tamiami Trail.

The Gladesman Heritage Foundation will be onsite sharing their unique history and culture with exhibits and displays. These will include a variety of vehicles used to traverse the region's watery terrain - ranging from a historic handmade skiff built by legendary gladesman Glen Simmons to vintage swamp buggies, airboats and more modern machines.

Octogenarian gladesman Franklin Adams, who recently co-authored a book ("Enjoyment of the Same") about the history and importance of public lands in South Florida, will be one of several guest speakers giving campfire chats on swamp-related topics. Other exhibitors from partner groups will offer interactive experiences, with plenty of activities for kids including hands-on archery instruction by park rangers.

Whether your family already partakes of adventures in the watery wonderland known as the Big Cypress Swamp or just wants to learn more about the opportunities available to explore and enjoy it, don't miss this opportunity to celebrate with us at this year's Swamp Heritage Festival.

Winners of the Swamp Family Photo Contest will be announced and cash prizes awarded at the festival - top prize \$200! There's still time to submit your entry to GladesHistorian@gmail.com

SWAMP FAMILY PHOTO CONTEST

Anything that shows a family connection to the swamp is fair game. Use your imagination – the possibilities are endless!

The contest is open to all students in grades K through 12. The deadline for submissions is Saturday, November 25th.

All photos submitted will be displayed at the Swamp Heritage Festival on December 2nd where winners will be selected by a panel of local judges, be awarded to the winners on the day of the festival. All entries will be included in an exhibit at the Big Cypress National Preserve Visitor Center following the contest.

\$200 TOP PRIZE!

Email entries to GladesHistorian@gmail.com Call 239-252-5027 for more information

Leftover Turkey and Swiss Panini

Ingredients

- 1 1/2 c. Leftover Turkey, Shredded
- 1/2 c. Leftover Cranberry Sauce
- 1/4 c. Chopped Pecans
- 2 tbsp. Fig Or Apricot Jam
- 4 tbsp. Dijon Mustard
- 8 slices Swiss Cheese
- 8 slices Sourdough Or Other Bread
- 8 tbsp. Butter

Directions:

- Spread one side of all bread slices with fig spread and Dijon. Add turkey to 4 slices.
- Mix cranberry sauce and pecans and spread over the turkey.
- Top with slices of Swiss cheese.
- Top with other four slices of bread with the jam/Dijon side down.
- Spread both sides generously with softened butter and toast
- Slice in half and serve.
- *Makes 4 sandwiches.*



1236 Demere Lane, Chokoloskee, FL
Phone: 239-232-0098

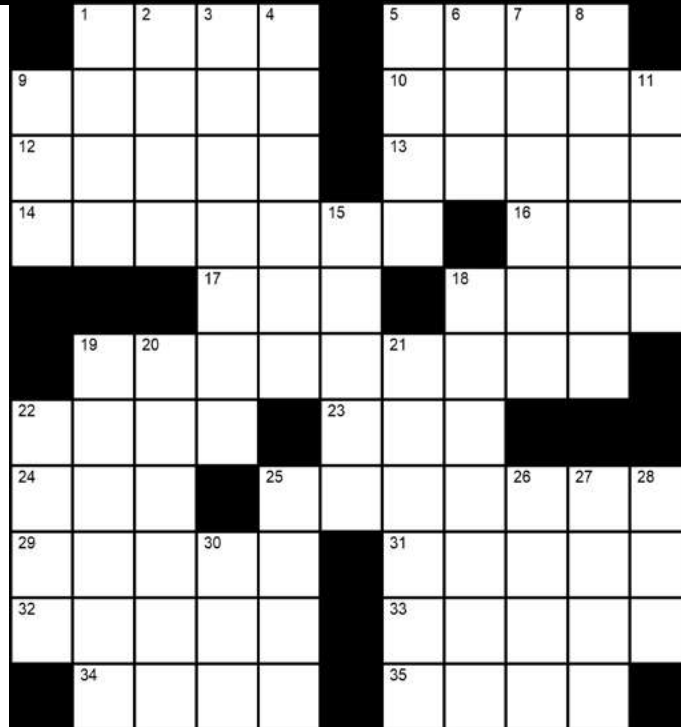
- Sunday Worship** 10:00 am
- Sun. Kids Church** 10:00 am
- Sunday Renewal** 6:00 pm
- Wed. Youth Renewal** 7:00 pm
- Thur. Bible Study** 7:00 pm

Doing Life Together

MULLET RAPPER CROSSWORD

Across

- 1. Six-stringed instrument
- 5. Hit the bottle
- 9. Romance, e.g.
- 10. Injures
- 12. Itsy-bitsy bits
- 13. Caribbean cruise stop
- 14. Relative of a snowboard
- 16. Discouraging words
- 17. 100 bani, in Romania
- 18. Charge
- 19. Silent
- 22. Jiffs
- 23. Make a sharp turn
- 24. "Disgusting!"
- 25. Accountant, at times



11/25/23

- 29. Let go
- 31. Adult insect
- 32. ___ cotta
- 33. In deplorable condition
- 34. Boris Godunov, for one
- 35. A chip, maybe

- 5. Asian tongue
- 6. Propel, in a way
- 7. Cherry and almond genus
- 8. Adorn in relief
- 9. Cheesecake ingredient?
- 11. Obi, e.g.
- 15. Comic strip by Doug Marlette
- 18. Daily diet
- 19. Hush-hush
- 20. Australian boors
- 21. "Well, ___!" ("Ain't you somethin'!")
- 22. Examine critically
- 25. Jewish month
- 26. Bakery buy
- 27. Shrek, e.g.
- 28. "Winnie-the-Pooh" baby
- 30. Victorian, for one

Down

- 1. Kill, in a way
- 2. Knowing, as a secret
- 3. Gold imitations
- 4. Ease



305 Collier Ave., Everglades City, FL 34139

Monday - Sunday
6:00 am - 9:00 pm

Breakfast Served
6:00 am - 11:00 am

Phone: (239) 695-0003

IslandCafeECity.com



Serving Everglades City
Since 1988

Glades Realty, Inc.

Karen Cochran,
Licensed Real Estate Broker

New Location!
City Hall, 2nd Floor
Everglades City, FL 34139

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

Office: (239) 695-4299 Cell: (239) 777-6614

Fax: (239) 695-3849

Email: Karen@GladesRealty.com

EATERIES

Angler's Cove, Port of the Islands Wed 4 pm – 11 pm Thur-Sun 12 am – 11 pm (Kitchen Closes at 9pm)
Camellia Street Grill Daily 11 am – 9 pm (239) 695-2003
Captain Morgan's Seafood Grill Corp. Wed-Sun 11 am – 8 pm (239) 232-0041
City Seafood Mon-Fri 8 am – 3 pm Sat & Sun 8 am – 4 pm (239) 695-4700
Diving Pelican Restaurant Sun-Thur 11 am – 8 pm Fri & Sat 11 am – 8:30 pm (Outside bar to 11 pm) (239) 232-0475
The Hangout Thur-Mon 11 am – 3 pm Closed Tue & Wed (239) 232-0461
HavAnna Cafe Daily 8 am – 8 pm (239) 695-2214
Island Cafe Daily 6 am – 9 pm (239) 695-0003
Joanie's Crab Cafe Thur-Tues 10:30 am – 4 pm Sat & Sun 10:30 am to 5 pm (239) 695-2682
Nely's Corner (Inside EFC) Fir-Sun 6:30 am – 4 pm (239) 695-4222
Rod & Gun Mon-Thurs 11:30 am – 4 pm Fri-Sat 11:30 am – 8 pm (239) 695-2101
Triad Seafood Market & Cafe Daily 10:30 am – 4 pm (239) 695-2662

MARKETS

Right Choice Market Daily 9 am – 7 pm (239) 695-4535
Grimm's Stone Crab Mon-Sat 8 am – 5 pm (239) 695-3222
AREA WORSHIP
Chokoloskee Family Church Sun: 10 am School & Worship, 6 pm Renewal Wed: Youth Program 7 pm
Copeland Baptist Church Sun: 10 am School, 11 am Worship
Everglades Community Church Sun: 11 am Worship
1st Baptist Church of Everglades City Sun: 9:45 am School, 11 am Worship & 6 pm Svc Wed: 6 pm Bible Study

BARRON RIVER TIDES

11/25/2023	Sat	12:07 AM	2.97	H
11/25/2023	Sat	7:56 AM	-0.19	L
11/25/2023	Sat	1:44 PM	2.58	H
11/25/2023	Sat	8:01 PM	0.76	L
11/26/2023	Sun	12:39 AM	3.08	H
11/26/2023	Sun	8:41 AM	-0.34	L
11/26/2023	Sun	2:31 PM	2.5	H
11/26/2023	Sun	8:43 PM	0.82	L
11/27/2023	Mon	1:11 AM	3.13	H
11/27/2023	Mon	9:25 AM	-0.4	L
11/27/2023	Mon	3:16 PM	2.4	H
11/27/2023	Mon	9:23 PM	0.86	L
11/28/2023	Tue	1:42 AM	3.11	H
11/28/2023	Tue	10:09 AM	-0.4	L
11/28/2023	Tue	4:02 PM	2.29	H
11/28/2023	Tue	10:04 PM	0.89	L
11/29/2023	Wed	2:15 AM	3.03	H
11/29/2023	Wed	10:53 AM	-0.35	L
11/29/2023	Wed	4:47 PM	2.21	H
11/29/2023	Wed	10:45 PM	0.92	L
11/30/2023	Thu	2:51 AM	2.9	H
11/30/2023	Thu	11:37 AM	-0.25	L
11/30/2023	Thu	5:32 PM	2.16	H
11/30/2023	Thu	11:28 PM	0.94	L
12/1/2023	Fri	3:33 AM	2.73	H
12/1/2023	Fri	12:22 PM	-0.13	L
12/1/2023	Fri	6:19 PM	2.14	H
12/2/2023	Sat	12:14 AM	0.95	L
12/2/2023	Sat	4:28 AM	2.54	H
12/2/2023	Sat	1:09 PM	0.02	L
12/2/2023	Sat	7:08 PM	2.15	H
12/3/2023	Sun	1:13 AM	0.96	L
12/3/2023	Sun	5:41 AM	2.35	H
12/3/2023	Sun	2:01 PM	0.17	L
12/3/2023	Sun	7:56 PM	2.19	H
12/4/2023	Mon	2:35 AM	0.92	L
12/4/2023	Mon	7:07 AM	2.18	H
12/4/2023	Mon	2:58 PM	0.31	L
12/4/2023	Mon	8:40 PM	2.25	H
12/5/2023	Tue	3:53 AM	0.8	L
12/5/2023	Tue	8:27 AM	2.08	H
12/5/2023	Tue	3:54 PM	0.43	L
12/5/2023	Tue	9:21 PM	2.33	H
12/6/2023	Wed	4:52 AM	0.64	L
12/6/2023	Wed	9:39 AM	2.02	H
12/6/2023	Wed	4:46 PM	0.54	L
12/6/2023	Wed	10:00 PM	2.4	H
12/7/2023	Thu	5:41 AM	0.46	L
12/7/2023	Thu	10:49 AM	2.02	H
12/7/2023	Thu	5:34 PM	0.63	L
12/7/2023	Thu	10:37 PM	2.48	H
12/8/2023	Fri	6:26 AM	0.26	L
12/8/2023	Fri	11:55 AM	2.07	H
12/8/2023	Fri	6:19 PM	0.7	L
12/8/2023	Fri	11:13 PM	2.56	H



Santa Claus is making a special stop at Captain Morgan's **December 22 & 23 | 2 - 4 pm** Stop by to tell Santa what you want for Christmas. *Don't forget to bring your camera!*



CAPT. LEWIS ISLAND EXCURSIONS

 Capt. Joshua D. Lewis
 (239) 719-7907
 CaptainJDLewis@gmail.com
 LewisIslandExcursions.com

GROUP MOTOR BOAT TOURS

2-Hour Eco/Sight-Seeing Tour
 Adults (Ages 16 and up)... \$100
 Youth (Ages 7 to 15)... \$80
 Children (Ages 6 and under)... Free

3.5-Hour Eco/Sight-Seeing Tour
 Tour will be the same as the 2-hour eco tour but will include a 1-hour island stop where guests can swim, shell, and explore the beach!
 Adults (Ages 16 and up)... \$150
 Youth (Ages 7 to 15)... \$110
 Children (Ages 6 and under)... Free

3.5-Hour Shelling Tour
 This tour will include a 2.5-hour island stop for shelling along the beach and if desired another island can be explored! *
 Adult (Ages 16 and up)... \$150
 Youth (Ages 7 to 15)... \$110
 Children (Ages 6 and under)... Free

**Guests should consider travel time to another Island will deduct from total allotted shelling time.*

CLASSIFIED ADS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

SEEKING APPLICANTS: The Goodland Civic Association is seeking applicants for its 12th Annual Harbor Arts & Music Festival, a two-day, juried fine art event, March 9 & 10, 2024. The application deadline is December 18, 2023.

PET PHOTO CALL: If you have cute, crazy or just lovable pets please send their photo to the Mullet Rapper and we'll put them in the paper for all to enjoy. They'll be Famous!

MulletRapper@gmail.com

HELP WANTED: The Visitor Center is looking for volunteers. We give visitors a map of Everglades City and Chokoloskee as well as point them to the Big Cypress where they can see alligators and hike.

To Volunteer visit 207 West Broadway, opposite the Rod & Gun, or call Patty at (239) 719-0020

New Sign for Bank of Everglades



Swing by the Bank of Everglades to see the beautiful new sign with information about the renovation and future of this historic building.



Mullet Rapper Publisher

Denise Wauters, Paradise Web
P.O. Box 513, Copeland FL 34137
MulletRapper@gmail.com
(941) 999-1237

Subscribe to the Mullet Rapper

Email: \$20/yr | Mail: \$50/yr
To Subscribe Visit: MulletRapper.com

Publishers Emeritus

Kathleen Brock, K Bee Marketing, Inc.
Patricia A. Huff, Snook Publications

Contributors

Patty Huff, Elaine Middelstaedt,
Michael McComas, Capt. Mike Merritt,
Lila Zuck, Rev. Dr. Bob Wallace, Mayor
Howell Grimm, Dulce Valdés, John Nipper.

Printer

Palm Printing, Naples, FL

Publisher's Statement

We provide news for the communities of Everglades City, Chokoloskee, Plantation Island, Lee Cypress, Copeland, Jerome, and Ochopee. We seek accuracy & diversity in reporting. Views expressed may not reflect those of the editors or publisher.

©2023, Paradise Web

All rights reserved. Reproduction without written permission is prohibited.



MULLET RAPPER
Subscribe to the

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

Copeland, FL 34137
P.O. Box 513
The MULLET RAPPER

