



## Citizens Rally to Save Everglades Airpark

By Harry Henkel

On the evening of March 31st, approximately 30 citizens gathered at Everglades City Airport to discuss the future of the local airpark, following concerns raised by Collier County's consideration of deactivating the facility. At least 10 pilots also attended, including two who flew in—one from Venice, FL, and one from Fort Lauderdale. The pilots learned about the meeting through AOPA (Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association). Among those in attendance were several pilots, including both those who drove and those who flew in to participate.

The meeting, which was informal and community-driven, saw the formation of a plan to advocate for the airport's survival. The gathering included residents, aviation professionals, and pilots who are committed to preserving Everglades Airpark and improving

See **Airpark**, p5

## Everglades Supporters Block Tower

By Kelly J Farrell

The Everglades community rallied to take down Collier County's plans for a 360-foot tall communications tower planned at the Ochopee Fire Station on U.S. 41. Instead, an existing tower should be maintained in Carnestown.

"I'm just really appalled to think a 360-foot tower is being considered in Big Cypress [National Preserve], which is truly God's country," said Donna Knapp, a longtime Naples resident and Everglades advocate.

The tower actually got bigger — with plans growing from the initial 350-foot tall plan to 360-foot tall — before the whole idea was finally scrapped for that Ochopee site by Commissioners

during a public hearing on March 25.

Human health risks, disturbance to wildlife crossings, obscuring dark skies for star viewing, harming ecotourism and infringing particularly on indigenous culture were among the problems cited by the opposition to the site.

### Living Near the Proposed Tower

Residents living as close as 1,000 feet, include the Shealys, and indigenous families living even closer at distances less than 500 feet or even within 300 feet or less from the tower — all expressed concerns about health effects of living near a



Photos by Kelly J Farrell

tower. Among many research groups, the Environmental Health Trust has published numerous studies showing the health risks from being exposed to electromagnetic radiation, with damage to children's developing

See **Tower**, p4

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**Legacy of Marya Repko**  
Honoring Marya Repko's 22 Years of Service.

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**Legend Get's Recognized**  
Capt. Franklin Adams honored for conservation legacy.

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**We're Evolving Again**  
See what's next for your local source of news & events.

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# Local Event Calendar

## April 13, 2025 to May 24, 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>April 13</b> Fresh Market p3 Rapper Submissions Due #473	14	15 Tax Day Code + P&Z p2	16 Food Pantry p2	17 Ladies' Coffee Island Cafe 8:30a Third Thursday p7	18 Fresh Market p3 <span style="background-color: #4CAF50; color: white; padding: 2px;">No School</span>	19 EGG-stravaganza p2 <span style="background-color: #FF9800; color: white; padding: 2px;">Park Week</span>
20 Easter Sunday	21	22 Earth Day	23 Food Pantry p2 Outreach Prog p3	24 Ladies' Coffee City Seafood 8:30a	25 Fresh Market p3	<b>26 - RAPPER #473</b> Museum Party p2
Park Week						
27 <span style="color: white;">●</span> <b>New Moon</b> Fresh Market p3 <span style="background-color: #FF9800; color: white; padding: 2px;">Park Week</span>	28	29	30 Food Pantry p2	<b>May 1</b> Ladies' Coffee HavAnnA 8:30a	2 Fresh Market p3	3 Kentucky Derby Mother's Day Luncheon p3
4 Fresh Market p3	5 Cinco de Mayo	6 City Council p2 Díaz-Balart's p2	7 Food Pantry p2	8 Ladies' Coffee Island Cafe 8:30a	9 Fresh Market p3 Reception p7	10
11 Mother's Day Rapper Submissions Due #473	12 <span style="color: white;">☾</span> <b>Full Moon</b>	13	14 Food Pantry p2	15 Ladies' Coffee City Seafood 8:30a Third Thursday p7	16 Fresh Market p3	17
18 Fresh Market p3	19	20 Code + P&Z p2	21 Food Pantry p2	22 Ladies' Coffee Island Cafe 8:30a	23 Fresh Market p3 <span style="background-color: #4CAF50; color: white; padding: 2px;">Early Dismissal</span>	<b>24 - RAPPER #474</b>

### Events

#### April 12 | 11 am - 1 pm 13th Annual Spring Fling

The 13th Annual GCA Spring Fling for Goodland Residents will be held Saturday, April 12th, 11am-1pm. Enjoy free food, fun and friendship and celebrate with your fellow neighbors and Goodlanders before the end of season.

#### April 19 | 10 am - 1 pm EGG-stravaganza

Bring your basket and join us for the Annual Everglades City EGG-stravaganza on April 19 from 10 am to 1 pm, where the fun happens in McLeod Park on Copeland Ave and Hibiscus Street West in Everglades City. This event features 4,000 candy-filled Easter eggs waiting to be found, inflatables for the little ones to bounce on, cash-filled eggs adding an extra thrill to the hunt, free food to fuel the excitement, amazing giveaways adding to the joy, a petting zoo and pony rides for extra fun, and lots of happy kids enjoying the festivities and creating cherished memories with their families!

#### April 26 | 9 am - 2 pm Anniversary & Museum Party

This combination celebration of the 97th Anniversary of the completion of the Tamiami Trail and the "birthday" of Museum of the Everglades (opened on the 70th Anniversary of the Trail in 1998) is a fun-filled afternoon with live

music, complimentary hot dogs, and the only laundry cart races in the country! Join us early for a complimentary walking tour, sign up and take part in the races, peruse the display of classic cars, or just relax and enjoy the music with a slice of birthday cake!

#### April 19-27 National Park Week

Celebrate National Park Week with a musical journey through Everglades National Park! From April 19th to 27th, enjoy a variety of events inspired by different music genres, with entrance fees waived on April 19th to kick off the celebration. Each day features a unique theme, including Greatest Hits, Alternative, Pop, Nature Songs, Classic Rock, Heavy Metal, Rhythm & Blues, Dance Music, and Walkup Songs.

#### May 3 | 12 pm Mother's Day Luncheon

Join us for a special Mother's Day Luncheon at noon on Saturday, May 3rd, at 442 Riverside Drive in Everglades City. Enjoy delicious food and drinks while celebrating the wonderful mothers in our community. Hosted by Terri Cull and Gina Daniels. Please text Terri at (954) 648-8499 to RSVP by May 1st (Text Only Please).

### Community

#### Everglades Area Information Daily | 9:30 am - 4 pm

The Everglades Area Visitor Center

is located at 207 Broadway W., Everglades City. The Visitor Center is open daily 9:30 am to 4 pm.

#### Food Pantry Wednesdays | 9:30 am - 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.

#### Ladies Coffee Thursdays | 8:30 am

Ladies Coffee is a casual weekly gathering for women every Thursday at different local breakfast spots or homes. No rules or fees, just a welcoming space to connect and forge friendships.

#### Rep. Díaz-Balart's in EC Office First Tuesday | 2:30 pm

Every first Tuesday at 2:30 pm, a member of Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart's team will be at Everglades City Hall to assist with federal casework, including USPS, social security, veterans' benefits, immigration, and other federal issues.

#### City Council Meeting First Tuesdays | 7 pm

City Council meetings are held every 1st Tuesday of the month at 7 pm in the City Council room, 2nd floor City Hall. The public is invited to attend. Info: [cityofeverglades.org](http://cityofeverglades.org)

#### Code Enforcement + P&Z Third Tuesdays

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Zoning meetings are held monthly on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. City Council room, 2nd floor City Hall. Info: [cityofeverglades.org/Meetings-Agendas](http://cityofeverglades.org/Meetings-Agendas)

**Fresh Fruit & Vegetables Friday & Sunday**

Find farm-fresh produce Fridays and Sundays from 10 am to 2 pm next to the Everglades City Post Office.

**Holy Family Church Outreach Program**

**Fourth Wednesday | 9 am - 11 am**

Volunteers from SVDP San Marco Conference offer financial assistance at Holy Family Church on the fourth Wednesday of each month from 9 to 11 am. Appointments are required—call (239) 259-4591 or (239) 259-4593 or email [svdpsanmarco@gmail.com](mailto:svdpsanmarco@gmail.com) with your name, phone number, and type of assistance needed.

**Live Music**

**Gator Hole Bar** (Everglades City) Friday & Saturday at 7pm

**HavAnnA Cafe** (Chokoloskee) Thursdays - Sundays

**Joanie's Blue Crab Cafe** (Ochopee) Weekends

**Little Bar** (Goodland) Every night.

**Crabby Lady** (Goodland) Weekends

**Stans** (Goodland) Tuesday - Sundays. Shows start at 1 & 5

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APRIL 2 6:30PM - RACHILLE COBA	APRIL 12 8:00PM - MERRILL	APRIL 22 6:30PM - DAN VALL
APRIL 3 6:30PM - MERRILL	APRIL 13 8:00PM - JOHN GARRETT BAND	APRIL 23 6:30PM - RAYFORD STARS
APRIL 4 6:30PM - RAYFORD STARS	APRIL 14 8:00PM - PAUL G	APRIL 24 6:30PM - THE FLATLINEERS DOG
APRIL 5 6:30PM - THE RICHMONDS	APRIL 15 8:00PM - RAYFORD STARS	APRIL 25 8:00PM - JF JAMES & THE RED HEAT
APRIL 6 6:30PM - DAN SINGER	APRIL 16 6:30PM - BRANLEY	APRIL 26 8:00PM - MERRILL
APRIL 7 6:30PM - RAYFORD STARS (ALL DAY)	APRIL 17 6:30PM - HALCHER & HONARD	APRIL 27 8:00PM - DAMON FOWLER BAND
APRIL 8 6:30PM - JES RICHMOND	APRIL 18 6:30PM - MICK FURY	APRIL 28 6:30PM - RAYFORD STARS
APRIL 9 6:30PM - DAN VALL	APRIL 19 8:00PM - EDISON SCHETTER	APRIL 29 6:30PM - DAN VALL
APRIL 10 6:30PM - HALCHER & HONARD	APRIL 20 8:00PM - RAYFORD STARS	APRIL 30 6:30PM - TONY SOLO
APRIL 11 6:30PM - RAYFORD STARS	APRIL 21 6:30PM - CLOSED - HAPPY EASTER	

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**2025 In Stand Dates**

- January 18
- February 1
- February 15
- March 1
- March 15
- March 29
- April 12
- April 26
- May 24
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- July 19
- August 16
- September 13
- October 11
- October 25
- November 8
- November 22
- December 6
- December 20

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We cover news and events for Everglades City, Chokoloskee, Plantation Island, Port of the Islands, Copeland, Jerome, Ochopee, Goodland, Lee Cypress, Big Cypress, and the 10,000 Islands. Our aim is accurate and diverse reporting. Opinions expressed may differ from those of the editors or publisher.

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~ Marjory Stoneman Douglas

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# Tower

From Page 1



brains among the higher risks.

Health concerns ranging from dizziness and headaches to breast cancer when people live too close to the towers, was noted by Knapp.

“These things really typically do not belong in preserves,” Knapp said of the tower. “They’re more for industrial places,” she added.

Her suggested solution—to just leave the original tower in Carnestown, which is on property owned by the National Park Service — is what Collier County Commissioners finally decided would be the best approach in their 5-0 vote on March 25. However, the NPS has yet to make a public statement on that possibility.

## From One to Many

The first person to publicly oppose the plans for the tower was Jack Shealy of the Jack Shealy Band, Skunkape Research Headquarters and Trail Lakes Campground. The Shealy property is home to multiple generations of the Shealy family and is adjacent to the proposed tower site.

The Collier County Planning Commission had approved the site for the new tower in February, moving it forward to the Collier County Commissioners, with only Shealy present at that time to oppose it.

However, once Shealy began circulating the news about the proposal on social media and through other outlets, many opponents came forward,

including members of the Miccosukee and Seminole Tribes as well as the Independents, including those who are federally recognized as the Independent Traditional Seminole Nation.

The indigenous Billie family are longtime neighbors of the Shealys and live adjacent to the proposed tower site, at an even closer proximity.

There were more than 30 people signed up to speak in opposition and even more — at least 50 people — present to express their solidarity at the Collier County Commission meeting on March 25. This was in addition to more than 2,100 signatures on the petition opposing the tower in Ochopee posted on change.org.

Several Miccosukee, Seminole and Independents made public comments against the tower’s intrusion on their culture and sacred grounds, as well as harming human health and the environment.

“I cannot believe how many Miccosukee and Seminole people showed up,” exclaimed Robert Rosa, chairman of the American Indian Movement, a nonprofit that advocates for indigenous people’s rights throughout the world.

## Why a 360-foot Tower?

Collier County staff, collaborating with other local, state and federal officials, stated the tower was needed in Ochopee for law enforcement and emergency communications. An existing tower located on U.S. 41 and State Road 29 in Carnestown is on property owned by the federal government. The National Park Service is in the process of redeveloping the site for a new welcome center to Big Cypress National Preserve. Part of that plan is to demolish the existing tower. However, the National Park Service did not provide information about the plans as requested by this reporter.

Communications towers include leases that allow profit from cellular phone company usage.

## Legal Problems

Among the problems with the proposed site for the tower is a deed restriction stating that the property was given to the county only if it continued

to be used for fire suppression.

In 1977, the Shealy’s neighbor of the time, Ester Davison, donated the property to Collier County to establish the fire department with the Shealy’s ancestors.

The Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida also sent the Collier County government a letter reminding them of the Big Cypress Enabling Legislation of 1974 protecting indigenous people’s customary use of lands and water within the preserve.

Collier County planning officials and county attorney Jeff Klaskow proposed suing to remove the deed restrictions. The deed stated that if the property was used for anything other than fire suppression then the property ownership would revert back to the heirs.

## Commission Conclusion

Collier County Commissioners were initially going to move forward with suing to remove the deed restrictions and continue to look for alternative sites, according to a motion by Commissioner Bill McDaniel But, after numerous public speakers, the Commission changed course.

Commissioner Burt Saunders said he didn’t believe his colleagues on the dais felt comfortable with the plan in Ochopee. So, McDaniel changed his motion and instead the Commission unanimously voted for the site to no longer be an option for the tower and for staff to work with the National Park Service and other legislators to see if the existing tower in Carnestown could continue to be used for the site of the communications tower that has existed for decades.

“I’m very happy with the outcome and the way that our Commissioners listened to their constituents, addressed the problems with the plans and came to a reasonable decision in favor of the people who took time to make public comment,” said Shealy.

“It’s situations like this that show the true character of the Collier County Board of Commissioners, and show how the system works when people take the time to speak out and make decision for good causes,” Shealy said.

# Marya Repko’s Legacy

By Patty Huff



In 2003, Friends Of Fakahatchee (FOF) President Patty Huff announced that its new member Marya Repko had agreed to become Membership Chair. Little did she, or anyone, know that this would become a 22-year commitment. Marya’s accuracy and dedication to perfection served FOF well for over two decades. She sent out notices and encouraged people from all over South Florida to become members of the nonprofit organization serving the largest state park in Florida.

In 2010, she was awarded the distinguished Mel Finn Award by the

See **Marya p9**

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# Airpark

From Page 1



its services. Participants signed in and filled out petitions to show their support, while also brainstorming a series of initiatives aimed at engaging elected officials and securing funding for much-needed improvements to the airpark's infrastructure.

## Steps Toward Revitalization

A key topic of discussion was the establishment of a Non-Profit Support Organization, which would help augment the airport's operational needs and enhance its facilities. A significant donation had already been made by a pilot prior to the meeting, given to the local Historical Society and earmarked for improvements to the airport.

Several action points were discussed, including:

**Contacting County Representatives:** Attendees will be provided with a list

of emails for county representatives. They will be encouraged to send letters requesting funding and support for the airpark, emphasizing its multiple purposes beyond aviation.

**Restoring Airport Facilities:** Solutions to address infrastructure issues, such as the long-term damage from hurricanes, will be explored. The group is committed to finding ways to restore the airpark's facilities, including the possibility of securing federal and state grants for storm-resistant infrastructure.

**Reintroducing Community Events:** The airpark was once known for hosting "Pancake Breakfasts" for pilots, and there is a plan to reinstate "Fly-In" events starting in November, advertised across the state to attract more visitors.

**Attracting Mechanics:** There was also a proposal to invite airplane and airboat mechanics to set up shop at the airpark, addressing a growing demand for engine repair services. Additionally, the group discussed encouraging a flight instructor to establish operations at the airport. This could potentially lead to an internship opportunity for students at Everglades City School to learn the trade.

**Addressing Hangar Space Needs:** Despite deposits being made for 15 hangars, the county has not yet addressed the necessary repairs to

eight of them. There is significant demand for hangar space, and the group will work to resolve the issue and attract more businesses to the area. Additionally, one pilot in attendance expressed interest in paying to park his plane at the airport.

**Enhancing Amenities:** If approved by the county, the group will seek to raise funds for improvements such as vending machines to provide refreshments for visitors, as well as establishing transportation options to nearby attractions, hotels, and restaurants.

**Marketing and Promotion:** The group aims to boost the airpark's visibility by promoting its use through advertisements and partnerships with aviation tour companies, including a seaplane operator.

These ideas were all aimed at increasing the airpark's financial sustainability, engaging the community, and showing elected officials the importance of maintaining this valuable facility.

## A Vital Resource for the Community

Everglades Airpark, acquired by Collier County in 1968, has been struggling financially due to a lack of infrastructure improvements and the impact of several hurricanes, including Hurricane Irma in 2017 and Hurricane Ian in 2022. While county staff has suggested deactivation as a

potential solution, local residents and aviation professionals have expressed concerns that this approach overlooks the airpark's broader value to the community.

Longtime pilot John Apte, a strong supporter of the airpark, highlighted its importance as a key stop for those flying to the Keys, providing essential services to businesses like local fish companies that deliver stone crabs to fly-in visitors. Apte believes that the airpark's closure would have a detrimental impact on the area, urging county officials to recognize its value as a vital resource for both locals and tourists.

## Looking Ahead

As the county moves forward with its study on the future of Everglades Airpark, residents and aviation advocates are committed to ensuring that all potential solutions are thoroughly considered. With the support of the community, there is hope that the airpark can remain operational and continue serving as a key asset to Everglades City.

Mayor Howie Grimm has also voiced his strong support for the airpark, stating that the city will do everything in its power to ensure its success. He has suggested the addition of rental hangars, following the example of Marco Island's airport, which has proven profitable through similar investments.

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**Just Look For The Lighthouse**



# What Do You Call It?

By Pastor Jesse Wilson  
Chokoloskee Family Church

It's a call I enjoy getting. "Pastor, would you like some fish?" Of course, I said yes, what person doesn't like fish? I not only like fish, I like to eat in general, I heard that's important for a happy life. Like my momma always used to say, "you can call Jesse a lot of things, except late for dinner!" That's especially true when it comes to fish, especially the fish right here in the waters surrounding the Ten Thousand Islands! When I showed up at the resort on Chokoloskee to pick up the freshly caught fish I was told it was Sheepshead.

My first thought was "I don't want any sheep; I want some fish!" Then I looked in the cooler and was introduced to Sheepshead fish! My wife cooked it for dinner that evening and it was delicious. Best sheep I ever had, well in the fish family anyway! When you look at a Sheepshead fish, you'll do a double take. Its got some unique looking teeth, almost human like, and large. I was told they are good for eating barnacles. Seeing those teeth reminded me of a girl I used to date. Since then, I've learned we have quite a farm under the waters here around Chokoloskee and Everglades City.

If your lucky you might catch a Hogfish, heard it goes well with eggs and toast. Sorry, wrong kind of hog, but it does have a unique look, kind of like a hog's face. I doubt though it tastes like bacon, but it would be funny if it did. It's related to the Snapper family of fish, and they don't take too kindly to them being made fun of.

If your out in the bay and you see a cow swimming, don't be scared, a closer look would reveal that its just a Cownose Ray, part of the stingray family, and no I'm not talking about Corvettes. These rays have what resembles a cow like nose. I'm sure they would glide through the waters easier and quicker if it weren't for the large nose God gave them.

Eating at one of the local restaurants in town, I tried some Tripletail fish. I thought three tailed fish were the ones swimming around the nuclear power plant in Jensen Beach. But it turns out here in our waters we have a delicious fish called Tripletail, and trust me when I tell you, it's quite good! If you're out in the water and you hear what sounds like a drum solo, you might want to check your line, you probably caught a Black Drum Fish. I've been told when they are caught, they make a drum sound. If you know any local bands who need a drummer, or a local church, I know a fish.

One of the important rules for boating through the shallow waters around the islands, watch out for the rocks. Unless of course you're fishing, then you just might catch a Rockfish. Goliath might have survived had young David hit him with a Rockfish instead of the other rock he had. Rockfish are also known as Striped Bass, but my David and Goliath joke wouldn't have had the same effect. I think I just heard my wife groan at my feeble attempt at a joke.

We were out fishing with some church members a couple weeks ago. Thankfully I didn't have to worry about Robins, they can't fly. I'm not talking about birds, but the Sea Robin. They make strange noises when caught and if you're not careful the barbs in its tail will sting you. I prefer the Red Robins from my home state of Michigan, they sound sweeter to the ears.

Recently Craig Daniels, my associate Pastor at Chokoloskee Family Church sent me a picture of a beautiful fish his son caught. Marshall is only five, but you're never too young to start learning about the water here around the islands, and whats in them. Marshall can drive a boat almost as good as an adult, and he can fish just as good too. He had caught a Red Drum, not sure what band lost it, but there it was floating in the water. Wait, I meant he a caught fish, a Red Drum, also known as a Redfish.



Photo by Craig Daniels

Marshall caught it in a castnet, just another thing the kid is good at. The over footlong beast was a beauty, and I'm sure it was delicious. I wouldn't know personally, because Craig didn't share any. Did I tell you he works for me at the church? I thought I had put that in the job description. 'Associate Pastor, all fish caught by you, or your amazing son, must be shared with the senior pastor.' Guess I need to have a meeting next week with him and his boat driving, castnet throwing little phenom he's raising.



Photo by Angela Nicholson


caught a Peacock Bass, and it was a beauty. They are known to put up a fight when caught, but apparently this one didn't get the memo on Carl. Fish don't fight Carl, neither do bears, wild pigs or pythons. It's the unwritten rule of the Everglades. Maybe it should be posted, it would make it a fair fight.

Carl has a bear rug, had it for ten years. It's not dead, it's just scared to move. Like I said, the Peacock Bass didn't get the memo. Carl took him home and nobody's heard from that fish since. A fish story wouldn't be complete without a tall tale. I once caught a 50-pound bass with a 1-pound line, fought it for three hours while I read a book on bass fishing. If you believe that then I have some prime real estate for sale just off the Turner River. But I did catch a Goliath Grouper when out fishing a couple weeks ago. You're not allowed to keep them, they are protected. But you can photograph them before returning them to the water. With a name like Goliath Grouper, I kind of felt like David facing Goliath. Now that I worked the whole David and Goliath thing into my article twice, I think I have an idea for Sunday's sermon!

So, the next time someone asks if you want some fish and its a strange name, just look at them with your head tilted a little and ask, "what did you call it?" You just might learn something about the fish in the Ten Thousand Islands.



Photo by Charity Wilson



**CHOKOLOSKEE FAMILY Church**

**CHURCH SCHEDULE:**

Sun. Worship	10:00AM
Sun. Kids Church	10:00AM
Sun. Renewal	6:00PM
Wed. Youth Renewal	7:00PM
Thurs. Bible Study	7:00PM

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# Museum of the Everglades

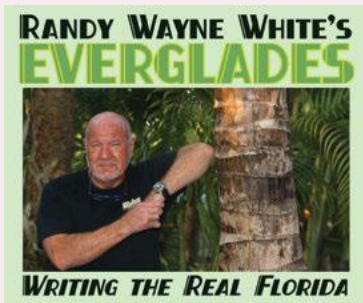
105 West Broadway Avenue Everglades City, FL



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](http://colliermuseums.com) or call (239) 252-5026. Come explore Everglades heritage today!

## Exhibits

### Randy Wayne White's Everglades - Writing the Real Florida Jan 14 – May 3



Best-selling author Randy Wayne White spent 13 years as a fishing guide out of Tarpon Bay on Sanibel Island before turning to writing in 1989. With over 3,000 paid charters under his belt, he crafted the Doc Ford series, blending his passion for Florida history, coastal waters, and local culture. The Everglades remain central to many

of his stories, with local locations and personalities reflected in his characters. Our new temporary exhibit, Randy Wayne White's Everglades, celebrates the author and his work that brings the REAL Florida to life.

## Third Thursday Talk Series

### By Boat, By Train, By Car, By Plane — a Brief History of the Everglades City Airport April 17 | 2 – 3 pm



Museum Manager Thomas Lockyear will explore the evolution of Everglades Airpark, from a private airstrip for Barron Collier's sons to its current status as a 29-acre public facility contributing over \$2 million annually to

the local economy. The discussion will highlight the role of airplanes in the region's culture, from Collier County's first airborne law enforcement officer, William Riley "Clyde" Maynard, to sightseeing flights and the use of stolen aircraft in illegal trades during the 1980s.

### Folklore and Folkways: How Beliefs Shape Cultures & Vice Versa May 15 | 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm



In this companion lecture to Museum of the Everglades' new temporary exhibit, Folklore, Fish Tales, and Family Stories, Museum Manager Thomas Lockyear will explore the ways in which the legends and lore of an isolated region can become reciprocal agents in cultural development—particularly as

they relate to South Florida and the Everglades. Myths, misconceptions, buried treasure, creepy cryptids, and the student contributions to the exhibit will all be discussed.

## Events

### Opening Reception to Folklore, Fish Tales, & Family Stories: Legends of the Everglades May 9 | 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm



Join us for the opening reception of Folklore, Fish Tales, & Family Stories: Legends of the Everglades. In collaboration with our local school, students have contributed artwork, photos, videos, stories, and more to celebrate the unique history and culture

of our community. This year, they've been challenged to explore myths, legends, tall tales, ghost stories, and legendary acts from the Everglades, including stories of colorful characters and family members. The exhibit will also feature historical information and traditional stories to provide context for the students' creative expressions.

# A Legend Get's Recognized

By Denise Wauters

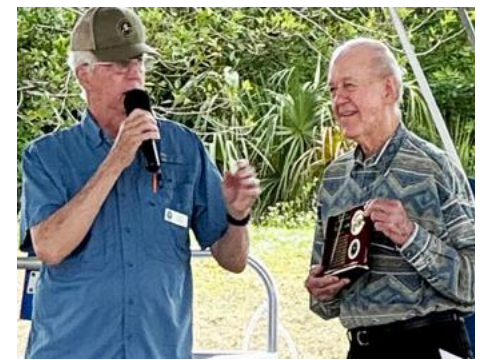


Photo by Nicholas Petrucci

Capt. Franklin Adams, a renowned conservationist, historian, and Gladesman, has received a prestigious award from the Friends of Fakahatchee for his outstanding service in preserving the natural beauty of South Florida. His lifetime of dedication to the Everglades and surrounding lands is a testament to his unwavering commitment to conservation and his instrumental role in establishing the Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park—the largest state park in Florida.

Born in Miami, Franklin's passion for the outdoors was ignited early in life by his father, G.B. Adams. Together, they hunted and fished throughout the Everglades, a land Franklin remembers as unspoiled and abundant with wildlife. His deep connection to these wild spaces laid the foundation for his conservation efforts.

Throughout his career, Franklin wore many hats—warden-naturalist for the National Audubon Society, Florida Master Naturalist, land surveyor, and eco-tour operator, to name a few. His extensive knowledge of the land was honed through years of surveying projects in Big Cypress National



Preserve, Everglades National Park, and the Florida Keys. But it was his work in conservation that left an indelible mark. As former chair of the Florida Wildlife Federation and past president of the Florida Division of the Izaak Walton League of America, Franklin worked tirelessly to protect the Everglades. He was also a 31-year board member of the Florida Wildlife Federation and served as Collier County chair of the Friends of the Everglades.

Franklin's leadership extended to his work with the Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park. Recognized as a Guardian of the Everglades, he played a crucial role in advocating for the park's protection. His efforts helped preserve this unique ecosystem, which is home to the Florida panther, the rare Everglades mink, and the largest collection of native orchids and bromeliads in North America.

Franklin's lifelong conservation efforts were shaped by early encounters with Marjory Stoneman Douglas, who became a mentor and family friend, teaching him the importance of defending nature.

Franklin's book, *Enjoyment of the Same*, offers a captivating history of South Florida's public lands, reflecting his deep knowledge and passion for the region's natural heritage. Through its pages, readers gain insight into the rich history of the area and the importance of preserving these lands for future generations.

The Friends of Fakahatchee award honors Franklin Adams for his lasting contributions to conservation.

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Business Spotlight

# Chokoloskee Family Church

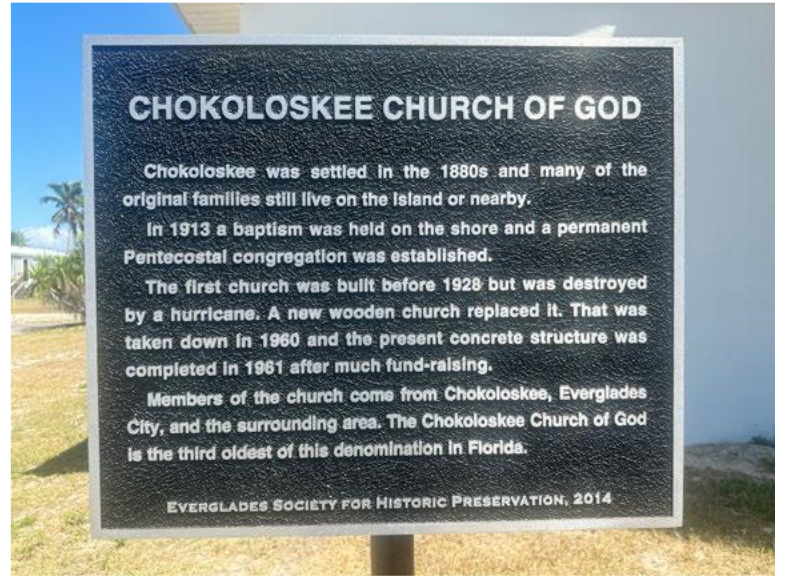


Photo Courtesy of Chokoloskee Church



They came in boats, navigating the wild, untamed waters of the Ten Thousand Islands. Sometimes alone, sometimes with their families, they arrived carrying something more valuable than any treasure—hope. They were evangelists, bringing the good news of God’s love and grace to the small

but thriving island of Chokoloskee. Back then, the only way in or out was by boat, and sometimes, the mail boat wouldn’t arrive for months. But that didn’t stop them. They stayed, they preached, and they built something lasting—a church that still stands today as a beacon of faith and community.

The story of Chokoloskee Family Church goes back to the early 1900s when the McKinney family generously donated land for a place of worship. In 1913, the Chokoloskee Church of God officially opened its doors, making it the third-oldest Church of God in Florida. That same year, 40 people were baptized in Chokoloskee Bay at a place called McKinney’s Landing. While today it’s home to Martha and Craig Daniels, the church still holds baptisms there, continuing a tradition more than a century old.

Like any great story, there were

challenges. The original wooden church was lost to a hurricane just a few years after it was built. But faith doesn’t waver in the face of storms—it rebuilds. A new church was constructed on the same site, and in the 1950s, Pastor Thomas Wells had a vision for something stronger. By the late ‘50s, a concrete sanctuary was completed, and it has withstood the test of time (and more than a few hurricanes) ever since. Now, the church is embracing its next chapter, constructing a brand-new sanctuary on the same historic site. This new church will serve as a renewed space for worship, fellowship, and community outreach, ensuring that Chokoloskee Family Church continues to be a place of faith and hope for generations to come.

Since its founding, the church has been led by 21 pastors, each leaving their mark on the congregation. For years, pastors were only allowed to stay for two years before the Church of God changed that rule. That change paved the way for the arrival of Jesse and Charity Wilson in 2019. The church had been without a pastor for a few months, and on the Sunday they came to preach, there were about 30 people in attendance. With no live music, worship was played through YouTube videos—a unique experience, as Pastor Jesse put it. But despite the unconventional setting, that morning was powerful. Nearly everyone in attendance came forward for prayer, and the Wilsons felt an undeniable call to serve.

Of course, things weren’t that simple. Church of God bylaws required that other candidates also have the chance to preach before the congregation voted on a new pastor. So, after a lunch meeting with board members at HavAnnA Café, the Wilsons left, hopeful but uncertain. A month later, the church held a vote, choosing between two remaining candidates (a third had withdrawn). To their amazement, Jesse and Charity were chosen with 100% of the vote.

Today, Chokoloskee Family Church continues to grow, not just in numbers but in impact. It’s more than a place of worship—it’s a family. Whether you’re a lifelong resident or just passing through, you’re welcome here. Come experience the warmth, the history, and the faith that has sustained this community for over a century. The doors are open, and there’s always a seat for you!



## Church Schedule

- Sunday - 10 am
- Sunday Renewal - 6 pm
- Monday Youth Bible Study- 6 pm
- Wednesdays Youth/Children - 7 pm
- Thursday Adult Bible Study- 7 pm





# Court Rules in Favor of EAA Reservoir



polluted water releases from Lake Okeechobee. These discharges, full of excess nutrients, have led to blue-green algae blooms in the Caloosahatchee River and devastating red tide events along the Gulf Coast. Local businesses, from fishing charters to waterfront restaurants, have felt the economic impact as tourists and residents avoid affected waters.

The EAA Reservoir is a game changer. Once completed, this massive project—covering 17,000 acres—will store excess lake water, clean it in a stormwater treatment area, and send it south to the Everglades instead of dumping it into our estuaries. This means fewer harmful algae blooms, healthier ecosystems, and a boost to industries that rely on clean water, like fishing and tourism.

The sugar industry, led by Okeelanta Corporation and United States Sugar Corporation, challenged the project, arguing that the Army Corps should be required to replace all water supply reductions caused by changes to Lake Okeechobee’s regulation schedule. However, the court rejected this claim, ruling that the water supply protections in the law apply only to Everglades restoration projects—not unrelated operational changes. Had the sugar industry won, the reservoir’s purpose

A major win for Everglades restoration was announced on March 28, 2025, bringing good news for Southwest Florida’s environment, economy, and future. The 11th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in favor of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, allowing the Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) Reservoir Project to move forward without interference from the sugar industry. This decision ensures that clean water will flow south, helping restore the Everglades and protect coastal communities from harmful discharges.

For decades, our region has suffered from toxic algae outbreaks fueled by

could have been altered to prioritize agricultural water supply over environmental restoration, resulting in less clean water for the Everglades and more polluted discharges to the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie rivers.

“This decision ensures that the EAA Reservoir will do what it was meant to do—restore water flows to the Everglades and protect Florida’s coastal communities,” said environmental advocates celebrating the ruling.

With this legal hurdle cleared, the EAA Reservoir Project can move forward as planned. The stormwater treatment area has already been completed, and the Army Corps aims to finish the reservoir by 2034. While that may seem far off, progress is happening, and this ruling secures the project’s future.

For Southwest Florida residents, this is a victory worth celebrating. It means our waters will be cleaner, our fisheries will thrive, and our coastal communities will be better protected from toxic discharges. As more restoration projects move forward, we can look forward to a healthier Everglades and a stronger, more resilient Southwest Florida. This win shows that our voices matter in protecting the place we call home.

# Marya

From Page 4



Friends group, and in March of this year, she was presented with another award for her outstanding service as Membership Chairperson. Marya is retiring, and Executive Director Francine Stephens is taking over her responsibilities. Well done, Marya!

## The Mel Finn Award

The Mel Finn Award recognizes individuals who have dedicated their time to benefiting the Fakahatchee and embody the spirit of the founding father of the Fakahatchee Strand State Park, as stated in the award’s description.

**2010 Recipient: Marya Repko**

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# Greek Salad



**Ingredients:**

- 1 cucumber, sliced
- 1/2 red onion, sliced
- 1 pt. cherry tomatoes, halved
- 1 cup Kalamata olives, halved
- 6 oz. feta, cubed
- 2 Tbsp. red wine vinegar
- Juice of 1/2 lemon
- 1 tsp. dried oregano
- Salt & pepper to taste
- 1/4 cup olive oil

**Directions:**

1. Toss cucumber, onion, tomatoes, and olives in a large bowl. Gently fold in feta
2. Whisk vinegar, lemon juice, oregano, salt, and pepper in a small bowl. Slowly add oil, whisking until smooth.
3. Drizzle dressing over salad and toss to combine.



# The Mullet Rapper Evolves Again

By Denise Wauters

The world is changing, and so are we. Since taking the helm of the Mullet Rapper, we've worked hard to keep this paper alive and thriving for our community. While the costs of printing, labor, and operations continue to rise, our commitment to delivering local news remains stronger than ever.

We're excited to announce that the Mullet Rapper is now available in real-time through our new EvergladesNews mobile app (and as always online at [VisitEvergladesCity.com](http://VisitEvergladesCity.com)). Our goal is to provide up-to-date news, community updates, and event information—accessible anytime, anywhere.

With this issue, we're wrapping up our seasonal two-week print schedule and shifting to one issue per month for the summer. Don't worry—the paper will still be delivered as usual, but there will be fewer print editions during the summer months. With fewer print issues, there's bound to be news that doesn't make it into the paper. But that's where the EvergladesNews app comes in! Stay updated on community happenings, last-minute events, and breaking news by downloading the app or visiting [VisitEvergladesCity.com](http://VisitEvergladesCity.com) for extended coverage and real-time updates.

We couldn't do this without the support of our sponsors, advertisers, contributors, and readers. Your dedication helps keep the Mullet Rapper going, ensuring local news stays accessible to everyone in the community. Have news or events to share? Submit them through the app or online at [VisitEvergladesCity.com](http://VisitEvergladesCity.com).

March 29, 2025 Puzzle Solution

B	A	S	H		A	S	T	R	A	L
U	V	E	A		C	L	U	E	D	O
T	I	T	I		T	E	N	S	E	S
	G	A	F	F		W	I	T		
I	N	P	A	R	T		C	O	C	O
N	O	R		O	A	F		R	A	W
K	N	I	T		N	O	B	A	L	L
		C	O	W		R	E	T	D	
S	C	E	N	I	C		G	I	R	O
G	O	O	N	I	E		A	V	O	W
T	O	N	E	U	P		N	E	N	E



Happy Earth Day

## MULLET RAPPER CROSSWORD

**Across**

1. Veto
7. "Coriolanus" setting
11. Fan
12. Keeping about the same
13. \_\_\_-on-the-spot
14. Half a matched set
15. Coll. hoops competition
16. Artist Chagall
17. Breathing noise
19. To-do
21. Barely get, with "out"
22. Clinker
23. "To \_\_\_ is human ..."
24. Clue's Mr. Boddy, e.g.
26. Poet Angelou
27. Chemistry Nobelist Otto
28. Bump
29. Bring on
30. Transporting, in a way
33. 'Just doing my best'
34. Comparatively cockamamie
35. Pigeon-\_\_\_
36. \_\_\_ counter

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

**Down**

1. British rule in colonial India
2. Tokyo, formerly
3. Spy thriller writer
4. "It's a Wonderful Life" role
5. Copper
6. "Don't give up!"
7. Doctor's order

8. Arrogant
9. Barometer filler
10. "Star Trek" rank: Abbr.
16. Kind of pie
17. Gun, as an engine
18. Emperor of Japan
19. Be busy
20. Car accessory

22. Kipling's "Gunga \_\_\_"
25. "\_\_\_ never believe this back home"
26. Kenyan tribesman
28. 6, written out
29. Best seller
30. Famous
31. Born, in bios

32. Dog's warning



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 Wednesday Worship: 6:00 pm

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# Spring Time Fishing!

By Captain Mike Merritt

March sure has lived up to its reputation of being the windy month! We had a week of low winds then it kicked back into high gear. Not only that but the water temps stayed down with the cooler days we had. This made for some tough days on the water trying to get



clients on a good bite. But, if you just keep on trying and keep moving around, something good is bound to happen. March has always been a transition month for the Snook. Sometimes early, sometimes late, but always the month they start moving in from offshore. I landed one of the biggest Snook I have ever landed this month. This was a 43" fish that weighed close to 25lbs. She ate a Roosbaitco 1/4 oz. jig with a 3" paddle tail that he makes. This was definitely in my top 5 fish ever caught here. So March has always held great potential. And now that we are in April we will continue to see the Snook increase in numbers inshore. Live bait, Jigs, Plugs, Topwater? All will be catching fish this month. Hopefully by the time you are reading this article the winds will have let up some. We know it will sometimes blow all the way till May, but are hopeful! Even if it continues to blow the fish should show up due to warmer water and more bait moving inshore. Bottom line is more Snook should be caught! So enjoy it.

Redfish did show up in better numbers and we are catching some decent size fish mixed in with lots of smaller fish and low end slot size fish. The good thing about the Reds right now is that you can catch them while Snook fishing and vice versa. These guys will be in the same areas and will eat the same baits. Last month I would say shrimp was your best bait to catch Reds. This month I will say they are eating more aggressively and while shrimp always catches Reds, sometimes bigger baits get bigger fish. The 2nd half of the rising tide has been working best for me lately, but as we get more into the spring tides the window may be earlier. One thing that is consistent with the Reds is that the rising tide is best. There are exceptions but this is almost always a good part of your plan when you target these guys. I always enjoy working the incoming tides and casting shorelines as the water rises. We do this with jigs, and with top water lures when the winds are favorable. You may even be able to sight fish as they move in to feed. This is a great way to catch both Snook and Reds. Cover as much water as you can and as I always say, something good will happen.

We are also still catching plenty of Seatrout if it's a dinner you are after. Tarpon are in good numbers. Permit fishing should get better. In general it is always a great time! Springtime is a great time! It is also a time to enjoy the weather. I for one am looking forward to some consistent weather, and I don't mean consistently bad weather. I hope you can get out and enjoy the great fishing this month! Stay safe, and be courteous!

Capt. Mike Merritt  
Guide  
(561) 252-4324  
[SnookFishing1@juno.com](mailto:SnookFishing1@juno.com)



# City Hall Update

By Michael McComas  
Everglades City Council

City council met April 1 and received our standard monthly reports from the Sheriff's Department, Greater Naples Fire, Finance Administrator, Utility Department, and Planning, Zoning & Code Enforcement. Niki Audia from Physicians Regional Healthcare spoke to us encouraging lung cancer screening and thanking us for passing a proclamation supporting her efforts. We also passed a proclamation for Water Conservation Month.

With her fellow FLSCA Board members Kelly Kirk and Carrie Doxsee on Zoom, Holly Levingston Dudley gave us the final numbers from this year's Seafood Festival, asked about Council's feelings about problems that arose with free admission for local area residents and thanked us for our support. We learned that next year's festival is scheduled for the Presidents' Day and Valentine's Day weekend and we voted to confirm the dates based on receiving the required contract and thanked the ladies for all their hard work!

Following the presentations we discussed and passed the first reading of Ordinance 2025-1 establishing the position of Code Enforcement Magistrate as Mayor Grimm appointed Harry Henkel to what may be the shortest term on Code Enforcement when the new Magistrate is hired.

A discussion of the Airport followed, with the participation of Commissioner McDaniel, the Mayor explained that he had met with the gentleman who was performing the survey and shared his ideas about hangars. Several local residents are working to make sure this item stays high on the Commissioners agendas and Councilmember Valdes encouraged Mr. McDaniel to find ways to make the airport profitable as it was very important to our residents.

# It's Sea Turtle Nesting Season



Photo Courtesy of FWC

Sea turtle nesting season has begun, and the FWC urges 10,000 Islands residents and visitors to help protect these threatened and endangered species

## How You Can Help:

**Clear the way at the end of the day:** Female sea turtles expend immense energy crawling onto the beach to lay their eggs in safe locations. Beach debris, holes in the sand, and unattended gear can obstruct their path and prevent hatchlings from making it safely to the ocean.

**Lights out for turtles:** Artificial lights can disorient both nesting turtles and hatchlings, leading them away from the ocean.

**Observe from a distance:** Getting too close to nesting turtles can cause them to abandon their efforts. Remain at least 50 feet away. Remember, it is illegal to disturb or harm nesting sea turtles, their nests, or hatchlings

Nesting season on the Gulf Coast continues through the summer, so now is the time to take precautions. More Info: [MyFWC.com/SeaTurtle](http://MyFWC.com/SeaTurtle).

Barron River Tides				
Date	Day	Time	Tide Height	Type
4/12/2025	Sat	3:15 AM	2.52	H
4/12/2025	Sat	10:12 AM	0.42	L
4/12/2025	Sat	2:55 PM	2.73	H
4/12/2025	Sat	10:38 PM	0.01	L
4/13/2025	Sun	3:50 AM	2.44	H
4/13/2025	Sun	10:42 AM	0.52	L
4/13/2025	Sun	3:15 PM	2.77	H
4/13/2025	Sun	11:12 PM	-0.06	L
4/14/2025	Mon	4:28 AM	2.33	H
4/14/2025	Mon	11:08 AM	0.61	L
4/14/2025	Mon	3:34 PM	2.77	H
4/14/2025	Mon	11:48 PM	-0.1	L
4/15/2025	Tue	5:10 AM	2.2	H
4/15/2025	Tue	11:31 AM	0.69	L
4/15/2025	Tue	3:52 PM	2.75	H
4/16/2025	Wed	12:26 AM	-0.1	L
4/16/2025	Wed	5:58 AM	2.06	H
4/16/2025	Wed	11:47 AM	0.78	L
4/16/2025	Wed	4:13 PM	2.72	H
4/17/2025	Thu	1:08 AM	-0.07	L
4/17/2025	Thu	6:55 AM	1.93	H
4/17/2025	Thu	11:59 AM	0.85	L
4/17/2025	Thu	4:41 PM	2.67	H
4/18/2025	Fri	1:55 AM	-0.02	L
4/18/2025	Fri	8:05 AM	1.84	H
4/18/2025	Fri	12:18 PM	0.92	L
4/18/2025	Fri	5:18 PM	2.6	H
4/19/2025	Sat	2:53 AM	0.04	L
4/19/2025	Sat	9:25 AM	1.84	H
4/19/2025	Sat	12:49 PM	1	L
4/19/2025	Sat	6:08 PM	2.52	H
4/20/2025	Sun	4:03 AM	0.08	L
4/20/2025	Sun	10:36 AM	1.93	H
4/20/2025	Sun	1:45 PM	1.07	L
4/20/2025	Sun	7:23 PM	2.42	H
4/21/2025	Mon	5:09 AM	0.09	L
4/21/2025	Mon	11:32 AM	2.06	H
4/21/2025	Mon	5:23 PM	1.01	L
4/21/2025	Mon	9:44 PM	2.4	H
4/22/2025	Tue	6:07 AM	0.1	L
4/22/2025	Tue	12:12 PM	2.21	H
4/22/2025	Tue	6:28 PM	0.82	L
4/22/2025	Tue	11:12 PM	2.51	H
4/23/2025	Wed	7:00 AM	0.12	L
4/23/2025	Wed	12:44 PM	2.38	H
4/23/2025	Wed	7:22 PM	0.57	L
4/24/2025	Thu	12:24 AM	2.65	H
4/24/2025	Thu	7:48 AM	0.18	L
4/24/2025	Thu	1:11 PM	2.57	H
4/24/2025	Thu	8:11 PM	0.29	L
4/25/2025	Fri	1:24 AM	2.78	H
4/25/2025	Fri	8:33 AM	0.26	L
4/25/2025	Fri	1:38 PM	2.76	H
4/25/2025	Fri	8:58 PM	0	L

**LOCAL SERVICES & CLASSIFIEDS**

**Restaurants & Bars**

**Everglades City**

**Camellia Street Grill**

Mon-Thurs 12-9  
Fri-Sun 11-9  
(239) 695-2003

**Captain Morgan's Seafood Grill Corp**

Thur-Mon 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**

Sun-Thur 11 am – 8 pm  
Fri-Sat 11 am – 8:30 pm  
(239) 232-0475

**Gator Hole Bar**

Wed-Thur 11 am - 7pm  
Fri-Sat 11 am – 12 am  
Sun 11 am – 7 pm  
(239) 232-0475

**Island Cafe**

Daily 6 am – 9 pm  
(239) 695-0003

**Nely's Corner (Inside EFC)**

Fri-Sun 6:15 am - 3 pm  
(239) 695-4222

**Rod & Gun**

Daily 11:30 am - 7:30 pm  
(239) 695-2101

**Triad Seafood Market & Cafe**

Closed Easter Sunday

**Hours Through April 18:**

Thur-Sat 10:30 am – 8 pm  
Sun-Wed 10:30 am – 4 pm

**Hours Starting April 19:**

Mon-Sat 10:30 am – 5 pm  
Sun 10:30 am – 4 pm  
(239) 695-2662

**Wildman's Pizza Pasta & Pythons**

Wed & Thurs 12 pm – 8 pm  
Fri-Sat 12 pm – 9 pm  
(239) 426-9453

**Chokoloskee**

**HavAnnA Cafe**

Daily 8 am – 8 pm  
(239) 695-2214

**Goodland**

**Crabby Lady**

Tues-Sat 11 am – 6 pm  
Sun 11 am – 5 pm  
(239) 394-5663

**Kirks Fish House**

Mon-Sat 10 am - 5 pm  
(239) 394-8616

**Little Bar**

Daily 11:30 am – 12 am  
(239) 394-5663

**Paradise Found**

Thur-Sun  
(239) 330-7773

**Stans Idle Hour**

Fri-Sun 11 am - 6:30 pm  
(239) 394-3041

**Port of the Islands**

**Saigon to Paris Cafe**

Thur-Mon 8 am - 3 pm  
Thur-Mon 6 pm - 10 pm  
(239) 970-0020

**Ochopee**

**Subway**

Daily 7 am – 7 pm  
(239) 695-0949

**Joanie's Blue Crab Cafe**

Mon, Tues, Thur 10:30 am - 4 pm  
Fri-Sun 10:30 am - 5 pm  
(239) 695-2682

**CR92 & US41 (Naples)**

**Gator's Crossing**

Daily 11 am – 11 pm  
(239) 394-0288

**Markets**

**Right Choice Supermarket**

Daily 9 am – 7 pm  
(239) 695-4535

**Glades Haven General Store**

Daily 9 am – 7 pm  
(239) 232-0486

**Grimm's Stone Crab**

Mon-Sat 8 am - 5pm  
(239) 695-3222

**Worship**

**Chokoloskee Family Church**

Sun: 10 am School & Worship, 6 pm Service  
Wed: Youth 7 pm  
1236 Demere Ln, Chokoloskee

**Everglades Community Church**

Sun: 11 am Worship  
101 Copeland Ave, Everglades City

**First Baptist Church**

Sun: 9:45 am School, 11 am Worship & 6 pm Service  
Wed: 6 pm Bible Study  
416 E School Dr, Everglades City

**Holy Family Catholic Church**

Mass Sun: 10:30 am  
Closed After Easter Sunday  
200 Datura St E, Everglades City

**Goodland Baptist Church**

Sun: 10 am Worship  
Wed: 6 pm Bible Study  
410 Mango Ave. Goodland

**For Sale**

**FOR SALE:** 60 hp Tohatsu outboard motor. Engine has 1,000 hrs. Runs perfectly. Tiller steer. Spare propeller. \$3,200. Call (239) 302-8610.

**FOR SALE:** 40 Ft. Shipping container, water tight, good floors, located on Chokoloskee Island, \$1950 or best offer. Call Gar (954) 695-1284

**For Lease**

**FOR LEASE:** Deep water commercial dock and lot on Barron River. Premium sought-after location at 909 DuPont St. in Everglades City. Perfect for, eco-tour business, commercial fishing or even a restaurant with chickee bar and tourist gift shop attraction. Newly refurbished Dock Available now. Email [E010101@aol.com](mailto:E010101@aol.com), Call (727) 480-1640

**FOR LEASE:** Annual Lease of 600 sq. ft. Cafe space next to the Everglades City Visitors Center, with heavy tourist traffic. Restaurant equipment also available for sale. Also potential use as a gift shop, tourist office, etc. Email us for details at [bonniewoodward@gmail.com](mailto:bonniewoodward@gmail.com).

**Housing**

**FORRENT:** Second floor 2-bedroom/1 bath apartment, WiFi, washer/dryer, screened-in porch, fully furnished. Great location in Everglades City. Annual rental. Email us for details at [bonniewoodward@gmail.com](mailto:bonniewoodward@gmail.com).

**Help Wanted**

**HELP WANTED:** Part Time help needed! Carpentry, painting, drywall, laying floors, tile, cabinets, etc., odd jobs. Wage determined based on experience \$18-25 hourly. Contact Charley 810-399-7592

**Wanted**

**WANTED:** Bridge Players wanted! If you are a beginner or a professional bridge player, come join our group for a fun afternoon of bridge. Call Patty at (239) 719-0020.

**VOLUNTEER:** The Big Cypress Gallery is looking for volunteers to help with litter pick-up along Tamiami Trail surrounding the gallery. Participants will need to be 12 years of age or older. An adult will need to be present to supervise any participants under the age of 16. This activity is a part of the program: Adopt-a-Highway. Please respond to the following email if you would like to be a part of reducing human impact on this rich ecosystem. Safety training videos are available. <https://www.fdot.gov/maintenance/aahinfo.shtm> [bcbg@clydebutcher.com](mailto:bcbg@clydebutcher.com)

**Clubs**

**Everglades Lions Club**

2nd Thursday of the month | 6 pm  
September - May  
Jinkins Fellowship Hall behind Everglades Community Church  
101 S. Copeland Ave, Everglades City  
[evergladeslionsclub@gmail.com](mailto:evergladeslionsclub@gmail.com)

**Ladies Coffee**

Thursdays | 8:30 am  
Rotates Everglades City Restaurants  
[snookcity@gmail.com](mailto:snookcity@gmail.com)  
(239) 719-0020

**Goodland Civic Association**

3rd Tuesday of the month | 6:30 pm  
Goodland Community Center  
417 Mango Ave, Goodland  
(239) 776-1372

**Helpful Numbers**

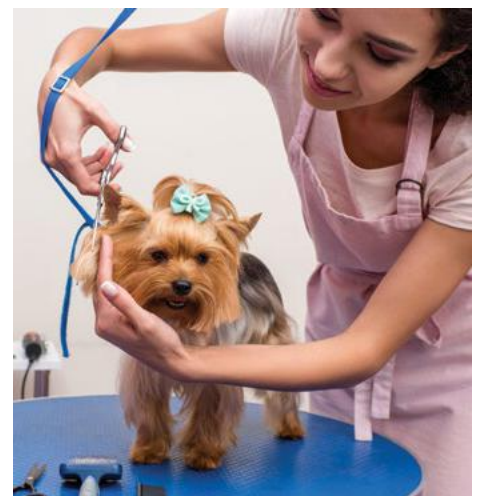
EC Airpark: (239) 252-6298  
EC City Hall: (239) 695-3781  
EC Public Library: (239) 695-2511  
EC Trash Pickup: (239) 252-2380  
EC Visitor Center: (239) 232-0473  
Goodland Recycle: (239)252-2380

**Post Office**

Everglades City & Chokolossee: (239) 695-2174  
Ochopee: (239) 695-2099  
Goodland: (239) 394-7387

**Local Parks**

Big Cypress: (239) 695-2000  
EVG National Park: (305) 242-7700  
Fakahatchee Preserve: (239) 961-1925



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