



# The MULLET RAPPER

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

TIDE TABLE &  
RESTAURANTS  
PAGE 11

### JUNE 2, 2018 - JUNE 15, 2018



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P O Box 134, Everglades City, FL, 34139

Volume X • Issue # 313

### Everglades City Students Rise Above the Tide...Excel & Graduate

by Kathy Brock

2017 was a tough year for anyone living in the southwest coast of Florida. Things were especially difficult for those of us in Everglades City, Chokoloskee, Plantation Island, Copeland & Jerome. We took the brunt of Irma and all of the flood waters that came with it.

The school was closed for almost 3 weeks and students were reeling. But Principal James Ragusa rallied the staff, the students, and the community to a large part, so that the students wouldn't miss a beat.

On May 25th, the class of 2018 was honored at the newly renovated gym. Salutatorian Bryce Kish and Valedictorian Ashlyn Goff beamed, parents cheered and the staff soaked in, what must have been, one of the most difficult, but gratifying, school years in recent history.

What could have been a real downer turned out to be a cause for renewal and celebration. I don't care what "grade" the state puts on Everglades City School this year. To me this group of students, the entire staff and our principal all deserve an A+. Anything less fails to take into account the circumstances. Anything less simply demonstrates the folly in the school grading system to begin with.

Everglades City School proved that they are winners. They have grit. They have determination, and they have 11 new graduates ready to conquer the next chapter in their lives.

**Congratulations Everglades City School!**



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FEATURE: GAG GROUPE, PAGE 8

### Congratulations Class of 2018 Valedictorian Ashlyn Goff (some content from NaplesNews.com)



Hurricane Irma affected everyone in Southwest Florida to some degree, but perhaps nowhere more than Everglades City.

Dealing with that and the aftermath was just another challenge for Ashlyn Goff, Everglades City School's Winged Foot Scholar-Athlete Award finalist.

Goff played four varsity sports -- two of them in the same seasons -- and was unrelenting, whether that meant doing a cross country meet or practice, going to school and then doing the same for volleyball, for example.

Or after Irma, when that meant she had to go to Golden Gate High School to train with its cross country team because Everglades City School was still closed due to the damage, then drive to Manatee Middle School, where the students were going, go to school and then do volleyball. "It started to overlap real bad," she said.

On top of that, Goff was a full-time student at Florida Southwestern State College, during her senior year, completing 24 college credit hours.

"Ashlyn is a rare student-athlete, one that only comes along once in a while if the school is fortunate enough," wrote Rebecca Welch, the volleyball, boys basketball and baseball coach at Everglades City School.

"Ashlyn is the apotheosis of a scholar-athlete: striving for personal perfection but never forgetting she is part of a team," social studies teacher Carey Walker wrote in a recommendation letter.

"You learn to manage your time wisely," Goff, an eighth generation native, said in an understatement.

Goff kept doing it wisely, enough where she's already put in the required time to get her captain's license and is planning to enter the U.S. Coast Guard.

"Once she makes the commitment, she will be the first female (to the best of my knowledge) to join any military pursuit in the 39 years that I have taught and coached at Everglades City School," Welch wrote.

Goff is hoping to make a career out of the Coast Guard, but not her only one. "I want to do 20 years in the Coast Guard, retire, and then I want to start a second career," she said.

Goff will leave for two months of training in July in Cape May, New Jersey. When she officially enters the Coast Guard. Goff also plans on attending college so she can become an officer.

Ashlyn Goff seems to have it all planned out but for one thing - the second career. "I'm not sure yet," she said.

**Editor's note:** One thing that I am certain of is that Ashlyn Goff will achieve the goals she sets for herself. From a very young age, she has been determined, focused and driven. She has toughness and determination and compassion. She showed such care to my father in his final years. I thank her for that!

She is a very rare individual. She is an excellent role model for current and future students at the school. I am very proud of Ashlyn, we are all very proud of Ashlyn, and look forward to following her adventures as a member of the U.S. Coast Guard...and whatever else she chooses to pursue and then master.

**SEE GRADUATING CLASS PHOTOS ON PAGE 5!**



**If you have news, photos, announcements, or articles ... email us at: mulletrapper@gmail.com or call us at: 954-662-7003.**

**JUNE 3, 2018 – JULY 7, 2018**

<u>SUN</u>	<u>MON</u>	<u>TUES</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THURS</u>	<u>FRI</u>	<u>SAT</u>
JUNE 3  Tax Free Hurricane Supplies	4  ESHP Mtg, 8:30 am  Tax Free Hurricane Supplies	5  City Council Mtg, 7 pm  Tax Free Hurricane Supplies	6  Ladies Coffee City Seafood 8 am Tax Free Hurricane Supplies	7  Tax Free Hurricane Supplies	8	9
10	11	12	13 new moon ○  Ladies Coffee Island Café 8 am	14	15	16 <u>RAPPER</u>
17  Father's Day	18	19  P & Z Mtg (tentative)	20  Ladies Coffee City Seafood 8 am	21	22	23
24	25	26  Health & Dental Bus, see p.3	27  Ladies Coffee Island Café 8 am	28 full moon ●	29	30 <u>RAPPER</u>  Independence Celebration, see p. 3
JULY 1	2	3	4  Ladies Coffee City Seafood 8 am 4th of July!	5	6	7

July 4: Independence Day (National)

September 1: Snook Season Reopens

September 29: Blessing of the Fleet

AREA INFORMATION & NUMBERS:

AA: Wed., 5:00 pm, Evg. Comm. Church, Fellowship Hall  
 CARNESTOWN Recycle and Trash: 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday, 9 am to 3:30 pm  
 DR DEMARTINO: Marco Island office information on p.3.  
 DR MARTIN: Call for appointment: 813-787-9738  
 LIONS CLUB: Meetings suspended for summer.  
 MUSEUM: Open Monday-Saturday, 9 am to 4 pm. 239-695-0008  
 PANCAKE FLY-IN: Closed for summer.  
 REACH OUT: 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday, 4 pm, City Hall  
 SKATING RINK: Closed until further notice  
 SMALLWOOD STORE: 11 am to 4 pm, 239-695-2989  
 THRIFT SHOP: Open Thurs., & Sat., 11 am to 3, see p.3.  
 VETERANS SUPPORT: 2nd & 4<sup>th</sup> Wed. of month, noon—2 pm

POST OFFICE INFORMATION:

Chokoloskee (239) 695-4468  
 (M-F: 9:30 am to 1 pm, 2 pm to 4:30 pm, closed Sat. & Sun.)  
 Everglades City (239) 695-2174  
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 (M-F: 8 am to 10 am, noon to 4 pm; Sa: 10 am to 11:30 am)

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**FATHER'S DAY IS JUNE 17TH**

Special days are not just for moms! Father's Day is coming up so don't forget to plan something special for your dad!

According to some accounts, the first Father's Day was celebrated in Washington state on June 19, 1910. A woman by the name of Sonora Smart Dodd came up with the idea of honoring and celebrating her father while listening to a Mother's Day sermon at church in 1909.

Dads all across the US should thank Sonora Smart Dodd while getting pampered on June 17th! She was a woman ahead of her time!

**BE A PART OF THE ANNUAL INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION!**

The planning has already started for the annual Independence Day Celebration in Everglades City that will take place on Saturday, June 30th.



The parade will not be complete without your participation so please plan on decorating your golf cart, swamp buggy or whatever you can think of to join in on the fun.

Donations are appreciated and help fund the day's event that includes the amazing fireworks, the parade, and celebration at McLeod Park that features contests for kids and a raffle!

To contribute to the celebration, please send a check to: Everglades City Fireworks Fund, PO Box 110, Everglades City FL 34139. For more info, call Dottie at 239-695-3781. Thank you for your participation!

**Area Website Features Local Attractions, Accommodations & More!!**



SWFLGO.com is a virtual hub for residents and visitors to our area. The website is easy to navigate, and a user can find out everything about the area on their mobile device or laptop with just a click... including a weather feed, fishing regulations, tides, food, accommodations, activities and more.

We look forward to building SWFLGO into a great community and visitor resource and look forward to your input and feedback! Please let your friends and visitors know about SWFLGO and look for us on Facebook too @SWFLGO.

**If you would like a free business listing, please contact us at 954-662-7003 or info@swflgo.com.**

**FREE DENTAL, BLOOD PRESSURE & DIABETES SCREENINGS, PLUS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH INFORMATION FOR ALL AGES**

June 26th, 9 am to 4 pm

The Healthcare Network of Southwest Florida's Health & Smiles Mobile Dental Bus is scheduled to be in Everglades City on June 26th from 9 am to 4 pm, in the Fire Station parking lot, providing free dental, diabetes, blood pressure screenings and behavioral health information. For more information or an appt: call 239-986-7323.

**Clyde Butcher "America the Beautiful" Now through August 15th**

Enjoy the amazing photography of black & white nature photographer, Clyde Butcher of the most beautiful National Parks in the United States. These iconic photos have been on museum display for 10 years and have now returned to their "home". For more information and the location of this gallery show, please see the article on page 10.

**COMMUNITY SERVICES**

**THE FOOD BANK IS OPEN! Wednesdays noon to 2pm**

Everglades Community Pantry, a proud partner agency of the Harry Chapin Food Bank, is open every Wednesday from noon to 2 in Jinkins Fellowship Hall at Everglades Community Church. This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

**DOCTOR'S CLINIC**

Dr. Kirk DeMartino is seeing patients in his Marco Island Office. You may call his office to schedule an appointment to see him there: (239) 642-5552.

**NATURAL MEDICINE**

Dr. John Martin can see patients in Everglades City. Appts: from 10 am to 6 pm. Call to confirm: 813-787-9738.

**~ ACCOUNTING SERVICES ~ MIKE "THE TAX GUY"**

Local and professional, personal & business tax services in Everglades City. Call 239-595-4203 to set an appointment. Email: nfn19842@naples.net for more information.

**NEW THRIFT SHOP**

The new thrift shop is open, Thursday & Saturday from 11 am to 3 pm. Come see the new store! Please do not leave donations on the porch outside where they can get wet or damaged! Please do not drop off damaged items.



**Congratulations Craig & Gina Daniels!**



Craig Daniels, Jr. and Gina Robin were married May 26, 2018 at the Chokoloskee Church of God. The reception was held at the Rod & Gun Club in Everglades City.

The couple will reside on Chokoloskee Island after their Honeymoon! Good luck to you both!

**A Message from Fire Chief Kingman Schuldt**



May 20-26, 2018, was the 44th annual National EMS Week. In 1974, President Gerald Ford authorized EMS Week to celebrate EMS practitioners and the important work they do in

our nation's communities. EMS Week brings together local communities and medical personnel to honor the dedication of those who provide the day-to-day lifesaving services on the front line.

On any given day, EMS first responders help save lives by responding to medical emergencies. They provide both basic and advanced medical care at the scene of an emergency and while enroute to a hospital. Here in the Greater Naples Fire Rescue District, we stand by our partners at Collier County EMS in providing the highest level of first response EMS care. The District staffs 175 Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics and participates in the Collier County EMS Advance Life Support Program to the residents and visitors of the greater Naples community.

On behalf of the 220 members of Greater Naples Fire, thank you for allowing all our Firefighter/Paramedics and EMT's, Life Safety professionals, and support personnel to serve the community. Also join me in recognizing all Collier County fire, EMS, law enforcement, communications professionals, and hospital staff first responders who each play a critical part of our EMS "chain of survival."

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## Here's to Your Health

### 7 Tips to Keep You Healthy During the Summer Months



Summer is almost here, and the temperature is steadily increasing every day, sending off warning bells to everyone to start taking precautions for the summer heat.

While you can't control the temperature outside, you can take some steps to make sure you do not suffer any serious health issues due to the heat.

Young children, the elderly and those with underlying health problems are the most susceptible to heat related problems. Excessive heat can drain you of your energy, making you prone to infections, vomiting, nausea,

prickly heat and low blood pressure.

Here are some important, and easy to follow, precautionary steps from [food.ndtv.com](http://food.ndtv.com) that can help you stave off any heat-related problems:

**1. Hydrate and Hydrate:** Consider this as the number one rule. Staying hydrated is very crucial during summer as it ensures that your body keeps functioning normally. As the heat goes up, it results in excessive sweating, which also reduces energy levels and electrolytes from your body. Sip on flavored water by adding in mineral rich fruits like watermelon, lemon, kiwi, etc., or make slushies and lemonades at home.

**2. Eat Regularly But Eat Light:** Summer time tends to reduce one's appetite because of the excessive heat. But it is important for you to eat regularly because your body requires the nutrients to fight the heat and keep you healthy. Having said so, the best thing to do is to follow a light diet including summer veggies like squash, salads, fruits and veggies. You should also watch your salt intake.

**3. Cold Water Showers:** One of the quickest ways to cool down is to step into a cold water shower. It will instantly make you feel refreshed. Also try washing your feet and face with cold water before you go to sleep. It is said that placing an ice pack on your neck can work wonders too to cut down body temperature. Even wiping yourself with wet towels can help if you are feeling over-heated.

**4. Switch off Those Lights:** Too many lights in the room tend to heat up the temperature. Some TV's also put off heat. Switch off as many lights and heat producing appliances as you can during the heat of the day, and only use the ones you really need. Keep your curtains or blinds closed to block incoming sun and double check the insulation around doors and windows.

**5. Stay Indoors During the Heat of the Day:** Keep a check on weather forecast. This is important because you can then track the hottest point of the day and plan accordingly. If you love walking, try to do so only in the early hours or after sun down. Make sure to protect yourself from mosquitoes as these are the times of the day they are most active too!

**6. Wear Loose Clothes:** Needless to say, to stay cool you need to wear loose clothes so that there is good air circulation. Ditch your synthetic dresses and trousers and stick to cotton. Even if you are out fishing or enjoying another outdoor activity, long sleeves protect you from the sun (and the bugs!).

**7. Don't Over Exert Yourself:** Physical activity is essential for good health, but during the summer months, and periods of high heat & humidity, make sure that you don't over exert yourself. It is vital to stay hydrated during any activity and to be aware of signs of heat stroke. If you feel faint or nauseated, ask for help immediately and call 911 for help!

**If someone is experiencing heat exhaustion, call 911 and take these steps:**

**Move the person out of the heat and into a shady or air-conditioned place.**

**Lay the person down and elevate the legs and feet slightly.**

**Remove tight or heavy clothing.**

**Have the person drink cool water or other nonalcoholic beverage without caffeine.**

THE EVERGLADES CITY SCHOOL CORNER  
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# *Congratulations Class of 2018!*



Emily Brown



Davonte Detweiler



Ashlyn Goff  
Valedictorian



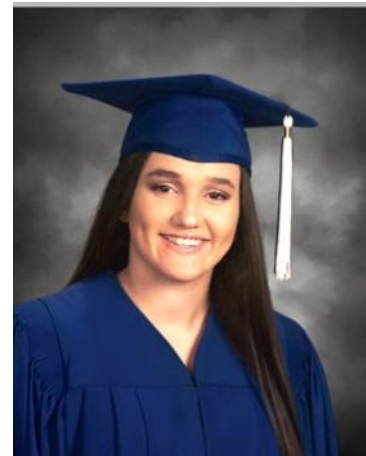
Bryce Kish  
Salutatorian



Austin Lewis



Haleigh Levingston



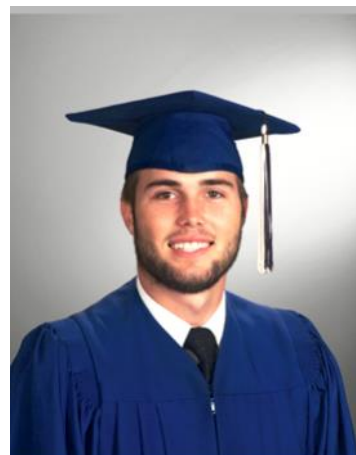
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**Big Rains Mean BIG Toads...and Some  
of Them Are Nasty!**  
From the Conservancy of Southwest Florida

Early spring months bring a re-emergence of cane toads to Southwest Florida. While these invasive amphibians can breed any time of the year, they tend to show themselves most during the evenings of spring and summer.

Native to South America, the cane toad was originally introduced to Florida in the 1930's and 40's in a misguided attempt to control agricultural pests in sugar cane fields. In the years following, the pet trade also contributed with its share of releases and escapees during the 1950's and 60's. Regardless of the origin however, these animals, unfortunately, are here to stay.

Cane toads have a big appetite and are capable of eating just about anything they can fit into their mouths and it's quite likely that this insatiable hunger is what made them an attractive choice for pest control to begin with. Unfortunately, that very trait is now posing a threat to our native wildlife, and also results in them being attracted to our homes when pet food/feces or garbage is left out. It is not uncommon to see one eating right out of the dog food bowl left on a porch. This increases the risk for a toad-pet interaction.



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Cane toads are not aggressive, but they have enlarged paratoid glands on their neck and shoulder region that produce a bufotoxin, that when ingested, is highly toxic. This substance is released as a defense mechanism that can severely injure or even kill an animal that licks or bites them – including dogs, cats and other pets.

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Solution to May 19, 2018 Puzzle



**My Little Slice of Paradise**

by Kathy Brock

The Next Chapter

With each passing day, the sadness of a loss gets easier. In fact, you can embrace it as a type of renewal and hope. Last issue I wrote about my sadness over the loss of our beloved dog, Tanker.

Now, two-plus weeks later, the sun is a bit brighter again. Fortunately, we were not left "dog-less." If we were, it would have been much more difficult. Luckily, we have Butchie.

Butchie was originally my dad's dog. When my father passed away in 2016, we took Butchie in at the age of 8. He's a very good boy. Very obedient, very mellow. So mellow we have been asked if his health is Okay! He's fine, he is just super mellow. That is why we adopted him for my father who was 85 at the time. He was the perfect dog for an older dog lover...and he is perfect for us too.

When he came into our home, he immediately knew that he was not "top dog." Tanker was the alpha in that pack! Butchie, being half the size, had a few tussles with Tank when he first arrived. We surmised that it was his way to let Tank know that he wasn't a pushover. We like to say that Butchie has a bit of a Napoleon complex.

After Tank was gone, Butchie immediately sensed something was different, especially when he got to eat in the main house. No longer was he sequestered to a bedroom for anything. At first, he was a bit confused, kind of looking over his shoulder. He was not comfortable. He is still not totally comfortable...but he is more and more becoming the "top dog" he once was when he lived with my father.



It is interesting to watch the transition. Slowly but surely, he is becoming bolder, more demonstrative and the "alpha" dog in our home. As sad as I am to lose Tanker, I am happy for Butchie. He did not like being second fiddle. He took it graciously, but it was obvious that it was not by choice.

When he first came to us he was quite depressed. He really missed my father. They were together every day for 7+ years. It took him almost 3 months to "snap out of it". In the midst of it all, he moved into a home with another, much larger, male dog. How difficult that must have been. I wonder what he was thinking? How much worse could it get?

This is how life is for all of us. We face many ups and downs throughout life. We experience times of sadness and times of great joy. Most of the time, it is somewhere in the middle.

Each time a new chapter unfolds it opens the door for new experiences. New opportunities...and maybe someday a new "brother or sister" for Butchie. Who knows? Things have a way of working themselves out. That's how it has always been for us, and I expect it will continue.

Maybe in the future I will be telling you about a new pup or rescue? Maybe a stray will show up at my door and answer that question for me? Maybe I won't be able resist driving by the Humane Society without stopping?

Maybe not...but that is what makes life so interesting. We don't really know what the future will bring. None of us do. Hopefully, our future will be like most of our past. A series of ups and downs, where the ups greatly out number the downs. Sprinkle in a few unexpected surprises and that is the recipe that makes up a life, and a pretty darn good one at that.



**Recipes for Good Eating**

By Kathy Brock  
Fresh Mango Mousse



**Ingredients:**

- 3 large ripe mangoes, peeled and sliced
- 3/4 cup confectioners' sugar, divided as stated below
- 1 tablespoon lime juice (or key lime juice)
- 1 tablespoon orange juice
- 1 cup heavy whipping cream

Place mango, 2 tablespoons of the confectioners' sugar, lime and orange juice into a food processor and puree until completely smooth.

Scrape mixture into a large mixing bowl and chill completely. In a separate bowl, whip cream with remaining confectioners' sugar until stiff peaks form. Fold whipped cream into chilled mango mixture and spoon into small dessert cups. You can adjust the amount of sugar to your taste. If your mangoes are really sweet, cut back on the amount of sugar you use in this recipe.

You can also freeze this and eat it as a frozen treat! As mangoes ripen, you can slice and freeze them and use them in this recipe at a later date!



**MULLET RAPPER CROSSWORD**

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15							16			
			17			18				
19	20	21				22				
23					24					
25				26			27	28	29	
30			31							
	32					33				
	34					35				

**Across**

- 1 "--- enough!"
- 6 Afrikaans speaker
- 10 Hitchcock had trouble with him
- 11 Skin eruption
- 12 Mind stimulating
- 15 NY City view
- 16 Sticky substance
- 17 "When I was a \_\_\_"
- 18 Abdul the Bulbul ---
- 19 Stigma
- 22 Frighten
- 23 Ornamental vases
- 24 Like 30 Across
- 25 Newfoundland catch
- 26 Prescription option
- 30 Bloody Mary ingredient
- 32 Strip off
- 33 Chair go with
- 34 Cutting tools
- 35 Valuable item

**Down**

- 1 Sometimes found with that
- 2 Slugger Aaron
- 3 Like many a student film
- 4 Grid for greenery vine
- 5 Like Steve Jobs's father
- 6 Foundation
- 7 Halloween month
- 8 Brain twister
- 9 Impressionist Pierre-Auguste ---
- 13 Stamp out
- 14 Pierce with a tusk
- 18 Pretended to be
- 19 Of like kind
- 20 Marchers
- 21 --- Doria, Nantucket wreck
- 22 Could be the Moonlight or Kreutzer
- 24 Unnamed woman
- 26 Hair goo
- 27 Barbecue dish
- 28 Small landmass
- 29 Guitar guru --- Atkins



6/2/18



**Poetry Street**  
By Katherine Tullie

*One of the most important things in life is to be able to laugh. Laughter and a smile can help us get through so many things. It is more important than you think! That is the inspiration for my poem "Laughter."*

**Laughter**

Laugh Away, Laugh Away  
 Laughter Is A Great Medicine They Say  
 If Things Happen To Us That Aren't Funny  
 We Can Laugh Them Away  
 As Sweet As Honey  
 Just Bend With The Breeze...  
 And Begin Swaying  
 It Will Make Life Easier.  
 That's What I'm Saying  
 Laughing At Ourselves Is Not So Bad  
 Like When We Mess Up  
 And It Makes Us Sad  
 Some Things Are Really Tough  
 And Make Us Burn  
 For Those You Can't Really Laugh ...  
 Though You Can Learn  
 If You Do You'll Be Wiser And Free  
 Laughter Is A Positive Cure, You See  
 Let's Have Plenty Of Laughter  
 For You And For Me!

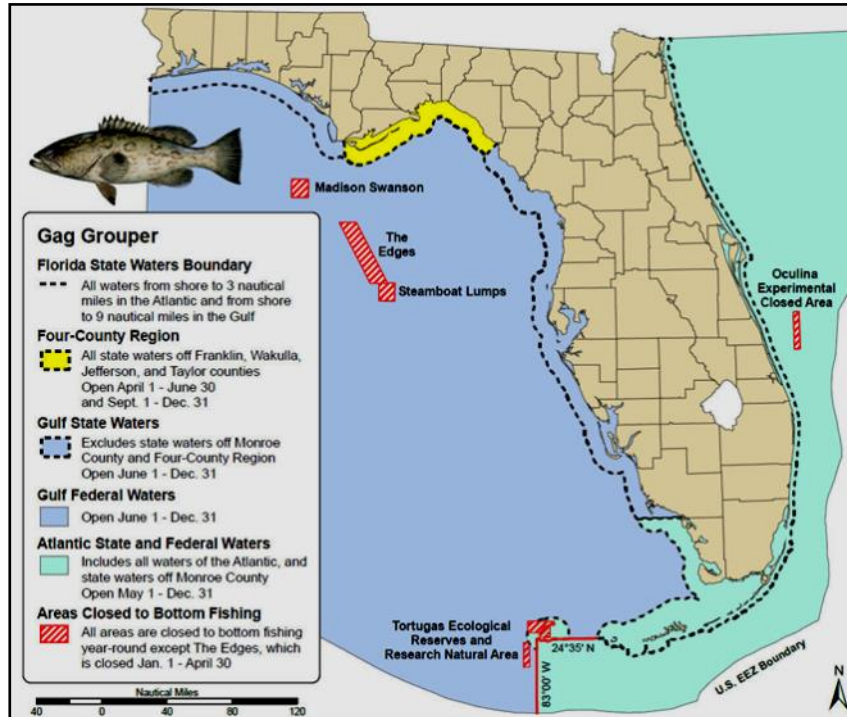


Email: [Kathythepoet@gmail.com](mailto:Kathythepoet@gmail.com)  
 Look for Poetry Street on Twitter  
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 Poetry Street, Inc.

**Gag Grouper Season Opened June 1.  
 New Rules Require Registration With FWC**

Gag grouper will open for recreational harvest in most state Gulf of Mexico waters and all federal Gulf waters June 1, and will remain open through Dec. 31.

Franklin, Wakulla, Taylor and Jefferson counties are excluded from this opening because they have their own season from April 1-June 30 and Sept. 1-Dec. 31. Monroe County is also excluded from this season because it follows the Atlantic state season.



Gulf state waters are from shore to 9 nautical miles. Federal waters begin where state waters end and extend to 200 nautical miles.

The minimum size limit for gag grouper in Gulf waters is 24 inches total length, and the daily bag limit is two fish per person within the four-grouper per person aggregate limit.

If you plan to fish for gag grouper in Gulf state or federal waters from a private recreational vessel, you must sign up

as a Gulf Reef Fish Angler (annual renewal is required). To learn more, visit [MyFWC.com/Fishing](http://MyFWC.com/Fishing) and click on "Saltwater Fishing," "Recreational Regulations" and "Gulf Reef Fish Survey" under "Reef Fish." Sign up today at [GoOutdoorsFlorida.com](http://GoOutdoorsFlorida.com).

State for-hire operators that do not have a federal reef fish permit and plan to target gag in state waters must have the State Gulf Reef Fish Charter designation on their license. Learn more at [MyFWC.com/Fishing](http://MyFWC.com/Fishing) by clicking on "Saltwater Fishing," "Recreational Regulations," "Snappers," and "Learn more." Sign up at no cost by going to your local tax collector's office.

Learn more about grouper at [MyFWC.com/Fishing](http://MyFWC.com/Fishing) by clicking on "Saltwater Fishing," "Recreational Regulations" and "Groupers."

**Note:** Waters south of Collier County are in the "Atlantic" zone of the regulations. Review the map above to determine which rules will apply to your fishing trip!

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**Living Gulf Coast**  
by Charles Sobczak

**Harns Marsh - Home to Many Birds  
on a Birders' Bucket List**

Harns Marsh, a storm-water retention facility located at the headwaters of the Orange River in Lehigh Acres, is an unlikely destination for naturalists and birders. It is not included in the South Florida Birding Trail, though no one has informed the countless birds that frequent this large freshwater marsh of that omission. It offers no amenities, no interpretive center, not even any signs directing visitors to the marsh. Now under the jurisdiction of the East County Water Control District, Harns Marsh is slated to become a Lee County regional park, which will bring restrooms, picnic tables, and other amenities to this undiscovered treasure.



The site is roughly one square mile (578 acres). In 2007, some 182 acres along the north marsh were dredged and cleared of invasive plants, which improved water quality and wildlife viewing. Hiking and bicycling, but no motorized vehicles, are allowed on the four-mile sandy impoundment road encircling the marsh.



Scores of birds, snakes, snails, and small mammals are found here. Two species of particular interest are the snail kite (aka the Everglades kite) and the limpkin. Birders who might spend years trying to catch a glimpse of either of these species can cut their search short with a single visit to Harns Marsh. These hard-to-find birds are attracted by the tens of thousands of snails

that live in the marsh, including both the native apple snail and the invasive island apple snail. The island apple snail (*Pomacea insularum*) is from South America and has, through accidental releases, invaded many of Florida's freshwater marshes. These enormous snails, many as large as a small apple, litter the edge of the marsh. Snail kites and limpkins are adapting to dining on these foreigners, which have also become an important source of food for turtles, great blue herons, alligators, and other animals.

Other sightings at Harns Marsh, especially during the winter months, might include redwing blackbirds, cowbirds, various migratory duck species, and sparrows. Sightings of sandhill cranes are common along the western edge of the marsh. Visiting the marsh is best just after dawn and before sunset. Be sure to bring bug spray and a hat, since areas of shade are in short supply. Harns Marsh is an undiscovered treasure in Lee County that hopefully, once made into a park, will get the recognition it deserves.

Harns Marsh is located at 38th St W, Fort Myers, FL 33905. They are open daily until 6 pm. Phone: 239-368-0044.

This article is an excerpt from "The Living Gulf Coast – A Nature Guide to Southwest Florida." Charles is a writer and photographer that resides in Sanibel.

Photos: Hans Marsh by Charles Sobczak,  
Everglades Snail Kite by Judd Patterson



**Fishing in the  
10,000 Islands**  
by Capt. Mike Merritt

Well, May turned out to be almost as windy as April. Now, we are getting lots of rain, so summer is officially here!

I know it's hot but I love the summer fishing. The years we have had lots of rain seem to coincide with good Snook fishing. I guess it helps with the spawn. So, the Snook should have a good year!

Summer is the time I really like top water in the morning, and again in the evening. Big Snook will patrol the beaches so fishing the troughs with top water lures is a great way to start the day! There will be fish moving into the rivers too, so the river mouths will hold fish.

Live bait should also be around but you may have to



venture further out as the water gets more brackish coming out of the rivers. Greenies and Pilchards are hard to beat for some great snook action. I am looking forward to lots of big fish this summer!

Catching Reds and Seatrout is still possible all summer too. The Seatrout tend to get smaller in the hotter months. Popping corks rigged with a 1/2oz. DOA glow shrimp is a sure way to get the biggest ones.

Reds are sporadic in the summer but we do get on some good bites. Jigs tipped with shrimp will produce, and will also get you some Snook action. Live bait or cut bait in your favorite spot is a good way to go also. Reds love to feed off the bottom so always keep this in mind when you are targeting them.

Tarpon will be around all summer long and you should be able to see rolling fish this time of year. Smaller Tarpon can be caught in the back country all the way up in the fresh water areas.

Of course, this is a great time to venture out offshore with calmer winds. Just keep an eye on the afternoon thunderstorms and plan your trip accordingly. It's no fun being caught offshore in a lightning storm. Always err on the side of caution.

Whatever you choose this summer, it should be action packed and pleasant fishing so get out and enjoy less boats on the water!

**Good Luck Fishing, ~Capt. Mike Merritt**

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**Local News**

**Professors, NOAA Come to Area, Hold Workshop About Sea Level Rise**

Professors from University of Florida, University of Miami, University of San Diego, and Florida Gulf Coast University joined experts from NOAA to hold a workshop regarding sea level rise and how it may affect Collier County in the coming decades.

Council Member, Elaine Middelstaedt and resident Kathy Brock attended the roundtable to listen to the experts and learn what will be done in the next few years to deal with flooding and other issues that may be of concern.

The group of professors and NOAA experts visited our area on Tuesday May 22, and were given a tour by Kathy Brock. They were most interested in the damage in the area from Hurricane Irma and the storm surge that caused so much flood damage.


The data they collect is used in a computer model (called ACUNE) that they are developing for Collier County. Included in the model is data dating back over 20 years. They use this information to predict future flooding, and any changes associated with projected sea level rise.

The study they are conducting is isolated to Collier County at this time. This information will be used by the county for future land development, building codes and planning. Kudos to Collier County for being forward thinking and proactive!

When the model is complete, it can be used for other counties/areas who are interested in this type of planning for the future.

The diverse group of professionals each focus on their particular area of expertise in this project. Ranging from how it may impact the economics of an area to what it may mean for the future land development code is analyzed.

We thank the group for including Everglades City in the ACUNE study.



**Mullet Rapper Donations to Everglades City School ~\$1900 so far in 2018!!!!**

*Thank you to everyone who buys the Mullet Rapper every two weeks. Remember, the Mullet Rapper donates 100% of the proceeds from the sale of the print edition of the paper to the Everglades City School Athletic Department! When you see the coin receptacle, please put your quarter (or more) into the slot!*

*When You Buy the Print Edition of the Mullet Rapper, It Helps a Kid!*

**Save the Date!**

**Swamp Walks**

**Hosted by Clyde Butcher & South Florida National Parks Trust  
Saturday & Sunday, October 27 & 28  
From 9:00am - 5:00pm.**

The fourth Annual Big Cypress Gallery Fall Festival, is a recognition of the continuing importance of protecting our unique swamps of Florida and natural environment through education. The past four years this event has raised over \$25,000 for the Swamp Water and Me Program (SWAMP) in Big Cypress National Preserve. SWAMP is an outdoor science education program that introduces thousands of kids to the Big Cypress every year on school field trips.

**We invite you to come out and meet Clyde Butcher and the Big Cypress National Preserve Rangers at his Big Cypress Gallery.** Clyde will be donating a percentage of the sales in the gallery, raffle items including a photograph, plus a 100% off the proceeds from ranger-led swamp walks will support the SWAMP program. There is no entry fee to gallery and is open to the public. **The guided ranger-led swamp walks behind the gallery are \$50 per person (kids 17-and-under are free, no tickets required)** If you would like to do a swamp walk there is limited space **Call (941) 486-0811 to reserve your space.**



The South Florida National Parks Trust (SFNPT) is the official nonprofit partner of four national parks in South Florida: Everglades National Park, Biscayne National Park, Dry Tortugas National Park and Big Cypress National Preserve. The SFNPT was founded in 2002 to support South Florida's national parks through fundraising and friend-raising. Since its inception, the SFNPT has provided more than \$6 million in direct grants to South Florida's national parks.

The South Florida National Parks Trust is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization (tax ID 13-4341209). Charitable donations to the Trust are tax-deductible to the full extent allowed by law.

Visit: [www.clydebutcher.com](http://www.clydebutcher.com), or call: (941) 486-0811 for more information.

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

**Regional News**

**First Named Storm of Season Batters Southeast, Takes 2 Lives**

Sub-Tropical Storm Alberto, the first named storm of the hurricane season, made landfall on Florida's Panhandle on the afternoon of May 28th, washing out the unofficial start of summer.

As it made its way north, the storm brought rain and wind to the southwest coast throwing a wet blanket on the Memorial Day long weekend.

In Polk County, North Carolina, two television journalists were killed when a tree fell on their vehicle, state Trooper Rico Stephens said. Their station, NBC affiliate WYFF of Greenville, South Carolina, identified them as anchor Mike McCormick and photographer Aaron Smeltzer.

"All of us at WYFF News 4 are grieving," the station said in a tweet. "We are a family." Tryon Fire Chief Geoff Tennant added that he'd done an interview with McCormick shortly before his death.

"We had talked a little bit about how he wanted us to stay safe and how we wanted him to stay safe," Tyron told reporters. "Of course, 10, 15 minutes later we get the call and it was him and his photographer."

Polk County warned in a Facebook post that the area where the incident occurred — just north of the South Carolina state line — had become dangerous and more flash flooding was possible through Wednesday.

Forecasters warned of life-threatening surf conditions and the possibility of a few brief tornadoes in much of Florida and parts of Georgia, South Carolina and Alabama. It said heavy rains were also expected, giving coastal residents a taste of what forecasters recently predicted would be an active hurricane season.

With the official start of hurricane season only three weeks away, now is the time for everyone to make any necessary hurricane season preparations and review personal evacuation plans.



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EATERIES & AREA WORSHIP



EVERGLADES CITY - BARRON RIVER TIDES  
LAT: 25.87° N LONG: 81.37°W

<b>Angler's Cove, Port of the Islands</b> (642-1025): Monday - Wed 5 to 11 pm, Thurs to Sun Noon - 11 pm
<b>Camellia Street Grille (695-2003):</b> 11:00 am – 9:00 pm daily
<b>City Seafood (695-4700):</b> 8:00 am – 10:00 am; breakfast Noon-6pm Lunch & Dinner
<b>Glades Haven Deli (695-2091):</b> Deli Closed for Repairs Live bait available at marina
<b>Havana Café (695-2214):</b> Closed for Summer See you in October
<b>Island Café (695-0003):</b> 6:00 am – 9:00 pm; daily
<b>Ivey House (695-3299):</b> 6:30 – 9:30 am; daily
<b>Joanie's Blue Crab Café (695-2682):</b> 11:00 am – 5:00 pm <i>Open: Mon., Fri., Saturday &amp; Sunday</i>
<b>Oyster House Restaurant (695-2073):</b> Currently closed for repairs Please check back!
<b>Rod &amp; Gun (695-2101):</b> 11:30 am - 8:00 pm; daily
<b>Tastes of the Everglades (695-0075)</b> 11 am to 4 pm
<b>Triad Seafood &amp; Café (695-2662):</b> We are closed for summer. See you in October.
<b>MARKETS</b>
<b>Right Choice Supermarket (695-4535):</b> 9:00 am – 7:00 pm; daily
<b>Grimm's Stone Crab (239-695-3222):</b> We are closed for summer.
<b>Fresh Produce</b> 1181 Hamilton Ln, Chok. Closed for Summer By E City Post Office, Closed for Summer
<b>SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES</b>
<b>Chokoloskee Church of God</b> Sunday: 10 am Sch., 11 am Worship Wed. 7 pm Hr. of Prayer
<b>Copeland Baptist Church</b> Sunday: 10 am School, 11 am Worship
<b>Everglades Community Church</b> 11:00 am Sunday Worship
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church of Everglades City</b> 9:45 am Sunday School, 11 am Worship 6 pm Sunday, 6 pm Wed. Bible Study
<b>Holy Family Catholic Church</b> Closed for Summer, see San Marco below
<b>St. Finbarr Catholic Church, Naples</b> Phone: 239-417-2084
<b>San Marco Catholic Church, Marco Isl.</b> 239-394-5181

6/2/18	Sat	12:54 AM	-0.09	L
6/2/18	Sat	6:40 AM	2.21	H
6/2/18	Sat	12:43 PM	0.88	L
6/2/18	Sat	4:56 PM	2.68	H
6/3/18	Sun	1:36 AM	-0.01	L
6/3/18	Sun	7:30 AM	2.21	H
6/3/18	Sun	1:25 PM	0.92	L
6/3/18	Sun	5:40 PM	2.54	H
6/4/18	Mon	2:20 AM	0.1	L
6/4/18	Mon	8:22 AM	2.23	H
6/4/18	Mon	2:21 PM	0.94	L
6/4/18	Mon	6:37 PM	2.4	H
6/5/18	Tue	3:11 AM	0.2	L
6/5/18	Tue	9:13 AM	2.29	H
6/5/18	Tue	3:42 PM	0.92	L
6/5/18	Tue	7:57 PM	2.26	H
6/6/18	Wed	4:07 AM	0.3	L
6/6/18	Wed	10:00 AM	2.35	H
6/6/18	Wed	4:56 PM	0.82	L
6/6/18	Wed	9:23 PM	2.17	H
6/7/18	Thu	5:02 AM	0.39	L
6/7/18	Thu	10:44 AM	2.44	H
6/7/18	Thu	5:54 PM	0.67	L
6/7/18	Thu	10:36 PM	2.15	H
6/8/18	Fri	5:53 AM	0.46	L
6/8/18	Fri	11:26 AM	2.55	H
6/8/18	Fri	6:46 PM	0.48	L
6/8/18	Fri	11:45 PM	2.19	H
6/9/18	Sat	6:43 AM	0.52	L
6/9/18	Sat	12:05 PM	2.67	H
6/9/18	Sat	7:35 PM	0.27	L
6/10/18	Sun	12:50 AM	2.27	H
6/10/18	Sun	7:31 AM	0.58	L
6/10/18	Sun	12:41 PM	2.82	H
6/10/18	Sun	8:22 PM	0.04	L
6/11/18	Mon	1:46 AM	2.37	H
6/11/18	Mon	8:18 AM	0.63	L
6/11/18	Mon	1:15 PM	2.98	H
6/11/18	Mon	9:08 PM	-0.17	L
6/12/18	Tue	2:37 AM	2.44	H
6/12/18	Tue	9:02 AM	0.67	L
6/12/18	Tue	1:48 PM	3.14	H
6/12/18	Tue	9:54 PM	-0.35	L
6/13/18	Wed	3:27 AM	2.47	H
6/13/18	Wed	9:46 AM	0.71	L
6/13/18	Wed	2:22 PM	3.27	H
6/13/18	Wed	10:42 PM	-0.47	L
6/14/18	Thu	4:20 AM	2.46	H
6/14/18	Thu	10:32 AM	0.74	L
6/14/18	Thu	2:59 PM	3.34	H
6/14/18	Thu	11:31 PM	-0.51	L
6/15/18	Fri	5:16 AM	2.43	H
6/15/18	Fri	11:20 AM	0.77	L
6/15/18	Fri	3:43 PM	3.31	H
6/16/18	Sat	12:20 AM	-0.47	L
6/16/18	Sat	6:11 AM	2.4	H
6/16/18	Sat	12:12 PM	0.78	L
6/16/18	Sat	4:38 PM	3.19	H

**Obituary**  
**Ernest Phillip Goff**  
Remembrance Celebration is June 2nd  
McLeod Park, 1 pm



Ernest Phillip Goff, 75, pulled up Earth's anchor May 11, 2018.

A proud, talented, lifelong Commercial Fisherman, he enjoyed his life fully and liked to say, "I led three lives and I enjoyed every one of them."

A net fisherman in the Gulf of Mexico over 60 years from Florida Bay around to the Louisiana bayous, he was dubbed "Pompano King" and was looked up to by generations of fisherman.

Outgoing, charismatic, and adventuresome, he is a legend of an era and a disappearing way of life to be long remembered and talked about. Not one to hide his light under a bushel (no pun intended), he would have it no other way.

He is survived by wife of 57 years, Joe Ann; sons Jeff, Tommy and Loren; grandchildren Cole, Amber, Dylan and Gabrielle; great grandson Nolan and many relatives and friends.

He was predeceased by parents Ernest Goff and Golden Daniels Goff Smallwood, brother Gene, sister Ernestine, and his beloved daughter Toni Ann.

There will be a remembrance celebration at the park in Everglades City, FL, June 2 at 1:00pm. Casual attire please. All are welcome.

*Thank you so much to great friend, Dennis Noble and family and many others for giving this commemoration get-together in honor of Phillip.*



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**JOB OPPORTUNITY:** Electricians helper. Experience preferred, but not necessary. Must be reliable and honest. Call Herb @ 239-398-5093.

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**FOR RENT:** One bedroom apartment in the Glades Building across from the Rod & Gun Club on the corner of Allen Ave. For more information call: 239 293 3033.

**OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT:** Two office spaces for rent in the Glades Building across from the Rod & Gun club. For more information or to set an appointment call: 239 293 3033.

**FOR SALE:** 2005 3 Bdrm., 2 Bath concrete stilt home with additional Deeded adjoining lot. @ 233 Worley St Chokoloskee. Asking \$269,000. View by appointment only. Call 813 763 1944.

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**FOR SALE:** RV Lots with docks. Call Bob Wells Real Estate @ 239-695-2660 for more information.

**FULL TIME JOB:** Restaurant manager. Must be honest, reliable and a good problem solver. Candidate must have an understanding of the restaurant business, inventory and leadership skills. Great opportunity for the right person to learn and grow. Historic Joanie's Blue Crab in Ochopee. Call Joanie for an interview: 239-695-2682.

**JOB OPPORTUNITY: Become an election worker for the 2018 elections.** Qualifications: Be a registered voter in Collier County. Be able to read and write English. Complete the orientation and training. You must be available to work a 12-14 hour shift. Get started today! Complete your application at www.CollierVotes.com. Call us if you have questions. By email at: ElectionWorker@colliergov.net. Or by phone: ( 239) 252-VOTE (8683).

**FOR SALE:** Like new 5th wheel, 2008, 35', mint condition, The camper has 3 slide outs and many extras inside. Can deliver to you. Located in E-city. Call 317-696-2628.

***The MULLET RAPPER***

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

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*We provide local news of interest to the extended communities of Everglades City, Chokoloskee, Plantation Island, Lee Cypress, Copeland, Jerome & Ochopee*

***We strive to present the facts accurately with no political or social bias.***

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

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