

The MULLET RAPPER



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

News, Stories, Classifieds & Tide Table

December 25, 2021 - January 7, 2022

Merry Christmas!



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

Volume XIII • Issue # 406

Christmas Day in the Glades

**Rod & Gun Club
Open Christmas Day
Until 6 pm
**This is a cash only
establishment****

Most Airboat Rides Open

**Right Choice Market
Open 9 am to noon**

**Everglades Bait & Tackle
Open 6 am to 10 am**

**Everglades National Park is
Closed but you can still fish
in the park (with a park
pass)!**

**Find listings for local
businesses at:**

www.VisitEvergladesCity.com

A Gift That Will Keep On Giving! Second Round of Trees Planted in Everglades City Courtesy of The Community Foundation of Collier County, Naples Botanical Gardens, and Numerous Volunteers!

In an effort led by Everglades City Councilman Tony Pernas and Naples Botanical Gardens, Everglades City has received a second grant from the Community Foundation of Collier providing beautiful (and quite large!) trees in the City's medians.

The first round of trees was planted along Broadway and down the first few blocks of Copeland Avenue starting at the City circle. This second round of plantings runs down Copeland Avenue all the way to Camellia Street.

Just like the last time, a crew from Naples Botanical Gardens was assisted by numerous local volunteers over the two-day planting period.

The trees planted include coconut palms, royal palms, Hong Kong orchids and, Yellow tabebuia.



Of course, it is now the dry season so our local fire department is helping tremendously with weekly watering of the trees and flowers. In between those waterings, Tony has set up a watering system on a trailer that can be used to keep everything growing and healthy.

To help make our City medians more manicured and beautiful, we are asking for volunteers who may be interested in forming a beautification committee that can gather on a regular basis to help weed, trim, fertilize, and help keep the City beautiful.

If you are interested in being a part of it, please contact Kathy Brock at (954) 662-7003, or via email at mulletrapper@gmail.com and a team will be developed.

Many thanks to the Naples Botanical Gardens who helped with the grant process and provided a crew on planting day. Thank you to **Havana Café** who served lunch to all of the volunteers after the planting was completed...and did so for no charge!

For information about Naples Botanical Gardens go to www.NaplesGarden.org. For information on the Community Foundation of Collier go to www.CFcollier.org.

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SWFL Coast tide predictions, maps, tours & more at www.visitevergladescity.com! Call us @ 954-662-7003

~ EVENT CALENDAR - DECEMBER 26, 2021 - JANUARY 29, 2022 ~

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Dec 26	27 City Hall Closed	28	29 Ladies Coffee Havana, 8:30a Food Bank ECC, 10:30-1pm	30	31 Woo Hoo! New Year's Eve	Jan. 1 Happy 2022! Holy Family, 10:30 Mass
	3 ESHP 9:00 am	4 City Council 7 pm	5 Ladies Coffee Isl Café, 8:30 am Food Bank ECC, 10:30-1pm	6	7	Rapper-8 Chicken Dinner, See p. 10
9	10	11	12 Ladies Coffee City Seaf, 8:30a Food Bank ECC, 10:30-1pm	13 Lions Club, 6 pm	14 ESHP Event, Golf Gala, See p. 3	15
16-New Moon	17	18 P & Z, 7 pm	19 Ladies Coffee Havana, 8:30a Food Bank ECC, 10:30-1pm	20 Museum Talk, 2 pm, See p. 8	21 Museum Movie. 6 pm Garage Sale, See p. 3	Rapper-22 Art-in-Glades, See p. 3 Garage Sale, See p. 3
23	24	25	26 Ladies Coffee Isl Café, 8:30 am Food Bank ECC, 10:30-1pm	27 Lions Club, 6 pm	28	29 Annual Plant Sale, p.3

Feb 11-13: Everglades Seafood Festival

Feb 14: Valentine's Day

Feb. 22: Art-in-the-Glades

Feb 25: ESHP Talk

AREA INFORMATION & NUMBERS:

AA: Wed., closed until further notice
 CARNESTOWN Recycle & Trash: 2nd Sat. of month, 9a-12p, 12:30p-2:00p
 DR DEMARTINO: Seeing patients in Marco, call: (239) 642-5552
 DR MARTIN: Call for appointment: (813)-787-9738
 LIONS CLUB: 2nd Thursday of the month. 6 pm. Jinkins Hall at ECC
 MUSEUM: Open Tuesday-Saturday, 9 am to 4 pm, 239-252-5026
 PANCAKE FLY-IN: TBA
 SKATING RINK: Open Friday & Saturday, 7 pm to 10 pm
 SMALLWOOD STORE: Open daily 10 am to 5 pm, 239-695-2989
 THRIFT SHOP: Open Thursday. 11 am to 3 pm, more info on p. 3
 VETERANS SUPPORT: Wednesdays at the food pantry, 10:30am-1pm
 VISITOR CENTER: Open 10 am—2 pm daily. (239)-232-4037
 FLORIDA STONE CRABBERS ASSOCIATION: email:
 floridastonecrabbers@gmail.com

OTHER IMPORTANT NUMBERS:

AIRPORT: (239)-695-2778
 BIG CYPRESS: (239)-695-2000
 CITY HALL: (239)-695-3781
 CURBSIDE TRASH PICKUP (239)-252-2380,
 (CALL TUESDAY FOR THURSDAY PICKUP)
 EVG NATIONAL PARK: (239)-695-3311
 FAKAHATCHEE: (239)-695-4593
 PUBLIC LIBRARY: (239)-695-2511
 SHERIFF: (239)-252-9300

The Local Area Code is 239

POST OFFICE INFORMATION:

Chokoloskee (239) 695-4468
 Mail pickup is at Everglades City Post Office, see times below
 Everglades City (239) 695-2174
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**COMMUNITY SERVICES
& INFORMATION**



*What's
Happening!*

Everglades Lions Club Dinner
Featuring

Cecil's Famous Grilled Chicken!
January 8, 2022, 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm
McLeod Park, Everglades City
See ad on page 10

A Night at Naples Depot Museum
Golf Gala Fundraiser

January 14, 2022, 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm
Wine, Beer, Hors d'oeuvres
Benefiting the Save the Bank of
Everglades Building Fund!

Guest Presenter: Artist Paul Arsenault
Special Guest:
Hall-of-Fame PGA Golf Pro
Tony Kelley
Reserve Your Tickets to this limited
attendance event at:
www.SaveBOE.com/events

Art-in-the-Glades
January 22, 2022

10:00 AM-1:00 PM, McLeod Park

You'll find interesting and unique items for sale in historic Everglades City, where local talented artists and crafters will set up their tables under the pavilion near the tennis courts. This is an informal event where your kids and well behaved pets are welcomed.

Vendor space is free. Contact Marya:
239-695-2905

Annual Plant Sale-Fundraiser
Benefiting Everglades City School
January 29, 2022, 9 am to 2 pm

The annual Mullet Rapper plant fundraiser is back! This year we will have a nice variety of ornamental plants, butterfly host plants, flowering plants, bromeliads, palms, herbs and more!

The fundraiser will be held at 406 Storter Avenue North in Everglades City. Please park on Evergreen Street (not on Storter!) when you arrive, there will be signs.

If you have plants you would like to donate for the event please drop them off at the above address before the day of the event,

100% of the proceeds of this plant sale is donated to Everglades City School to help fund unmet needs.

For more information, please contact Kathy Brock (954) 662-7003.

We hope to see you there!

THE FOOD BANK IS OPEN !
Wed. 10:30 am to 1:00 pm

Food is distributed from the rear of Everglades Community Church located at 101 S. Copeland Ave., Everglades City. "This institution is an equal opportunity provider."

Thrift Store

Open Thursday. 11 am to 3 pm
205 Buckner Ave, Everglades City

Please do not leave items on the porch when we are not open. They get wet from moisture overnight and get ruined. Thank you!

Everglades Area Information

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

There are also two brochure racks at City Hall with information about local businesses. You can visit City Hall Monday—Friday from 9 am to 5 pm.

You may also access the area's complete business directory at
www.VisitEvergladesCity.com.

Veterans Assistance

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

******HUGE SALE******

At Fisherman's Cove Rec Hall
Friday Jan. 21, 3 PM-6 PM
Saturday Jan. 22, 8 AM to 4 PM.

Items are priced inexpensively (CHEAP!). We have lots of household items, rods & reels, fishing tackle and baits, and some tools. 3PM on Saturday, all items half price.

FWC hosting public meetings on Lake Okeechobee Management Plan (Water Quality & Management)

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) released the first draft of the Lake Management Plan for Lake Okeechobee and will be hosting two public meetings to gather feedback. These meetings are rescheduled from earlier dates in November.

The first meeting will be in Clewiston on Tuesday, Jan. 25, 6-8 p.m. at the John Boy Auditorium, 1200 W C Owen Ave, Clewiston FL 33440. The second meeting will be held in Okeechobee on Thursday, Feb. 16, 6-8 p.m. at the Okeechobee Civic Center, 1750 US Highway 98 N, Okeechobee, FL 34972.

Plans cover management activities within the FWC's jurisdiction while providing recommendations to partner agencies on items outside of that jurisdiction, such as water levels and water quality. FWC management activities can include, but are not limited to, habitat protection, restoration and enhancement, fisheries management and invasive plant management.

For questions related to the mgmt. plans or meetings, contact Ben Shepherd at bshepherd@inwoodinc.com or 407-971-8850, or visit MyFWC.com/Lakes-Plans.



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*****You must be 21 or older to order and to pick up*****



**Locals Show Off Acting Chops in
"Killing Mr. Watson" Reenactment Play**



The play "Killing Mr. Watson" by Larry Block, based on the books by Peter Matthiessen, was a glimpse of the past in present-day Chokoloskee.

What makes it all so much more intriguing is that it actually happened right there on the docks of the

historic **Smallwood Store in Chokoloskee.**

Overlooking beautiful Chokoloskee Bay, the setting was perfect for both shows.

People came from near and (sorta) far to learn more about that day's fateful events. However, on this day, a pleasant breeze greeted them, Indian Fry Bread was in the air, and the smoke from Barbeque billowed out of nearby grills.

Recounting these historic events from the past is fun, but it is also a great way to carry the information forward for generations to come.

Everglades Society for Historic Preservation (ESHP), and others like it, make it their mission to not only document history, but to preserve it as well. The proceeds ESHP received from the event will go towards the renovations at the Bank of Everglades (BOE) Building.

BOE, the first bank in our County's history, sits overlooking the Barron River. It was once the county's mecca for business and commerce.

Today, the building sits empty as ESHP works to raise funds (and awareness) so it may serve the community once again. However this time it will transform into the area's visitor & learning center and trail town headquarters.



The Smallwood Store is a time capsule for the era from which Watson came. The shelves still hold some items from days long past, the interior left undisturbed as a reminder of the way things were.

When you enter the store you can almost feel what it was like when it served as the area's trading post. Imagine if we only had photos of the old store? How sad it would be for future generations if their only reminders of the past come in the form of digital photos.

If you would like to learn more about ESHP or get involved to help the organization in its efforts to renovate the Bank of Everglades Building, go to www.eshp.org or www.saveboe.com.

Living Gulf Coast by Charles Sobczak

Lizardfish (Synodus foetens) Other names: sea mat, soap fish / Status: FL=stable, IUCN=NE / Life span: to 2 years / Length: 10-16 in. (25-40 cm) / Weight: .60-1 lb. (272-452 g) / Spawns: in the offshore waters / Found: Both in the inshore and offshore waters of the Gulf of Mexico.



The lizardfish is an inshore, as well as nearshore species. Inshore it is seldom longer than a foot,

whereas in deeper water it can grow to 18 inches or more. Its range extends from southern Brazil to Massachusetts.

Best described as unattractive, the lizardfish has a mouth that is oddly wider than its sausage-shaped body. It varies widely in coloration, but its mottled olive and brown skin has an interesting pattern.

The lizardfish is considered by almost all anglers to be a junk fish. No one eats it, and aside from occasional use as cut bait for grouper, it is seldom used for anything else. When hooked, the lizardfish puts up hardly any struggle. It is predominantly a bottom feeder but will take a deep trolled lure offshore. It feeds on crabs, fish, and crustaceans and is eaten by groupers and sharks.

Striped Mojarra (Diapterus plumieri) Other names: mojarra, sand perch, sand brim / Status: FL=stable, IUCN=NE / Life span: to 6 years / Length: 4-12 in. (10-30 cm) / Weight: 4-36 oz (113-1,020 g) / Spawns: in the nearshore waters / Found: Predominately found in the near shore or inshore waters of the Gulf.




With a range that extends from South Carolina to Brazil, the bulk of the striped mojarra population lives in the Caribbean basin. Unlike pinfish or pigfish, the mojarra is sometimes trawl-netted and used for fishmeal in much the same fashion as menhaden.

Fairly common, but generally only cast-netted and seldom caught on hook and line, the mojarra is not as popular as other baitfish.

The mojarra tends to die when put into a bait well, even one with good circulation. Its flesh is far softer than pigfish, and, therefore, it does not stay on a hook as well. In the estuary it feeds on micro-crustaceans, detritus, aquatic insects, and micro-bivalves. It is readily taken by snook, seatrout, and redfish. It can grow to be more than two pounds but because of its soft flesh does not make good table fare. *Illustrations by Diane Peebles*

Charles Sobczak is a writer and photographer from Sanibel Island. His books are available at Amazon.com and other online booksellers.



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*Adventures of the Saltwater Cowboy – “Well, Do You Feel Lucky?”**By Jon Edward Edwards*

Drifting across a sandy shoal pocketed with coral and seagrass off Turtle Key, water a pale turquoise, neither clear nor muddy, I thought, this is the day I wash the redfish skunk off me. With a character on board named “Lucky,” how could I spend another day on the water without catching one? The law of averages? Something must give.

Trout, snook, snapper, pompano, tripletail, tarpon sometimes – I did alright. Catching speckled trout has inadvertently become my “thing,” per se. Not as sexy to some, but there’s a player for every position. Not everyone can be quarterback, but it’s better to be the punter than not make the team. In the spirit of such, I embraced the snaggle-toothed bait thumpers. But the fact that I had not been able to catch a redfish in months had become a problem.

Being a student of the game, striking out on reds time and time again was a source of anxiety and personal dissatisfaction. Also, I was tired of avoiding the topic of conversation with one of my compadres, an offshore guide, and a trusted proofreader, Drake. He’d commented, something to the effect that I should get a redfish tattooed somewhere where I could at least see one when I used the bathroom. This must stop.

My enthusiasm remained steadfast even after Will, my son, politely informed Lucky that the spinning reel he was holding was upside down. A common mistake among those unfamiliar with certain types of fishing tackle. Lucky grew up in Iowa, known more for wrestlers than anglers. When he moved to Florida, he told me he had to choose between an airplane or a boat. The plane was cheaper. The faux pas was understandable, and we didn’t tease him too much. Lucky is my friend and landlord. I responded to an ad for a condo on Marco in which Lucky (I think that might be his name. I haven’t asked) quickly and exuberantly replied. A few minutes later, it felt like we were old friends. This ability being a common trait among successful salesmen, it came as no surprise to learn he is one of the top realtors on an island of hundreds. The proof is in the unobstructed view clear to the Yucatan from his condo high above Caxambas Pass.

Loyalty to my friends sometimes comes at a price. Yet, in my experience, the price is always worth it. For instance, do I want to complain to my Amigo that hot air is funneling through the old glazing and shutter system? Or that birds have taken residence in the ceiling? I did complain about that one, and he put in a work order. In the meantime, I came to realize there were no birds but a squeaky ceiling fan. I’ve been too embarrassed to disclose the revelation. I can hear his charismatic, bellowing laugh as he reads this. Surprise!

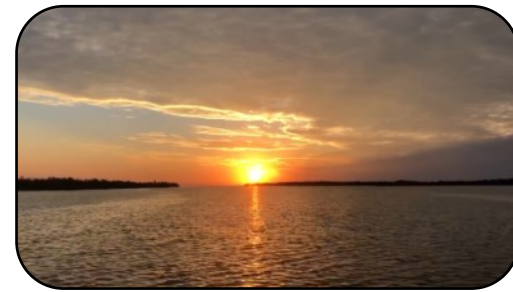
“What’s that?” asked Lucky in response to the information Will had given him regarding the upside-down reel. Before anyone could respond, a crafty ladyfish or a sprinting jack took a swipe at the live shrimp on the end of his line, flipping the reel over. “Oh ...,” replied Lucky, “Ha! How about that!”

“Leave it there for a minute. If your shrimp isn’t gone, something might come back and get it,” I said, whipping a jig side-armed with both hands as far as I could to reach the cut on the edge of the shoal. Suddenly, Lucky’s popping cork disappeared, and his line began moving sideways at a rapid rate of speed. Although, he’d yet to feel the pull on the end of the line. “Uh ...,” Will said, “I think you’ve got one.”

Lucky reeled in the slack, the rod bowed, and the drag started peeling off the reel. “Oh boy, do I ever!”

“Yes, you do,” I replied, laying my rod down, scrambling for the Boga Grip, getting ready to land the fish should the fight go Lucky’s way. I didn’t say anything, but the way the fish fought, pulling steady amidst blistering runs, led me to believe that he had a nice red. Yes! I knew it, I thought, still keeping the idea to myself. My behavior was indicative of the silly superstitions in which anglers are sometimes governed. Although, it wouldn’t have mattered because the bruiser ended up being a colossal jack crevalle.

We moved around the outer islands, catching a little bit of everything; small snook, mangrove snapper, and slot size trout were the A-Listers of the day. Trash fish bit and pulled on our lines, providing much entertainment, but they don’t count.



Following the incoming tide into the backwater, trolling from point to point, fishing the deeper holes that hold gator trout in the cooler months, we picked up one here, two there as we went.

The tide was rushing over a massive oyster ridge towards the back of a bay that I’m choosing to remain nameless. I cast to the edge where my jig became snagged. I popped the line a couple of times using what I call the Ole Banjo Trick. With slack line, I pulled out an arms-length and snapped it several times. Not unlike a fast version of drawing a compound bow and slinging an arrow. The vibration ran down the line to the lure, pushing it off its snag.

That one always garnishes looks of surprise for those who’ve never seen it. This time was no different. Lucky looked at me wild-eyed. “Old Louisiana bass fishing technique,” I said. I barely got the comment out when something peeled off the oyster bar and took off with my jig. I set the hook and tried to turn the fish away from the oyster bar, but “Pop!” the line broke. “Well,” I said, “That was my redfish. Or a tripletail.” Oddly, I’ve caught several of the crab-pot loiterers in this particular backwater bay.

Although the redfish continued to elude me, we had a spectacular day. A box full of trout and a few keeper snapper. Memories made, a bond strengthened, and a friendship solidified was lucky enough for me. As we rounded the corner at Tripod Key, the sun was low on the horizon in line with Caxambas Pass, an orange orb hovering directly above Lucky’s place.

Jon Edward Edwards is a local author, fishing guide, and avid sportsman. His stories often recount his adventures in and around the 10,000 Islands. Email Jon at jedmls@mac.com.

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<https://www.amazon.com/b?node=15576745011>

Everglades Society for Historic Preservation:
smile.amazon.com/ch/20-2229534

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Authorized Concessioner

December 11, 2021 Puzzle Solution

1	P	E	E	R	5	W	O	B	B	L	E		
11	L	A	R	A	12	H	A	U	L	E	D		
13	A	T	R	Y	14	A	R	M	A	N	I		
15	C	E	O		16	I	T	S		17	M	I	C
18	E	N	R	I	C	H		20	B	E	N	T	
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23	K	I	L	O		26	V	U	L	G	A	R	
30	E	V	A		31	M	E	T		32	I	R	A
33	Y	A	N	C	E	Y		35	E	V	I	L	
36	I	N	D	I	G	O		37	R	E	A	L	
38	N	A	S	S	A	U		39	E	A	S	Y	

“When a doctor says surgery, the patient should show courage”
By Pastor Bob Wallace



No one likes to have an operation. But it happens every day. Sometimes a person just isn't feeling well. And after lots of tests and examinations learns an operation is needed. Now that gets your attention real fast. And, if you've never had one, you're scared. That's normal. And what follows usually goes like this.

Patients usually want to consult loved ones about having an operation. Sometimes there's plenty of time. Sometimes, not!

However, there are occasions when time is a luxury you don't have, and a quick decision is of the essence. That's the difference between elective and emergency surgery. The moment the surgeon sits down with an intended surgical patient to discuss the operation and tell of the risks involved, it's important. The surgeon may have a video tape of the suggested procedure and offer to show you what's intended, which may be complete with recuperation time and a recommended rehabilitation protocol. My suggestion is, watch it! That's when the patient should show courage. If there's anything about the operation that's not understood by the patient or relative, ask. Everything should be completely clear about the risks involved and the outcome of the proposed surgery.

Never be afraid to ask questions. Be absolutely clear in your own mind what's intended and just how the outcome for your condition will be accomplished. There will be a time for you to sign a consent form. Again, if there's anything you don't understand, ask before you sign.

In today's practice of medicine, the patient usually doesn't spend the night in a hospital. It's called same-day surgery. But, if it's necessary for you to stay in the hospital prior to elective surgery, arrive before the time of your scheduled operation. You'll have been instructed by a member of the doctor's staff not to eat, or drink anything after 11 o'clock, or midnight, prior to surgery. The reason for not ingesting any liquids prior to

surgery is to have an empty stomach when the operation begins. Otherwise, your anesthesia may cause you to vomit while you're unconscious. That could prove dangerous.

It may be necessary for a nurse to shave the area of your body where the doctor will operate. That's because the surgical incision will, of necessity, need to be free of body hair minimizing the risk of infection. You'll be asked to remove your regular clothing and dress in a clean hospital gown. Again, that's to reduce the risk of infection.

About an hour before the operation begins, you'll be given an injection to make you sleepy and help you relax. You will probably doze in and out of sleep at this time. That's good! It helps relieve anxiety and apprehension. The main anesthesia will be administered by the anesthetist after you arrive in the surgical arena.

You'll be met by your chief surgeon just prior to the operation. That's an important time. Make sure you're properly identified, and the intended surgical procedure is clear to all. It may prevent an unpleasant post-operative experience.

After your operation, you will be immediately taken to a recovery room for a period of time. This may be anywhere between half-an-hour to two hours, or longer. There you will be watched closely by the nursing and surgical staff who want to assure themselves, and you, that everything has gone as planned. If your surgery has been extensive, or you are extremely ill, you may be taken to an intensive-care unit for close observation and treatment prior to returning to a regular floor.

After surgery, you may experience new sensations. There may be itching of your skin because of small incisions which are closed with nylon threads or clips. Larger incisions may be held together for a time by temporary large supporting stitches. Relief usually comes when the doctor finally removes the stitches or clips. Internal areas and membranes of the body cut by the surgeon during the operation will have dissolving stitches and not require removal or further attention.

Some types of surgery require that a patient receive fluids through an intravenous drip, or a tube inserted directly into a vein. This will usually be for only a day or two, and is normally required for abdominal surgery. Sometimes tubes are used to drain body fluids. Either way, a patient may be hooked up to quite a few lines, tubes and machines monitoring the heart and other vital signs either putting fluids in or taking them out of the body.

These are trying times for both the patient and family, But, when it's all over and the time comes for you to go home, there's much happiness and relief for both family, surgeon and medical staff. Looking back on what just a few weeks earlier had been something looked upon with anticipation and dread is now in the past.

Just remember, an operation takes a lot of courage – on everyone's part. Especially you!

The Reverend Doctor Bob N. Wallace was called to be Pastor of Everglades Community Church on March 19, 2006 where he currently serves.
 Visit the Church website:
www.ever-community-church.com

Everglades Community Church
Christmas Eve Service
Friday, December 24, 2021
7:00 PM
There will be snacks served
after the service.
If attending, bring a snack!



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

101 S. Copeland Avenue, PO Box 177
Everglades City, FL 34139, 239-784-7318
The Rev. Dr. Bob N. Wallace, Pastor
◆ Sunday Worship Service 11:00 am ◆
◆ Sunday School 9:45 am ◆
www.ever-community-church.com

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

First opened in 1927 as a commercial laundry, the building that now houses Museum of the Everglades is one of the historic structures still standing as a testament to the town's time as a once-bustling center of business and the region's first County seat.

The Museum of the Everglades is open Tuesday—Saturday from 9am to 4 pm.

—————> **Exhibit**

**Everglades-The Fisherman's Paradise
Luring Anglers to Florida for Over a Century**
Now – February 27, 2022
Museum of the Everglades

This exhibit tells the story of Everglades City's evolution from a secret fishing hole known only to locals and a few wealthy Northerners in the late 1800s to a highly desirable destination for world class sportfishing today. The guides, the gear, and the area's influence on the industry are discussed along with Barron Collier's discovery, branding, and promotion of the town as Fisherman's Paradise.

—————> **Event**

**Third Thursday Historical Talk
"Collier's Vision of Everglades City
as an International Destination"**
Thursday, January 20, 2022

What inspired a New York City advertising mogul to build a city in the wilderness? Find out the details surrounding the early beginnings of Everglades City as a hub for business and commerce in the region.

—————> **Event**

**History & Heritage Days at
The Everglades Seafood Festival**
February 11, 12, 13, 2022

The event previously known as the EVERGLADES EXPO will meld with Everglades City's annual Seafood Festival, restoring a history and heritage element to the town's signature event that draws thousands of visitors every year. All five Collier County Museums will be represented, providing information about their region's unique seafood history and more. Other groups dedicated to promoting and preserving glades culture — including the Florida Airboat Association, the Gladesman Heritage Foundation, and the Everglades Sportsmen's Club — will have informational displays (some including actual vehicles) creating a "Heritage Row" in front of the museum. **Hours: Feb. 11, 5 pm to 10 pm, Feb. 12, 10 am to 10 pm, Feb. 13, 10 am to 6 pm.** For more info call the museum during normal business hours.

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



Fishing in the 10,000 Islands with Captain Mike Merritt



I hope everyone has a Merry Christmas! May God Bless you all.

We are having some really warm weather this month and it has definitely affected the fishing. It seems the winter species that started to show up here have kind of tapered off a little. Not that I am complaining because I am still catching some really good Snook, and the bait in the Islands is still thick as ever!

The Redfish bite continues to be a little tough. We are not finding schools of good size fish yet. The smaller Reds are scattered around in numbers, but bigger fish tend to be less abundant. I am still catching some good size fish on the outside, but this has been scattered fish also. It seems a jig tipped with shrimp has been my most consistent way of finding them as we can cover more ground doing this.

There are some good fish in the back country too, and popping cork with shrimp and a short leader has been getting plenty. As I said the Snook fishing has been good. Most of the good fish seem to be in the backcountry but there are still some on the outside and in the rivers.

Live bait is plentiful and since most of the fishing clients are novices it is working the best. The feed seems a little slower so being patient is critical. Don't work an area too fast or if you are jig fishing or using soft plastics don't work them too fast! You will get into a good bite on some days but most of the time it is a little slower.

Catching good fish on the artificials is so much more rewarding than using bait, but they are both great as there is nothing like catching good Snook! I just had Stuart from the U.K. catch 8 slot Snook in one afternoon so I know there are plenty around.

Seatrout have been biting all month and continue to do so. I was catching plenty of fish using the DOA Shrimp on a popping cork. But lately it seems I am catching more on the jigs fished really slow or with a bait on a knocker rig. Getting some nice Trout for dinner has been easy and it is great action for the kids and beginners too. There are other fish around like the Black Drum, Pompano and Sheepshead too. These are all best caught on live shrimp.

How you fish it will depend on the water you fish. They are all great eating fish so getting a fish dinner is a good bet. Just keep moving around and keep on fishing! Something good will happen!

Good Luck Fishing and enjoy our beautiful weather! Capt. Mike

Fish With Captain Mike Merritt
561-252-4324 or email SnookFishing1@juno.com

**New Water Ordinance for Everglades City
Water Customers**

Everglades City Water Customers, there are new water ordinances in effect. Here are a few of the key rules. For the complete ordinance, contact City Hall.

- ◆ All customers existing landscape: No watering between the hours of 10:00 am and 4:00 pm.
- ◆ Those with an even numbered address: watering days are Tuesday, Thursday, and Sunday.
- ◆ Those with an odd numbered address: watering days are Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday.
- ◆ The ordinance also states that "wasteful and unnecessary water use is prohibited."

City Hall Contact Information:
(239) 695-3781

The Island Life Recipes

Cheese Grits
By Donna Kerstens

Ingredients:

- 1 1/2 cups old fashioned grits (not "quick" or "instant")
- 6 cups water
- 1 lb (box) Velveeta cheese cut into chunks
- 1 stick butter, chunked
- 3 Eggs
- 1/2 tbsp Tabasco sauce



Directions:

In a saucepan, cook the grits in water as per package instructions. Remove from heat and add Velveeta and butter and mix until melted. Stir in eggs and tabasco sauce and blend well.
In a casserole dish, butter sides and bottom. Pour the grit mixture into the prepared casserole.
Bake for 1 hour at 350°. Serve hot. These yummy grits are good for breakfast, lunch or dinner! Enjoy them!



My Little Slice of Paradise
By Kathy Brock

If you don't have something nice to say...

Kindness is a choice. Understanding each other can be difficult. Treating each other with respect, even when we have differences, can be challenging, especially during the holidays when we gather with people we may not often see.

Before you say something you may regret (once it is said, it cannot be "unsaid"), take a deep breath and hit your "pause" button.

Taking the high road isn't an act of cowardice. Biting your tongue is an act of respect.

Before you say something hurtful or something you may regret years (or just days) from now, remember that it may be the last thing you ever say to that individual. Our time on earth is short, and we cannot predict the future!

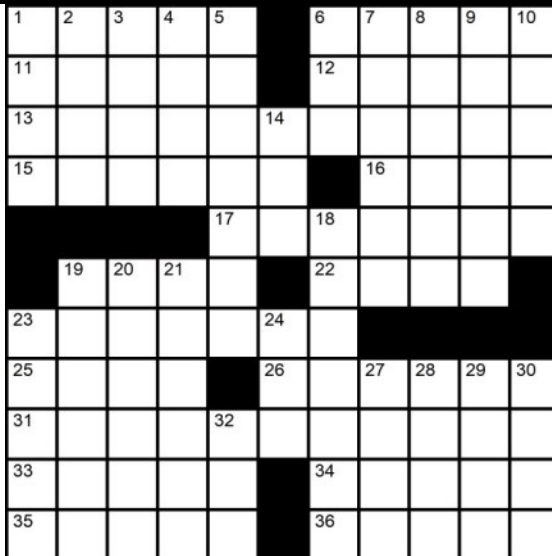
Why argue about it? What will it accomplish? Choose kindness.

Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays!

MULLET RAPPER CROSSWORD

Across

- 1 TV dramas
- 6 Bike propeller
- 11 Roughly
- 12 Bodily swelling
- 13 New England state
- 15 Strive (2 wds)
- 16 Christian --- of "American Psycho"
- 17 Not as spacious
- 19 "Eso ---" (Anka hit)
- 22 Dry run
- 23 Mount Ararat's locale
- 25 Seven on the Seine
- 26 Remain with the company
- 31 Hold your horses!
- 33 Back-40 units
- 34 "Ave ---"
- 35 They go BAA
- 36 To be



12/25/21

Down

- 1 Some bunts, for short
- 2 Plaintive woodwind instrument
- 3 Steak sauce
- 4 Hoodlum
- 5 St. Pete Univ.
- 6 Favorite
- 7 Okay to swallow
- 8 Transferable designs
- 9 Charm
- 10 Not now
- 11 End of many addresses
- 12 NY, ----- State
- 13 Loveseat
- 14 In the previously existing state
- 15 Doctrine
- 16 What Paul Bunyan carried
- 17 Gagarin or Andropov
- 18 "One day ---"
- 19 Infringement
- 20 Infringement
- 21 NY, ----- State
- 22 Loveseat
- 23 In the previously existing state
- 24 Doctrine
- 25 What Paul Bunyan carried
- 26 Gagarin or Andropov
- 27 Charm
- 28 Not now
- 29 End of many addresses
- 30 NY, ----- State
- 31 Loveseat
- 32 In the previously existing state
- 33 Doctrine
- 34 What Paul Bunyan carried
- 35 Gagarin or Andropov
- 36 "One day ---"



Chicken Dinner!
By the Everglades Lion Club

Saturday, January 8, 2022
4:30 to 6:00 pm

Pre-Order & Pickup at McLeod Park

Featuring:

*Cecil's Famous Grilled Chicken
Cole Slaw
BBQ Beans
Dessert & Beverage*

Only \$15.00 / plate

Please call any of the following to purchase tickets:

*Kathy Brock: 954 662 7003
Connie Barker: 419-350-6650
Tammie Pernas @ City Hall:
239-695-3781*

A limited amount of dinners will be available the day of the event.

Please Pre-Order!

Thank You!

EATERIES & AREA WORSHIP

BARRON RIVER TIDES

National Bike Route Expansion Into Collier Will Help Tourism & Local Bicyclists Too

By Kathy Brock

Bicycle Route 15, part of the U.S. bicycle route system runs for 14,000 miles through 31 states down into Georgia and stops at the Florida border.

However, a plan is in the works to extend the path into Florida and eventually into Collier County.

This is great news for the region as biking is increasing daily and with it, there is increased demand for additional routes and amenities for biking enthusiasts.

2020 was almost a complete wash for the region as international travel came to a halt, and many domestic travelers opted to stay home during the height of the pandemic.

Yet in parts of Collier County, specifically the southern-most parts, eco-tourism experienced growth. Hikers, bikers, and boaters looked for wide open spaces and found them in the more rural parts of the county.

Connecting Florida to Route 15 will bring more biking enthusiasts to our state. Continuing it into Collier County will only add to the many amenities our County already offers.

Collier County is one of the most diverse counties in the state. Where else can you find 5-star restaurants and hotels, and old Florida Charm just 40 miles down the road?

Bikers & Golf Cart Riders, Please Ring or Honk When Approaching Walkers

The Everglades area is busy with tourists this time of year. Many people are walking on the streets in groups or walking their dogs.


If you are riding a bike or riding in a battery powered cart, please ring your bell or yell out so those with children or dogs can be guided to a safe distance for you to pass. If they cannot hear you, they do not know you are approaching!

Coming up on walkers unexpectedly can result in an unnecessary accident! Those in vehicles should pass bikers at a safe distance.

Be courteous to your fellow travelers.

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

12/25/2021	Sat	1:15 AM	0.73	L
12/25/2021	Sat	5:22 AM	2.18	H
12/25/2021	Sat	1:54 PM	0.07	L
12/25/2021	Sat	7:50 PM	2.19	H
12/26/2021	Sun	2:32 AM	0.63	L
12/26/2021	Sun	6:52 AM	2.01	H
12/26/2021	Sun	2:49 PM	0.22	L
12/26/2021	Sun	8:30 PM	2.25	H
12/27/2021	Mon	3:47 AM	0.46	L
12/27/2021	Mon	8:38 AM	1.9	H
12/27/2021	Mon	3:49 PM	0.37	L
12/27/2021	Mon	9:08 PM	2.32	H
12/28/2021	Tue	4:51 AM	0.23	L
12/28/2021	Tue	10:06 AM	1.87	H
12/28/2021	Tue	4:48 PM	0.5	L
12/28/2021	Tue	9:48 PM	2.43	H
12/29/2021	Wed	5:49 AM	-0.03	L
12/29/2021	Wed	11:31 AM	1.93	H
12/29/2021	Wed	5:45 PM	0.6	L
12/29/2021	Wed	10:31 PM	2.58	H
12/30/2021	Thu	6:45 AM	-0.29	L
12/30/2021	Thu	12:42 PM	2.03	H
12/30/2021	Thu	6:41 PM	0.67	L
12/30/2021	Thu	11:18 PM	2.75	H
12/31/2021	Fri	7:38 AM	-0.52	L
12/31/2021	Fri	1:40 PM	2.11	H
12/31/2021	Fri	7:34 PM	0.7	L
1/1/2022	Sat	12:01 AM	2.9	H
1/1/2022	Sat	8:29 AM	-0.7	L
1/1/2022	Sat	2:37 PM	2.11	H
1/1/2022	Sat	8:22 PM	0.74	L
1/2/2022	Sun	12:50 AM	3.04	H
1/2/2022	Sun	9:19 AM	-0.78	L
1/2/2022	Sun	3:27 PM	2.1	H
1/2/2022	Sun	9:11 PM	0.71	L
1/3/2022	Mon	1:38 AM	3.11	H
1/3/2022	Mon	10:08 AM	-0.77	L
1/3/2022	Mon	4:13 PM	2.09	H
1/3/2022	Mon	10:01 PM	0.65	L
1/4/2022	Tue	2:28 AM	3.06	H
1/4/2022	Tue	10:56 AM	-0.67	L
1/4/2022	Tue	4:55 PM	2.08	H
1/4/2022	Tue	10:52 PM	0.59	L
1/5/2022	Wed	3:23 AM	2.91	H
1/5/2022	Wed	11:42 AM	-0.51	L
1/5/2022	Wed	5:34 PM	2.09	H
1/5/2022	Wed	11:45 PM	0.53	L
1/6/2022	Thu	4:25 AM	2.67	H
1/6/2022	Thu	12:27 PM	-0.29	L
1/6/2022	Thu	6:13 PM	2.12	H
1/7/2022	Fri	12:40 AM	0.48	L
1/7/2022	Fri	5:29 AM	2.38	H
1/7/2022	Fri	1:12 PM	-0.05	L
1/7/2022	Fri	6:53 PM	2.16	H



Chokoloskee Family Church

"Doing Life Together"

Sun. Marriage Class-9:00 am
Sun. Worship-11:00 am
Kids Program-Wed 7:00 pm
Kids Program- Sun. 11:00 am
Wed. Bible Study -7:00 pm
at Island Café-Free Coffee & Pie

Phone: 239-232-0098

CLASSIFIED ADS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

FOR SALE: 936 Panther Creek Lane, DuPont Island. Rare find in Everglades City! Waterfront single family three bedroom / two bath stilt home in the Commercial Fishing District. 80 feet of water frontage on almost half acre of land. Plenty of storage / workshops / garage and a Quonset hut. Asking \$469,000.

FOR SALE: Chokoloskee Island; 1294 Snook Alley canal front lot. This is a high lot with a dock. Quick and easy access out to the famous fishing of the Ten Thousand Islands and Gulf of Mexico! A stilt home could give you gorgeous Chokoloskee Bay views. Asking \$149,900.

For more information contact Glades Realty 239-695-4299. GladesRealty.com Karen@Gladesrealty.com

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

FOR SALE: Big Cypress Fly-in Retreat: The historic Popenhagen Camp, a 21-acre oasis of natural beauty, complete with an FAA approved airstrip, and an adorable, modern cabin, This stunning parcel is secluded on a high and dry prairie, and is completely off grid. The price on this private piece of paradise is \$2.5 million. Take a tour of the camp www.popenhagen.com. For more information call 786-258-2227.

HAPPY VOLUNTEERS WANTED: Everglades Area Visitor Center. Greet visitors and share information about our area's most interesting attractions. Flexible hours, and no experience is necessary. We can provide any training needed, just bring a great attitude. For information contact Kathy Brock, 954 662 7003.

PLEASE HELP GOLDEN PAWS ASSISTANCE DOGS

These hand-painted inspirational rocks are a beautiful addition to any garden or patio setting. Best of all, you will be helping support Golden Paws so they can provide assistance dogs to those most in need. To get yours, text (only) 239-250-8366!



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The MULLET RAPPER

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

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We strive to present the facts accurately

We encourage contrasting points of view

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

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



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