

# The MULLET RAPPER

## What's Happening in the Everglades City Area

**JUNE 7 – 20, 2013**

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P O Box 617, Everglades City, FL, 34139

Volume VII • Issue #187



### Chokoloskee Bridge Public Information Meeting

County Commissioner Tim Nance talked to area residents and bridge consultants at the May 23 public meeting at the Community Center.

*Photo by Connie Deane*



AMI-Kids Big Cypress Program Executive Director Ron Boyce pictured above (left) with Senator Garrett Richter at the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the Garden of Hope & Healing during the May 23, 2013, Graduation Day. The greenhouse was funded by the League Club of Naples.

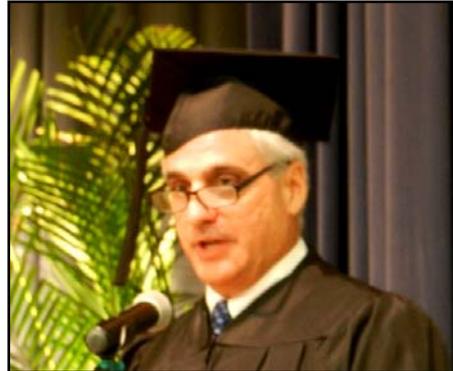
*Photo by Mike McComas.*

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**FEATURE: GRADUATION p.5**



Everglades City School Principal Bob Spano addresses the seniors at the 2013 Graduation Ceremony on Friday, May 31. Congratulations to our nine outstanding graduates! (see page 5 for more photos)

### Join the Parade!

Start working on your floats for our grand Independence Day Parade on **Saturday, June 29.**



The theme this year is "Stars & Stripes" and there are prizes for the best golf cart, swamp buggy, and other categories. For more information and to sign up, call Elaine at 695-2695.

The schedule for our family-fun day is:

- 10:00 Opening Ceremony
- 10:30 PARADE
- 11:00 Booths Open (food, music)
- 11:30 Parade Winners Announced
- 1:00 Kiddies' Best-Dressed Contest
- 2:00 Raffle Winners Picked
- 9:00 FIREWORKS

If you would like to donate to the Fireworks Fund, put your money in the collection boxes around town or drop it off at City Hall where you'll get a receipt.

Support our town and come join the parade!



### ECITY POST OFFICE

by Marya Repko

Everglades City (34139) is a small rural community, one of the few in southwest Florida. We do not have door-to-door delivery but all go to the Post Office to get our mail in our post office boxes.

This may sound like an inconvenience but, in fact, it's a great way to meet our neighbors. I remember as a youngster in rural Connecticut doing the same thing, and there was a pot-bellied stove to keep us warm as elderly residents gathered around.

We are now faced with a change in the postal service in Everglades City. On busy days, during our winter season with many more residents, I don't know how the postmaster can sort the mail and get it into our boxes as well as serving us at the counter to sell stamps, sell money orders, deliver packages, etc. I think he/she comes in early to put up the mail or stays through the official lunch time to get it done.

We are, of course, upset by any potential plan that would change our historical postal service. The first Post Office in the town of Everglades was established in 1893 at the Storter Store & Trading Post (*above photo courtesy of Florida State Archives*).

We think that the service should remain as it is but with a part-time assistant on Monday morning, when deliveries are heavier, to help with sorting. If that entails the stoppage of Saturday delivery, we could probably accept that.

**Post Office Meeting  
Thursday, June 13, at 5 pm  
Everglades Community Church**

# JUNE 2013

<u>SUN</u>	<u>MON</u>	<u>TUES</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THURS</u>	<u>FRI</u>	<u>SAT</u>
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Hour of Prayer Everglades Community Church 7 pm	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Ladies Coffee Island Café 8 am	<b>6</b>	<b><u>RAPPER 7</u></b>	new moon ○ <b>8</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Hour of Prayer Copeland Baptist Church 7 pm  Vacation Bible School <i>see p. 3</i>  OFCD Meeting <i>see p.3</i>  Chamber Meeting	<b>11</b> Harry Chapin Food Bank <i>see p.3</i>  Vacation Bible School <i>see p. 3</i>	<b>12</b> Ladies Coffee City Seafood 8 am  Vacation Bible School <i>see p. 3</i>  Targeted Response Mtg <i>see p. 3</i>	<b>13</b> Vacation Bible School <i>see p. 3</i>  <u>Post Office</u> <u>Meeting</u> <i>see p.1 &amp; 3</i>	<b>14</b> Vacation Bible School <i>see p. 3</i>	<b>15</b> Mobile Pet Vet <i>see p. 3</i>
<b>16</b> <u>Fathers' Day</u> <i>see p. 3</i>	<b>17</b> Hour of Prayer Chokoloskee Church of God 7 pm	<b>18</b> Reach Out City Hall, 8:30 am	<b>19</b> Ladies Coffee Island Café 8 am	<b>20</b>	<b><u>RAPPER 21</u></b>	<b>22</b>
full moon ● <b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Hour of Prayer Holy Family Catholic Church 7 pm  Build-a-Boat	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Ladies Coffee City Seafood 8 am	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> PARADE! <i>see p.1</i>
<b>30</b>	<b>JULY 1</b> Hour of Prayer Everglades Community Church 7 pm  Build-a-Chair	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Ladies Coffee Island Café 8 am	<b>4</b> <u>Independence</u> <u>Day</u>	<b><u>RAPPER 5</u></b>	<b>6</b>

July 8, 15: Summer Camp    July 19: Hot Summer Nights    July 23: Food Bank    Aug 6: City Council, National Night Out    Aug 13: Food Bank  
 Aug 28: BigC ORVs    Aug 31-Sept 2: Butcher Labor Day Weekend "Muck-About"    Sept 28: Blessing of the Crab Fleet

THRIFT SHOP: Thurs, Sat, 11:00 am to 3:00 pm  
 DR DEMARTINO: Closed for summer  
 FOOD PANTRY: Sat, 8:30-10:30 am, Community Church  
 AL-ANON: Thurs, 12 noon, Community Church  
 MUSEUM: Tues-Fri, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm; Sat, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

SKATING RINK: Fri, Sat, 7-10 pm  
 LITTLE GATOR CLINIC: Closed for summer  
 AA: Wed, 5:00 pm, Community Church  
 NA: Sat, 11:30 am, Community Center (Skating Rink)  
 SMALLWOOD STORE: Daily, 11 am to 5 pm

SHERIFF AT CITY HALL: Office Hours posted in City Hall

SHERIFF: 695-2007    CITY HALL: 695-3781    PUBLIC LIBRARY: 695-2511    CHAMBER OF COMMERCE: 695-3941  
 AIRPORT: 695-2778    FAKAHATCHEE: 695-4593    BIG CYPRESS: 695-2000    NATIONAL PARK: 695-3311  
 CURBSIDE TRASH PICKUP (FRIDGES, WASHING MACHINES, TVS): 252-2380    COLLIER COUNTY: 252-8999



## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

First Baptist Church of Everglades City will hold Vacation Bible School for Pre-K through 6<sup>th</sup> grades on **June 10-14**. An evening program for older kids may also be offered. Early registration is appreciated. Call 695-3871 or email [evergladesbaptistchurch@gmail.com](mailto:evergladesbaptistchurch@gmail.com) with name, grade, phone and parent info. There will also be pre-registration at the church.

## Harry Chapin Food Bank

Mobile Pantry  
11:00 am to 1:00 pm  
McLeod Park  
**June 11**  
**July 23 and August 13**

## TARGETED RESPONSE GROUP

The Targeted Response Group, serving under the Office of the Medical Director and the EMS, looks at improving countywide EMS response and operations. The group will meet at **1:00 pm on Wednesday, June 12**, at the James V. Mudd Emergency Services Center, 8075 Lely Cultural Parkway, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, in Naples.

## EVERGLADES CITY POST OFFICE MEETING

The Postal Service will hold a meeting on **Thursday, June 13**, at the Everglades Community Church in the Louise Collier Jinkins Fellowship Hall at 5:00 p.m. to answer questions and provide information about the future plans of the Everglades City Post Office. Local management will share the results of the survey sent. A final decision about the Everglades City Post Office will be made after this public meeting. *See article on page 1.*

## FATHER'S DAY

**Sunday, June 16**, is Father's Day in the United States (the third Sunday in June).

Father's Day was founded in 1910 after Mother's Day was first celebrated in 1909. It was established to honor fatherhood and promoted by Sonora Smart Dodd whose father was a Civil War veteran and single parent who raised six children.



## HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH

Holy Family Catholic Church will not be offering Mass during the summer months. The closest parishes are St. Finbarr, just east of 951 on US41, and San Marco Catholic Church on Marco Island.

## Annual ORV Closure

Beginning June 3 the 60-day recreational ORV closure for all units of Big Cypress National Preserve that allow for wheeled ORV access began. The closure will be lifted on **Friday, August 2**. This annual closure, first instituted in 2002, allows a period free from resource pressures related to ORV use. Landowners, and their guests, that hold special use permits to access private properties will retain continued access to property along approved routes. Updated maps of the designated trails within each unit of the Preserve may be found at - <http://www.nps.gov/bicy/planyourvisit/designated-trail-implementation.htm>.

## CAMPGROUNDS SUMMER CLOSURE

Beginning **May 13 through August 16** camping will be available at the Midway Campground and the "loop" in the Bear Island Campground. All other established campgrounds operated by Big Cypress National Preserve will be closed. For more information, call 695-1107 or visit [www.nps.gov/bicy](http://www.nps.gov/bicy).

## NEW TV SERIES

Television viewers across Florida will be educated and entertained by the latest episode of the long-running, documentary television series *Waterways* that highlights recovery efforts of the endangered Florida panther, as well as the threats of pharmaceuticals and plastics in our oceans and streams. It will inform viewers of the diverse wonders of the south Florida ecosystem, and the research and conservation programs that protect them. Segments include "Panther Populations Rebound" and "Pharmaceuticals in Our Waters." *Waterways* airs on public and government channels throughout Florida — check local listings for scheduling. Episodes can be viewed on the [WaterwaysTVShow](http://www.youtube.com/WaterwaysTVShow) YouTube channel ([www.youtube.com/WaterwaysTVShow](http://www.youtube.com/WaterwaysTVShow)).

## OCHOPEE FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT

05/20/13: Emergency Medical, Ochopee  
05/20/13: Emer. Med, Wagon Wheel Rd&SR 29  
05/22/13: Vehicle Fire, 68 Mile Marker I-75  
05/23/13: Grass Fire, 54 Mile Marker I-75  
05/24/13: Emergency Medical, Ochopee  
05/25/13: Emergency Medical, Port of Islands  
05/27/13: Emergency Medical, Everglades City  
05/27/13: Call Box Activation, 74 MM I-75  
05/28/13: Vehicle Accident, 53 Mile Marker I-75  
05/28/13: Vehicle Accident, 70 MM I-75  
05/28/13: Vehicle Accident, 68 MM I-75  
05/29/13: Emergency Med, Everglades City  
05/30/13: Emergency Med, 58 MM I-75  
05/30/13: Emergency Med, Plantation Island  
05/31/13: Emergency Med, Everglades City  
05/31/13: Brush Fire, Copeland  
06/01/13: Emergency Med, 58 MM I-75  
06/01/13: Vehicle Fire, 70 MM I-75  
06/01/13: Emergency Med, Copeland  
06/02/13: Boat Ran Aground, Foster Key  
06/03/13: Emergency Medical, Copeland

Ochopee Fire Control District Advisory Board will meet **Monday, June 10**, at Port of the Islands at 4:00 p.m.

## DOCTOR'S CLINIC

Dr. Kirk DeMartino of Marco Island will return to Everglades City to see patients next season. You can phone him at (239) 642-5552 for an appointment.

## MOBILE PET VET

Dr. Lopez will be visiting Everglades City on **Saturday, June 15**, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at McLeod Park and again in August (date TBA). For appointments, phone 777-7387 or see [www.naplesmobilepetvet.com](http://www.naplesmobilepetvet.com) for more information.

## Little Gator Clinic

The free walk-in clinic for youngsters is closed for the summer.

## THRIFT SHOP NEEDS

The Reach-Out Thrift Shop is looking for a single bed with mattress. Please telephone 695-2009; someone will arrange for pickup. The Thrift Shop, located behind the Fire Station, is now open on **Thursday** and **Saturday** from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**PLEASE do not leave donations on the porch when the shop is closed!**

## RESTAURANT NEWS

Joanie's Blue Crab Café on the Tamiami Trail in Ochopee is now open after recent renovations. Hours: 11:00 am to 5:00 pm Thursday through Sunday. Stop by!

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 We are closed for the summer.  
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Everglades Area  
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 www.evergladeschamber.net  
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 (239) 695-3941 Visitor Center  
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# SCHOOL & VACATION NEWS

Everglades City School

phone: 377-9800 or 695-2561

website: [www.collierschools.com/evg](http://www.collierschools.com/evg)

## Summer Activities Schedule

- June 10 Apply for Teen Academy
- June 17 Summer School Starts
- June 24 Build-a-Boat (High School)
- July 1 Build-a-Chair (Middle School & High School)
- July 8 Summer Camp (K-5th), \$20/week, 9 am-2 pm
- July 11 CCSO "Escape" trip
- July 15 Summer Camp (K-5th), \$20/week, 9 am-2 pm
- July 18 CCSO "Fun & Sun" trip
- July 19 Hot Summer Nights
- July 25 Last Day of Summer School

## Message from the Principal

Dear Parents, Students and Staff,

It is hard to believe the school year is over. This year has been better than I could have imagined. The students, staff and community have all been a pleasure to work with and I am already excited about beginning my second year in August.

There are some educational opportunities happening over the summer that we want you to be aware of. Beginning **June 17 through July 25**, we will be open for grades 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 for summer school. Summer School will be 4 days a week, Monday through Thursdays, 4 ½ hours each day. Transportation and meals will be provided. Students will get an opportunity to improve both their reading and math skills during this time. We will be sending home a letter to all eligible students prior to the end of this school year. We hope you and your child will take advantage of this educational opportunity. Please do not hesitate to call me with any questions. In addition, our Algebra students who did not pass the End of Course Exam will have an opportunity to prepare for and re-take this exam. The Algebra EOC is an exam that is required for graduation. This class will run for two weeks in July. Details will be sent home with students who were not successful on this exam.

I want to wish all of our families a safe and relaxing summer. A very special wish goes out to our seniors as they begin a new chapter in their lives. I know they will remember "Once a Gator, Always a Gator"! Believe Blue! Mr. Spano

## GREAT GATORS for May

(not previously reported)



- Kindergarten:** Max Collins, Ida Jones, Zoe Wells, Waylon Demure, Hannah Gilmore
- 1<sup>st</sup> Grade:** Marlee Bennett, Riley Weeks
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade:** Trey Bee, Christian Keefe

## STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

(not previously reported)

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade:** Cayla Starr
- High School:** Cole Dudley



**Paige Robinson as Salutatorian read a Recap of the Past (K-12)**



**Salem Louwsma as Valedictorian talked about the future**



**Reagan Richardson**

**read a Recap of the Senior Year**

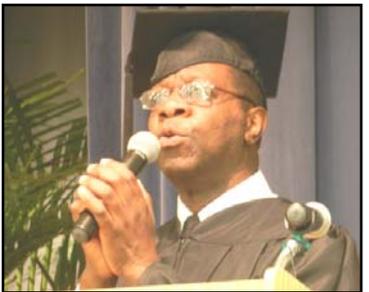


**Assistant Superintendent**

**Dr. Frederic Conde gave Commencement speech**



**3<sup>rd</sup> grade student Charlie Pace led "The National Anthem"**



**Paul Tribble sang "Friends are Friends Forever"**



**Congratulations to Hector Roldan, Levi Robbins, Miranda Rincon, Reagan Richardson, Tyler Lewis, Kayla Grala, Morgan Daffin, Paige Robinson, Salem Louwsma**

**Congratulations to Everglades City Middle School students who won the district-wide [www.sumdog.com](http://www.sumdog.com) math contest with 11 schools participating**



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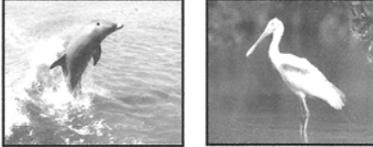


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**Rev. Dr. Bob Wallace, Pastor**  
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## GLADES DAZE

by Patty Huff

*Looping around Loop Road*

A picture is worth a thousand words, or so they say. The difficulty is capturing the true beauty of the Everglades when the cypress trees are so dense and colors are various shades of green and grey and brown.

It's been quite a while since I traveled around Loop Road; actually, the last time I was riding on my bicycle from Monroe Station to the Miccosukee Indian Reservation. At that time there were pot holes and many sections under water.

Big Cypress National Preserve spent many years improving the gravel road by raising the elevation and improving the hydrology beneath the road by adding culverts. The ultimate goal was to prevent the road way from being flooded during the summer wet season.

The results are truly amazing. Even with the deer flies and mosquitoes swarming the area, you can still drive and stay inside a closed vehicle. Without a lot of bug spray, it would be unpleasant to walk out into the wilderness. In the fall I plan to ride my bicycle again around the Loop.



However, with all the rainfall and bromeliads in full bloom, now is *the* best time to experience this unique place in south Florida. Loop Road is 17 miles east of SR29 leaving Everglades City and is 27 miles long.

*Recipe for Good Eating***“June is Paella Month”**

by Patty Huff

## Ingredients:

3 Large or 4 Small Boneless Chicken Breasts (cut into 2” pieces)

Chicken Marinade: 2 TBS Olive Oil, 1 TBS Paprika, 2 tsp Oregano (dried)  
Salt & Pepper to taste1 TBS Olive Oil, 1½ tsp Minced Garlic, 1 tsp Crushed Red Pepper Flakes, 1 Bay Leaf,  
½ cup Flat Leaf Parsley (chopped), zest of one lemon

1 pkg (8 oz) Vigo Black Beans and White Rice

2 cans (14 oz) Chicken Stock

1 TBS Olive Oil, ½ Onion (chopped), Bell Pepper (Red or Green, chopped),

1 lb Chorizo Sausage (or other sausage in casings); squeeze out of casings and crumble

1 lb Shrimp, peeled

Directions: Mix ingredients for chicken marinade together in a zip-lock bag; add chicken pieces and keep cool in refrigerator. Heat olive oil; add garlic, red pepper flakes and black beans and rice. Sauté for 3-4 minutes, just to coat rice and spices completely. Add bay leaf, parsley, chicken stock and lemon zest. Boil for 1 minute, cover, reduce heat and simmer for 20-25 minutes.

In a separate skillet, heat olive oil and add chicken pieces, turning and cook thoroughly. Separately heat olive oil; sauté onion and bell pepper; add sausage and cook until meat is browned. Add shrimp to rice mixture 5 minutes before rice is done. Stir in chicken and sausage and serve immediately. Very tasty! Serves 4 to 5 people.

NOTE: I fixed this recipe last week for my husband and his fishing clients; they loved it and asked that I include the recipe in the *Mullet Rapper*. It looks complicated with so many ingredients and is a variation of the paella recipes I've made in the past. I just used what was available in my refrigerator and pantry. I didn't have Chorizos but I found some homemade sausage that a friend had given us in my freezer; it worked great.

**If you have a favorite recipe to share, please phone or email us. Patty Huff**

*Off the Shelf Book Review***“Bad Monkey”**

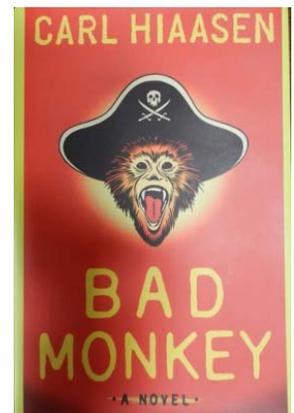
by Carl Hiaasen

reviewed by Patricia Huff

Here we go again, on another Carl Hiaasen ride through fictional characters (although many seem more factual in this latest novel). Maybe it's because I lived so many years in the Keys and knew the locals and natives that almost every other paragraph (and sometimes sentence) made me either laugh to myself or read sections out loud to my husband.

In the background *Bad Monkey* is about Medicare fraud, and it is amazing how prevalent and easy it is for people to take advantage of the system. Just last month federal officials charged 89 people, including doctors and nurses, for their roles in Medicare scams. This is a major problem; however, Hiaasen does not dwell on the issue but does inform us about how criminals operate. As usual, the characters make the book. It is chock full of colorful Florida Keys, Miami, and Bahamian sorts who keep you entertained through their antics against developers, etc. A former detective named Yancy who has been demoted to a food inspector (“roach patrol”) takes it upon himself to solve a murder. Enough said; the rest is up to you to read. I found this book to be one of Carl's more amusing novels in years. Think you will, too.

“*Bad Monkey*” will be available in various book stores on **June 11** but may be pre-ordered via online sites.





## Fishing Report

by Captain Bill Lindsay

It's time to catch big snook! Release these fish gently; these are the spawners of the future. Most of these fish are caught on the outside points. But, don't overlook the backcountry; I have found

big fish back there over the years. Tarpon fishing slowed down a little for everybody. However, last week I found good numbers of big fish out in the Gulf and in the backcountry. Big black drum are showing up in the backcountry and on the outside flats. As always, redfish are in good numbers in the outside coves and on the points. I have been seeing lots of sharks both inside and out on the Gulf. Unfortunately, they often take a good fish from you before you can get it to the boat. Offshore, Capt. Houston Brown has been catching lots of triple-tail. There are lots of mackerel and grouper on the shallow wrecks. June is a great month to fish; just try to get in before those afternoon thunder storms.

**Capt. Bill Lindsay lives in Chokoloskee and has been fishing in the Everglades National Park for over 34 years. In 1992 he was Master Angler of the MET Tournament. Capt. Lindsay's number is 695-0314.**



## FWC News

The FWC manages the WMA system to sustain the widest possible range of native wildlife in their natural habitats. Visit [MyFWC.com/Viewing](http://MyFWC.com/Viewing) and select "Wildlife Management Areas" then "Explore by Location."

**For wildlife info and regulations, see [www.myfwc.com](http://www.myfwc.com).  
Wildlife Alert Hotline: 888-404-FWCC (3922)  
Angler Tag Return: 800-367-4461.**

## Everglades Area Tours Summer Specials

by Charles Wright

The Everglades are all about water. Where, when and how the water comes creates this unique ecosystem, a system that is found nowhere else on the planet. The Everglades is much more about wet and dry seasons than the traditional winter and summer seasons. In summertime the rains start and the wet season begins.

Summer also means afternoon convective thunderstorms. As the land heats up and becomes warmer than the water, the air over the land rises (convection) and pulls the air over the water inland causing our afternoon sea breezes. When this warm moist air is carried aloft by convection, towering cumulus clouds form into thunderstorms. As such, the mornings are the best times for our tour experiences in the summer months. So, plan for the mornings!

Birding, Dolphin, Wildlife and Photo Boat Tours (2 hrs) 25% off the 8:30 tour in Everglades City/Chokoloskee on Tuesdays. After their first experience, many guests return for another experience in a different Everglades ecosystem. **ANY returning guest**, making a reservation for a tour experience from June 1 through Sep 30, will receive a **10% discount**. To receive this discount, you must book directly online with the coupon code "**Return**". Visit [www.evergladesareatours.com](http://www.evergladesareatours.com).



## Living Gulf Coast

by Charles Sobczak

(Excerpt from *The Living Gulf Coast* available at the Chamber Welcome Center and the Big Cypress Swamp Visitor Center)



### CREW Marsh & Cypress Dome Hiking Trails

(CREW stands for Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed) CREW Land & Water Trust, 23998 Corkscrew Road, Estero, FL 33928 / Trailhead address: 4600 County Road 850, Immokalee, FL 34142 / Phone for camping permits: 239-657-2253 / Fax: n/a / E-mail: [crewtrust@earthlink.net](mailto:crewtrust@earthlink.net) / Website: [www.crewtrust.org](http://www.crewtrust.org) / 50,000+ acres / Admission is free, permits required for primitive camping sites.

Located along the southeastern edge of Lee County and the upper northwest corner of Collier County, the CREW Land and Water Trust's Corkscrew Marsh and Cypress Dome trails are a part of 60,000 acres of protected watershed managed by the South Florida Water Management District. Established in the early 1980s and growing under the leadership of Joel Kuperberg, CREW's primary mission is keeping watersheds such as Corkscrew Marsh free from contamination by rock mining and residential or commercial development, which creates drainage ditches, among a host of other potential threats.

Lying 1,000 feet below the CREW land is the Floridian aquifer, a reservoir of porous rock that contains 90 percent of the drinking water south Floridians need. For these aquifers to be naturally recharged by rainwater, the acreage at the surface has to allow this rainwater to remain captured for months on end, thereby allowing it to seep slowly into the reservoir located deep below. Development diverts the water using drainage ditches and canals that allow rainwater to make its way rapidly into the gulf. By protecting the land that recharges the aquifer, CREW is really protecting the water that comes out of your faucets.

A map of the CREW holdings, which is easy to find on its website (<http://www.crewtrust.org/navpage.html>), looks like a multicolored jigsaw puzzle. Much of this land encircles the Audubon Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary. There are more than 10 miles of trails throughout the CREW property, and more are planned.

The completed trails—known as Corkscrew Marsh and Cypress Dome—are in an area called Corkscrew Marsh, which feeds directly into Corkscrew Swamp. Both trailheads are located on the south side of County Road 850 (Corkscrew Road), approximately 18 miles east of I-75 (Exit 123). Arriving from the west, you first come to the Cypress Dome trails, consisting of several loops and shortcuts. The two main loops are each 1.4 miles in length. Highlighting this series of trails are two cypress dome ecosystems, where you might find swallow-tailed kites, barred owls, and pileated, red-bellied, and downy woodpeckers, as well as feral hogs, black bears, and green anoles. The Cypress Dome trails are open to hiking, biking, and horseback riding (by permit).

Farther up the road you come to the larger Corkscrew Marsh trailhead. Its various trails wind through a variety of habitats including pine flatlands, pop ash sloughs, oak hammocks, and the edge of the 5,000-acre Corkscrew Marsh itself. A tall observation tower overlooks the marsh where you can catch glimpses of distant vultures, red-shouldered hawks, and, possibly, snail kites. The pop ash slough trail takes you across several lengthy boardwalks that are similar in design and feel to the boardwalk at the nearby Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary. The trails are all mowed and well maintained, and the bold signs make it all but impossible to get lost. Only hiking is permitted on the Marsh trails, which are also dog-friendly. The Corkscrew Marsh and Cypress Dome hiking trails are completely underutilized. When you really feel the need to get away from the crowds and get back in touch with truly unspoiled and unvisited nature, these two trails are the perfect combination.

**Charles Sobczak lives and writes on Sanibel Island. To find out more about the author and his books, visit [www.indigopress.net](http://www.indigopress.net).**

## ORAL HISTORY

A Little Trip Back in Time  
at Caxambus

by Gary Pettit

*Gary passed away on April 22, 2013.**This article (in 4 parts) is reprinted  
in memory of him.*

Let's take a walk back into the past of Otter Mound. This last remaining public hammock on Marco Island was just up the road from my Grandfather's fish camp where I spent the first years of my life. Just take a few steps in, close your eyes and smell the air, listen to the silence, breathe deep and taste the air of yesteryear.

My grandfather was Pennsylvania Dutch. He and his brother came to Goodland in the late 1800s. They bought the island called Goodland which at the time had a fruit growing business. The two men worked hard to build a road of crushed shell in and around the mangroves on the island to gain better access to the place. Since fruit had to be raised and transported to Everglades City or Miami for further transport, the fruit farm didn't prove to be a successful venture. My grandfather sold out. He bought this property adjacent to Otter Mound where he built Ideal Fish Camp with cabins to start a business for fisherman coming from the North in the winter to fish. My grandfather was not only a fishing guide but a boat builder. He dredged out a small channel and had a place to repair boats and launch them as well. The fish camp business flourished in the winter from guests coming from New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania. During the off season...summer, my Grandfather and Father fished commercially for Pompano, Mullet and other commercial fish.

My Grandmother was from Cuba. She and her family escaped from the island during the Spanish American War. She landed by boat with her sisters not far from here. My grandmother was an excellent cook as well as a woman who could support the rough life of a Florida pioneer existence. She and my grandfather built a house just through the path from here, down on the flat part near the water by the fish camp.

My father was in the Navy during WWII. He met my Mom, a Manhattan model and secretary, at the battery one Saturday night. They danced, fell in love and that love was so strong that she gave up life in Manhattan and moved with my Father to the pioneer life of South Florida.

I was born in Lee Memorial hospital but I lived in Marco with my parents and grandparents at the fish camp. As a small lad I loved collecting things that I saw.

*To be continued in upcoming issues...*

*From Savannah's Eyes*

School is officially out! I am so excited to see what this summer has in store for me. As I always go by the quote "Carpe Diem" which is Latin for "Seize the Day". I am so proud of all our seniors who recently graduated from this school; I basically grew up with more than half of the class, and I just wanted to say a few things about each of them.

To my sister **Lashaun** who is also graduating but not from our school: you are my inspiration to do great things in my life because I want to make you so proud of your little sister! I can't believe that it has been 18 short years and you are already graduating and ready to begin another chapter in your life. It seems as if it were only yesterday that you and I were playing dress up outside in the playhouse or turning the playhouse into "L & S's Restaurant" or "L & S's Hotel." I know you're going to succeed in anything you set your mind to, and I hope you become one of the best Emergency Room doctors in Florida. I love you more than you'll ever know, Sissy, and I am so proud of you.

**Paige**, you are going to go far in life and I can't believe you're gone from the school now! I know you're going to beauty school to follow your dreams but I am going to miss my little make-up / hair stylist these coming up years in school. I am also going to miss you in math class and always whispering jokes into my ear and making me laugh so everyone turns around and looks at me weirdly! You're one of my best and truest friends and I am so proud of you, my darling!

**Miranda**, even though I've only known you for two years now, you are an amazing person and highly intelligent. You always make me laugh in science class, and I'm going to miss lending you my notes from previous classes so you can catch up for our assignments! You are going to succeed in life; I just know it.

**Hector**, you are the funniest person I have ever known and you are very gullible. But you are a very hard worker and once you want something you go for it; you're very determined and you are going to be successful with whatever you do. Just always remember to be yourself and I am definitely going to miss you going into any room or anyplace and saying "God Bless America!" with your hands in the air!

**Tyler**, I am going to miss you stealing my shoes in class and claiming them as your own and not giving them back until the end of the period. You are a hard-working man (you're a man now 'cause you've graduated, haha) and you're going to achieve anything you set your mind on doing. I am still going to go to Island Cafe and request you as a waiter and not drop pizza on the floor I promise!

**Levi**, you were the life of science class and basically the whole school with you always singing or answering questions that no one even knew. You are incredibly smart and I hope you put it to good use because you are going to do amazing things someday; I can already see it! I mean, come on, you're only 18 and have a business for detailing cars with Salem. I am going to miss my Homecoming date and Gangnam Style dance partner!

**Salem**, you are so mature for your age and you are highly intellectual as well! You already have your own detailing business for cars with Levi, so I definitely know you're going to make it in life when you graduate. I am going to miss seeing you in the hallway, towering over people as you walk past. P.S. Don't get any taller or you will have your head through the roof, haha!

**Reagan**, I am going to miss you in cheerleading and volleyball this coming up year because you were an amazing captain! I'm going to miss you when you go off to college and achieve your goals in life, but always remember when you come back we can definitely go out tubing again (just not in the bright orange life jackets this time, I will get others so we will be able to laugh and breathe instead of trying to gasp for air, haha).

**Kayla**, I am going to miss my dance partner at the prom we totally rocked it down that night almost to every song! You are an amazing person and I hope that you achieve your goals in your life ahead of you. You are truly an amazing spirit in school and I am also going to miss your laugh in the hallway.

**Morgan**, I also going to miss you in all the sports we played together because you were also an amazing captain along with Reagan! You always made me laugh on the bus on the way to away games as you told us and acted out your stories about when you were younger. I would laugh so hard I wouldn't be able to breathe. I am definitely going to miss that and I hope you go far in life Moe.

I truly care about each and every one of you and I know you will succeed in life

To the graduating class of 2013, Savannah

**Savannah Oglesby is a student entering the 11<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall at Everglades City School and a regular contributor to this paper.**

## Florida Tales

### “George M. Storter, Part 2”

by Chester Keene



Photo courtesy of Bem Storter, George M. Storter's son

Continued from part 1 of the daily diary of  
George M. Storter (1896-1984)

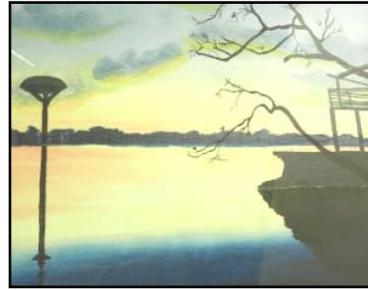
"Bem come to me with the boat, I was so exhausted I couldn't get in the boat, I was so heavy with all the wet clothes I had on and boots full of ice cold water. Bem didn't have the strength to pull me into the boat and it was so cold. It looked for a while Bem was going to have to tow me ashore so I could walk out. Bem worked, one inch at a time pulling me into the boat and we finally made it. It was only about a fifteen minute run to where the camp boat was anchored. When we arrived I got out of the wet clothes and got into some dry clothes and went to bed. I covered up with all the blankest, tarps etc. we could find available. I was in "Shock" and was about to freeze to death but it still was not my time to go. I never got warm for several hours and I never went to sleep at all. I had a high fever due to so much saltwater in my stomach. It was three days before I recovered.

(skips to first week in June 1971)

A heavy epidemic of Red Tide in the Gulf from Boca Grande to Marco Island. Tons of all variety of fish was killed and washed ashore on the beaches, it's practically all gone now June 11th. The first red tide on record appeared during World War One 1917, it came in the fall, killed millions of pounds of all kinds of fish as fish was more plentiful them days. There wasn't any more for several years then it started showing up in shots, but not too bad. The next bad spell came in 1944, it lasted several weeks and went from Panama City to Marathon, FL. Millions of all kinds of fish died including shell fish, clams, oysters and stone crabs, etc. Before that 1944 epidemic there was a lot of people grouper fishing for a living. It was no trouble to go off shore and catch from 800 to 2000 lbs. per day. But it's never been that way since and I doubt if it has improved much."

**Chester Keene is a retired law enforcement officer and Florida native. He retains the copyright to this article.**

## MUSEUM of the Everglades



Once again the Everglades City Students are displaying their art work inspired by Mr. Paul "Trib" Tribble, who has been teaching our students since 1978. Please stop by this summer to see this wonderful exhibit.

The Friends of the Museum of the Everglades has developed a brochure listing exhibits, events, and programs being offered at all five Collier County Museums. Pick up your copy of the Summer/Fall happenings at the Museum of the Everglades which is open Tuesday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and on Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. There is no admission fee but donations are welcome. If you want to join the Friends, contact Helen at 695-3298 or see our website ([www.evergladesmuseum.org](http://www.evergladesmuseum.org)) where you can download a form.

During the High School Awards ceremony at the Everglades Seafood Depot, Paige Robinson was awarded the Carol Moseman Education and Service Scholarship by the Friends of the Museum of the Everglades. Paige said that art has played a very important role in her life. She is planning to study cosmetology at the Paul Mitchell Academy.



Now that the winter visitors are gone, the Museum needs volunteers to greet visitors at the front desk. You don't need to be an expert – just have a friendly smile. For information, stop in and talk to Martha or phone her at 695-0008.

If you're in the Orlando area during your summer travels, don't forget to stop by the Mennello Museum ([www.mennellomuseums.com](http://www.mennellomuseums.com)) to see the Rob Storter Traveling Exhibit. Patty Huff and Vicky Nagle were there a few weeks ago and found the museum and exhibit well worth the trip.



## SHERIFF'S REPORT

The Sheriff's Office reported that three vehicles in Wooten's parking area were burglarized on May 25. A golf cart was reported taken from Buckner Ave in Everglades City during the evening May 26 and found the next morning in Chokoloskee.

Beware of people going door to door claiming to represent social services. This is one of many scams thieves use to access your valuables and information. If someone comes to your door, ask to see their I.D. and never invite them into your home. Remember you can always say "No". Do not give personal information. If you feel threatened or think it is a scam, contact CCSO at 252-9300, or in an emergency, call 911

Please remember to not leave unattended fishing equipment in boats. This is an easy target for would-be thieves. Also, remember to help us keep our neighborhoods safe by reporting any suspicious activity immediately to 252-9300 or in emergencies by dialing 911. Don't let yourself become an easy victim – always remember to lock your doors.

RESTAURANTS



- Camellia Street Grill (695-2003):**  
*Closed for the summer*
- City Seafood (695-4700):**  
6:00 am – 6:00 pm; daily  
Fish Market also open
- Everglades Seafood Depot (695-0075):**  
10:30 am - 9:00 pm; daily
- Glades Haven Deli (695-2091):**  
6:00 am – 6:00 pm; Sun thru Thurs  
6:00 am – 9:00 pm; Friday-Saturday  
Deli closes one hour earlier daily
- Havana Café (695-2214):**  
*Closed for the summer*
- Island Café (695-0003):**  
6:00 am – 9:00 pm; daily
- Ivey House (695-3299):**  
6:30 – 9:30 am; daily  
Continental breakfast, box lunches
- Joanie's Blue Crab Café (695-2682):**  
11:00 am – 5:00 pm; Thurs thru Mon
- Oyster House Restaurant (695-2073):**  
11:00 am – 9:00 pm; Sun thru Thurs  
11:00 am – 10:00 pm; Fri, Sat
- Rod & Gun (695-2101):**  
11:30 am - 9:00 pm; daily
- Subway at Gator Express (695-3937):**  
7:00 am – 7:00 pm; daily \$5 specials
- Susie's Station (695-2273):**  
11:00 am - 5:00 pm; daily
- The Catch at Port of the Islands (239-394-3005, ext. 507, 1):**  
*Closed for the summer*
- Triad Seafood (695-2662):**  
*Closed for the summer*

**Right Choice Supermarket (695-4535):**  
9:00 am – 7:00 pm  
Summer hours



**Grimm's Stone Crab (695-3222):**  
*Closed for the summer*

**Loco's Fresh Produce (239-462-7050):**  
7:00 am - 4:00 pm; Friday only

**SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES**

- Chokoloskee Church of God**  
10 am Sunday School (all ages)  
11 am Sunday Worship
- Copeland Baptist Church**  
10 am School, 11 am Sunday Worship
- Everglades Community Church**  
11:00 am Sunday Worship
- Everglades First Baptist Church**  
9:45 am School, 11 am Sunday Worship



Night Blooming Cereus plants are amazing this year! Patty and Steve Huff had 12 blooms on their cactus during the night of June 3 (the above photo only shows 9 blooms). These beautiful flowers are visible only in the dark.

**TIDES FOR BARRON RIVER**

Lat: 25.87°N Long: 81.37°W  
<http://TIDESANDCURRENTS.NOAA.GOV>

06/07	Fri	03:14am	2.2	H
06/07	Fri	09:31am	0.8	L
06/07	Fri	02:10pm	3.1	H
06/07	Fri	10:19pm	-0.2	L
06/08	Sat	03:45am	2.2	H
06/08	Sat	10:09am	0.8	L
06/08	Sat	02:42pm	3.1	H
06/08	Sat	10:56pm	-0.2	L
06/09	Sun	04:19am	2.3	H
06/09	Sun	10:44am	0.8	L
06/09	Sun	03:13pm	3.1	H
06/09	Sun	11:32pm	-0.2	L
06/10	Mon	04:57am	2.3	H
06/10	Mon	11:18am	0.8	L
06/10	Mon	03:45pm	3.0	H
06/11	Tue	12:09am	-0.2	L
06/11	Tue	05:39am	2.3	H
06/11	Tue	11:52am	0.8	L
06/11	Tue	04:17pm	2.9	H
06/12	Wed	12:45am	-0.1	L
06/12	Wed	06:23am	2.3	H
06/12	Wed	12:29pm	0.8	L
06/12	Wed	04:52pm	2.8	H
06/13	Thu	01:22am	0.0	L
06/13	Thu	07:08am	2.4	H
06/13	Thu	01:14pm	0.8	L
06/13	Thu	05:36pm	2.6	H
06/14	Fri	02:02am	0.1	L
06/14	Fri	07:52am	2.4	H
06/14	Fri	02:10pm	0.8	L
06/14	Fri	06:34pm	2.4	H
06/15	Sat	02:44am	0.2	L
06/15	Sat	08:36am	2.4	H
06/15	Sat	03:22pm	0.7	L
06/15	Sat	07:52pm	2.2	H
06/16	Sun	03:33am	0.4	L
06/16	Sun	09:20am	2.5	H
06/16	Sun	04:36pm	0.6	L
06/16	Sun	09:21pm	2.1	H
06/17	Mon	04:29am	0.5	L
06/17	Mon	10:04am	2.6	H
06/17	Mon	05:43pm	0.4	L
06/17	Mon	10:48pm	2.0	H
06/18	Tue	05:28am	0.6	L
06/18	Tue	10:49am	2.8	H
06/18	Tue	06:41pm	0.2	L
06/19	Wed	12:06am	2.1	H
06/19	Wed	06:25am	0.7	L
06/19	Wed	11:35am	2.9	H
06/19	Wed	07:36pm	0.0	L
06/20	Thu	01:13am	2.2	H
06/20	Thu	07:20am	0.7	L
06/20	Thu	12:21pm	3.2	H
06/20	Thu	08:28pm	-0.3	L



**Angel of the Swamp**

Do you ever wonder who makes all those wonderful cakes and cupcakes at events all over town? During our graduation ceremonies on May 31, a spectacular tribute to our nine seniors was on display at the refreshment table. Candi Hendrickson did the design work for this unique dessert and Margaret Johnson baked the delicious strawberry cake.

Margaret was originally from Milwaukee and moved to this area when she was just 19 years old. She then met her future husband Speedy Johnson and nothing would stop those two in love. That was almost 31 years ago, and they are still that much (or more) in love. They were married in Vicky Wells' home which is now owned by Amanda, daughter of Speedy and Margaret.

Friends who know Margaret say she has many attributes and has always been generous with her time and talent. Baking beautiful and unique cupcakes has been her most recent hobby and you'll find these colorful treats at many occasions. Margaret never wants to be paid for her work; she just loves doing things for others. Thank you, Margaret, for all that you do for our community.

**Everglades Area Hot Lines**

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) 239-216-1208  
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) 313-530-3395  
AIAnon 239-263-5907

**12-Step Meeting Schedules are available in City Hall and Chokoloskee Post Office**

**EVERGLADES CITY**

Lat: 25.87°N Long: 81.37°W  
see [www.weather.gov](http://www.weather.gov) for weather and [www.nhc.noaa.gov](http://www.nhc.noaa.gov) for storms

**See the Rapper in full color! Visit our website.**

# SNOOK CLASSIFIEDS

## REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

-----Panoramic views of Chokoloskee Bay from this 3-bed, 2-bath home. Deeded waterfront, open floor plan, high ceilings, terrific kitchen. 2 storage rooms for fishing/hobby equipment. \$799,900.

-----Perfect getaway spot in Everglades City. Fish, kayak, bird watch or boat to your heart's content when you buy this great 2-bed, 2-bath condo located on Lake Placid in Everglades City! Beautiful views of the lake. Offered at \$179,900.

-----Motorhome site for sale in luxurious Outdoor Resorts in Chokoloskee. Deeded dock & lift included. Gorgeous views of Chokoloskee Bay. 40' Travel Supreme Fifth Wheel may be purchased separately. Outdoor Resorts has 3 pools & hot tubs, 2 tennis courts, exercise room. Only 30 minutes to Marco Island or Naples. Offered at \$280,000.

-----Duplex in Chokoloskee - rent out one level & use the other yourself. Terrific location, deeded waterfront with dock & boat lift. Lower level has been completely renovated. Each level has 2 bedrooms/2 bathrooms. Good rental income and motorhome hook-up, too. Offered at \$349,900.

*For all of the above, call Bonnie Woodward, Keller Williams Realty, (239) 860-6369.*

**FOR SALE:** Lot#23 Fisherman's Cove, furnished, 1BR/1BA, dock, ramp, fish stn, bath/wash house, storage. Price 65K. Call Browns Real Estate for more info @ (239) 695-0002 or (239) 494-7270.

## FABULOUS HOME / ONE OF A KIND

**Beech Mountain, NC  
(239) 695-2645**

**FOR RENT:** 10 x 10 Storage units at 103 S. Storter, \$60 a month. Call Deb at 695-9267.

**FOR SALE:** Mosquito Magnet - \$100.00  
Call (239) 719-0020.



## PET PICS

**Marya's doggie Jitters and his feline pal enjoy napping together.**

*Send us your Pet Pics by email or post.*

## JOBS & SERVICES

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Everglades City, 239-465-1580

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**PUT YOUR JOB ADS IN THE RAPPER  
no charge! phone us at 695-2397**

# The MULLET RAPPER

What's Happening in the Everglades City Area

## PUBLISHER

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

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

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