

The MULLET RAPPER

What's Happening in the Everglades City Area

APRIL 12 – 25, 2013

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P O Box 617, Everglades City, FL, 34139

Volume VII • Issue #183

CITY COUNCIL REPORT

by Patricia Huff

Mayor Sammy Hamilton said at the meeting on April 2 that the pipes are almost all hooked up for the Water/Sewer Phase I system. After inspection by the DEP, Phase II will begin and the new plant should be completed within a year.

Lt. Mark Milligan reported that property had been stolen on Burns Road as well as construction materials on Donna Drive. Also, on April 1 fishing tackle was removed from a boat at Port of the Islands; four individuals from Naples were arrested. He also announced that Operation Medicine Cabinet will be held from 10 am to 11:30 am on **Saturday, April 27**, at City Hall.

The City Council voted to donate \$2,500 to the Fireworks Fund.

Resident John M. Wilson asked if there is fluoride in our water; Mayor confirmed there is.

Council meetings are adjourned for the summer recess until August.



Chokoloskee Church of God Praise Team participated in the service as well as representatives from all the area churches.

Residents and visitors celebrated Easter Sunrise Service at the Gulf Coast Visitor Center of the Everglades National Park.



NEW FACE AT POST OFFICE



Lisa Jaques is the new "temporary" postmistress at Everglades City Post Office. She is on loan from Immokalee but her Everglades roots run deep.

Her father, Jan Harris, graduated from Everglades City High School and his step-father was David Dukes. His mom, Opal, worked with the Collier County Tax Collector when the county seat was still here. Lisa's father remembers "holding up" in City Hall during Hurricane Donna in 1960

and watching the sharks swim by outside the 2nd floor window.

Lisa is married with four children and has three grandsons. Welcome, Lisa, we hope you enjoy your time with us!

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The **ANNUAL EVERGLADES BIKE RIDE** was held on Sunday, April 7, with 130 bicyclists participating in this year's event organized by the Naples Pathway Coalition.

NPC donated a portion of the proceeds to the historic Smallwood Store and to the Friends of Fakahatchee.

The Everglades Seafood Depot catered the seafood lunch for the participants.

Thanks to the Mayor, the Sheriff's Department, the volunteers, and the people of Everglades City for all their assistance.



APRIL 2013

<u>SUN</u>	<u>MON</u>	<u>TUES</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THURS</u>	<u>FRI</u>	<u>SAT</u>
7 Everglades Bike Ride Church of God 100 Anniversary Celebration	8 Hour of Prayer Everglades Community Church 7 pm OFCD Mtg Chamber Mtg	9 School Board Meeting	new moon ○ 10 Ladies Coffee Havana Café 8 am City Seafood 8 am	11 Lions Club Depot, 5:30 pm	<u>RAPPER</u> 12	13
14 Fakahatchee Dinner/Talk <i>see p.3</i>	15 Hour of Prayer Copeland Baptist Church 7 pm Poetry Contest Deadline	16 Reach Out City Hall, 8:30 am	17 Ladies Coffee City Seafood 8 am Diamonds of the Everglades Tea	18 Book Club <i>see p.3 & 7</i> SAC <i>see p.5</i>	19	20 Pet Vet <i>see p.3</i>
21 Holy Family Pot Luck <i>see p.3</i> PBS Documentary <i>see p.3</i>	22 Hour of Prayer Chokoloskee Church of God 7 pm	23	24 Ladies Coffee Island Café 8 am	full moon ● 25	<u>RAPPER</u> 26	27 Pancake Fly-In <i>see p.3</i> Operation Medicine Cabinet <i>see p.3</i> Tamiami 85 th Celebration <i>see p.3, 9</i>
28	29 Hour of Prayer Holy Family Catholic Church 7 pm	30	MAY 1 Ladies Coffee City Seafood 8 am FME mtg	2 National Day of Prayer	3	4
5	6 Hour of Prayer Everglades Community Church 7 pm ESHP Mtg Booster Club	7 Blood Mobile <i>see p.5</i>	8 Ladies Coffee Island Café 8 am Collier County Celebrations	9	new moon ○ 10 <u>RAPPER</u>	11

May 12: Mother's Day; Emergency Workers Fish Fry; ENP Comments Due
May 31: Graduation

May 27: Memorial Day

May 29: BigC ORVs

June 29: Independence Day Parade and Celebration

THRIFT SHOP: Thurs, Sat, 11:00 am to 3:00 pm

DR DEMARTINO: Fri, 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm

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, 10 am to 5 pm

SHERIFF AT CITY HALL: Office Hours posted on City Hall

FAKAHATCHEE TALK

Famous author Jeff Klinkenberg, whose entertaining articles about unusual people and places appear in the *St. Petersburg Times*, is the guest speaker at the roast beef buffet Dinner in the Seafood Depot on **Sunday, April 14**, hosted by Friends of Fakahatchee. Reservations are required. For info, see www.orchidswamp.org or call 695-2905.

Book Club



The Everglades Book Club will meet on **Thursday, April 18**, at 9:30 a.m. at Dianna Pollock's house, 309 Riverside Drive. The book to be discussed is *The Mirror Crack'd* by Agatha Christie. Everyone is invited to come.

HOLY FAMILY POT LUCK

Holy Family Catholic Church will hold a pot luck supper after the 10:30 a.m. Mass on **Sunday, April 21**. All invited.

"Florida Wildlife Corridor Expedition" Documentary

The PBS documentary on this extraordinary journey through Florida will be shown on WGCU Channel 30 on **Sunday, April 21**, at 5:00 p.m. (check your local listing).

Operation Medicine Cabinet

The Collier County Sheriff's Office will sponsor Operation Medicine Cabinet on the steps of City Hall from 10 to 11:30 am on **Saturday, April 27**, just prior to the Tamiami Trail Celebration. Please bring all your outdated medicines for disposal.

PANCAKE FLY-IN



The last pancake breakfast hosted will take on **Saturday, April 27**, from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Everyone is welcome. For info, call Chuck at 695-3296.

COLLIER TELEVISION

Collier Television is now available to subscribers of CenturyLink® Prism™ on channel 97. It provides live coverage of the County Commissioners meetings, the Tourist Development Council, and many others as well as informational programs and events. For more info, call Mike Sheffield or Troy Miller at 252-8383.

TAMIAMI TRAIL 85TH



Celebrate with us on Saturday, April 27!

It is the 85th Anniversary of the opening of the Tamiami Trail, the 90th Anniversary of Collier County, the 60th Anniversary of Everglades City and the 15th Birthday of the Museum of the Everglades.

The schedule of activities is:

- 10:00 a.m. Pancake Fly-In at Airpark
- 11:00 a.m. Parade around Town
Pavilion open with
Arts/Crafts, face-painting
- 12:00 noon Opening Ceremony
- 12:30 p.m. Barbeque/Fish Fry
- 12:30 p.m. Sailor Children's Circus
- 1:30 p.m. Speaker Jeff Klinkenberg
- 2:30 p.m. Old Timers' Story Telling
- 3:30 p.m. Historical Walking Tour
- 4:30 p.m. Tea & Birthday Cake
- 5:30 p.m. Movie & Popcorn

Parade will include Antique Cars, Sailor Children's Circus from Sarasota, Barron Collier High School Band, Everglades City student organizations and music, swamp buggies and much, much more. For info, call 695-0008.

Proposed Fee Increase for Backcountry Camping

Everglades National Park has extended the comment period to **April 16** on a proposed fee increase for all backcountry camping which have not changed since 1996. The fee increases include: 1) the per trip permit fee will increase from \$10 to \$12, and 2) the nightly per person fee will increase from \$2 to \$5. Other park fees will remain the same, including commercial tour fees, boat launch fees, and park entrance fees. Comments can be mailed to: Proposed Fee Increase, Everglades and Dry Tortugas National Parks, 40001 State Road 9336, Homestead, Florida 33034-6733. For more information and to email comments, contact Debbie Lane at 305-242-7745 or by email to Debbie_Lane@nps.gov.

ENP Comments

The deadline for submitting comments on the Everglades National Park Draft General Management Plan is **May 12**. The Draft is available for review and comment at: <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/EVER> (then go to the "Open for Comment" link). For info, call 305-242-7700.

OCHOPEE FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT

03/26/13: Vehicle Accident, Birdon Rd & US-41
03/26/13: Vehicle Accident, CR-92 & US-41
03/28/13: Station Coverage, Marco Station 50
03/28/13: Emerg. Medical, Janes Scenic Drive
03/28/13: Grass Fire, 52 MM I-75
03/29/13: Public Assist, Everglades City
03/29/13: Vehicle Accident, Ochopee
03/29/13: Boat Rescue, National Park
03/30/13: Emergency Medical, Port of Islands
03/30/13: Brush Fire, South Blocks
03/30/13: Emergency Medical, Chokoloskee
03/30/13: Brush Fire, 77 MM I-75
03/30/13: Brush Fire, 3 Miles S. I-75 on SR-29
03/30/13: Vehicle Accident, CR-92 & US-41
03/31/13: Emergency Medical, Ochopee
03/31/13: Emergency Medical, 59 MM I-75
04/01/13: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
04/02/13: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
04/02/13: Brush Fire, South Blocks
04/03/13: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
04/04/13: Emergency Medical, Copeland
04/04/13: Brush Fire, 74 MM I-75
04/04/13: Brush Fire, 80 MM I-75
04/05/13: Fire Alarm, Port of Islands
04/05/13: Vehicle Accident, 68 MM US-41
04/06/13: Emerg Med, Chokoloskee Island
04/07/13: Emerg Med, Dade County Line
04/07/13: Emergency Medical, Everglades City
04/07/13: Emergency Medical, Tower Road
04/07/13: Vehicle Accident, Ochopee
04/07/13: Vehicle Accident, 74 MM I-75

Ochopee Fire Control District Advisory Board will meet **Monday, May 13**, at Port of the Islands at 4:00 p.m.

DOCTOR'S CLINIC



Dr. Kirk DeMartino of Marco Island will see patients on Fridays from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. in the clinic behind the Fire Station. He accepts Medicare and insurance. For info, call (239) 642-5552.

MOBILE PET VET



Dr. Lopez will visit Everglades City on **Saturday, April 20**, from 9:00 am. to 1:00 pm at McLeod Park. Please order products in advance by phone or website. For more information, phone 777-7387 or see www.naplesmobilepetvet.com.

Little Gator Clinic



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

THRIFT SHOP HOURS

The Thrift Shop, behind the Fire Station, operated by our neighborhood charity Reach Out Everglades & COPS, 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!

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SCHOOL NEWS

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website: www.collierschools.com/evg

IMPORTANT DATES

Wed, April 17	PK Registration, 5 pm, Media Ctr
April 15 – 26	FCAT
Thurs, April 18	SAC Meeting, 6 pm, Media Ctr
Fri, April 19	GRAD Bash
Sat, April 20	Sports Banquet (tentative date)
Thurs, April 25	Naples Children's Museum
Fri, April 26	FAU Trip
Sat, April 27	Tamiami Trail Celebration
April 29-30	No School

GREAT GATORS

(not previously reported)

Kindergarten:	Chandler O'Connell, Wayne Demere, Adam Potter
1st Grade:	Aubrey Wooten, Katie Collins
2nd Grade:	Brandon Purvis
7th Grade:	Scout Morris



OnLine Learning at Everglades City School

The middle and high school students who are taking online courses through Florida Virtual School and NovelStars have a boys vs. girls contest going on! They can earn stars for staying focused, making A's & B's, keeping up with the target % that should be completed. There are many ways they can earn stars in the class! The person with the most stars at the end of the semester will get a prize. Also, the group of boys or girls that win the contest will have a luncheon especially for the winners!

BLOOD MOBILE

The Blood Mobile will be coming to Everglades City School on **May 7** from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. This is open to the public.

If interested, please call the school at 377-9800 to sign up for a time to donate.

Tutoring for students:

Danielle Swisher at 280-8971 or
email dmswisher85@gmail.com

Boxtops for Education Collection Contest
Ends **April 15**
Class with the most wins a Popcorn Party !



Spring Scholastic Book Fair Thank You!

Thanks to the support of the entire school and community, our spring Scholastic Book Fair was a huge success. The result was record breaking books sales! Everglades City School would like to thank Jan House for helping every morning and for organizing the book donations.

Everglades City School would like to extend a special thank you to all the wonderful people who sponsored the "class baskets" of books for the various teachers and library. We are so appreciative for the donations from local business that enabled us to purchase all our "class baskets" for the entire school!

We would like to thank everyone who gave us a book donation. We also had individuals and businesses that sponsored more than \$50 worth of books.

Your generosity will help build our literacy program at EVG!

Book Donations

Cathy Forbes, Nikki Sylvest, Jordan Mayberry,
Miranda O'Connell

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Girls' Softball Games

Fri, April 12: Away Game @ St. John Neumann 5pm

Boys' Baseball Games

Mon, April 15: Away Game at Oasis Charter 5 pm
Wed, April 17: Away Game at Donahue Academy
Ave Maria 5 pm



See website www.collierschools.com/evg for full schedule



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Recipe for Good Eating

Easy Soda Bread

by Patty Huff



A few years ago when my husband and I bicycled around Ireland, we enjoyed eating soda bread which was served during our meals. Someone passed along this recipe to me and I was surprised how simple it was to make. Hope you enjoy!

Ingredients:

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 3 cups Flour | 2 cups Buttermilk |
| 1/3 cup Sugar | 1 Egg |
| 1 TBS Baking Powder | 1/4 cup Melted Butter |
| 1 tsp Baking Soda | |
| 1 tsp Salt | |

Grease a baking dish or loaf pan (9" x 5") with butter and set aside. Mix dry ingredients together; then buttermilk and egg separately. Add wet ingredients to dry mixture and stir until just moist. Stir in melted butter and pour into greased baking dish. Bake for one hour at 325°. Test with a toothpick to see if center is done. Let cool, then cover with aluminum foil overnight. Very easy to make and tastes great!

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

Everglades Book Club



The following is the list of books for next season. The Everglades Book Club meets on the 3rd Thursday at various members' homes. Enjoy your summer reading!

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| November 21 | <i>The Devil in the White City</i> by Erik Larson |
| December 19 | <i>The River of Doubt: Theodore Roosevelt's Darkest Journey</i> by Candice Millard |
| January 16, 2014 | <i>The Glass Castle</i> by Jeanette Walls |
| February 20 | <i>Miss Dreamsville & The Collier County Literary Society</i> by Amy Hearth Hill |
| March 20 | <i>Cleopatra: A Life</i> by Stacy Schiff |
| April 10 (2 nd Thurs) | <i>A Confederacy of Dunces</i> by John Kennedy Toole |



Off the Shelf – Book Review

“Dusky Pygmy Rattlesnake”

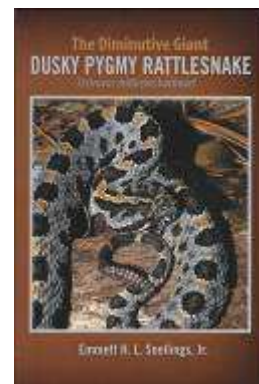
by Emmett H.L. Snellings, Jr.

reviewed by Patty Huff

What a treasure of information; it would spark the interest of anyone wanting to know more about our Florida native reptile, the pygmy rattlesnake. My father used to collect snakes as a child and had a six foot rattlesnake skin hanging on the wall in his study. Growing up in the hills of Tennessee, we experienced our fair share of rattlers. We were taught how to be cautious and respectful of these creatures. Whenever we encountered a snake unfamiliar to us while walking in the woods, we would memorize its features and run home to look it up in the encyclopedia (remember those books!!).

This colorful book by Mr. Snellings reminds me of those days, searching to discover and learn more about the most venomous of all snakes. The Dusky Pygmy is so named because it is one of the smallest species of rattlesnakes and is found throughout Florida as well as in southern states adjacent to us. In addition to a photo gallery illustrating the variety of Dusky Pygmies, Mr. Snellings includes short stories by several individuals who relate their own experiences with these snakes. According to the author, “No fatalities have ever been recorded from the bite of any pygmy rattlesnake; however, the bite should be taken seriously and has some typical snakebite symptoms such as swelling, localized pain, ...”

To learn more, stop by Win-Car Hardware and pick up a copy. I think you'll enjoy it.



SOME FOLKLORE AND MYTHOLOGY ABOUT THE PELICAN

by Kitty Greenleaf



The pelican is a strange combination. She looks prehistoric with her large head, leathery pouch and five-foot wingspan. Yet she also appears rather comical with her clown-like walk as she waddles on the ground. Believe it or not, this bird has ancient ties harkening back to the Egyptians, Peruvians, and the early Christians.

In Christian mythology, the pelican is a central figure. The early Christians revered the pelican as a feminine symbol of Christ. This is because the pelican has always been portrayed in old lore as the only bird willing to sacrifice herself for her young. The pelican was said to pierce its own breast with her beak in order to feed blood to her starving hatchlings.

As a result, the early Christians likened the pelican mother's selfless sacrifice with the sacrifice made by Jesus allowing himself to be crucified. Especially connected to the pelican is the moment when a guard pierces Christ in the side with a spear to make him bleed. This notion of shedding one's own blood for the benefit of all humankind has forever linked the pelican with the Crucifixion and the Resurrection.

Many early Christian altars featured paintings of a mother pelican piercing her breast to feed her youngsters and an engraving of the pelican mother is featured on the first page in the original version of the King James Bible. The ancient peoples of Peru believed the pelican to be a great Protector of their children. In fact, to this day a place considered safe for children to cross the street is still referred to as a pelican crossing.

The Egyptians were convinced the pelican was the guide of the departed to the Underworld and mistreatment of the pelican was said to result in a person being stuck between the world of the living and the world of the dead indefinitely, an early foreshadowing of Christian Purgatory.

Elizabeth I of England was so taken with the idea of female self-sacrifice, she had the symbol of a pelican embroidered into the bodice of her gowns, and proclaimed herself the one true Mother of the Church of England. In addition, many English knights featured the pelican on their coat of arms.

Contrary to popular belief, pelicans do not go blind from diving for fish. Pelicans have nictitating lids protecting their eyes. This second set of eyelids is made of a clear membrane that allows them to see while diving and protects the eyes from pressure, water and debris. This so-called second sight resulted in fishermen revering the pelican for centuries, despite their tendency to mooch bait fish. Fishermen to this day still watch the pelican's behavior closely to tell if storms are coming. There are still fishermen in Florida who say: When the pelicans clear out, a storm is about.

Pelicans use their keen eyesight to hunt for small fish. They are not accustomed to swallowing larger-sized fish and can, in fact, choke to death. Sadly, there are many fatalities that result when fishermen feed pelican's filleted fish carcasses. The pelicans may eagerly devour these carcasses at filleting stations, but the bones become lodged in the birds' throats and they die a slow and agonizing death of starvation over several days or weeks because they cannot get any more food down into their stomachs. If this is a problem in your area, ask the FWC for a PVC carcass shute for your dock.

Current statistics show that 80 percent of all pelicans in Florida will at some point become entrapped in monofilament fishing line discarded in the water by fishermen. Fishing line entanglement causes strangulation, lacerations, systemic infections and amputation of legs and wings. Disposing of spent fishing line properly, out of the water, will save the lives of many, many pelicans.

Compiled from various books and articles.



The 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)

Northern Harrier (*Circus cyaneus*)



Other names: marsh hawk, hen harrier / Status: FL = slowly declining, IUCN = LC / Length: 18.1-19.7 in. (46-50 cm) / Wingspan: 40.2-46.5 in. (102-118 cm) / Weight: 10.6-26.5 oz (300-750 g) / Life span: to 16.5 years / Nests: in the upper Midwest north to Alaska / Found: All Counties, near coast, mainland / Months found: **JFMAMJJA****SOND** (lower case indicates northern when the harrier is in its northern, nesting season).

A medium-size raptor with a worldwide distribution, the northern harrier is still commonly called the marsh hawk in many parts of the country. In North America the harrier summers and breeds in the Canadian boreal forest, ranging all the way to the tundra. There it feeds heavily on lemmings, moles, mice, and rats, as well as small rabbits, birds, and frogs. In September it returns to the southern tier of the U.S., including peninsular Florida, where it stays for most of the winter and spring. In Florida it tends to stay well inland and is seldom found along the coast.

The harrier's stiff facial hair and owl-shaped face allow it to use hearing as well as sight to find its prey. It prefers to hunt over open fields, marshes, and agricultural areas where it descends on unsuspecting rodents from very low altitudes. The northern harrier has two easy identifiers: 1) it flies with its wings held in a distinctive and deep V, similar to a turkey vulture; and 2) it has a white patch just behind its wings and before its tail feathers that is best seen from above or when the bird is diving. The male and female harriers have pronounced coloration differences: the male is gray and the female a mottled-brown color.

The range of the northern harrier covers all of North America, Europe, Asia, and parts of northern Egypt. There are an estimated 1.3 million harriers worldwide. Its population has suffered in England where game farms and gamekeepers shoot the bird for taking grouse and other stocked birds. The harrier has few natural predators, aside from great horned owls, but the chicks and eggs are vulnerable to snakes, rats, weasels, foxes, and lynx.

Photo by Kenneth Haley

Charles Sobczak lives and writes on Sanibel Island. To find out more about the author and his books, visit www.indigopress.net.

LOCAL HISTORY

**Go Out and Play**

by Jeff Whichello

Saturday morning, cartoons played until lunch at our home in Ochopee. Afterwards, I went and sat my eight-year-old self in front of the television.

"No more TV," said mother, "Go out and play in the backyard."

I rose, walked onto the porch, through a screen door, and then wandered around the yard. Lying at the edge of the lawn was my bicycle. Over the loose gravel, sparse grass, and sticker plants, I travelled a quarter of a mile around a canal, and down a rugged trail. It led out beyond moon crater like rock pits. In the center of the narrowing path, shallow water collected, and contained something white. Half submerged an alligator skull with a hole in the top, stared from hollow sockets.

Thirty minutes later, a mound of quarry-blasted limestone loomed fifteen feet high, and twenty-five square feet around. I leaped from my bike to go and climb, but stopped short. A sun-bathing diamond-back rattle snake made its claim.

Continuing, I noticed movement in a pool to the side of the trail, and brought my ride up to the rim. Little black pebbles or raisins or Mexican jumping beans shook, as if being boiled. I knelt down and touched one; *Bugs*.

In an hour, the terrain roughened, and the path ended. I kicked a rock, and a tiny scorpion ran around in a circle. I scanned the distant plains, eyeing their sharp golden saw grass, and scattered lakes. With a shuffle and turn of the bike, I faced the way I came.

"You were out there awhile, you must have been busy," said mother as I tromped through the kitchen. She shut the glass door, and spotted an alligator skull, placed on a table. She looked at me with a puzzled expression.

Jeff Whichello grew up in Ochopee at the Golden Lion Motel. He is currently writing a book about his childhood experiences.

MUSEUM of the Everglades NEWS

The Museum will be celebrating its biggest one-day event of the year: the 85th Anniversary of the Opening of the Tamiami Trail in 1928. We'll also be observing the arrival of Ponce de Leon with Florida VIVA 500, Collier County's 90th anniversary and Everglades City 60th. So we have lots of reasons to have a party!



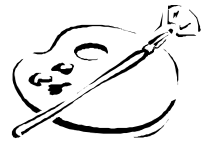
The Friends of the Museum have planned a great program on **Saturday, April 27**, starting with a parade highlighting the Barron Collier High School band, antique cars carrying dignitaries, mounted police patrol, and much more. If you would like to participate in the parade, contact Patty at 695-2397. There will be arts & crafts, circus acts, face painting and fun for the whole family. A barbeque and a fish fry (just \$10 each) will be available. Jeff Klinkenberg of the *St. Petersburg Times*, will be the guest speaker. Author Carl Hiaasen says this about Jeff: "He has a rare eye for marvelous detail, and an affectionate ear for those small, wise, bittersweet voices that tell the true story of Florida." Old-timers will be telling their own stories (contact Patty if you'd like to join the old-timers). Complimentary tea and birthday cake will be served by the Friends.

Don't miss our biggest celebration of the year in Everglades City! See page 3 for a complete schedule or call the Museum at 695-0008 for more information.

Artists Selected

Five talented artists have been selected for the 2013-2014 Artist-In-Residence program at Big Cypress National Preserve. They are:

1. Lynn Uhlmann of Shippensburg, Pennsylvania.
2. Anna Marie Pavlik of Frankfort, Kentucky
3. Mark Fletcher of Tallahassee, Florida
4. Ramona Maziarz of Middletown, Delaware
5. Micky Girardi of Hilton Head, South Carolina



For more information about this year's artists go to -

<http://www.nps.gov/bicy/supportyourpark/meet-the-artists.htm>



Health, Wellness, and Green Living

With Shannon Snyder

How safe is my air freshener?? This is probably something most people don't ask themselves. Most store bought air fresheners contain chemicals that can often cause headaches, dry eyes, and respiratory irritation. Even those that say they are all natural, organic and contain essential oils can emit toxic chemicals.

I have two great ideas that you can try in place of the store bought air fresheners. First, think of the smells that you enjoy most. You may already have these items around your house because you also enjoy eating them. Oranges, lemons, grapefruit, mint, basil, rosemary, coffee, are some examples. You can easily make your home smell amazing with these items. Simply fill a small sauce pan with 2 or 3 inches of water. Then add slices of oranges, and sprigs of mint. Or you can try lemons slices and basil leaves. Simmer on your stove top till the water evaporates and your house will smell fresh and clean. I also will do the same thing with essential oils. Place 10 drops of my favorite essential oils, that I have bought from any health food store or online, in water and simmer on the stove top till the water is gone. This method also works in place of Febreeze for a more natural way of refreshing your fabrics. Instead of simmering the water, just warm the water on low for 30 minutes so it becomes infused with the items you added to the water. Let the water cool and put into spray bottles. You can spray on your sheets, curtains, or whatever. Good luck and have fun with your own ideas!!

Shannon Snyder lives in Everglades City with her husband Billy, their two sons and their dog Ruby. She is the owner of Driftwood Spa offering massage therapy and spa services (see Ad on page 6).

Florida Tales “We Saw the Light”

by Chester Keene



While on patrol one night, it was darker than the inside of a Cow. That's when Officer Cole Slawe and the rookie he was training, Officer Luke Warne saw the light. These were two of Codger City's finest, swore to protect and serve the citizens of this small town. They saw the light coming from The Elephant's Graveyard or that's what it was called by some of the locals. Caution was on the side of these two brave men when they stopped out in front of the cemetery. There they observed an elderly woman with a headlight on, shining it on one of the most famous legends of Codger City's headstone. C.M.Hunte, a local Poacher. She was putting fresh flowers on his grave and was shining the headlight left to right while they watched her turn it off and on every few seconds. They also heard her singing some tune they did not recognize and in their bewilderment moment, they walked upon her. To their amazement when they announced themselves, she said thank you for showing up, I've been doing this on his anniversary since he passed away. When asked why at night and the flashing off and on of the light? She stated with a smile on her face, He was the best of the best poachers of Codger City and never got caught. He always worked at night and he would signal me to pick him up with the blinking of the light. He told me I'll give it up when we get caught. Tonight you caught us, and now he and I can rest in peace and I don't have to go through this anymore in the dark. Thank y'all again.



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



SHERIFF'S REPORT

See page 1 for the latest incidents & news.

Please remember to help us keep our neighborhoods safe by reporting any suspicious activity immediately to the Collier County Sheriff's Office at 252-9300 or in emergencies by dialing 911.

Also don't let yourself become an easy victim – always remember to lock your doors.



From Savannah's Eyes

I love how it has been sunny and warm in the Everglades recently! Everything about this place is gorgeous, especially the scenery. The other day (well, later on in the evening, I should say) my family and I decided to take a cruise out on the boat to an island to watch the stunning sunset. On the way I saw many birds headed to their roosts and dolphins swimming joyously throughout the waves. Not to mention, the golden sun reflecting onto the water and peaking from behind the mangroves. It looked like a painting; and it took my breath away. When we finally reached the island, the sun was just touching the waves and the whole sky turned into a tie-dye of purples, pinks, reds, and oranges. Then, in a matter of minutes the sun had set and the moon was lighting up the island and waters now. My brother Shaun found a flat rock and started skipping rocks on the water. I've never known how to skip a rock; every time I've ever tried, they just ended up in a splash instead! He told me that you have to hold it on both sides and then fling it flatly. I subsequently did what he told me, and the rock skipped once! I was overly excited that I had finally done it and we skipped a few more until our parents said that it was finally time to head back in. The next day we went out on the boat again, but this time we took the John boat out into the back country of the Everglades. As we crept along the creeks, we saw two big Osprey nests and two of them (Ospreys) on a tree; they as if they were talking to each other because they were facing each other, then they would look at us, and look back at each other again. It was so peaceful back there except for the soft humming of airboats on the other side of 29. I would love to do this every day and enjoy the city of paradise that we live in!

Can't wait to do it again; love living the life of an Everglades girl!
Love always, Savannah

Savannah Oglesby is a student in the 10th grade at Everglades City School and a regular contributor to this paper.

Big Cypress Zone 4 Closure

Beginning **Monday, April 8**, Zone 4 airboat access in Big Cypress National Preserve will be closed due to low water conditions. This will begin the 60-day recreational ORV closure for this management unit within the Preserve. Pending water levels, this unit will re-open on **Friday, June 7**. All other management units within the Preserve that allow for wheeled ORV access remain open through Sunday, June 2.

On **Monday, June 3**, the regularly scheduled 60-day ORV closure for these units will begin with ORV access being reopened on **Friday, August 2**.

The Recreational Off-Road Vehicle Management Plan calls for a 60-day seasonal closure to allow a period free from resource pressures related to ORV use. This was first instituted in 2002.

Landowners, and their guests, that hold special use permits to access private properties within the Preserve will retain continued access to property along approved routes. Zone 4 of the Stairsteps Unit of the Preserve allows for access via airboats only. The Bear Island, Turner River and Corn Dance Units, and Zones 2 and 3 of the Stairsteps Unit provide for access by specified, wheeled ORVs. For information on other closures go to - <http://www.nps.gov/bicy/planyourvisit/closures.htm>.

RESTAURANTS



Camellia Street Grill (695-2003):
12 noon – 9 p.m. daily
Seasonal closing:
end of April / early May

City Seafood (695-4700):
6:00 am – 6:00 pm; daily
Fish Market also open

Everglades Seafood Depot (695-0075):
10:30 am - 10:00 pm; daily

Glades Haven Deli (695-2091):
6:00 am – 9:00 pm; daily

Havana Café (695-2214):
7:00 am – 3:00 pm; daily
Seasonal closing: end of April

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 – 4:00 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):
10:00 am – 4:00 pm; daily
\$5 specials & 10% discount to locals

Sunset Raw Bar & Grill:
(next to Glades Haven Deli)
11:00 am to 6:00 pm; Tues thru Sun

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):
12 noon – 10 pm (Tues – Sun)
now serving Sunday Brunch

Triad Seafood (695-2662):
10:30 am (call for hours); daily
Fish Market also open

Right Choice Supermarket (695-4535):
9:00 am – 7:00 pm, Mon-Thurs
8:00 am – 7:00 pm, Fri, Sat, Sun

Grimm's Stone Crab (695-3222):
8:00 am – 5 pm, Mon-Sat

Loco's Fresh Produce (239-462-7050):
7:00 am - 3:00 pm; Thurs, Fri, Sat
(ECity Post Office parking lot)
1:00 pm – 2:30 pm; Thursday
(Chokoloskee)



Franklin Adams photographed this very rare piebald white-tailed deer in his back yard in North Naples. Although fairly common in horses, this is the first he's ever seen in South Florida. It was with two other adult does.

TIDES FOR BARRON RIVER

Lat: 25.87°N Long: 81.37°W

<http://TIDESANDCURRENTS.NOAA.GOV>

04/12	Fri	04:41am	2.4	H
04/12	Fri	11:33am	0.5	L
04/12	Fri	04:01pm	2.9	H
04/13	Sat	12:13am	-0.2	L
04/13	Sat	05:24am	2.2	H
04/13	Sat	12:03pm	0.6	L
04/13	Sat	04:31pm	2.8	H
04/14	Sun	12:53am	-0.1	L
04/14	Sun	06:12am	2.1	H
04/14	Sun	12:30pm	0.7	L
04/14	Sun	05:03pm	2.7	H
04/15	Mon	01:38am	0.0	L
04/15	Mon	07:08am	2.0	H
04/15	Mon	12:53pm	0.8	L
04/15	Mon	05:42pm	2.6	H
04/16	Tue	02:28am	0.1	L
04/16	Tue	08:09am	1.9	H
04/16	Tue	01:19pm	0.9	L
04/16	Tue	06:36pm	2.4	H
04/17	Wed	03:29am	0.2	L
04/17	Wed	09:14am	1.9	H
04/17	Wed	02:55pm	0.9	L
04/17	Wed	08:08pm	2.3	H
04/18	Thu	04:34am	0.2	L
04/18	Thu	10:20am	2.0	H
04/18	Thu	04:55pm	0.9	L
04/18	Thu	09:38pm	2.2	H
04/19	Fri	05:35am	0.2	L
04/19	Fri	11:17am	2.1	H
04/19	Fri	06:06pm	0.8	L
04/19	Fri	10:55pm	2.2	H
04/20	Sat	06:28am	0.2	L
04/20	Sat	12:03pm	2.3	H
04/20	Sat	06:59pm	0.6	L
04/20	Sat	11:59pm	2.3	H
04/21	Sun	07:15am	0.3	L
04/21	Sun	12:41pm	2.5	H
04/21	Sun	07:45pm	0.4	L
04/22	Mon	12:54am	2.4	H
04/22	Mon	07:58am	0.3	L
04/22	Mon	01:13pm	2.6	H
04/22	Mon	08:28pm	0.2	L
04/23	Tue	01:42am	2.5	H
04/23	Tue	08:38am	0.3	L
04/23	Tue	01:43pm	2.8	H
04/23	Tue	09:11pm	0.0	L
04/24	Wed	02:27am	2.6	H
04/24	Wed	09:18am	0.4	L
04/24	Wed	02:11pm	3.0	H
04/24	Wed	09:54pm	-0.2	L
04/25	Thu	03:12am	2.7	H
04/25	Thu	09:58am	0.4	L
04/25	Thu	02:39pm	3.2	H
04/25	Thu	10:38pm	-0.4	L

Church of God
is 100 Years Old

Founded in 1913, the Chokoloskee Church of God is the oldest church in our area. There were celebrations on April 7 including a special service with Bishop Walker, carriage rides, and a gala luncheon at the Seafood Depot. *Thanks to Helen Bryan for photos.*



SNOOK CLASSIFIEDS

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

-----Panoramic views of Chokoloskee Bay from this 3-bed, 2-bath home. Deeded waterfront, open floorplan, high ceilings, terrific kitchen. 2 storage rooms for fishing/hobby equipment. \$1,100,000.

-----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 BY OWNER: Lot on canal behind P.O. in Chokoloskee. Call (561) 622-6011 or marysue2006@bellsouth.net.

FOR SALE BY OWNER: 3 lots in Chokoloskee, 2 on Calusa Dr, Lot M-4; Lot M-5 (filled); Lot by cemetery. Call (419) 441-2068 or (740) 864-2179.

FOR SALE: \$4,000 OBO, 2005 Ford Freestar Passenger Minivan, Seats 6, 6 Cyl Automatic Transmission, Front and Rear A/C, Mileage is about 86,500, Denise Johnson, (239) 465-1580 call or text.



PET PICS

Valerie was photographed this season in her garden at Ashnoca, home of Mardi Kjartansson and Farrow Allen

Send us your Pet Pics by email or post.

JOBS & SERVICES

Year-Round Jobs: Camp Staff in nearby Ochopee. Drug/Background screens/H.S. or GED required. Send resumes to bigcypress-bm@amikids.org or call 695-1001 for info.

Notary Public Services

Denise Johnson, By Appointment
308 Storter Ave South
Everglades City, 239-465-1580

Job Wanted: Pressure cleaning homes, boats, RV, store fronts, etc. Call Justin at 695-5930.

WANTED: Automotive Window Tinter
Certain Requirements Apply. Call 695-3667.

Part-Time Position

Port of the Islands Everglades Adventure Resort is looking for a part-time team member for their Guest Services department! Please see website for a full job description. <http://www.sunstream.com/careers>. Resumes cannot be substituted for the online application but may be included with completed application.

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

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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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FREE TOILETS: Hotel remodeling and has old ones to give away. Call 695-4499

DEEDED DOCK FOR SALE. Captains Table Dock #11, includes membership to Club, boat ramp, and use of pool. \$18,500. For info, call (954) 662-7003.

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