

The MULLET RAPPER



What's Happening in the Everglades & 10,000 Islands!
 News, Stories, Classifieds, Tide Tables & More
January 20, 2024 - February 2, 2024



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P.O. Box 513, Copeland, FL, 34137

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Bring It If It Rumbles



Rumble in the Glades invites anything with an engine to McLeod Park in Everglades City on February 24 at 11 am.

The event includes an antique car show, prizes for bikers showing off their rides, airboats, as well as swamp buggies. Blessing of the Bikes for motorcyclists from all over South and Central Florida.

There will be a showcasing of local artists and businesses as well as vendors from Naples and Miami. All vendors and sponsors will be donating items for a silent auction. If interested in being a vendor please complete the form at RumbleInTheGlades.com by February 1.

The Chili Cook-off will, of course, be one of the highlights of the event showing off the cooking skills of our local community. To register to be a contestant in the cook-off please email Hazel Mitchell at hazelmitchell49@hotmail.com by February 1. Cash prize will be given for the best chili.

There will also be face-painting and music for the whole family. This is a free event hosted by the Chokoloskee Family Church of God for outreach and fundraising purposes. All donations are tax deductible.



2024 Everglades Seafood Festival Offers Live Music, Food, & Carnival Rides

The Florida Stone Crabbers Association (FLSCA) will kick off its 54th Annual Everglades Seafood Festival on February 2 outside Everglades City Hall. The festival will continue through the weekend, wrapping up at 6 pm Sunday, February. 4. Tens of thousands of people from all over the world flock to this small town each year to partake in the festivities.

Attendees enjoy live music, creative works from local artists, delicious seafood, cold beverages, and carnival rides. Entertainment will include many local artists and more to be announced.

The festival is an annual charity event benefiting the Everglades City community. Funds from our 2023 festival went to helping the community recover from the destruction Hurricane Ian caused but there is still a lot of work to do. Funds were also allocated to the Everglades City School, The Mobile Food Pantry, and much more. It is our mission to continue to hold a profitable event so that we can help to rebuild the community and provide more opportunities for young adults and children.

Admission Friday night will be a canned food donation entry. Saturday & Sunday admission is a \$10 minimum donation for adults. Children and residents of Everglades City, Chokoloskee, and Copeland can receive free admission on all days. Beverage & carnival ride tickets will be cash only, and there will be ATMs on site.

Everglades Seafood Festival hours:

Friday (Feb. 2) 4:30 pm - 10 pm

Saturday (Feb. 3) 10 am - 10 pm

Sunday (Feb. 4) 10 am - 6 pm


For more than 50 years the Everglades Seafood Festival has been essential in generating income to improve its community and help its residents. The host, FLSCA, is a non-profit organization founded May 2020 to help unite stone crab fishermen and advocate for their best interests. Everglades City is a major producer of stone crab and it is the festival's mission to support our local fishermen and the local communities that keep these hard-working people in business.

For more information visit: www.evergladesseafoodfestival.org

RAPPER TABLE OF CONTENTS

Calendar	p.2	Rev. Bob	p. 8
Events	p.3	Museum	p. 9
City Hall	p. 4	Xword/Recipe	p. 10
School	p. 6	Tides/Biz List	p. 11
Fishing	p. 7	Classifieds	p. 12

EVENT CALENDAR - January 21, 2024 to March 2, 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
21	22	23	24 Wilderness Wed p9 Paint Class p3 Food Pantry p3	25 Ladies' Coffee HavAnnACafe 8:30a Full Moon	26 Garage Sale p12 Open Reception p3 Pork Dinner p3	27 Garage Sale p12 Praise Night p3
28	29	30	31 Wilderness Wed p9 Food Pantry p3	February 1 Ladies' Coffee Island Cafe 8:30a Harbor Project p3	2 Seafood Fest p1	3 - RAPPER Seafood Fest p1 Meet & Greet p3
4 Seafood Fest p1	5	6 City Council p3	7 Wilderness Wed p9 Bio Blitz p4 Food Pantry p3	8 Ladies' Coffee City Seafood 8:30a	9 Everblades p6 New Moon	10
11	12	13	14  Valentines Day Wilderness Wed p9 Food Pantry p3	15 Ladies' Coffee HavAnnACafe 8:30a Book Club p6 Third Thursday p9	16	17 - RAPPER
18	19	20 P&Z p3	21 Vow Renewal p12 Wilderness Wed p9 Food Pantry p3	22 Ladies' Coffee Island Cafe 8:30a	23 ESHPP Meeting p3	24 Praise Night p3 Wild Hog p3 Rumble p1 Art In Glades p3 Full Moon
25	26	27	28 Wilderness Wed p9 Food Pantry p3	29 Ladies' Coffee City Seafood 8:30a	March 1	2 - RAPPER

AREA BUSINESS & CLUB HOURS & NUMBERS

AA: Wed., 5p, 1st Baptist Church, 416 School Dr., Everglades City
 Carnestown Recycle & Trash: 2nd Sat. of month, 9a-12p, 12:30p-2p
 Everglades City Visitor Center: Open Daily, 10a-2p
 Lions Club: 2nd Thurs. of month, 6p, Jinkins Fellowship Hall
 Museum: Open Tues.-Sat., 9a-4p (239) 252-5026
 Smallwood Store: Open daily 10a-5p (239) 695-2989
 Everglades Community Church Food Pantry: Wed., 9:30a-Noon
 Mobile Pet Vet: hsnaples.org/mobile-veterinary-clinic

OTHER IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Airport: (239) 695-2778
 Big Cypress: (239) 695-2000
 City Hall: (239) 695-3781
 Curbside Trash Pickup: (239) 252-2380
 Dr. Demartino, Marco Island: (239) 642-5552
 EVG National Park: (239) 695-3311
 Fakahatchee Preserve Office: (239) 961-1925
 Public Library: (239) 695-2511
 Visitor Center: (239) 232-0473

POST OFFICE INFORMATION

Hours: Mon.-Fri., 10a-3:30p
Box Pickup
 Everglades City: (239) 695-2174 **Delivery**
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Events

January 24 | 3 - 5 pm Funky Fish Painting Class

Get ready for fun at HavAnnA Cafe's super cool collab with Stroke of Serendipity – it's "Paint Your Own Funky Fish"! Happening on Wednesday, January 24, from 3-5 pm. This time, we're jazzing it up by painting on coconuts – yup, coconuts! If coconuts aren't your vibe, bring along any other surface to splash your creativity on, anything goes! It's just \$20 for adults (12 and up) and \$10 for the cool kids (5-11). Let's make art, vibes, and memories together. More Info: lisagosart@yahoo.com or (239) 877-3998.

January 26 | 5 - 7 pm Open Reception We Are Still Here

Join us after hours at Museum of the Everglades as we celebrate the opening of our first collaborative exhibit with the Miccosukee Tribe. Refreshments and hors d'oeuvres will be served compliments of Friends of Museum of the Everglades and a brief discussion of the importance of the exhibit by museum staff and representatives from the tribe will take place at 6pm. More Info: <https://colliermuseums.com/event/opening-reception-for-we-are-still-here>

January 26 | 5 - 7 pm Pulled Pork Dinner

Everglades Community Church at 101 South Copeland Ave is having a Pulled Pork Dinner on January 26, from 5-7pm. Eat in or Take out. \$15 for adults and \$5 for children under 10. Tickets on sale now or at the door. More Info: <https://evergladescommunity.church/>

Community

Food Pantry Wednesdays | 9:30 am - Noon

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

Praise Night Last Saturday | 6:30 pm

On the last Saturday of each month, First Baptist Church of Everglades City will have a *Praise Night* with a light supper at 6:30 pm, followed by praise music and fellowship.

Ladies Coffee Thursdays | 8:30 am

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

February 1 | 6 - 7 pm Everglades Harbor Project Meeting

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will be holding a public meeting where we will provide Everglades Harbor project, dredging of the Barron River, updates. The meeting will be held at Everglades City Hall on February 1, from 6-7:30 pm.

February 2, 3, & 4 Everglades Seafood Festival

The 54th [Everglades Seafood Festival](https://evergladesseafoodfestival.org/) starts Friday, February 2, 4:30 pm till Sunday, February 4, 6 pm. Enjoy live music, local crafts, yummy seafood, drinks, and carnival fun! Info: <https://evergladesseafoodfestival.org/>

February 3 | 10 am - 3 pm Meet and Greet

Join the Butcher family at the Big Cypress Gallery Saturday February 3 from 10 am to 3 pm for an Artist "Meet and Greet." Get a sneak peek of Clyde's upcoming book, 'Lifeworks,' and see the exclusive darkroom photo that is paired with the special limited edition book. This event is free and open to the public. To RSVP: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/meet-clyde-niki-big-cypress-spring-open-house-tickets-788313114747?aff=oddtcreator>

February 23 | 2 pm ESH P Meeting & History Talk

Join ESH P on Friday, February 23, at 2 pm for the Annual Meeting & Historical Talk at Everglades Isle. More Info: <https://eshp.org/our-events/>

Everglades Area Information Daily | 10 am - 2 pm

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

Planning & Zoning Meeting Third Tuesdays | 6 pm

P&Z Board meetings are held monthly on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. City Council room, 2nd floor City Hall. Info: <https://www.cityofeverglades.org>

City Council Meeting First Tuesdays | 7pm

City Council meetings are held every 1st Tuesday of the month @ 7 pm in the City Council room, 2nd floor City Hall. The public is invited to attend. Info: <https://www.cityofeverglades.org>

February 24 | 10 am - 1 pm Art in the Glades

Join us for ART in the GLADES on Saturday, February 24, from 10 am to 1 pm. at McLeod Park. Discover and support the talents of our community. Admission is free. More Info: (239) 451-0265.

February 24 | 11 am - 3 pm Rumble in the Glades

Featuring Blessing of the Bikes, music, a chili cook off, food trucks, vendors, old cars, and a silent auction in McLeod Park. Info: <https://visitevergladescity.com/venue/chokoloskee-family-church-of-god>

February 24 | 10 am Wild Hog BBQ

Wild Hog BBQ, a one-day event. Advance tickets: \$20 adults, \$10 kids. At the gate: \$25 adults, \$12 kids. Ticket includes entry, wildlife show, live bands, swamp buggy rides, Miccosukee culture, and more! Enjoy local vendors, activities, raffles, and delicious food. Hosted by Chokoloskee Family Church. Info: <https://evergladesconservationsportsmanclub.com/wildhogbbq-1>

Save The Date

March 9 & 10 | 10 am - 4 pm Harbor Arts & Music Festival

Come to the 12th Annual Harbor Arts & Music Festival on March 9-10 at MarGood Harbor Park. Showcasing top-tier artists and diverse cuisines, enjoy captivating raffle prizes and live performances by Florida's top musicians. Don't miss this blend of great food, art, and music! More Info: taraogallery@gmail.com.

March 22 | 5 - 7 pm The Grapefruit Gala

Join us in the Museum of the Everglades parking lot for our annual country dance featuring live music by The Jack Shealy Band. Celebrate the birthday of county founder Barron Gift Collier with tasty finger foods, complimentary wine, and fresh local citrus. No formal attire needed; just bring a chair and your dancing shoes to toast our founder. More Info: See page 9

March 23 | 10 am - 1 pm Art in the Glades

Join us for ART in the GLADES on Saturday, March 23, from 10 am to 1 pm. at McLeod Park. Discover and support the talents of our community. Admission is free. More Info: (239) 451-0265.



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Monday - Saturday, 10:30-6
Sunday 10:30 - 5

Help Us Count The Animals
Participate in the Fakahatchee Strand **Bio Blitz** series a unique opportunity to help our local wildlife.

Next Two Wednesdays
February 7
March 13
Alex.gobel@floridadep.gov
(239) 961-1925




First Baptist Church
Knowing Him and making Him known!

Praise Night, last Saturday of the month, light supper, music, fellowship at 6:30 pm!

All-ages Sunday School: 9:45 a.m., Sunday Worship: 11:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Worship: 6:00 p.m.

416 School Drive / P.O. Box 550, Everglades City, FL 34139, Call Us:(239) 695-3871

Update from City Hall
by Michael McComas
Everglades City Council



At the January 2nd meeting Mayor Grimm swore in Councilman Parker Oglesby for a 2 year term. The first item of business was the acceptance of the resignation of Councilman Josh Minton who cited personal circumstances in his resignation letter.

The financial statement was received and approved and as always the statement can be obtained by members of the public by written request. Upon second reading, ordinances relating to commercial signs and floodplain were passed. An agreement was approved to have Florida Rural Water Association provide independent services to inventory lead lines which is now required by the Environmental Protection Agency. A resolution to amend grant procedures was tabled until the February meeting.

Tony Pernas reminded council and the public that a public workshop with the US Corps of Engineers on the dredging of the Barron River will be held on February 1st at 6PM in council chambers, Councilman Pernas also commented on the agreement with Greg Jarrett to dewater the spoil from the dredging on the acreage he owns next to the airport. Councilwoman Wells asked council to consider retaining a firm to perform permitting and building inspections, Mayor Grimm suggested that each council member receive contact information so they could do research and have questions answered. City Attorney Lombardo made a comment about the financial disclosure transition from Form 1 to Form 6 and reminded council members that he was available to answer questions personally.

The next City Council meeting Tuesday February 6.



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www.evergladescommunity.church

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When you reach the gate, push the intercom button to let us know you are here to pick up!



Note: You must be 21 or older to order and to pick up.

Everglades Isle
803 Collier Avenue
Everglades City, FL 34139

Just look for the Lighthouse!

When the Caregiver is a Crook

It deeply saddens me to share a cautionary tale that unfolded just this week – a reminder that even those entrusted with our care may betray our trust. Two women, tasked with looking after the elderly, opted to exploit them instead, stealing credit cards and accumulating debts. This serves as a stark reminder that we must be vigilant in safeguarding our finances and well-being.

The Collier County Sheriff's Office reported incidents involving significant financial losses for elderly individuals – \$3,000 from an 81-year-old woman, \$603.54 from a 105-year-old woman, and an attempted theft of \$191 from a 76-year-old man.



The Sheriff's Department served tea to 38 Diamonds of the Everglades (ladies 70+).

During the Diamonds of the Everglades event Friday, January 12th, Angela Larson, Supervisor of Victim Services, highlighted the vulnerability of seniors and the breach of trust by those expected to provide care.

AARP estimates that approximately \$28.3 billion is stolen from seniors annually, impacting essential needs such as food, medication and rent.

To protect yourself and your loved ones from such heart-wrenching situations, it is crucial to stay actively involved in each other's lives. Isolation can make seniors more susceptible to scams, so maintaining connections with friends and family is essential. Experts recommend minimizing exposure by reducing the number of credit and debit cards, regularly checking credit scores, and avoiding leaving valuable items or bank information unattended.

If you notice anything suspicious, take swift action. Call your bank immediately to initiate an investigation and stop any potential future transactions. Subsequently, notify local law enforcement to ensure the culprits are held accountable.

Let us stand together to protect our seniors and ensure they receive the care and respect they deserve. By staying vigilant and proactive, we can create a safer environment for our elderly loved ones.

More assistance available at Elder Affairs Florida

<https://elderaffairs.org/programs-services/elder-protection-programs>

305 Collier Ave., Everglades City, FL 34139

Monday - Sunday
6:00 am - 9:00 pm

Breakfast Served
6:00 am - 11:00 am

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Sun. Worship	10:00 am
Sun. Kids Church	10:00 am
Sun. Renewal	6:00 pm
Wed. Youth Renewal	7:00 pm
Thur. Bible Study	7:00 pm

Doing Life Together

Visit Florida's 2022 Economic Impact Report

A recent study commissioned by VISIT FLORIDA shows that with a record-breaking number of visitors in 2022, travelers spent a record \$124.9 billion, outpacing 2021 by nearly \$20 billion. For every dollar spent by the 137.4 million visitors in 2022, 97 cents were retained in the Florida economy. On average, visitors contribute \$333 million per day to Florida's economy.

Highlights From The Report

- Tourism-related jobs now stand at 2 million, surpassing pre-pandemic levels.
- Domestic visitors spent \$112.7 billion in 2022 and international visitors spent \$12.2 billion.
- One out of every six private sector jobs were supported by tourism in 2022.

For more highlights and info visit <https://www.flgov.com/2024/01/12/travelers-to-florida-continue-to-outpace-the-nation>



(239)289-4400
Jennifer@JenniferBarnett.realtor

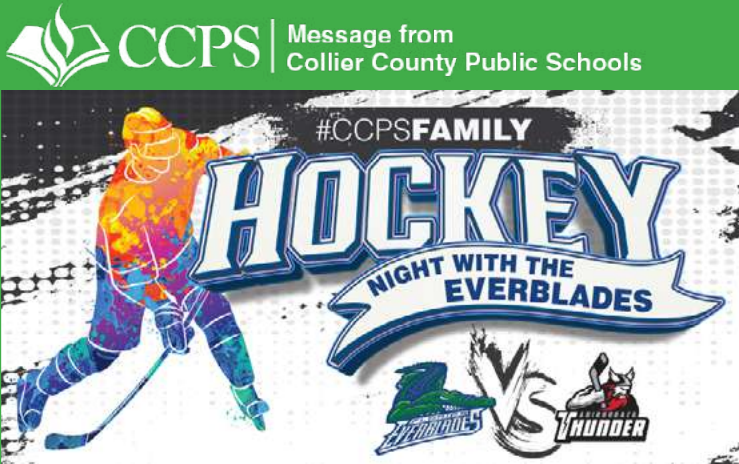
Hooked on the Old Florida Lifestyle



Fishermen's & Nature Lovers' Dream Getaway

This home is a 2020 one bedroom one bath built on stilts with boat dock located in a waterfront community. The community has a boat ramp and screened fish cleaning station and additional storage. You are just minutes away from the 10,000 islands and onto the Gulf Of Mexico for some of the best fishing, kayaking, canoeing, wildlife watching and camping.

Property Address: 675 Copeland Ave S, Unit 12 Everglades City Florida
\$255,000 Beds:1 Baths:1 Sq Feet: 560
MLS# 223024627



Join our #CCPSFamily for Hockey Night with the Everblades!

Watch the Kelly Cup Champion Florida Everblades take on the New York Adirondack Thunder.

This event is open to CCPS staff, students, families, friends, and alumni!

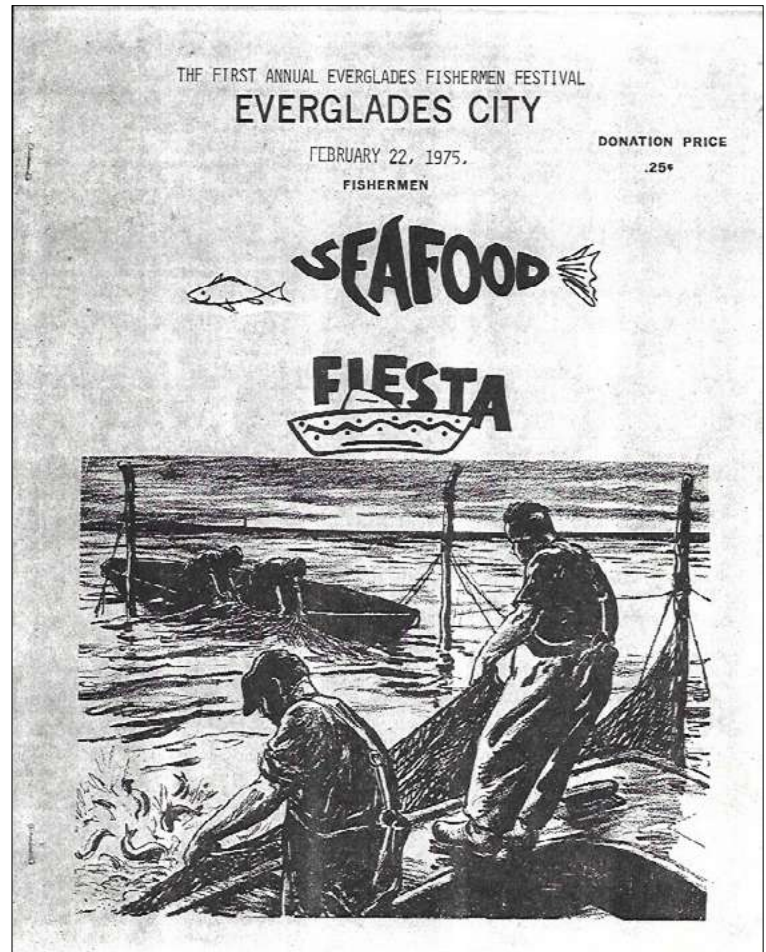
#CCPSFamily Night with the Everblades
 Friday, February 9, 2024
 at Hertz Arena
 Game starts at 7:30pm

\$15 per Person

\$1 of each ticket will benefit the United Way of Collier and the Keys. Regular retail for these seats is \$37 per ticket.

GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY!

<https://everblades.spinzo.com/collier-county-public-schools-fundraiser-and-family-fun-night-with-the-florida-everblades-2024-02-09-SARHV?group=collier-county-public-schools-njdz>



The First Everglades Seafood Festival Program

Take a stroll down Everglades City's memory lane with a cool find from one of our subscribers.

Meet the Turners – George and Billie, long-time residents of Everglades City, and discover their hidden gem: the 1975 Seafood Festival program.

Pam, who stumbled upon it while digging through her folks' stuff, says, "I found this program for the first Seafood Festival in 1975 and I thought maybe some of our local subscribers would find it interesting."

So, as we dive into this piece of local history, thanks a bunch to Pam for sharing her folks' time capsule. It adds a personal vibe to our Everglades City story, and we're stoked to reminisce together!

Everglades Book Club 2024

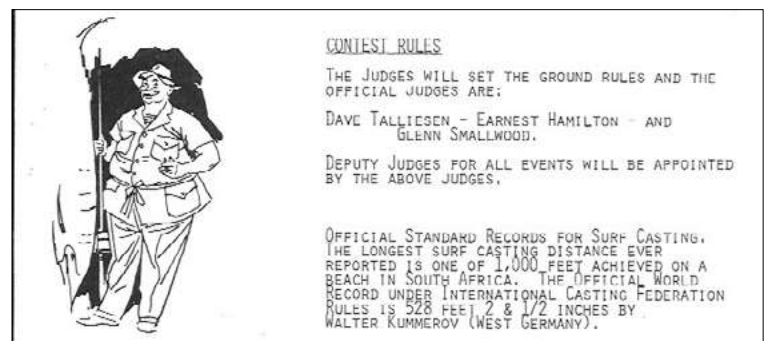
Meetings are open to all. We just read the book, have wonderful discussions and make new friendships. Meeting are 10 am - 11 am.

Feb. 15 *The Brilliant Life of Eudora Honeysett* by Annie Lyon
 10 am at the home of Sharon Nykiel, 301 S. Copeland, Unit 101

Mar. 21 *Miss Dreamsville and the Collier County Women's Literary Society* by Amy Hill Heath
 10 am at the home of Elaine Middelstaedt, 410 Storter Ave. South

April 11 *Last Train to Paradise* by Les Stand
 10 am at the home of Patty Huff, 207 North Storter Ave

Questions
 Call: (812) 361-7402
 Diann Lock



Contributor: Pam Helton

See a larger more complete copy at <https://visitevergladescity.com/the-first-annual-everglades-seafood-festival-program>. The last 2 pages not represented here were words to songs for a sing-along.

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Winter Fishing In The 10,000 Islands


by Captain Mike Merritt



The bite is on! If you want some steady action, now is the time. We have all the winter species here and they are biting. Trout, Sheepshead, Snapper, Black Drum, Redfish, and even Snook are all being caught on live shrimp right now. Not to mention all the other species you might catch on a day in the Islands right now. Fishing over hard bottom is key. Whether it is oysters or rock, you will find something biting. Moving water is all you need. Incoming and outgoing tides will produce fish while using a knocker rig on the bottom. Scale down your hook size

and this will help. Right now I use a 2/0 Mutu light circle hook by Owner Hooks. I have been using these for 20 years and they work great on all the species, even the Sheepshead. Live shrimp will work best, then once the bite starts going you can use just a piece of shrimp. The nice thing about these hooks is the fact you rarely hook a fish deep so if you are releasing fish they are easy to deal with. The best bite has been in rivers and passes but the hard bottom on the Islands has also been really good. Seatrout have been really nice size in these areas. But when I fish the outside Islands I still use the DOA shrimp on a popping cork like a Cajun Thunder or similar style. This will produce plenty of action when the bite is on as Trout take artificial lures as well as live shrimp. Snook fishing in the back country this time of year can be good. Accurate casting will make the difference in your day. Casting tight to the mangroves or skipping your bait under the edge will be more productive than just casting down the shoreline. A live shrimp on a light knocker rig will also produce as you can cast and leave it lay in the hole longer. With artificials a slow retrieve with some short twitches will get strikes. Redfish are showing up in greater numbers in the back country. Scented baits or jigs tipped with shrimp and fished slow will help you locate these guys. Once you find one there are generally more fish in the area. It pays to cast right back to where you caught the first one. Patience is critical as a slow retrieve works best. The great thing about the fishing right now is the variety. You might catch a dozen species in a day, or more. The weather will determine where you fish this time of year but the fish are all over the place so a productive day is not hard right now. Good luck fishing. Capt. Mike Merritt

Mike Merritt, Fishing Guide
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December 23, 2023 Puzzle Solution

1	T	A	M	A	L	E	7	A	P	S	E	
11	I	N	A	W	A	Y	12	G	R	A	F	
13	P	A	R	A	D	E	14	L	O	S	T	
15	T	R	Y	16	S	E	T	H				
17	A	R	I	D	19	R	E	T	A	I	L	
21	S	E	A	22	G	O	T	23	G	M	T	
24	H	U	L	L	E	D	26	V	O	I	D	
27	T	A	E	L	28	P	I	N				
29	S	E	R	A	30	A	U	R	I	G	A	
33	A	R	T	S	34	A	M	U	S	E	D	
35	P	S	S	T	36	H	A	S	T	E	D	

Something You Can Do For Yourself This Year

by Rev. Bob Wallace



In 1952 Dr. Norman Vincent Peale, a minister and author, wrote an outstanding bestseller, *The Power of Positive Thinking* to demonstrate the power of faith in action. It has helped millions of people achieve fulfillment in their lives. With the practical techniques outlined in his book, you can strengthen your life. You can give yourself the desire needed to carry out your ambitions and hopes. Dr. Peale wrote about how you can learn to expect the best and get it. How to believe in yourself and in everything you do. He showed how to develop the power

to reach your goals. And how to break the worrying habit and achieve a relaxed life. If you need to improve your personal and professional relationships, it's in there. But best of all is, how to take control over your circumstances and be kind to yourself.

It's like a young girl who was bright and cheerful and always had a smile on her face. She lived with her parents, brothers, and sisters. Despite the hardships of life, she always had a positive outlook on life.

Well, one day, her father lost his job. That caused the family to struggle to make ends meet. Her mother was worried about how they would survive. But the young girl remained optimistic. She believed things would get better. She encouraged her family to stay positive. It was like "the power of positive thinking" that Norman Vincent Peale wrote about in his book. Her positive attitude inspired her family to keep going. They worked hard. And they supported each other. Eventually, things did get better. Her father found a new job. And the family was able to get back on its feet.

Years later, that young girl became a successful businesswoman. She never forgot the lessons she learned as a child. And she always maintained a positive outlook on life. She believed that anything was possible if you worked hard and stayed positive.

Her story, together with Norman Vincent Peale's book, teaches that having a positive outlook on life can make all the difference. It can help you overcome challenges, find success, and live a happy life.

So, always remember to stay positive. . . . And keep smiling!

As Demi Lovato, singer, songwriter, and actor once said, "*Sometimes we're gonna have our bad days, but we must continue to work to be great. Keep smiling. It looks beautiful on you!*"

Have a good day, and a Happy New Year!

Reverend Dr Bob N. Wallace
Everglades Community Church
<https://evergladescommunity.church>

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Museum of the Everglades

105 West Broadway Avenue Everglades City, FL



Originally a 1927 commercial laundry, the Museum of the Everglades building testifies to the town's history as a bustling business center and the region's first county seat. Now a museum, it's open Tuesday to Saturday from 9 am to 4 pm with free admission. Certain events may require reservations. Book your reservation at colliermuseums.com or call (239) 252-5026. Come explore Everglades heritage today!

Exhibits & Events

WE ARE STILL HERE - the Continuing Story of the Miccosukee Tribe January 23 – May 11



Pauline Reeves Gallery will present both the past and present of the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida. Created in collaboration with the tribal council, the exhibit explores the Miccosukee's culture and heritage while celebrating their unique achievements in self-governance, education, environmental protection, and more. During the Seafood Festival (February 3rd & 4th) there will be demonstrations of traditional crafts, cooking, and even alligator wrestling on and around the museum grounds. **Opening Reception January 26, 2024 | 5 -7 pm.**

Third Thursday Talk Series

Learn about a wide range of topics at an exhibit companion lecture happening every third Thursday of the month from 2 – 3 pm.

The Miccosukee: Past, Present, & Future

February 15, 2024 | 2 - 3 pm



For this companion presentation to the "WE ARE STILL HERE" exhibit, our guest speaker will be William "Popeye" Osceola, the Secretary of the Miccosukee tribal business council. An accomplished artist and former educator at the Miccosukee School, Mr. Osceola — one of the five heads of the tribal government — will share his insights on tribe's history and culture as well as his thoughts on the new collaborative exhibit.

Wilderness Wednesdays at the Museum Series

January 3 - April 17 | 2 – 3 pm



Embark on a captivating journey into the heart of the Everglades with Wilderness Wednesdays, an enriching lecture series held every Wednesday from 2 to 3 pm at the Museum of the Everglades. In collaboration with the Big Cypress National Preserve, this seasonal program features presentations by ranger staff and esteemed partner organizations, delving into the distinctive flora, fauna, and

remarkable biodiversity of this unique ecosystem. Spanning January to April, each week unveils a new topic presented by the National Park Service, promising an immersive exploration of the Everglades' natural wonders. For further details and updates on scheduled talks, contact the Museum of the Everglades at (239) 252-5026 or visit CollierMuseums.com/events

History & Heritage Days at Everglades Seafood Festival February 3 & 4, 2024 | 9 – 4 pm

This year on history and heritage row at Everglades City's Annual Seafood Festival Museum of the Everglades will focus on our partnership with the local indigenous tribe of Miccosukee Indians. Several artisans from the tribe will provide crafting demonstrations and offer their creations for sale. There will also be cooking demonstrations and an alligator wrestling exhibition in the museum parking lot. Collier County Museums will have an information booth with kids' activities and the museum will be open for visitors to enjoy and explore the new "WE ARE STILL HERE" exhibit in the front gallery and our permanent exhibits (including the 1929 Harley-Davidson motorcycle) in the back.

The Annual Grapefruit Gala

March 22 | 5 – 7 pm

Join us in the parking lot at Museum of the Everglades for our annual whimsical country dance with live music by a bluegrass incarnation of local favorites The Jack Shealy Band. Enjoy tasty finger foods and complimentary wine along with fresh local citrus as we celebrate the birthday of county founder Barron Gift Collier. Collier's 1921 purchase of a grapefruit grove at Deep Lake ultimately shifted the local economy toward tourism and led to the creation of our county. That's why we say "It all started with grapefruit." Stop by and raise a toast to our founder. No formal attire required at this gala. Just bring a chair and don't forget your dancing shoes.



Low Bush Lightning

by Donn Brown

Museum of the Everglades Manager Thomas Lockyear captivated a full house with his presentation 'Low Bush Lightning'. Moonshining in the Everglades worked perfectly for C. Melvin Brown and his son, John Joseph.



Photo Credit: Donn Brown

Fresh water and desolation helped to conceal the illegal Stills, and soon the production of alcohol proliferated in the 1800s. Early settler Charles McKinney wrote about it in the American Eagle newspaper. Corruption and death would in time infiltrate the River of Grass.

Panko Crusted Fish

Ingredients

2 to 4 White Fish Fillets (Snook, Snapper, Grouper, or Halibut)

1 cup Panko (Japanese Bread Crumbs)

1/2 cup Oil

1 tsp Lemon Zest

1 cup Fresh Cilantro, Finely Chopped

Salt & Pepper to taste.

Directions:

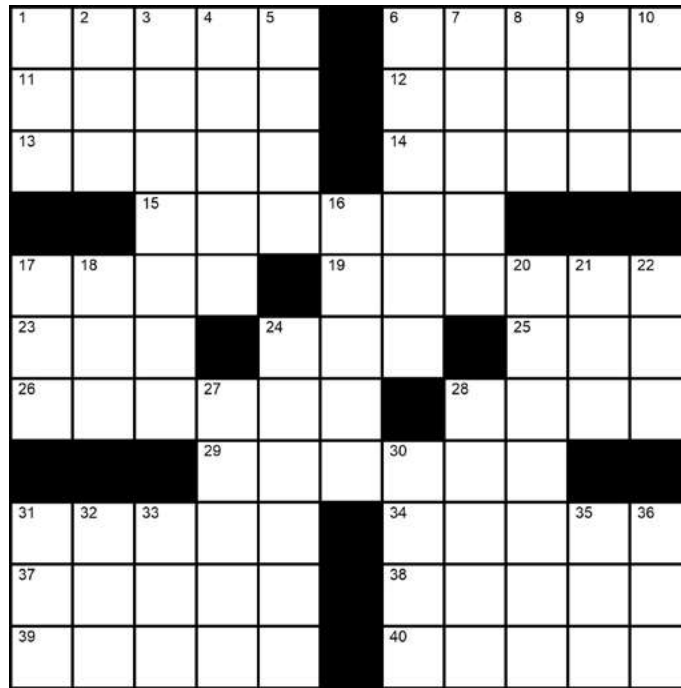
Preheat oven to 400. Rinse and pat dry the fillets, then salt and pepper each side. Mix Panko, next 3 ingredients together until ball forms. Heat Oil in oven proof frying pan on medium heat. Add Fillets. Cook 3-4 minutes. Flip fillets over and spread 1/4 cup of the Panko mix on top of each fillet to cover. Place pan into oven to finish, about 4-6 minutes depending on thickness of fish. Flesh should be flaky and opaque. Serve Immediately.

Original Recipe from What's Cookin' in the Everglades 2008

MULLET RAPPER CROSSWORD

Across

1. Holding one's piece
6. Ashes, e.g.
11. Cabbage or cheddar
12. American symbol
13. Ping-___ (bounces)
14. Broke the silence
15. A Society Island
17. Den denizen
19. Be a busybody
23. Setting for TV's "Newhart"
24. Beetle, e.g.
25. "No ___!"
26. Gunpowder holder
28. Conceal
29. Salem's home



31. Nickname for the Red Sox's Adrian Gonzalez
34. Genre for many major label acts, these days (which is suitably ironic)
37. Fake
38. Sage
39. Small drum
40. Current

3. Billings setting
4. "Enigma Variations" composer
5. 100-meter, e.g.
6. Consumer Reports employee
7. Fleet
8. "I" problem
9. ___ Grove Village, Ill.
10. "Get it?"
16. Candidate's concern
17. It may be boring
18. Charlotte-to-Raleigh dir.
20. Shrink
21. Boy
22. Artist's asset
24. Calling
27. Beat it
28. Accept
30. Essence
31. Astern
32. ___ few rounds
33. Sun, e.g.
35. Carbonium, e.g.
36. Bankrupt

1/20/24

Down

1. Increase, with "up"
2. Aussie hopper, for short

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EATERIES

Angler's Cove, Port of the Islands
Wed 4 pm – 11 pm
Thur-Sun 12 am – 11 pm (Kitchen Closes at 9pm)

Camellia Street Grill
Daily 11 am – 9 pm
(239) 695-2003

Captain Morgan's Seafood Grill Corp.
Wed-Sun 11 am – 8 pm
(239) 232-0041

City Seafood
Mon-Fri 8 am – 3 pm
Sat & Sun 8 am – 4 pm
(239) 695-4700

Diving Pelican Restaurant
Sun-Thur 11 am – 8 pm
Fri & Sat 11 am – 8:30 pm (Outside bar to 11 pm)
(239) 232-0475

The Hangout
Thur-Mon 11 am – 3 pm
Closed Tue & Wed
(239) 232-0461

HavAnnA Cafe
Daily 8 am – 8 pm
(239) 695-2214

Island Cafe
Daily 6 am – 9 pm
(239) 695-0003

Joanie's Crab Cafe
Thur-Tues 10:30 am – 4 pm
Sat & Sun 10:30 am to 5 pm
(239) 695-2682

Nely's Corner (Inside EFC)
Fri-Sun 6:30 am – 4 pm
(239) 695-4222

Rod & Gun
Mon-Thurs 11:30 am – 4 pm
Fri-Sat 11:30 am – 8 pm
(239) 695-2101

Triad Seafood Market & Cafe
Daily 10:30 am – 4 pm
(239) 695-2662

MARKETS

Right Choice Market
Daily 9 am – 7 pm
(239) 695-4535

Grimm's Stone Crab
Mon-Sat 8 am – 5 pm
(239) 695-3222

AREA WORSHIP

Chokoloskee Family Church
Sun: 10 am School & Worship, 6 pm Renewal
Wed: Youth Program 7 pm

Copeland Baptist Church
Sun: 10 am School, 11 am Worship

Everglades Community Church
Sun: 11 am Worship, 9:45 Sunday School

1st Baptist Church of Everglades City
Sun: 9:45 am School, 11 am Worship & 6 pm Svc
Wed: 6 pm Bible Study

Holy Family Catholic Church
Sunday: 10:30 am Mass (Dec - April)

BARRON RIVER TIDES

1/20/2024	Sat	5:38 AM	-0.22	L
1/20/2024	Sat	1:26 PM	1.66	H
1/20/2024	Sat	5:24 PM	0.81	L
1/20/2024	Sat	10:12 PM	2.4	H
1/21/2024	Sun	6:38 AM	-0.33	L
1/21/2024	Sun	2:18 PM	1.77	H
1/21/2024	Sun	6:31 PM	0.83	L
1/21/2024	Sun	11:17 PM	2.44	H
1/22/2024	Mon	7:32 AM	-0.41	L
1/22/2024	Mon	2:55 PM	1.81	H
1/22/2024	Mon	7:28 PM	0.79	L
1/23/2024	Tue	12:13 AM	2.51	H
1/23/2024	Tue	8:18 AM	-0.46	L
1/23/2024	Tue	3:16 PM	1.82	H
1/23/2024	Tue	8:17 PM	0.72	L
1/24/2024	Wed	12:59 AM	2.57	H
1/24/2024	Wed	9:00 AM	-0.47	L
1/24/2024	Wed	3:20 PM	1.85	H
1/24/2024	Wed	8:59 PM	0.66	L
1/25/2024	Thu	1:38 AM	2.61	H
1/25/2024	Thu	9:38 AM	-0.45	L
1/25/2024	Thu	3:30 PM	1.91	H
1/25/2024	Thu	9:38 PM	0.59	L
1/26/2024	Fri	2:15 AM	2.61	H
1/26/2024	Fri	10:15 AM	-0.39	L
1/26/2024	Fri	3:50 PM	1.99	H
1/26/2024	Fri	10:16 PM	0.53	L
1/27/2024	Sat	2:51 AM	2.56	H
1/27/2024	Sat	10:50 AM	-0.31	L
1/27/2024	Sat	4:16 PM	2.08	H
1/27/2024	Sat	10:53 PM	0.47	L
1/28/2024	Sun	3:29 AM	2.46	H
1/28/2024	Sun	11:23 AM	-0.19	L
1/28/2024	Sun	4:44 PM	2.14	H
1/28/2024	Sun	11:30 PM	0.41	L
1/29/2024	Mon	4:10 AM	2.31	H
1/29/2024	Mon	11:53 AM	-0.05	L
1/29/2024	Mon	5:13 PM	2.18	H
1/30/2024	Tue	12:08 AM	0.35	L
1/30/2024	Tue	4:53 AM	2.12	H
1/30/2024	Tue	12:20 PM	0.12	L
1/30/2024	Tue	5:41 PM	2.19	H
1/31/2024	Wed	12:50 AM	0.31	L
1/31/2024	Wed	5:41 AM	1.89	H
1/31/2024	Wed	12:43 PM	0.28	L
1/31/2024	Wed	6:07 PM	2.18	H
2/1/2024	Thu	1:42 AM	0.26	L
2/1/2024	Thu	6:42 AM	1.65	H
2/1/2024	Thu	12:57 PM	0.44	L
2/1/2024	Thu	6:31 PM	2.16	H
2/2/2024	Fri	2:51 AM	0.19	L
2/2/2024	Fri	8:08 AM	1.45	H
2/2/2024	Fri	1:05 PM	0.59	L
2/2/2024	Fri	6:58 PM	2.15	H

Snook Season Changes

New Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission regulations for snook season in state and adjacent federal waters went into effect Jan. 1, 2024. In the Charlotte Harbor, Southwest region, closed season is Dec. 1 through the end of February and May 1 to Aug. 31. Bag limit is one fish with a slot limit of 28 to 33 inches. The seasons, bag limits and slot limits are set in response to evaluations of the snook fishery within each new management region. This new management approach includes annual reviews of the fishery, and snook regulations could be changed each year in response to the reviews.

New Trap Tags for Commercial Lobster and Crab Traps Started Jan. 1

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) announced new trap tags for all commercial lobster, stone crab and blue crab traps beginning on Jan. 1, 2024.

For the 2024-25 season, all commercial trap tags will be green and printed with "FWCC," the season year, tag type and endorsement number (for example, FWCC 24/25 VHI-123456).



Tags can be secured to traps by nail, screw or inserting the tail through the circle opening. Those securing tags by nail or screw can remove the tail with scissors, if preferred.

After careful review, the FWC selected Sierra Group LLC to make and supply trap tags. For questions or concerns relating to shipping or direct vendor support, contact the Office of Licensing and Permitting at 850-488-3641.

For information on current trap regulations, visit MyFWC.com/Marine and click "Trap Diagrams."

For information on current commercial saltwater fishing regulations in Florida, visit MyFWC.com/Marine and click "Commercial Regulations."

Classifieds

HELP WANTED: Our Everglades Area Visitor Center is looking for volunteers to greet tourists from around the world and share their knowledge of our local businesses and recreational opportunities. Call Patty at (239) 719-0020 or email snookcity@gmail.com for information.

FOR SALE: A Metal shed that is 10' X 12' with a roll up door at one end and 2 windows & 1 service door. Brand new valued at \$4900.00. Located in Everglades City, you haul it. Beige w/white Trim. All metal except Floor which is treated Plywood. Set up on skids. \$4,500.00 OBO. Call: (410) 829-7156

GARAGE SALE: Sale inside Rec Hall at Fisherman's Cove, 675 Copeland Ave. S. January 26 & 27. 8am-5pm. Lots of good stuff priced to sell!

PET PHOTO CALL: If you have cute, crazy or just lovable pets please send their photo to the Mullet Rapper and we'll put them in the paper for all to enjoy. They'll be Famous!

MulletRapper@gmail.com

Announcements



Do you love fresh flowers? Have you ever dreamed of growing your own herbs, fruits, and vegetables? Do you have a green thumb but not enough space?

If So, WE WANT YOU!

We are organizing the first-ever community garden in Everglades City!! Raised planter beds, dirt, and water will be provided. All you need to bring are some seeds and lots of Love! So far we have planted bananas, Santini avocado, starfruit, sugar, apples, sugarcane, pineapple, and papaya. Sounds awesome right?

If you're interested call or text Tod at (818) 554-9365.

Forever Yours



Rediscover your love story at the 4th Annual Valentine's Day Wedding and Vow Renewal Ceremony, courtesy of the Collier County Clerk of the Courts! Registration is now open for this romantic event, taking place at the Eva Sugden Gomez Center in the heart of Baker Park on February 14, 2024. Couples will be greeted by the enchanting surroundings of Baker Park, setting the stage for a day filled with love and joy. Starting at 10:00 am. Following the vows, indulge in delectable hors d'oeuvres from The Hangout by Two Guys, savor a magnificent wedding cake from Seed to Table, and capture your sweetest moments with a commemorative photo opportunity from Let Me Be Candid Photography.

Marriage vow renewals are a heartfelt celebration and are free of charge, while engaged couples looking to tie the knot must pay a \$30 wedding ceremony fee and obtain a valid marriage license before the event. To apply for a marriage license, visit the Recording Department on the 2nd Floor of the Collier County Courthouse or one of the Satellite Office Locations.

With limited space available, register early.

Registration: <https://collierclerk.com/registration-is-open-for-the-4th-annual-valentines-day-wedding-and-vow-renewal-ceremony>



"The Everglades is a test. If we pass it, we may get to keep the planet."
~ Marjory Stoneman Douglas

Mullet Rapper Pubisher

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2024 In Stand Dates

- January 20
- February 3
- February 17
- March 2
- March 16
- March 30
- April 13
- April 27
- May 25
- June 22
- July 20
- August 17
- September 14
- October 12
- October 26
- November 9
- November 23
- December 7
- December 21

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Publisher's Statement

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