

The MULLET RAPPER



What's Happening in the Everglades & 10,000 Islands!
News, Stories, Classifieds, Tide Tables & More



February 3, 2024 - February 16, 2024

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

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A Pedestrian and Bike-Friendly Future

by John Nipper

In our beautiful Everglades City, a community-driven effort is reshaping the urban landscape. With a focus on promoting healthier lifestyles, fostering economic growth, and enhancing the overall appeal of the town, the Everglades City Bike/Pedestrian Plan is making significant strides.

The journey toward creating a more walkable and bike-friendly environment began in 2006, when the Collier Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) completed the Copeland Avenue North Bike Lanes and the Collier Avenue Sidewalks.

However, it was in 2019 that pivotal steps were taken, with the establishment of the Bike/Pedestrian Committee, and Everglades City officially being designated a Florida Trail Town. The Committee brought together dedicated individuals from various facets of the community with the aim of assessing



Photos Credit: John Nipper

needs and setting priorities for projects within the city.

The primary goals of the committee were clear—to establish a local Bike/Ped network and provide residents and visitors safe and accessible spaces for walking, biking, hiking, and jogging. Unfortunately, the assessment



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needed significant delays due to the global COVID-19 pandemic, but this setback only fueled the determination of those involved.

In August 2020, a collaborative effort from Mayor Howie Grimm's office, Dottie Joiner, and the Clerk's Office, alongside the City Council and the Bike/Pedestrian Committee, launched a comprehensive Master Plan. The See **Bike-Friendly** p12



Event Headliner: **LONESTAR**

SATURDAY 02/03

- 10am – 10pm
- 11:30am – 12pm Opening Ceremony
- National Anthem
- 12-1 Gator Nate
- 1:30-2:30 Wes Shipp
- 3-4 Rock Republic
- 4:30 – 5:30 Drew Baldrige
- 6-7:15 Tuesday's Gone (Lynyrd Skynyrd Tribute)
- 8-9:30 Lonestar

SUNDAY 02/04

- 10am – 6pm
- 10am – 10:10am National Anthem
- 10:05am – 10:35am Chokoloskee Church
- 11am – 12pm Sam Lowe
- 12:30 – 1:30 Marron Chaplin
- 2-3 Jack Shealy Band
- 3:30 – 4:30 Charlie Pace
- 5 – 6 Why Jennings

The 54th Annual Everglades Seafood Festival, proudly presented by The Florida Stone Crabbers Association (FLSCA), is rocking the grounds outside Everglades City Hall. Admission is a breeze with a minimum \$10 donation for adults, and kids and local superheroes from Everglades City, Chokoloskee, and Copeland get in absolutely free every day! Quench your thirst and experience the excitement of carnival rides with cash-only beverage and ticket options (ATMs will be on-site). Join us for a feast of fun, flavors, and good vibes!

More Information

<https://evergladessafoodfestival.org/>

EVENT CALENDAR - February 4, 2024 to March 16, 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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 p5 New Moon	10
11	12	13	14  Vow Renewal p8 Wilderness Wed p9 Food Pantry p3	15 Ladies' Coffee Everglades Cafe 8:30a Book Club p7 Third Thursday p9	16	17 - RAPPER
18	19	20 P&Z p3	21 Wilderness Wed p9 Food Pantry p3	22 Ladies' Coffee HavAnnACafe 8:30a	23 ESHPP Meeting p3	24 GC Clays p3 Praise Night p3 Wild Hog p3 Rumble p3 Art In Glades p3 Full Moon
25	26	27	28 Wilderness Wed p9 Food Pantry p3	29 Ladies' Coffee Island Cafe 8:30a	March 1	2- RAPPER
3	4	5 City Council p3	6 Wilderness Wed p9 Food Pantry p3	7 Ladies' Coffee City Seafood 8:30a	8	9 Art & Music p3
10 Art & Music p3 New Moon	11 Spring Break p4	12 Spring Break p4	13 Spring Break p4 Wilderness Wed p9 Bio Blitz p4 Food Pantry p3	14 Spring Break p4 Ladies' Coffee Everglades Cafe 8:30a	15 Spring Break p4	16 - 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-3:30p
 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

POST OFFICE INFORMATION

EC, Chokoloskee & Copeland: Mon.-Fri., 9:30a-Noon & 1p to 3:30p
 Ochopee: Mon.-Fri., 8a-10a & 12p to 4p

Box Pickup 24/7

Everglades City: (239) 695-2174
 Chokoloskee: (239) 695-4468
 Copeland (239) 695-2202

Delivery

Ochopee (239) 695-2099

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

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Events

February 2, 3, & 4 Everglades Seafood Festival

The 54th [Everglades Seafood Festival](https://evergladesseafoodfestival.org/) starts Friday, Feb 2, 2024, 4:30 p.m. till Sunday, Feb 4, 2024, 6 p.m. 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 3rd from 10 am to 3 pm for an Artist "Meet and Greet." Get a sneak peek of Clyde's upcoming book, 'Lifeworks,' 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 ESHP Meeting & History Talk

Join ESHP on Friday, February 23, at 2 pm for the Annual Meeting & Historical Talk at Everglades Isle. Dive into a fascinating historical discussion and connect with the community in the scenic surroundings of Everglades Isle.

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. A delightful Arts & Crafts Sale showcasing unique local creations and a special book signing event. Admission is free. More Information: (239) 451-0265.

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

[Chokoloskee Family Church](https://www.chokoloskeefamilychurch.org/) is hosting Rumble in the Glades again this year. Featuring Blessing of the Bikes, music, a chili cook off, food trucks, vendors, old cars, and a silent auction in McLeod Park. More Info: <https://visitevergladescity.com/venue/chokoloskee-family-church-of-god>

February 24 | 8:30 am - 2 pm Gulf Coast Clay Shooting Fundraiser

Gulf Coast Clays in Port of the Islands, will be hosting our 2nd Annual Copperheads RLFC Shootout! There will be multiple prizes available for top shooters many of which exceed the value of the individual entry fee. This is a fully automated, 14-station sporting clays course. More Info: https://www.copperheadsrlfc.com/event-info/2nd-annual-gulf-coast-clay-shooting-fundraiser?utm_source=AllEvents.in&utm_medium=event-discovery-platform&utm_campaign=goodland-events

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. Info: <https://evergladesconservationsportsmanclub.com/wildhogbbq-1>

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

Come to the 12th Annual Harbor Arts & Music Festival on March 9 and 10 from 10 am to 4 pm at MarGood Harbor Park in Goodland. Showcasing top-tier artists, over 25 vendors 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.

Save The Date

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. A delightful Arts & Crafts Sale showcasing unique local creations and a special book signing event. Discover and support the talents of our community. Admission is free. More Information: (239) 451-0265.

Bank Tours at Seafood Festival

Join us at the Seafood Festival on February 3 & 4 to register for an Exclusive Tour of the historic Bank of Everglades Building. Limited to 20 people each day, the guided walk-through will showcase our plans for its future. ESHP will offer unique items for sale, including John Apte's aerial photos, at tables in the parking lot behind the Bank, facing the tennis courts.



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.

Everglades Area Information Daily | 10 - 3:30 pm

The Everglades Area Visitor Center is located at 207 Broadway W., Everglades City. The Visitor Center is open daily 10 am to 3:30 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>

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Sunday 10:30 - 5

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Next Two Wednesdays
February 7
March 13
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(239) 961-1925




First Baptist Church
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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

Everglades Café is Now Open
by Patty Huff



Photos Credit: Patty Huff

There is a new café in town, conveniently located in the Glades Building next door to the Everglades Area Visitor Center at 207 West Broadway. Patricia Briggs opened on January 23, serving breakfast and lunch from 6:30 am to 3:30 pm. You will find specialty coffee drinks along with Chai Tea Latte to enjoy with a fresh bagel, muffin, or croissant.

There are daily luncheon specials with a variety of bagel/wrap sandwiches such as Avocado Tuna Salad, Turkey & Hummus, Ham & Cheese, Italian, as well as croissant sandwiches with Ham & Gruyere, Salmon & Avocado, Chicken/Tuna/Egg/Crab or Shrimp. Acai Bowls and Granola Parfaits are also on the menu. All fresh products and delicious!

Stop by and try for yourself!

NO SCHOOL

Everglades City School is Closed for Spring Break
Mar. 11, 2024 - Mar. 15, 2024
See School Calendar
<https://www.collierschools.com/Page/44#calendar59/20240326/month>



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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!

They're Baaaack, The Enchanting Return of Roseate Spoonbills



They're back but do you know how they got here? Can you tell me anything about them other than they are beautiful... and loud?

As the Roseate Spoonbills grace us with their vibrant presence this season, it's a perfect time to delve deeper into the fascinating world of these favorite birds. There's much to discover about the remarkable Roseate Spoonbill.

These elegant creatures are closely related to Ibises, Herons, and Egrets characterized by long legs and bills, these birds share similar wading behaviors and feeding habits.

Roseate Spoonbills embark on a captivating migratory journey, gracing Florida with their vibrant presence during the breeding season from March to October, where they prefer the bays, marshes, and estuaries along the Gulf Coast. Their winter migration takes them to Central and South America, seeking warmer climates and consistent food sources. As winter transitions to spring, these distinctive birds return to Florida, traversing various habitats along the Gulf Coast. Upon reaching the Sunshine State, they meticulously choose coastal mangroves and dredged-made islands as nesting grounds, showcasing adaptability to changing environments.

Their return to Florida is a testament to their adaptability and resilience.

Rising sea levels have reshaped the fringes of wetlands into open ocean, prompting the spoonbills to migrate northward. Land managers are closely following their lead, engaging in ecosystem restoration with a focus on building resilience.

Over the past two decades, Roseate Spoonbills have shifted their nesting grounds, showcasing their ability to adapt to changes in climate and habitat. Now, they raise their young in areas with saltier soils and warmer winters, taking advantage of the mangroves that have colonized what was once freshwater habitat miles inland.

This year's return is not just a spectacle; it's a story of survival and triumph. Once victims of the plume trade that reduced their numbers to a

mere 30 nesting pairs, Roseate Spoonbills have made a remarkable recovery. Their specialized spoon-shaped bill, equipped with sensitive nerve endings, plays a crucial role in capturing prey in shallow waters.

Beyond their aesthetic appeal, Roseate Spoonbills serve as "indicator species" for water quantity and quality in the Everglades. Their sensitivity to changes in water levels and quality makes them environmental sentinels, reflecting the delicate balance of their ecosystem.

So, as you admire the beauty of the Roseate Spoonbills gracing Florida this season, take a moment to appreciate beloved birds. They are not just visitors; they are an integral part of the natural tapestry, reminding us of the resilience and wonder of the natural world.



1236 Demere Lane, Chokoloskee, FL
Phone: 239-232-0098

- 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



Join #CCPSfamily for Hockey Night with the Everblades on Friday, Feb 9, 2024, at Hertz Arena, 7:30 pm. Open to CCPS staff, students, families, friends, and alumni! Tickets: \$15, \$1 benefits United Way. Tickets:

<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>



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- OUR GOAL -

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- Acknowledged as a **Sponsor on VisitEvergladesCity.com** with a link to your website.
- **Upgraded Directory Listing** in our Business Directory with an About tab that allows for custom content, up to 10 photos, and a direct link to your website.
- **50% Off All Advertising** for the year on either VisitEvergladesCity.com or in the Mullet Rapper.

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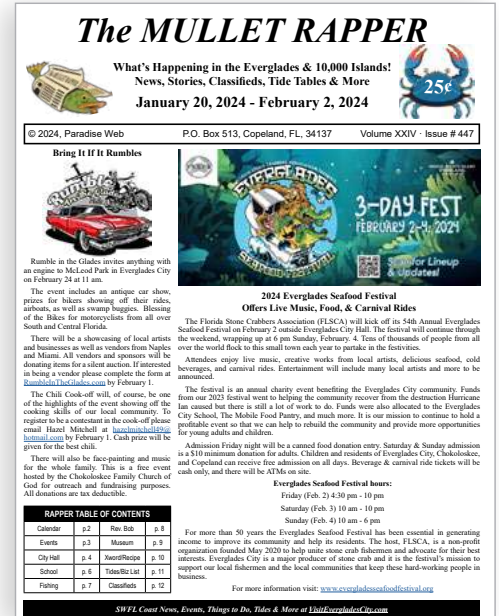
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Update from City Hall

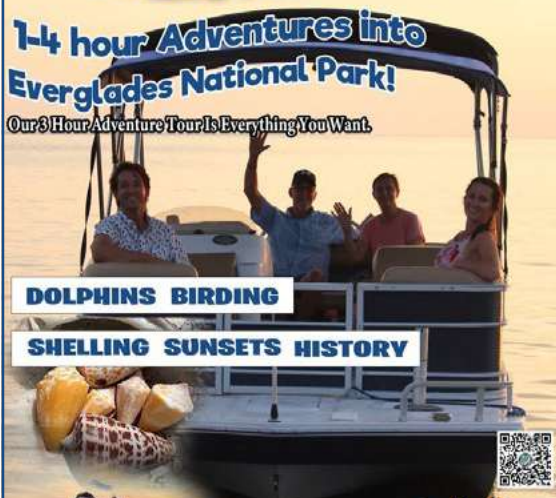
by Michael McComas
Everglades City Council



While the new National Park Service Marjorie Stoneman Douglas Visitors Center is being constructed, the boat tours are being conducted out of Dupont street. Reservations, prices and departure times can be found at <https://evergladesnationalparkadventures.com>

The next city council meeting is 7 PM Tuesday, February 6 at City Hall. At which time the Mayor is scheduled to appoint a replacement to fill the Council seat vacated by Josh Minton. After ratification by City Council this appointment will be in effect until the next election per the recently amended City Charter.

Hope you all enjoy the Everglades Seafood Festival, thank you to the ladies from the Florida Stone Crabbers Association. The roadwork encircling the area is complete, and parking is free-for-all. Navigate accordingly.

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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

January 20, 2023 Puzzle Solution

1	A	2	R	3	M	4	E	5	D	6	T	7	R	8	E	9	E	10	S
11	M	O	O	L	A					12	E	A	G	L	E				
13	P	O	N	G	S					14	S	P	O	K	E				
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31	32	A	G	O	N	E				34	I	N	D	I	E	35	36		
37		F	O	R	G	E				38	S	O	L	O	N				
39		T	A	B	O	R				40	T	R	E	N	D				

Honey, I Thought You Said This Was Florida

by Rev. Bob Wallace



It's that time of year. Floridians boast of wearing shorts, flip flops and enjoying mild temperatures with blue skies. Well, maybe not this year. Something's happened. It got cold! And it's being blamed on Global Warming! South Florida is supposed to be one of the warmest places in Florida. That's why people come from up North down to Naples, Ft. Lauderdale, Miami, and the Florida Keys because much of the Florida climate is subtropical that results in mild winters and hot, sunny summers.

However, some are calling this Global Weirding. Climatologists tell us there's increasing evidence that climate change is what's bringing us this weird weather. And they say it's going to get worse! The drop in Florida's temperature is but one example. The difference between rainfall and drought is another. It's caused by what's called the water cycle. That's when water passes from vapor in the atmosphere to precipitation upon land or water and ultimately goes back into the atmosphere because of evaporation. Recently, a sudden downpour dropped two feet of rain in twenty-four hours on Ft. Lauderdale. That, together with unusually high tides, is causing insurance companies to raise their rates all over Florida. Everglades City and Chokoloskee are feeling the effects as well.

According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), El Niño, an irregular periodic variation in winds and sea surface temperatures over the tropical eastern Pacific Ocean, affects the climate of much of the tropics and subtropics here in Florida. A periodic climate pattern has grown since June and could match the strongest events ever on record for Winter in Florida.

El Niños normally mean cooler, stormier and wetter winters for Florida as the Jet Stream moves across the southern United States. *Florida Today* reports that Florida is experiencing a cold, rainy, and grey 2024 winter due to El Niño. And the weather pattern has brought chilly temperatures, gray skies, and rain. Central and South Florida usually get one or two inches above the eight to ten inches of winter rain the region sees in a typical non-El Niño winter. But this El Niño is shaping up to be one of the strongest in recent memory. During more extreme El Niño years, some parts of Central Florida can see five inches above average wintertime rain-fall. Increased rain and clouds during El Niño tend to result in cooler winter months in the Southeastern United States. Some studies suggest that might be the case in Florida during El Niño winters.

It's worth noting, however, Florida is usually protected from extremely wintry conditions because of its geography and location. Water surrounds Florida on three sides. And these bodies of water are often warmer than land at night during the winter, which helps warm air masses that move in.

How long will this last? Who knows? The duration of the cold weather in Florida is not certain. However, according to a news article from *NBC News Miami*, the arctic blast will impact all of Florida. And it will be felt as far south as Homestead. Another news article that's worth noting is from the *Ft. Myers News-Press*. Winter weather in Florida typically lasts from December to February with the peak of cold temperatures and 'frozen iguana warnings' in January. Roughly around two to three months, according to weather experts at the Florida Climate Center.

"Honey, I did say this was Florida. All you gotta' do is wait a few more weeks. It will get here!"

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



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The Rev. Dr. Bob N. Wallace, Pastor
♦ **Sunday Worship Service 11:00 am** ♦
Listen to past sermons online:
www.evergladescommunity.church



Valentine's Vow Renewal

Rekindle your love story at the 4th Annual Valentine's Day Wedding and Vow Renewal Ceremony. Register now for this romantic event on February 14, 2024 from 10 am - 3 pm, at the Eva Sugden Gomez Center in Baker Park. The enchanting surroundings of Baker Park will set the stage for love filled day.

After exchanging vows, enjoy delectable hors d'oeuvres from The Hangout by Two Guys, savor a beautiful wedding cake from Seed to Table, and capture sweet moments with Let Me Be Candid Photography.

Marriage vow renewals are free, while engaged couples pay a \$30 wedding ceremony fee and must obtain a valid marriage license before the event.

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



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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, and cooking, 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 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.

305 Collier Ave., Everglades City, FL 34139

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

Breakfast Served
6:00 am - 11:00 am

Phone: (239) 695-0003
IslandCafeECity.com

It all started with grapefruit.

The Annual Grapefruit Gala

with live music by the Jack Shealy Band

FRIDAY, MARCH 22nd
5PM – 7PM

Museum of the Everglades
105 W. Broadway
Everglades City
239-252-5026 for more information

Outside in the parking lot – Bring Your Own Chair!

Beet & Grapefruit Salad

Ingredients

Quick Pickled Onion

- 1/4 red onion thinly sliced
- 1/3 cup red wine vinegar
- 1 Tbsp sugar
- 2 Tbsp water

Salad

- 4 cups chopped lacinto kale
- 1 grapefruit or orange segmented, reserve juice
- 1 tart apple, cored and chopped
- 1/4 cup pomegranate arils or dried cranberries

Dressing

- 3 Tbsp red wine vinegar
- 1 Tbsp dijon mustard
- Pinch sea salt + black pepper
- 1/2 Tbsp sweetener of choice
- 1/3 cup olive oil
- 2 Tbsp orange juice

Toppings **optional*

- Berries of choice
- Cooked quinoa
- Hempseeds, roasted nuts, or seeds

Directions:

Build salad, dress, add onions, top and serve.

Everglades IT

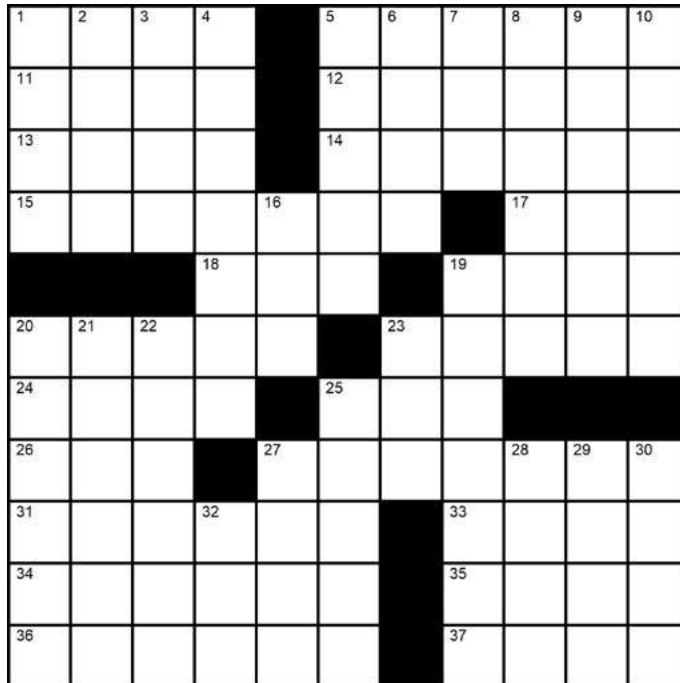
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(239) 784-6936
Info@EvergladesIT.com

MULLET RAPPER CROSSWORD

Across

- Any herb other than grass
- Desk item
- Final month of the Jewish calendar
- Bean, e.g.
- In Exchange
- One improvising tune fairly quietly during wild rave
- Beginning walker
- Grand ____ ("Evangeline" setting)
- Neon, e.g.
- Aquatic plant
- Spiked
- Run
- "Miss ____ Regrets"
- Breathalyzer attachment
- His "4" was retired
- African country on the Atlantic
- Baja bash
- Get-up-and-go
- Groupings
- Clears
- Six-line poem
- "Planet of the ____"



1/20/24

Down

- Experienced
- Assortment
- Felt bad about
- Scrounges (colloq)
- Little people
- Back
- Annual general meeting
- Bending readily
- Arise
- Brushed up on
- Bucko
- Formula math
- Bath accessories
- Clothing
- Bibliography assemblers
- Blackout
- Brute
- Eye affliction
- Film crew member
- Assistant
- Red ink amount
- Cal. col.

Captain Morgan's Seafood Grill



Located On The Circle



Open Wed - Sun | 11 am to 8 pm
 Spanish Cuisine & Seafood
(239) 232-0041



102 South Copeland Ave Everglades City

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
Everglades Cafe Thur-Mon 11 am – 3 pm Closed Tue & Wed (239) 351-4875
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

2/3/2024	Sat	4:03 AM	0.09	L
2/3/2024	Sat	9:44 AM	1.35	H
2/3/2024	Sat	1:15 PM	0.71	L
2/3/2024	Sat	7:42 PM	2.16	H
2/4/2024	Sun	5:09 AM	-0.06	L
2/4/2024	Sun	8:50 PM	2.22	H
2/5/2024	Mon	6:10 AM	-0.22	L
2/5/2024	Mon	1:43 PM	1.63	H
2/5/2024	Mon	5:41 PM	0.89	L
2/5/2024	Mon	10:13 PM	2.35	H
2/6/2024	Tue	7:05 AM	-0.4	L
2/6/2024	Tue	1:47 PM	1.79	H
2/6/2024	Tue	6:50 PM	0.85	L
2/6/2024	Tue	11:27 PM	2.56	H
2/7/2024	Wed	7:54 AM	-0.54	L
2/7/2024	Wed	2:12 PM	1.92	H
2/7/2024	Wed	7:44 PM	0.76	L
2/8/2024	Thu	12:25 AM	2.8	H
2/8/2024	Thu	8:40 AM	-0.64	L
2/8/2024	Thu	2:40 PM	2.04	H
2/8/2024	Thu	8:31 PM	0.62	L
2/9/2024	Fri	1:15 AM	3	H
2/9/2024	Fri	9:23 AM	-0.65	L
2/9/2024	Fri	3:09 PM	2.14	H
2/9/2024	Fri	9:17 PM	0.46	L
2/10/2024	Sat	2:03 AM	3.09	H
2/10/2024	Sat	10:06 AM	-0.58	L
2/10/2024	Sat	3:39 PM	2.23	H
2/10/2024	Sat	10:05 PM	0.29	L
2/11/2024	Sun	2:53 AM	3.04	H
2/11/2024	Sun	10:48 AM	-0.44	L
2/11/2024	Sun	4:10 PM	2.32	H
2/11/2024	Sun	10:54 PM	0.13	L
2/12/2024	Mon	3:49 AM	2.85	H
2/12/2024	Mon	11:28 AM	-0.22	L
2/12/2024	Mon	4:40 PM	2.4	H
2/12/2024	Mon	11:44 PM	0	L
2/13/2024	Tue	4:48 AM	2.55	H
2/13/2024	Tue	12:06 PM	0.03	L
2/13/2024	Tue	5:12 PM	2.45	H
2/14/2024	Wed	12:38 AM	-0.07	L
2/14/2024	Wed	5:52 AM	2.18	H
2/14/2024	Wed	12:44 PM	0.29	L
2/14/2024	Wed	5:45 PM	2.47	H
2/15/2024	Thu	1:39 AM	-0.1	L
2/15/2024	Thu	7:06 AM	1.81	H
2/15/2024	Thu	1:22 PM	0.54	L
2/15/2024	Thu	6:24 PM	2.44	H
2/16/2024	Fri	2:50 AM	-0.11	L
2/16/2024	Fri	8:39 AM	1.52	H
2/16/2024	Fri	2:08 PM	0.74	L
2/16/2024	Fri	7:18 PM	2.37	H

**Smallwood Store
A Glimpse of History**



Step into the captivating history of Everglades City at the Smallwood Store! Established in 1906 by the visionary Ted Smallwood, this historic site, nestled in the heart of the Everglades, stands as a living testament to the pioneers who shaped our community.

Originally serving as a trading post for hides, furs, and farm produce, Ted Smallwood's vision turned the store into a lifeline for the remote and isolated community.

In 1990, his granddaughter reopened the store as a museum, preserving 90% of its original goods. Immerse yourself in the untouched charm of the early 20th century as you explore the well-preserved artifacts.

Discover the Tigertail Gift Shop, named after "Chief Charlie Tigertail" of the Seminole Tribe, a friend of Ted Smallwood, which offers a unique selection of books, DVDs, Seminole crafts, local artwork, and more.

Smallwood Store welcomes you to uncover the rich heritage of Everglades City.

Immerse yourself in the stories of the Calusa Indians, Seminole, and Miccosukee Tribes, and relive the chilling tale of "Bloody" Ed Watson.



Visit Smallwood Store, your gateway to Everglades City's fascinating history! Located at 360 Mamie St, Chokoloskee, FL 34138. For more info call (239) 695-2989.

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.

ANNOUNCEMENT: 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.

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

Pets of the Everglades



Rocco
Owner: Joanne Gobeil



Photos Credit: John Nipper

Bike-Friendly

Continued from p1

plan aimed not just to address immediate concerns but to lay the groundwork for a transformative project that would improve the town's overall infrastructure for pedestrians and cyclists.

The project gained approval and funding from The Florida Department of Transportation. The scope expanded to include the section between the Chokoloskee Bridge and the city limits, near the Diving Pelican. A particularly noteworthy addition was the incorporation of enhanced pedestrian infrastructure around the traffic circle, featuring four crosswalks to ensure safe passage.

The project has progressed steadily, overcoming challenges, and according to on-site reports, it is anticipated to conclude within the next few months. The transformation promises not only a boost in safety but a remarkable improvement in the overall community experience.

The Master Plan underlines the broader impact of this initiative, stating, "A well-developed system of sidewalks and bike paths will provide additional economic benefits to our local businesses and will complement the historical and cultural assets of the community." The ripple effects of this project extend beyond the physical infrastructure, contributing to the socio-economic vibrancy of Everglades City.

A heartfelt thanks goes out to the individuals instrumental in making this vision a reality. Mayor Howie Grimm, Dottie Joiner, Elaine Middelstaedt, Parker Oglesby, Tony Pernas, Tim Smith, Vicky Wells, Patty Huff, Dayna Fendrick, Kathy Brock, Tim Brock, Brock Risk, Tara Saathoff-Wells, Carol Ogilvie, and many more—each played a crucial role in reshaping the future of Everglades City.

As the finishing touches are added to this ambitious project, Everglades City is poised to become not just a haven for natural beauty but a model for communities looking to embrace sustainable and pedestrian-friendly urban planning.

The complete Everglades City Bike/Pedestrian Master Plan can be viewed at the following link.

<https://floridadep.gov/sites/default/files/Everglades%20City%20Bike%20Ped%20Master%20Plan%20Final.pdf>

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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

We cover news and events for Everglades City, Chokoloskee, Plantation Island, Port of the Islands, Copeland, Jerome, Ochopee, Goodland, Lee Cypress, Big Cypress, and the 10,000 Islands. Our aim is accurate and diverse reporting. Opinions expressed may differ from those of the editors or publisher.

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

~ Marjory Stoneman Douglas