FREE ‘Water Day’ in Everglades City!
Sun & Fun for Kids & Family

Thursday, August 2nd, 10 am @ McLeod Park
You will not want your kids to miss out on this great, water-themed day at McLeod Park on Thursday, August 2nd. The event is being hosted by Paulo Ribeiro Brazilian Jiu Jitsu Academy of Naples. The fun-filled day will include water sprinklers, kiddie pools, slip and slides and popsicles to stay cool.

Those attending should be prepared to get wet and have fun! Please be sure to bring your own towels, water for hydration and sunscreen.

Paulo Ribeiro Brazilian Jiu Jitsu Academy holds classes in Naples for adults and children. A comprehensive martial arts program is available for all ages and skill levels.

Whether you are looking for self defense training, improved conditioning or help for your child, there is a program that can help.

Martial arts training is not only good for conditioning or for self defense, but it also helps many children in multiples ways. Martial arts training is said to help:

♦ Improve focus and attention to detail
♦ Teach respect for others
♦ Children develop a sense of pride in their accomplishments
♦ Children learn dedication and develop motivation to come back week after week

For more information about the Fun Day or to contact the academy call Natalie @ 239-331-7320, or email pnbr10@gmail.com.

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Feature: Summer Fishing, p. 9

Everglades City Making Headlines for All the Wrong Reasons
by Kathy Brock

Former Everglades City Mayor Sammy Hamilton was arrested at his home on July 16th on one count of grand theft and 16 counts of official misconduct. He was released later that day on a $90,000 bond. An initial trial date has been set for August 13th.

Starting that Monday, and for the balance of the week, the town was crawling with media trying to get a soundbite. I was interviewed by both NBC2 and WINK news who acknowledged that I was practically the only person willing to speak with them about the former mayor and the state of our city. As a member of our local press, I felt obligated to do so.

The unfortunate truth is that Everglades City seldom makes it into the “big” news for the right reasons. We are a sleepy little gem in a state overrun by overdevelopment and skyrocketing population. Our town is a glimpse of what it may have been like in most of Florida 50 to 75 years ago, beautifully natural. Bordering us we have amazing national parks, the Gulf, and nature.

However, what the rest of the world is reading about are allegations of wrongdoing, a faulty sewer plant and every issue that has plagued the city – going back decades! The arrest of our former mayor prompted even more articles about every issue our town has ever faced.

There is no doubt that the allegations against Hamilton are serious. The courts and a jury will decide on this. This is how our country works. The issues with the sewer plant are severe. We know this. The inability of our current plant to adequately serve the existing population does hamper growth which can stagnate rebuilding and the local economy. But our fishing fleet is still viable, and we are still a destination for over 1.5 million tourists per year that visit Everglades National Park’s Gulf Coast Center, Big Cypress National Preserve and Fakahatchee Strand.

Last I heard, ghost orchids are still growing, going back decades! The arrest of our former mayor has not define the city. We are not a city divided. We are not spiraling out of control, nor are we on the verge of a city-wide meltdown. We were dealt a blow by the hurricane (pun intended!) and a setback politically, but we have righted ourselves.

Our new mayor, Howie Grimm, was thrust into service just 4 days before the Hurricane. However, like I told NBC2, City Clerk, Dottie Joiner, and the core of city employees all helped immensely in the transition and things went about as smoothly as they could have - given the circumstances. And today, we are moving forward.

In the coming weeks and months, the legal issues surrounding the former mayor will be decided in a court of law, not in the court of public opinion. The other issues within our city will be dealt with on a systematic basis. We have excellent legal counsel, a mayor and 5 councilmembers all working together to move the city forward.

Our community is involved. Every city council meeting is packed to capacity. The citizens are holding the city officials accountable. Transparency has become the norm. If you want to see the city’s financial reports, you can obtain a copy of them. If you want to know what is happening with the sewer plant, attend a city council meeting and sign up to ask questions during the public forum portion of the meeting.

There is no excuse for being uninformed in our town, nor is there any reason to wonder what is going on. We have one thing everyone else seems to be looking for and that is a local government that is open to questions, and one that is willing to provide answers.

So here it is, world. Everglades City is still on the map. We have problems like everyone else and we are addressing them. We did not float away. Guides are guiding. Tourists are touring. The birds are still chirping. Nature is doing its thing, and the fish we are famous for - are still biting. End of story.
### JULY 29, 2018 – SEPTEMBER 1, 2018

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**Sept. 3:** Labor Day (no school)  **Sept. 15:** Fishing Tourney (see swflgo.com)  **Sept. 29:** Blessing of the Fleet  **Oct. 15:** First Day of Stone Crab Season  **Oct 27:** Halloween Celebration  **Oct 27 & 28:** Butcher Swamp Weekend

### AREA INFORMATION & NUMBERS:

- **AA:** Wed., 5:00 pm, Evg. Comm. Church, Fellowship Hall  
- **CARNESTOWN Recycle and Trash:** 2nd Saturday, 9 am to 3:30 pm  
- **DR DEMARTINO:** Marco Island office information on p. 3.  
- **DR MARTIN:** Call for appointment: 813-787-9738  
- **LIONS CLUB:** Meetings suspended for summer.  
- **MUSEUM:** Open Monday-Saturday, 9 am to 4 pm. 239-695-0008  
- **PANCAKE FLY-IN:** Closed for summer.  
- **REACH OUT:** 3rd Tuesday, 4 pm, City Hall  
- **SKATING RINK:** Closed until further notice  
- **SMALLWOOD STORE:** 11 am to 4 pm, 239-695-2989  
- **THRIFT SHOP:** Open Thurs., & Sat., 11 am to 3, see p. 3.  
- **VETERANS SUPPORT:** 2nd & 4th Wed. of month, noon—2 pm

### OTHER IMPORTANT NUMBERS:

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

### RIGHT CHOICE SUPERMARKET

- **ATM**  
- **Groceries**  
- **Shirts/Caps**  
- **Beer/Wine**  
- **Camping Gear**  
- **Meats**  
- **Hardware**  
- **Fresh Produce**  
- **Medicine**  
- **Greetings Cards**

- Email: mulletrapper@gmail.com  
- [www.swflgo.com](http://www.swflgo.com)
Florida Tax Free Days for Back-to-School, August 3-5
The Florida tax free weekend for back-to-school supplies will be held the first weekend in August in time for the new school year which begins on August 15th.
Qualifying items include; backpacks, diaper bags and fancy packs. Clothing and footwear, wallets. Other tax free items under $15 like: calculators, compasses, crayons, pens, pencils, tape, scissors, paper, notebooks, pads and other items commonly used in classrooms by students.
For a complete list of items that qualify for no sales tax, go to: http://swflgo.com/back-to-school-tax-free-2018/.

ARTIST EXHIBIT & RECEPTION
Clyde Butcher Gallery
Saturday August 11
From 10:00am - 4:00pm.
Meet Clyde and Niki at their Big Cypress Gallery Saturday, August 11th from 10am-4pm. They both will be showing some of their new works and will be introducing our new visiting artist Leslie Peebles.
Leslie Peebles has been visiting our Big Cypress Gallery for years drawing and painting our surrounding area. We are very excited to introduce her beautiful work at our gallery. Leslie is a painter and printmaker who specializes in linoleum and wood block relief prints, oils, and encaustics.
To visit the gallery: 52388 Tamiami Trail E, Ochopee, FL 34141. For more information or to contact the gallery, phone 239-695-2428.

Movie Night! Just Cause August 17th, 5:30 pm
Movie Night continues at the Everglades Community Center.

A Message From Fire Chief Schuldt
We may be half way through the long, hot days of summer but there are many more hot days ahead, bringing dangerously high temperatures. With so much of our local lifestyle including outdoor activities we often find ourselves exposed to extended periods of direct sunlight and high temperatures.
Hot cars can be deadly for our children and pets with inside temperature quickly reaching 120 degrees. Check on animals frequently to ensure that they are not suffering from the heat. Make sure they have plenty of cool water.
When enjoying our many outdoor activities please stay hydrated by drinking plenty of fluids. Avoid drinks with caffeine or alcohol, wear loose-fitting, lightweight, light-colored clothing, avoid strenuous exercise during the hottest part of the day.

Did you know…
Excessive heat can lead to sunburn, heat cramps, heat exhaustion and heat stroke. If someone is experiencing heat cramps in the legs or abdomen, get them to a cooler place, have them rest, lightly stretch the affected muscle, and replenish their fluids with a half a glass (about 4 ounces) of cool water every 15 minutes.
If someone is exhibiting signs of heat exhaustion (cool, moist, pale or flushed skin, heavy sweating, headache, nausea, dizziness, weakness exhaustion), move them to a cooler place, remove or loosen tight clothing and spray the person with water or apply cool, wet cloths or towels to the skin. Fan the person. If they are conscious, give small amounts of cool water to drink. Make sure the person drinks slowly. Watch for changes in condition. If the person refuses water, vomits or begins to lose consciousness, call 9-1-1 or the local emergency number.
Heat Stroke is life threatening. Signs include hot, red skin which may be dry or moist; changes in consciousness; vomiting and high body temperature. Call 9-1-1 or the local emergency number immediately if someone shows signs of heat stroke. Move the person to a cooler place. Quickly cool the person’s body by immersing them up to their neck in cold water if possible. Otherwise, douse or spray the person with cold water, or cover the person with cold, wet towels or bags of ice.

The MULLET RAPPER  What’s Happening in the Everglades & 10,000 Islands  July 28, 2018

Pastor Glenn Cathey Retires From First Baptist Church
We wish Pastor Glenn Cathey and his wife Linda a happy retirement. They are leaving the area and moving up to Live Oak, Florida near their daughter.
On Sunday the 22nd, there was a retirement luncheon for him, and local clergy and worshipers gathered to see them off. We wish them well!

COMMUNITY SERVICES
FREE DENTAL, BLOOD PRESSURE & DIABETES SCREENINGS, PLUS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH INFORMATION FOR ALL AGES
August 21st, 9 am to 4 pm
The Healthcare Network of Southwest Florida’s Health & Smiles Mobile Dental Bus is scheduled to be in Everglades City on August 21st from 9 am to 4 pm, in the Fire Station parking lot, providing free dental, diabetes, blood pressure screenings and behavioral health information. For more information or an appt: call 239-986-7323.

THE FOOD BANK IS OPEN!
Wednesdays noon to 2pm
Everglades Community Pantry, a proud partner agency of the Harry Chapin Food Bank, is open every Wednesday from noon to 2 in Jinkins Fellowship Hall at Everglades Community Church. This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

DOCTOR’S CLINIC
Dr. Kirk DeMartino is seeing patients in his Marco Island Office. You may call his office to schedule an appointment to see him there: (239) 642-5552.

NATURAL MEDICINE
Dr. John Martin can see patients in Everglades City. Appts: from 10 am to 6 pm. Call to confirm: 813-787-9738.

ACCOUNTING SERVICES– MIKE “THE TAX GUY”
Local and professional, personal & business tax services in Everglades City. Call 239-595-4203 to set an appointment.
Email: nfn19842@naples.net for more information.

NEW THRIFT SHOP
The new thrift shop is open, Thursday & Saturday from 11 am to 3 pm. Come see the new store! Please do not leave donations on the porch outside where they can get wet or damaged! Please do not drop off damaged items.
Healthy eating and lifestyle choices for a healthy gut, and in evaluated individually. And a personalized plan of action is what we all deserve. With that said dysbiosis Some researchers believe as much as 61% of the North American population has a degree of intestinal debilitating great mimicker (Candidiasis) dysbiosis can cause or add to so many symptoms, it is often times referred to as and depression in women, and depression, fatigue, and headaches in men of other symptoms in adults. Common among the variety of symptoms in adults is headaches, fatigue, can lend to digestive upsets, learning disabilities, ear-nose-and-throat illnesses in children, and dozens of other symptoms in adults. Common among the variety of symptoms in adults is headaches, fatigue, and depression in women, and depression, fatigue, and headaches in men – in that order. Because this (Candidiasis) dysbiosis can cause or add to so many symptoms, it is often times referred to as “the great mimicker”. Neuromusculoskeletal (e.g. aches and pains in muscles and joints) – or just as debilitating – more severe symptoms than there seems to be any good reason for - is very common. Some researchers believe as much as 61% of the North American population has a degree of intestinal dysbiosis – mostly from the poor diet we’ve come to enjoy. Everyone is similar in your needs, yet just a little different in our composition. So, we need to be evaluated individually. And a personalized plan of action is what we all deserve. With that said - Healthy eating and lifestyle choices for a healthy gut, and in-turn a healthier brain includes: Reducing caloric intake. Getting rid of Gluten. Adding healthy (good) fats, esp. DHA, and EPA (Omega-3’s vs. -6’s), e.g. more fish Eating “brain food” e.g. certain strains of seaweed, mushrooms, and Turmeric. Physical exercise, proper exercise Pursuing a Ketogenic-diet Fasting Weight control Proper supplementation – specific vitamins and minerals Proper rest (includes, but is not limited to sleep) Stress (Physical, Chemical, & Mental) Management, including treatment of Intestinal Dysbiosis (=Chemical/Nutritional) when detected More to come on these topics...~Dr. John Martin

Dr. Martin sees patients in Everglades City. You can call 813-787-9738 to schedule an appointment during weekdays between 10 a.m. & 6 p.m.
School Starts August 15th. Here’s the Top-10 Recommendations from Teachers to a Having Great School Year from Scholastic.com

♦ Sleep for school. Setting up a regular bedtime and wake-up routine before school starts is a crucial step to prepare your child for class and a practical way to cut down on first-day stress.

♦ Look up to learning. If your child is feeling a bit anxious about going back to school, keep a positive attitude. Recall the fun and exciting events, field trips, projects, and so on from years past, and show excitement about the opportunities for learning new things in the upcoming year.

♦ Walk through it. Escorting younger children to the classroom can help with the transition. Familiarize your child with key places such as the bathroom, gym, library, and cafeteria — he'll feel more confident if he knows where everything is.

♦ Suit em up. Shopping for school supplies with your child can be a fun way to give her some responsibility. Provide parameters, but allow her to pick out a backpack, lunch box, nap mat, water bottle, new clothes, and some basic school supplies (pencils, crayons, etc.).

♦ Talk it out. Asking your child about school is important. It shows him that you value his education. Try to avoid general questions, like "How was your day?" These will most likely produce one-word answers. Instead, be specific.

♦ Bring it home. Helping your child with his homework is an effective way to show concern for what she learns at school. Displaying your child's projects around the house also helps to keep learning excitement high.

♦ Go farther. Getting involved in school events is a critical aspect of showing support and enthusiasm for your child's learning experience. Participating in school activities is also a valuable way of connecting to the school community. You can learn a lot about the school just by talking to fellow parents.

♦ Keep your eyes (and ears) open. If your child's eating or sleeping habits have changed drastically, it may be a sign that he's having difficulty adjusting to his new grade.

♦ Read, read, read. Reading with your child is an invaluable way to spend quality time together on a daily basis. In addition to other long-term benefits, reading together can also be a practical way to discern her reading level.

♦ Connect. Communicating with your child's teacher on a regular basis is an essential part of caring for her education. Teachers can alert you to any emotional, social, or academic difficulties they perceive in your child at school. The same works in reverse: notify teachers about any emotional, social, or academic difficulties they perceive in your child.

Eligibility Requirements:

♦ 60 years and older
♦ Collier County Resident
♦ Within 175% of federal poverty level
♦ Exhausted all other resources

To speak to a case worker and for more information about the Direct Assistance Program for Needy Seniors, please call 239-252-4550 and ask for Maritza.

Location:
Golden Gate Senior Center
4898 Coronado Parkway
Naples, FL 34116

Collier Senior Resources Direct Assistance Program for Needy Seniors Now Available

Collier Senior Resources at the Golden Gate Senior Center has launched a new program for low-income elderly Collier County residents who need financial assistance and who have exhausted all other resources. This one-time financial assistance can be used for:

♦ Prescriptions
♦ Utility Shut-Off Notice
♦ Rent or Mortgage Payments
♦ Durable Medical Equipment
♦ Small Appliances
♦ Eye Glasses
♦ Gas Cards
♦ Other Items

Thank you to everyone who buys the Mullet Rapper every two weeks. Remember, the Mullet Rapper donates 100% of the proceeds from the sale of the print edition of the paper to the Everglades City School Athletic Department! When you see the coin receptacle, please put your quarter (or more) into the slot!

When You Buy the Print Edition of the Mullet Rapper, It Helps Everglades City School!
Perseids Meteor Shower Is a Must See!
Excerpts from Space.com

When: August 11-13

According to NASA meteor expert Bill Cooke, the Perseids are perhaps the most popular meteor shower of the year; and this year, they'll be the best shower of the year.

This year during peak people should see about 60-70 meteors per hour, but in outburst years (such as in 2016) the rate can be between 150-200 meteors an hour.

The meteor shower's peak will be visible both the nights of Aug. 11-12 and Aug. 12-13, Cooke said, but he's inclined this year to lean toward the night of Aug. 12-13 for the better show. (Both, however, should be spectacular.)

"This year the moon will be near new moon, it will be a crescent, which means it will set before the Perseid show gets underway after midnight," Cooke told Space.com. "The moon is very favorable for the Perseids this year, and that'll make the Perseids probably the best shower of 2018 for people who want to go out and view it." The Perseids are rich in fireballs, so the show should be even better.

What causes the Perseids?
Comet Swift-Tuttle is the largest object known to repeatedly pass by Earth; its nucleus is about 16 miles (26 kilometers) wide. It last passed nearby Earth during its orbit around the sun in 1992, and the next time will be in 2126. But it won't be forgotten in the meantime, because Earth passes through the dust and debris it leaves behind every year, creating the annual Perseid meteor shower.

Note: The Everglades area is an official "dark sky" area perfect for meteor shower viewing...all we need is a clear night!
My Little Slice of Paradise
by Kathy Brock

There was big news in the little City last week. The arrest of our former mayor brought the press descending to our area like we saw soon after the hurricane.

It seems we are an afterthought until there is something that can be gained from acknowledging Everglades City as a part of Collier County. When Tim & I watch the news, we always look to see if they will show us on the weather map or mention the town(s) by name. Sometimes they do...often times they do not even if there is a whopper of a storm sitting right on top of us.

I guess we are insignificant on the grand scale...which is a very good thing. Aren’t most of us here to escape the craziness of the bigger cities? I know I am.

I was born and raised and lived in Broward County the majority of my life - amongst 6 million of my closest friends in the tri-county area. Double that in tourist season and then you will know why I use the word “escape”.

We bought our first home here in 1992 and have said we “live” in Everglades City and “work” in Broward ever since. This year, the only thing Broward will be is a part of our past...finally!

I knew we were viewed differently down here when trying to get contractors or companies to come to Everglades City to work...going back many years (not just recently). I’d call a glass company or other professional service company to schedule an appointment, and more often than not, I am told, “we do not come to Everglades City.” I ask back, do you go to Cape Coral? “Yes.” Well, Everglades City is closer to Naples than Cape Coral. “Well, we don’t go there.” Well enough said.

Then we do not want you here!

It is funny how when things go wrong, the press immediately starts pulling all of our cob-webs out of the closet. We hear about the past hurricanes, drug busts in the 80’s, more hurricanes and now the mayor. One tidy article that rakes us over the coals...and good! Let’s be sure to open up all of those old wounds.

A part of me gets upset about it. Really? You need to bring up the 1980’s? What does that have to do with anything in the present day?

I am sure there are plenty of not-so-great things going on in other parts of Collier. When they do, do they recount all of the past misgivings? Nope. We are simply easier to tie to the whipping post, I guess.

We are small and an easy mark. They think we are a bunch of rubes down here - and they would like to keep it that way, it makes for juicier stories. Well, if it will keep us from becoming what we came here to get away from, then I am all for it. The truth is, we are just like the rest of you...there are just fewer of us and we like it that way.

We don’t need or want fancy, and we certainly do not need a bunch of hubbubalo. We actually need very little down here to be happy; a boat, fishing gear, Croc and crab boots are “musts.” A nice pair of shorts, intact blue jeans and some decent shirts. Did I mention a boat? Any kind will do!

We thrive here on simplicity. Basically, if it is something provided by nature, we have it all right at our fingertips. Nature, water, amazing stars at night (yes, we can see the milky way without the need of a telescope).

We also have community. That was evident during and after the hurricane. We care about each other and our community. Sure we have our differences, all families do too. The difference here is that we are here because we like it just the way it is. Warts and all.

There are some people here that are not perfect...all of them, in fact. But guess what? That’s true of everywhere else and you can never have what we have...and that is a City with fewer people than the big towns have in traffic lights! And...we have a grand total of zero traffic lights.

Island Life Recipes
Mom’s Chicken
by Bonnie Woodward

Ingredients:
- 4 Boneless, skinless chicken breasts halved
- 4 Cans cream of mushroom soup
- 1 8-ounce container sour cream
- 1 package smoked, chopped beef
- 1 pound bacon

Directions: Mix 4 cans of cream of mushroom soup with sour cream and set aside.

- Line the bottom of a 9 x 13 pan with the chopped beef. Wrap each chicken breast piece with bacon and place them on top of the chopped beef.
- Pour cream of mushroom soup mixture over the chicken.
- Bake uncovered for 2-3 hours in 300° oven. Serve hot with mashed potatoes or rice and a vegetable.

If you like extra gravy, you can make more by adding more cream of mushroom soup and sour cream (1 can of soup with 2 ounces of sour cream). Adjust the depth and size of your pan accordingly.

Editors note: This is super yummy. Make extra for leftovers!

MULLET RAPPER CROSSWORD

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7/28/18

www.swflgo.com
Sometimes in life we have to "turn the page" and have a new beginning. When we start anew, we can feel lighter than air and carefree. That is the theme of my poem "New Beginnings."

NEW BEGINNINGS

Sometimes we feel like we’re floating up in the air
It’s in those times that we have not a care
We feel lighter than balloons floating by
Like we’re on a mountain way up high
A feeling like overcoming something big in our life
When we have overcome the stress and the strife
That is when we realize relief has set in
We realize we really did win
New beginnings are in our life now
Pray we continue and have the wisdom to know how
We search for positive new paths to follow, for sure
In order that we not have to endure
Let us take step by step as we move along
In our hearts we’re singing a song
We’re going to the beat of a great musical tune
We will see a shining light in view very soon
We should follow that shining light
It will help keep us positive day and night!

Email: Kathythepoet@gmail.com
Look for Poetry Street on Twitter

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Regional News

Diaz-Balart Announces Funding for 2019
As a senior member of the House Appropriations Committee, Diaz-Balart worked with his colleagues to secure the following funding in the fiscal year 2019 Interior, Environment, Financial Services, and General Government Appropriations Act:

$63,834 million for continued restoration of the Everglades
$10 million for planning and interagency coordination in support Everglades restoration
$157 million for ecosystem programs under the U.S. Geological Survey, including those in the Everglades
$500 million for the Payment in Lieu of Taxes program, which Collier County is the largest recipient in Florida of
$75 million for the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act Program
$3.9 billion for wildland firefighting and prevention
$3.25 billion for the National Park Service
$3.5 billion for the State and Tribal Assistance Grants account
$1.6 billion for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
$360 million for the Land and Water Conservation Fund
$11 million for the Multinational Species Conservation Fund

Language supporting the inclusion of Latino contributions in Smithsonian Institute programs, exhibitions, collections, and public outreach
$415 million to fight illegal drugs, including the opioid epidemic, through the Office of National Drug Control Policy
$280 million is provided for High-Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) like those in Southern Florida, including the recently designated Collier County
$737 million to allow the Small Business Administration (SBA) to support our main street businesses
$37.5 billion for 7(a) and 504 small business loans
$12.3 million for veterans programs
$18 million for Women’s Business Centers
$130 million for Small Business Development

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email: mulletrapper@gmail.com
www.swfigo.com
In a classic case of misnaming, the Australian pine is not a pine. It is a hardwood member of the Casuarinaceae family that has evolved to survive in arid and semi-arid environments. The misnomer comes into being because the apparent “pine needles” are actually multi-jointed branchlets with minuscule leaves that resemble scales covering them. These adaptations help reduce water loss in the dry continent where this tree originated from: Australia. The species was originally brought into Florida as a wind break for agricultural purposes. The Bailey brothers, Sam and Frances Bailey, can still recall the days before the Australian pine was planted on the islands of Sanibel and Captiva.

Australian pine is an exceptionally dense and heavy wood, ideal for fireplaces because it lacks pitch, but is dangerous to remove because of its weight.

The Australian pine is not currently found on the City of Sanibel’s invasive plant list, or on many other municipalities, but it should be. There are still too many people who admire this tree and that admiration is understandable if ill-conceived. The tall, wispy look of these trees is quite attractive and the ancient giants that once formed a cathedral-like corridor down Periwinkle Way were indeed spectacular. But recent studies indicate that this tree has allelopathic properties that make it far more sinister than its appearance.

The study of allelopathy is relatively new to biological science. It is a phenomenon that is characteristic of certain plants, algae, bacteria, fungi and coral reefs. What happens is that the species, invasive or native, actually produces bio-chemicals that inhibit the growth of competing plants in its immediate vicinity. You can observe this phenomenon first hand when you walk beneath a large stand of mature Australian pines. Although there is ample sunlight and water, virtually nothing grows beneath the trees in its immediate vicinity. You can observe this phenomenon first hand. Whatever you use it will be more productive fished on the bottom.

Summer fishing has been really good! The Snook bite has been as good as you can ask for. We have been catching a lot of big Snook and plenty of undersized fish too. The main bite has been on the incoming tide. All the outside points seem to be holding fish. Finger Mullet have been here in abundance, and they make great bait for Snook. You can get some great action on top water early in the morning on that rising tide when things line up. Jigs can also be productive, and a DOA Baitbuster Mullet works great. There are a lot of great artificial lures out there, and the key is knowing the best way to work the lure you choose. Having confidence is critical. Even when live bait fishing it is important to know various techniques for rigging and hooking baits to improve your chances. But, when the fish are in a frenzy it doesn't seem to matter as long as you get the bait in front of them. So all you need is accurate casting. A good angler can put all these things together and he will catch fish when others are saying it was a slow day. And, of course hiring a local guide can help make anyone a successful angler! There are plenty of local guides around and summer is usually slow for business so you can get a last minute booking.

This article is an excerpt from “The Living Gulf Coast – A Nature Guide to Southwest Florida.”

Photo: Australian Pine by Charles Sobczak
Local News
After 40+ Years Harraden’s Sell Ivey House Bed & Breakfast

The owners of the Ivey House for the past 40 years have sold their business to Aashish Patel, owner of the Everglades City Motel, Wooten’s Airboat Tours and Captain Jacks Airboat tours.

In an interview with the Mullet Rapper, David Harraden said the sale was, “bitter sweet.” After 40 years in Everglades City moving on was difficult for David and his wife Sandee.

They still love the City, but after the devastation from Hurricane Irma, damage to the Ivey House, the toll of dealing with the insurance companies, and the complications of rebuilding process, David said the timing was right to move on.

The Harradens took over the original Ivey house in the late 1970’s. In the early 90’s they built the new wing. In the 2000’s they built the new Inn with many creature-comforts that visitors love.

Sandee decorated the walls with her beautiful photography and David shared his love of the area with visitors.

At 72, David said that it was too daunting to go through the rebuilding process and that Aashish and his family were perfect buyers.

“They understand the hotel business and they understand Everglades City. They will do a great job,” he said.

Patel and his family are currently the largest employers in Everglades City with their airboat tours and motel. Now with the addition of the Ivey House, their importance to the community will only grow bigger.

The Harradens said that even though they have sold their business, do not expect them to abandon Everglades City. They said that now when they come to town it will be to visit and enjoy the area just like those that they served for over 40 years.

Thank you to David and Sandee Harraden for making the Ivey House a destination place. They are a very, very important part of our community’s history.

SAWISH NEWS by Tonya Wiley, Havenworth Coastal Conservation
New IUCN Report Charts Path to Saving Sawfish by guest author Sonja Fordham

New strategies for saving the world’s sawfishes were the focus of a special session of the Sharks International conference held last month in Brazil. The event featured an expert panel reviewing a new sawfish report from the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Shark Specialist Group (SSG). The experts highlighted progress in the sawfish research and conservation, in line with the SSG’s 2014 Global Sawfish Conservation Strategy, while amplifying alarm bells about the immediate risk of losing these iconic species in many places around the globe.

Sawfish were once found in the coastal waters and rivers of 78 tropical and subtropical countries. Today, all five species are classified as Endangered or Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List. Mortality from targeted and incidental fishing is the main cause. Sawfish rostra are valued as curios and for traditional medicine in many countries, while individual teeth are prized as spurs for cockfighting in much of South America and the Caribbean. Sawfish fins are exceptionally valuable for shark fin soup in Asia.

The SSG’s Global Sawfish Strategy aims to minimize threats through fisheries management, species protection, habitat conservation, trade limitation, and strategic research. To enable success, the group also set forth objectives for education, outreach, capacity building, responsible husbandry, communication, and fundraising. The update report is the product of an expert workshop held in November 2017. It includes the latest population status information and details significant advances over recent years, including the listing of all five sawfish species under the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS).

Because the U.S. has implemented relatively strong protections for sawfish and associated habitat, the SSG has characterized it (along with Australia) as a “lifeboat” for the species. The Caribbean is one of four regions designated as a “beacon of hope” because significant yet under-protected sawfish populations persist and are in need of urgent attention. The SSG has developed tailored, short-term sawfish conservation strategies for each of these regions, based on varying circumstances, and outlined them in the new report.

For the Caribbean, two coinciding 2017 policy developments complement the CMS listing and provide important opportunities for beneficial regional change: the listing of Smalltooth Sawfish on Annex II of the Protocol for Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife for the Wider Caribbean (SPAW Protocol) and an official recommendation for sawfish protection from the Shark Working Group of the Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAF).

To formulate the Caribbean strategy, experts examined countries’ association with these treaties, likelihood of still having sawfish, and policy track record. Successful efforts to stem Florida sawfish declines and secure an international trade ban position the U.S. well for a leadership role. The SSG is encouraging the U.S. to partner with the Netherlands and Bahamas to spearhead sawfish initiatives for the wider Caribbean. Cuba, Colombia, and Costa Rica were identified as key countries needing immediate research and/or protection. Other regional priority actions outlined by the SSG for the Caribbean include:

- National sawfish protection promotion through SPAW, WECAF, and CMS
- Habitat conservation promotion through SPAW and UN projects
- Largetooth Sawfish listing in SPAW Protocol Annex II
- Expanded membership by key countries: SPAW Protocol, WECAF, and CMS
- Surveys for Nicaragua, Panama and Honduras
- Assessment of regional fisheries’ interactions with and use of sawfish.

The other “beacons of hope” are the Amazon Delta, the Western Indian Ocean, and Australasia.

Panelists stressed that, despite some good progress, time is running out for many sawfish populations. The update document lays out next steps under the Strategy and meaningful actions that people all over the world, from all walks of life, can do to help turn the tide.

The SSG Global Sawfish Strategy Update, the full Strategy, and associated materials are available at www.iucnssg.org.

Photo by Beau Yeiser

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EATERS & AREA WORSHIP

**EVERGLADES CITY - BARRON RIVER TIDES**
LAT: 25.87° N LONG: 81.37° W

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**NEWSPAPER**

*The MULLET RAPPER*

Eddi Eddie Raymond Rewis Jr. of Chokoloskee, passed away on July 23, 2018.
He was born in Fort Myers, FL on November 21, 1963. Eddie attended Everglades City school.
He was preceded in death by his first wife Kimberly Ann Rewis (Wheeler) and his first born son Devan Raymond Rewis.
Survivors are his wife Yekaterina (Kate) Rewis, sons Michael and Daniel, father Eddie Raymond Rewis Sr, mother Lorna Lee Rewis, sister Martha Ann Daniels, nephew Sheldon Ray Napier.

Visitation will be held Saturday, July 28, 2018 at 1:00 pm followed by memorial service at 2:00 pm at Hodges Funeral Home at Naples Memorial Gardens, 525 111th Ave., North Naples, FL.

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**Dr. Tony Traying,** age 80, who spent winters at Chokoloskee Island Park with his wife Laurie, passed away at their home in England, early in July. He was an active volunteer at the Museum of the Everglades until bad health prevented them from travelling. You can send commiserations to Laurie at 2 Parkside, Great Tong, Headcorn, Kent, TN27-9PN, England.

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**Anne Wood,** age 89, collapsed fatally on July 13 while playing Bingo at the nursing home where she lived in Vermont. She was a winter visitor to ECity with her friend Tom Leonard, an avid bridge player, and a spunky gal with many Florida friends.
She loved cats (her last pet was a Maine coon cat) so the family have asked that donations in her memory be sent to Rutland County Humane Society Inc., 765 Stevens Road, Pittsford, VT 05763.
**CLASSIFIED ADS**

**RV HOOKUPS.** Everglades City. Two Sites, 30 and 50 amps. Service, water, no sewage. Rent nightly or weekly. Rough boat ramp, 100 ft. dock. Private & secure. Contact Capt. Wayne of Fish Hunt Charters at 239-695-2445.

**WANTED TO LEASE:** In Everglades City or Chokoloskee area. Full time resident looking for a home, condo or trailer for long term lease. Please contact John @ 954-422-3469.

**JOB OPPORTUNITY:** Electricians helper. Experience preferred, but not necessary. Must be reliable and honest. Call Herb @ 239-398-5093.


**FOR RENT:** One bedroom apartment in the Glades Building across from the Rod & Gun Club on the corner of Allen Ave. For more information call: 239 293 3033.

**OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT:** Two office spaces for rent in the Glades Building across from the Rod & Gun club. For more information or to set an appointment call: 239 293 3033.

**FOR SALE:** 2005 3 Bdrm., 2 Bath concrete stilt home with additional Deeded adjoining lot. @ 233 Worley St Chokoloskee. Asking $269,000. View by appointment only. Call 813 763 1944.

**BOWLING BALLS;** Custom bowling balls. Two, 1-14 lbs, 1–12 lbs. Perfect condition. Includes the ball bag. Shoes, woman’s 7 1/2, Men’s 12 also available. Located in Everglades City. $25 for both balls, shoes and bags are optional but free. For more information, call Kathy: 954-662-7003.

**JOB OPPORTUNITY:** Become an election worker for the 2018 elections. Qualifications: Be a registered voter in Collier County. Be able to read and write English. Complete the orientation and training. You must be available to work a 12-14 hour shift. Get started today! Complete your application at www.CollierVotes.com. Call us if you have questions. By email at: ElectionWorker@colliergov.net. Or by phone: (239) 252-VOTE (8683).

**FOR SALE:** Like new 5th wheel, 2008, 35’, mint condition, The camper has 3 slide outs and many extras inside. Can deliver to you. Located in E-city. Call 317-696-2628.

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**The MULLET RAPPER**
P.O. Box 134
Everglades City, FL 34139

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**CLASSIFIED ADS**

**ONLINE LISTINGS:** List your item in the NEW ONLINE CLASSIFIEDS. Swflgo.com basic listings are free with a paid ad in the Rapper. Deluxe listings, with photos & more, are only $10 for 2 weeks. Contact us at info@swflgo.com for more details. You can also call: 954 662 7003.

**FOR SALE:** RV Lots with docks. Call Bob Wells Real Estate @ 239-695-2660 for more information.

**BOWLING BALLS;** Custom bowling balls. Two, 1-14 lbs, 1–12 lbs. Perfect condition. Includes the ball bag. Shoes, woman’s 7 1/2, Men’s 12 also available. Located in Everglades City. $25 for both balls, shoes and bags are optional but free. For more information, call Kathy: 954-662-7003.

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**The MULLET RAPPER**
What's Happening in the Everglades & 10,000 Islands
July 28, 2018

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**PUBLISHER**
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