

**EVERGLADES SOCIETY FOR  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

*Dedicated to our Unique History*

P.O. Box 46, Everglades City, FL, 34139  
ESHP@hotmail.com • [www.ESHP.org](http://www.ESHP.org)

The **TOWN CRIER** newsletter is issued periodically to keep ESHP members and the public informed of our activities. We welcome news and feedback.

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Everglades Society for Historic Preservation, Inc. is a registered 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation. The Society is concerned with the **preservation of all historic sites, structures, documents, artifacts, and memories** within the Everglades area.

**DIRECTORS**

Helen Bryan, Hydie Friend (Vice-President),  
Patty Huff (President), Hannah Ineson, Donald Kim,  
Elaine Middelstaedt (Treasurer), Marya Repko (Secretary)

**ESHP MEMBERSHIP**

(renewable each January 1<sup>st</sup> except for Lifetime categories)

- Individual (\$25)       Family (\$40)
- Patron (\$100)       Benefactor (\$500)
- Business (\$100)       Extra \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Life Individual (\$1,000)       Life Family (\$1,500)

*Make your check payable to "ESHP" and send it to  
ESHP, P.O.Box 46, Everglades City, FL, 34139*

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**MONTHS AT ALTERNATE ADDRESS:**

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- JUL     AUG     SEP     OCT     NOV     DEC

**TOWN CRIER**

**EVERGLADES SOCIETY  
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PRESERVATION**

**Newsletter**

**FEBRUARY 2024**  
VOLUME 19, NUMBER 2




**SeafoodFest Success!**


We were pleased at the number of people who stopped by the old Bank of Everglades building on both Saturday and Sunday, February 3-4, during the annual Seafood Festival to explore the historic building and offer their donations for the remaining items.

We spoke to hundreds of visitors, gave out copies of our newsletter, and received almost \$900 in donations. And, our thanks to the volunteers who helped over the weekend.

If you would like a private tour and a glimpse of the upstairs rooms, contact Patty at (239) 719-0020.




**EVERGLADES AREA  
VISITOR CENTER**  
207 West Broadway  
Everglades City, FL, 34139



**Visitor Center Welcomes You**

Our Everglades Area Visitor Center & Trail Town Headquarters is in the coral-colored building at **207 West Broadway**. Stop in for information about area businesses and to see the work of amazing local artists on sale there.

If you are interested in volunteering, drop by or phone Patty at (239) 719-0020.

 For all the latest news and photos, see our Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/ESHP.org>.



## EVERGLADES SOCIETY FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

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### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**Friday, February 23: Annual Meeting & Historical Talk**

Everglades Community Church, 2pm

**Saturday, February 24: Art-in-the-Glades**

McLeod Park, 10am-1pm

**Saturday, March 23: Art-in-the-Glades**

McLeod Park, 10am-1pm

### BOARD MEETINGS

Our Board of Directors usually meets on the first Monday each month at 9:00 a.m. in the Visitor Center. The next meeting is on **Monday, March 4**. Members are welcome to attend and share ideas with us. For info, phone Patty at (239) 719-0020.

### ESHP MEMBERSHIP

**We did it!** We have over 100 active members. The number is important to show that we have local support when we go for funding. *To join, see the form on the back page of this newsletter or visit our website [www.ESHP.org](http://www.ESHP.org) to use a credit/debit card.*

You can avoid annoying annual renewal notices by becoming a **Lifetime member**. Members who upgraded recently are:

Dr. Pamela Burhans, Naples  
Mark Dietz, Clewiston

**Welcome to new members since our last newsletter:**

Andrew & Dayna Fendrick, ECity & Naples  
Susie Hauze, Marco Island  
Margaret Johnson, Chokoloskee  
Amber Shields, ECity

### MARCO MOVE

Best Wishes to **Austin Bell** who is moving to the Museum of Florida History in Tallahassee as Chief Curator. It is thanks to him that the MIHS has such a varied collection showing Marco history. He is also the author of children's books about the famous Marco cat which are available in the Museum Gift Shop.



### MUSEUM OF EVERGLADES



The Special Exhibit in the Pauline Reeves Gallery at the front of the Museum is **"We Are Still Here"** displaying photos and artifacts about the history of the Miccosukee Tribe.

For info, see [www.colliermuseums.com](http://www.colliermuseums.com) or phone the Museum at (239) 252-5026.

### News from Naples

The **Naples Historical Society** at Palm Cottage invites everyone to **"Croquet & Chardonay"** on **Thursday, March 7**, at 4pm. Reservations are required. For info, call (239) 261-8164 or see [www.napleshistoricalsociety.org](http://www.napleshistoricalsociety.org).



## Celebrating 50 Years

*Who was Nathaniel Reed?  
Why is the Big Cypress Visitor Center named after him?  
What are plans for the future of the Preserve?*



When the Everglades National Park was opened in December 1947, it did not include the land north of the Tamiami Trail as envisioned by the original campaigners to save the swamp. This led to a big problem 20 years later when the Dade County Airport Authority bought up 39 square miles to build a supersonic Jetport with multi-lane highway, high-speed rail link, and town for 100,000 supporting staff.

Environmentalists protested that massive development would deprive the Everglades of water which naturally flowed through the area. At the time, Nat Reed was special advisor to Florida Governor Claude Kirk who convinced President Nixon's Secretary of the Interior to stop the ruination of the Big Cypress. It was established as the first National Preserve with legislation passed in 1974.

You can learn more and hear from **Guest Speaker** Scott Pardue (Chief of Interpretation & Education at Big Cypress) what will happen next at our **Annual Meeting & Talk** on **Friday, February 23**, at 2:00 p.m. in the Jinkins Fellowship Hall behind Everglades Community Church on the Circle. **Reservations are requested** so we can plan refreshments – email us on [ESHP@hotmail.com](mailto:ESHP@hotmail.com) or phone Marya at (239) 451-0265.

## OFFICIAL BUSINESS



We received Nomination forms to serve on the Board of Directors from the current Board (*see back page*) plus Tony Pernas of Everglades City.

There is no need for a formal election because the maximum number of Directors allowed in the bylaws is 11 so this is an uncontested ballot.

This slate will be formally ratified at our **Annual Members' Meeting on Friday, February 23**. Officers are selected by the new Board at their next meeting which is on March 4.

## State Historic Tax Credit

The Florida Trust for Historic Preservation is urging our House in Tallahassee to pass legislation enabling tax credits for preserving historic buildings.

To learn more, see [www.floridatrust.org](http://www.floridatrust.org) and click on "Take Action".

