

PASTOR'S e-NEWSLETTER

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Our 98th Year

"The friendly little church on the Circle in Everglades City"



1926-2024



Pastor Bob & Millie

AS I SEE IT . . . A lot has happened here at ECC this Summer. I asked Elaine Middlestaedt to write a summary of the street and bicycle paths that have been refurbished in front of the church, and her report follows.

The Sidewalk Project

In May 2018, the City of Everglades City, through Council Member Elaine Middelstaedt, made a formal application to the Collier County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Pathways Project for the Copeland Avenue South sidewalk. The original scope of the project was from the City's southern border to the Everglades Community Church. Since Elaine had been appointed as the City's representative to the MPO in the spring of 2017, she received valuable assistance from the MPO staff in formulating the request. The project had been identified as an Existing Need by the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) of the MPO in 2017. So, when the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) staff got involved in the engineering for the project, they walked from the newly completed wider and taller Chokoloskee Causeway bridge to the Church and experienced the dilapidated condition of the existing walkway for themselves. They also realized that the walkway from the bridge to the city line needed to be included in the scope of the project. They also included the crosswalks all around the circle in the project's scope. The project was funded by FDOT.

Lane Repurposing Project



Aerial drone photo by Elmer Pillon

This project was taken up by the County as part of its recognition of its ownership of County Road 29 through Everglades City and the need for resurfacing the road. The BPAC had proposed a "Lane Repurposing" which was to have a 16-foot-wide lane for motor vehicles, and a separate lane for bicycles. What we ended up with is a standard width lane for motor vehicles, a large buffer lane and then a bike lane. The county also installed lots of new signage to indicate pedestrian crossings and direction of traffic flow around the circle, as well as street name signs with larger lettering. The speed limits through the city have also been lowered to 35 MPH.

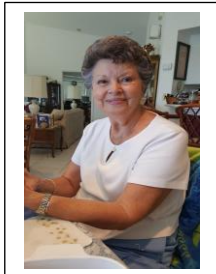
HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO HELEN BRYAN
(with her son Kevin and his wife) - - -



August 27th

We wish a very **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to these two very special ladies.

AND MILLIE



August 29th

What's next for Everglades City?

by Kylie Foster, Naples Daily News (6/25/24) "We're building the fire station in Everglades City because growth is coming this way," Mayor Howie Grimm said. "We're going to have an EOC (emergency operations center) here. This will be the furthest away EOC in Collier County." The \$13 million project will go out to bid in the next six months, Grimm said, and then hopefully there will be Collier County firefighters again stationed in Everglades City. The new station will replace the one that has sunk twice. Grimm said.

SEPTEMBER B-DAYS

2 – Ruth Trotsky
13 – Connie Barker
17 – Mark Nap
27 – Joe Scott

HAPPY BIRTHDAY RUTH



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