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From: mrepko <mrepko@earthlink.net>
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Importance: High

Save the date! We're fully back in action after our brief event last year ...

PRESS RELEASE

Blessing of the Fleet

Before you know it, we'll be eating delicious fresh stone crab claws again!

But, do we think about the boats that go out at 4:00 a.m. each morning, whatever the weather?

They will set their traps soon to pull them up laden with the rare local goodies on October 15 when the season for harvesting officially begins.

To make sure they have a good send off, Everglades City is holding its annual "Blessing of the Stone Crab Fleet" on **Saturday, September 29**, at the historic Rod & Gun Club on the Barron River. The event starts at 10:00 a.m. with fun for all the family and ends at 1:00 p.m. after the contest results are announced. There will be Arts & Crafts booths, music, raffles, and bake sales. Local pastors will bless each boat at around 10:30 a.m.

The kiddies have a great time during the frog-jumping contest, a unique rural event. For the adults, there is the traditional Coconut Guava Cake contest and a raffle for 5lbs of the first claws caught by Grimm's Stone Crab.

The celebration is being organized by the Everglades Society for Historic Preservation. For more information, see website www.evergladeshistorical.org, follow us on FaceBook at <https://www.facebook.com/EvergladesStoneCrab/> or phone Marya at (239) 695-2905.