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Everglades Seafood Festival, hosted by Florida Stone Crabbers Association
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## Seafood Festival Benefits Community Reeling in Wake of Hurricane lan Everglades Seafood Festival Offers Live Music, Food, & Carnival Rides

EVERGLADES CITY, Fla. – The Florida Stone Crabbers Association (FLSCA) will kick off its 53rd annual Everglades Seafood Festival on Feb. 17, 2023 outside Everglades City Hall, including an opening ceremony and a fireworks display. The festival will continue through the weekend, wrapping up at 6pm Sunday, Feb. 19. Tens of thousands of people from all over the world flock to this small town each year to partake in the festivities.

Attendees enjoy live music, creative works from local artists, delicious seafood, cold beverages, and carnival rides. Entertainment will include Ward Davis, Whey Jennings, Creed Fisher, and more to be announced.

The festival is an annual charity event benefiting the Everglades City community. This year, the festival's success is key, as many residents are still getting back on their feet after Hurricane Ian. "Homes and businesses were flooded for the second time in five years—first by Hurricane Irma, then Hurricane Ian," said festival coordinator Holly Dudley. "Families were displaced, and businesses worked hard to reopen, but we are bouncing back quickly. Funds from our 2023 festival will help the victims and commercial fishermen rebuild."

Friday night admission is free for all ages. Saturday & Sunday admission is a \$5 minimum donation for adults. Children and residents of Everglades City, Chokoloskee, and Copeland can receive free admission on all days. Beverage & carnival ride tickets will be cash only, and there will be ATMs on site.

## **Everglades Seafood Festival hours:**

- Fri., Feb. 17: 4:30pm-10pm
- Sat., Feb. 18: 10am-10pm
- Sun., Feb. 19: 10am-6pm

For more than 50 years the Everglades Seafood Festival has been essential in generating income to improve its community and help its residents. The host, FLSCA, is a non-profit organization founded May 2020 to help unite stone crab fishermen and advocate for their best interests. Everglades City is a major producer of stone crab and it is the festival's mission to support our local fishermen and the local communities that keep these hard-working people in business.

For more information about the 2023 Everglades Seafood Festival visit: <a href="www.EvergladesSeafoodFestival-2023.com">www.EvergladesSeafoodFestival-2023.com</a>