

Multiple lines of evidence, in Brian Lapointe report, indicate the St. Lucie Estuary is contaminated by septic systems

OKEECHOBEE, FL Wednesday, Jan. 3) — In a report today by Katrina Elsen in *Independent News*, results of a new research paper stated that local basin runoff affecting the St. Lucie estuaries contributed 70 percent of the nutrients that fed the algal blooms there.

The report also notes that excessive releases of freshwater from Lake Okeechobee disrupt the salinity levels in the estuaries and are harmful to that ecosystem even if there is not an algal bloom.

The paper, "Septic systems contribute to nutrient pollution and harmful algal blooms in the St. Lucie Estuary, Southeast Florida, USA," was written by Brian E. Lapointe, Laura W. Herren and Armelle L. Paule, of the Harbor Brand Oceanographic Institute at Florida Atlantic University, Marine Ecosystem Health Program, and published by Elsevier, a major provider of scientific, technical and medical information.

"Nutrient enrichment is a significant global-scale driver of change in coastal waters, contributing to an array of problems in coastal ecosystems," state the authors.

"The St. Lucie Estuary in southeast Florida has received national attention as a result of its poor water quality (elevated nutrient concentrations and fecal bacteria counts), recurring toxic microcystis aeruginosa blooms, and its proximity to the northern boundary of tropical coral species in the United States. The St. Lucie Estuary has an artificially large watershed comprised of a network of drainage canals, one of which (C-44) is used to lower the water level in Lake Okeechobee. Public attention has primarily been directed at nutrient inputs originating from the lake, but recent concern over the importance of local watershed impacts prompted a one-year watershed study designed to investigate the interactions between on-site sewage treatment and disposal systems (OSTDS or septic systems), groundwaters, and surface waters in the St. Lucie Estuary and nearshore reefs."

Study results found multiple lines of evidence that indicated the St. Lucie Estuary is contaminated by septic systems. The researchers found high levels of dissolved nutrients concentrated adjacent to two, pre-1978 residential communities. They found the artificial sweetener sucralose present in groundwater near residential sites. They also found that dissolved nutrients documented at residential groundwater monitoring sites were higher than those recorded at nonresidential sites. They noted high fecal counts which result in periodic public health warnings for Treasure Coast waterways."

(In a few short years the former Flood Control district has inherited a purview undeniably larger than the press, politicians or PhDs comprehend, from Orlando south to Florida Bay, an humongous municipal water management utility, probably will be America's largest, with hurricane-defense, huge ecosystem, aquifer and water sports industry responsibilities, but essentially a transportation system like any other, with holding areas, special treatment sections, express lanes, examination stations, and a central authority devoid of influence from fundraising apparatus, politicians and mangy small newsmedia. —RPB)

BY NEWTON COOK

As usual no comments on the reality of the ability to drain the system south and make room for excess Lake water beyond one filling of the EAA 1 and EAA 2 Reservoirs. More misleading statements based on political expediency and avoiding the Federal blockages at the Tamiami Trail that backs up the entire system and causes the Lake to rise above the danger level. Forcing the USACE to bomb the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee. No comment on the truth that no plan, including the latest plan from EF, would have prevented the damaging discharges in 2013, 2016 or 2017. This continuous spreading of half truths and plain misleading claims increases ignorant stakeholders' expectations that the discharges will be eliminated if we can just build enough reservoirs. Simple math shows that is not feasible. What will eliminate the discharges to the C 43 and C 44 is dynamic flow of excess water coming from north of the Lake directly to sea. If the water does not get into the Lake, there will be no danger. There is an available direct route to sea north of the Lake. The

saltwater river 3000 feet down, the Boulder Zone. This river could carry the excess water now bombing the C 43 and C 44 far offshore. Kissimmee River water. The Deep Injection Wells have the approval of the FDEP and are in use across Florida. They take a small footprint and are not expensive to build or maintain. They would only run during major rain events, not often. The water they would pump is already going to sea out the C 43 and C 44, but doing major damage to the estuaries. If you are serious about wanting to "save the estuaries", these Deep Injection Wells can be a major part of the solution. They solve the problem of "buying" expensive land and the conflict with the EAA farmers. BUT, most important, they eliminate the problem of the Federal blockages at the Tamiami Trail that creates the dangerous Lake levels. Plus, these wells can be up and running years before the "reservoir" schemes. The history of reservoir planning and construction is 12 years or more. 2030 is a long time to have to continue to endure the discharges. And, unless the Federal blockages are removed, the discharges will still not stop then!

G'Day, 2018. Slap yourself

The nation needs a gigantic slap-silly. The children, I mean. The counselors, too. Slap the hell out of them.

The age of faking of feelings, faking of news, of children raised on participation trophies inventing unreal affronts intensifies the democracy's volatility.

Kids are overreacting to everything, faking sensitivities that require they test their character and style, such as it is, because school was too easy.

Spurred by the prevailing age of advertising copywriting that always urges "extreme" reactions, they go through school wondering why to excel. Teachers cannot name a tangible reason. In this competitive world of insincerity, plagiarism and platitude, we have too many jackass adults cynically indifferent to the need to learn as much as possible and bother with originality in creativity. Everybody, adults say, should get a government-issue life and quit complaining. Give the kids whatever

will shut their mouths. The latest video.

So, the complaints from kids really only are imaginary accosting, neither really existing nor occurring except in the childish imagination, if at all, and we're seeing widespread excessive overreaction finding expression in disproportionate decibels intended to convey sincerity in the vain hope that sincerity alone will carry the day. And it won't. Never did, never will.

But when the other children play along, the consequence is something different. There comes to prevail understanding that feelings are all fakery, all Hollywood. Which, of course, they're not. Counselors feed on this, keep the game going.

Climate babble

The real issue is being guilty of public disobedience to the authoritative ones, the cheap charlatans in newsmedia, public broadcasting, boutique magazines like Smithsonian.

What's loosely called "science" is what those authorities mislabel a mere popular yearning, a wish for understanding, a short cut to better existence, and to a perhaps speedier occurrence despite evidence that remains thin.

An hypothesis becomes regarded prematurely as fact although it is not. Not yet, at least.

Powerful advocacy groups can claim to represent both science and the public in the name of morality and superior wisdom.

Simplistic depictions of the underlying science are rewritten to facilitate widespread 'understanding.'

'Events', real or contrived, receive treatment, interpretation in such a manner as to promote a sense of urgency in the public at large.

Paraphrasing Richard Lindzen, and more . . . but without Lindzen's paranoia

(Also, we need real journalism to keep raw democracy level-headed, and don't have it.)

Scientists flattered by public attention in magazines and PBS defer to 'political will' and popular assessment of virtue.

Significant numbers of scientists become eager to produce the science demanded by the 'public.'

Democracy since ancient Athens has been known to be volatile. Volatility is embraced

by power-hungry people but the rest of us who make our dreams come true through quiet persistence prefer stability, and establish republics to control instability. We have to sit on juries, you and I. We have a higher sense of the meaning of the word "evidence." Sorry. Deal with it, Mr. Al Gore. Stick your nose out into reality. It's the coldest year on record.

Voila! Climate babble.

Obama court twists in the wind

Conscientious objection, with a bakery being leaned upon as if another baker can't do a same sex wedding, tricks our judges into disfavoring Christians, without jews and moslems anteing in their ham or bacon, so favoritism is being shown toward one's unfavorite religion, the one indifferent toward pigs.

And that means we're acknowledging that Obama justice remains alive and kicking, with its peculiar twist on all courthouse sentencing. Justice to Obama was devoted to paying back old scores: recriminations. Notably for the entire miserable history of blacks, with no credit given or asked for the fact that blacks were snatched mercifully from jungle lairs presided over by businessmen chiefs who sold your ancestors ---his own children, nieces and nephews--- for goddamned monthly operating cash.

Never get through paying back that little debt, according to the blacks in Obama's crowd. Chiefs, of course, never get the bill. What kinda free stuff, white boy, you got today to give me?

Personally, I'm fed to the teeth with Obama's kind of justice, which is no justice at all. Since I can tell you where in the Bible integrity is attributed to Jesus Christ as an indispensable part of our souls, and I know Freedom of Speech requires it, but nowhere among the long list of American Black culture influences belaboring so many disgruntled descendants of Africans, does the imperative to speak truthfully appear.

My kinda rock was John Adams of Boston. On his house I would rebuild my First Amendment.

Hendry-Glades
Sunday News

R.P. BATALLER, EDITOR

THE HENDRY-GLADES SUNDAY NEWS
IS AN INDEPENDENT WEEKLY NEWSPAPER
PUBLISHED SATURDAYS BY
HENDRY-GLADES SUNDAY NEWS, INC.,
240 SOUTH BRIDGE STREET,
LABELLE, FLORIDA 33935
(863) 675-4255

MAIL: P.O. BOX 577 LABELLE, FL 33975
Email: navig8r@strato.net



Patched up the crack in the Liberty Bell

The whole idea of a chain as a newspaper management concept is that resources may be reallocated from a paper with strong revenues to another with weaker. But which one of us, as readers, and as citizens of a community, would be satisfied to have our community paper weakened, its staff and supplies and its ability to present a cohesive image of our community activities to us all diminished, so that another community's paper, belonging to the same chain, perhaps one more favored by a faraway corporate manager, would thrive? This is why Hendry and Glades counties need a *Sunday News* that they can truly call their own.