



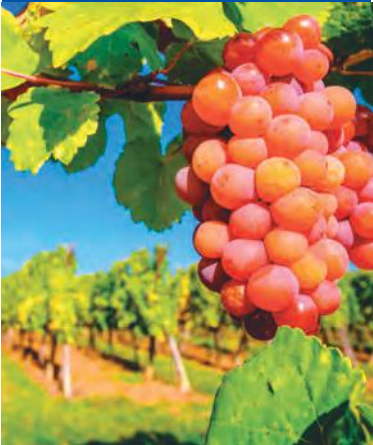
Longboat Key News

October 31, 2025

Serving Longboat Key, St. Armands, Downtown Sarasota & Anna Maria Island

FREE

InsideLook



Great, yet still neglected, wines ...page 7



Bird Key tops the week's sales ...page 11



Goodbye Joel Feidelman ...page 4



The ones that snuck away ...page 10

A Year without Storms Fuels Rebirth of Region

The past year has seen Longboat Key, Siesta Key, and St. Armands Circle transition from immediate recovery into a phase of strategic resurgence.

STEVE REID
Editor & Publisher
sreid@lbknews.com

The current tranquil weather – as 2025 proceeds without a strike by a named storm – has proven to be an invaluable asset. The past year has seen Longboat Key, Siesta Key, and St. Armands Circle transition from immediate recovery into a phase of strategic resurgence. The driving force behind this rebirth is a distinct shift toward hurricane-resilient construction and significant investment in the high-end hospitality and commercial sectors.

The collective sigh of relief the region feels as Hurricane season comes to a close is fueling the local enthusiasm.

St. Armands Circle: A High-Value Commercial Recalibration

St. Armands Circle has rapidly reasserted itself as a premium retail and culinary destination, demonstrating formidable commercial resilience. The commercial real estate here is showing zero hesitation in committing to costly, high-end build-outs.

See Rebirth, page 5



Sarasota's Arts Scene Invests Half a Billion in Future

Capital campaigns of Florida Studio Theatre (FST), the Sarasota Orchestra and The Sarasota Players are engineering a sustainable future for region's creative economy.

Sarasota is witnessing a cultural and economic transformation as its premier arts organizations collectively embark on an estimated half-billion dollar construction spree.

The simultaneous capital campaigns of Florida Studio Theatre (FST), the Sarasota Orchestra, and The Sarasota Players are not merely building new venues; they are engineering a sustainable future for the region's creative economy, injecting vast new capital and directly addressing the critical issue of affordable artist housing.

FST's Vertical Solution: A \$57 Million Downtown Anchor



Last week, the spotlight shone on Florida Studio Theatre (FST) as it broke ground on the \$57 million McGillicuddy Arts Plaza, an eight-story mixed-use building poised to redefine its campus.

Having grown from a single 72-seat venue in 1980 to one of the largest subscription theaters in the nation, FST's expansion is fundamentally driven by a critical need: housing.

The new plaza will dedicate its upper floors to 57 affordable living units for artists and arts workers. This is a direct response to the lack of workforce housing in Sarasota, allowing FST to consolidate housing for its many out-of-town performers and potentially serve other local arts organizations. Executive Director Richard Hopkins noted that addressing housing was the primary impetus for the project.

The expansion will also dramatically increase FST's capacity for audiences, adding three new performances. See Sarasota Arts, page 15

Longboat Key's Bayfront Park Unveils a 'Living Seawall'

The event served as a testament to how local leaders and residents supported one another through the arduous recovery.

Longboat Key is trading flat, sterile concrete for textured, three-dimensional coral as it embraces an innovative approach to coastal resilience.

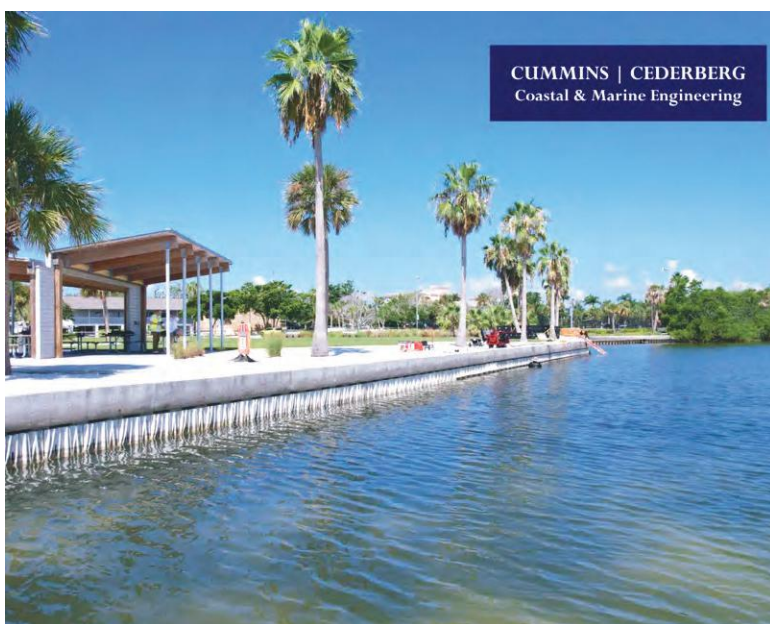
The Town, in partnership with the Sarasota Bay Estuary Program (SBEP), has officially completed and dedicated a first-of-its-kind "Living Seawall" at Bayfront Park, transforming approximately 300 feet of static fiberglass shoreline into a vibrant, high-tech marine habitat.

The project, which culminated in a public ribbon-cutting ceremony on October 29th, is a pioneering step in eco-engineering. It addresses a critical problem facing Sarasota Bay: the replacement of traditional, colonization-friendly concrete seawalls with smooth materials like vinyl and fiberglass, which offer less opportunity for marine life to attach.

The Longboat Key Living Seawall is not a natural oyster reef, but an optimized, man-made structure designed to mimic one of the bay's most vital habitats: red mangrove roots.

The Technology

The project utilizes custom-engineered, three-dimensional concrete panels manufactured by Kind Designs. These modular panels are



patterned with nooks, crannies, and textures that replicate the complex structures of mangrove prop roots, oyster bars, and shell piles.

The Function

These new surfaces provide shelter and an ideal substrate for filter feeders—marine organisms like oysters and barnacles—to settle and grow. These organisms are vital to the bay's health, with a single adult oyster capable of filtering up to 50 gallons of water per day.

Early Success

Even before the official ribbon-

cutting, construction crews and SBEP researchers observed encouraging signs. Divers reported seeing small crabs and starfish already exploring the textured panels, indicating the design's effectiveness at providing immediate refuge and habitat.

Federal Funding Spurs Local Innovation

The \$500,000 initiative was largely funded by a grant through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (BIL), highlighting the

See Seawall, page 15

Sarasota Tourism Takes a \$9.5 Million Hit in September, Citing Stiff Competition

Longboat Key Road Work Alert: Night Closures Scheduled for GMD Resurfacing

Sarasota County’s tourism sector experienced a notable slowdown in September, recording a year-over-year drop in direct visitor spending of approximately \$9.5 million.

According to the latest Tourism Data & Economic Impact report released by Visit Sarasota County (VSC), the county saw decreases across key metrics, including visitation, spending, and lodging occupancy, when compared to September 2024. This decline contributes to a downward trend in year-to-date figures for the region.

The report, compiled with data from Downs & St. Germain, showed that total visitor direct expenditures for September 2025 totaled \$67,131,300, down sharply from \$76,704,600 recorded in the same month last year. The overall economic impact for the month was estimated at \$102 million.

Key Declines in Visitation and Occupancy

The decrease in spending was mirrored by significant drops in the number of visitors and hotel occupancy rates (which form the basis of the VSC’s tracking):

- Visitors: Sarasota welcomed approximately 79,500 visitors in September 2025, a decrease from 93,700 in 2024.
- Lodging Occupancy: The rate fell to 38.0%, down from 43.7% in the previous year.
- Room Nights Sold: This metric dropped to 155,600 from 175,300 year-over-year.

Despite the declines in volume, the report highlighted a continued strength in pricing. The average daily room rate (ADR) saw a slight increase, rising to \$206.65 compared to \$200.72 in September 2024.

VSC Cites Competition and In-State Travel

Visit Sarasota County President and CEO, Erin Duggan, commented on the findings, noting that while room rates continue their gradual rise, overall visitation remains depressed.

VSC attributes the downward trend largely to two factors: increased competition from other destinations and fewer in-state travelers. On a positive note, the organization noted that the Suncoast is successfully attracting more visitors from Central Europe, suggesting that international outreach efforts are gaining traction even as domestic travel wanes.

Motorists on Longboat Key should prepare for nighttime single-lane closures on Gulf of Mexico Drive (GMD) as resurfacing efforts get underway. The work is part of the broader SR 789 Resurfacing project, stretching from Coquina Beach in the south up to State Road 64.

Immediate Night Work on GMD

Superior Asphalt is scheduled to conduct an intensive week of night work to maintain the project timeline and safely mill and pave the roadway.

- Dates: Monday, November 3, through Friday, November 7
- Hours: 9:00 PM to 6:00 AM daily
- Impact: One of two lanes on GMD will be closed.
- Traffic Control: Flaggers will be positioned at both ends of the work zone on GMD, and on adjacent side streets, to direct the flow of traffic.

The decision to work overnight was made specifically to minimize impacts to daytime traffic and ensure the safety of both construction crews and the public.

Long-Term Project Outlook

The entire SR 789 resurfacing project is set to begin after October 31, 2025, and is scheduled for completion by May 1, 2026.

Throughout this period, drivers can anticipate single-lane closures, with the majority of resurfacing activities planned for overnight hours. Additional details can be found in the attached Fact Sheet from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT).

Drivers are urged to exercise caution and patience when traveling through the work zones and to obey all flaggers and signage. Expect delays during the scheduled overnight periods.

Ads that work...

941.387.2200 ads@lbknews.com

CREATIVE KITCHENS & BATHS

YOU CREATE THE DREAM — WE CREATE THE REALITY

LEADING CONDO AND HOME REMODELING SPECIALIST LOCATED ON LONGBOAT KEY!

941-925-3723 Transforming your home, one room at a time — bringing your vision to life on Longboat Key.

Longboat Key Showroom

By Appointment Only

5610 Gulf of Mexico Drive | Longboat Key, FL 34228

State Certified General Contractor CG-C-1531837

Serving Longboat Key, Lido Key, Bird Key and St. Armands

CKB has a team comprised of general contractors, designers, expert carpenters, project management and more. We will bring your vision to life from first conversation to job completion.

Full Condo & Home Remodeling

Custom & Semi-Custom Cabinetry | Custom Tile Work

Hardwood & LVP Floors | Solid Core Doors

Baseboards & Ceiling Molding/Trim

www.CreativeKitchenAndBaths.com

SECUR-ALL INSURANCE AGENCY

Sandra Smith | 941.383.3388

VISIT US ACROSS FROM TOWN HALL! 510 BAY ISLES ROAD SUITE 1, LONGBOAT KEY, FL 34228

CHUBB, AIG, UNIVERSAL, UNITED, SAFECO, PROGRESSIVE, FRONTLINE, VAULT, FLOOD, WE HAVE YOU COVERED!

EditorLetters



Longboat Key News and Sarasota City News encourages Letters to the Editor on timely issues. Please email to: letters@lbknews.com or mail to PO Box 8001, Longboat Key, FL 34228. We also print letters sent to Town Hall that address Longboat Key issues. We reserve the right to edit.

Sabal Cove reserve Study

To: David Gutridge
David, I stand corrected, the water and wastewater utilities are not the responsibility of the Town Sabal Cove. My Utility Manager set me straight. My confusion is that in past brakes the Town Utility Department has assisted Contractors hired by Bay Isles and all the subdivisions in repairs. However we do maintain the main line/valves that runs under Harbourside Dr. I used the Plat dedications to confirm this info. Sorry for the confusion.
Charles Mopps
Public Works Director
Town of Longboat Key

Sabal Cove reserve Study

To: Longboat Key Mayor Ken Schneier
Sir, you are correct about the water and wastewater utilities. However, the Town does not maintain any private stormwater infrastructure, including all those within Sabal Cove.
Charles Mopps
Public Works Director
Town of Longboat Key

Sabal Cove reserve Study

To: Longboat Key Public Works Director Charlie Mopps
The Sabal Cove HOA recently undertook a reserve study for our development that showed that we needed to step up reserves substantially. The three most expensive items in the report, however, were stormwater, underground sewer and underground water. Our understanding is that stormwater (outlets and conduits) is the Town's responsibility and that water and sewer conduits are the Town's responsibility up to the backflow valve and the homeowners' responsibility from the backflow valve to the home. Is that correct? If so, we're reserved properly.
Ken Schneier
Mayor
Town of Longboat Key

GMD Signs

To: Longboat Key Mayor Ken Schneier
I reached out to my contact with FDOT this morning for an update. He indicated that he would confirm status and get back to me. Once I have more information, I will send out. Copied Tip.
Isaac Brownman
Assistant Town Manager
Town of Longboat Key

GMD Signs

To: Longboat Key Assistant Town Manager Isaac Brownman
Did FDOT say when they would replace the signs?
Ken Schneier
Mayor
Town of Longboat Key

Lighthouse Point

To: Longboat Key Commissioner Steve Branham
Thank you Sir, as noted below, Public Works is expecting the call and will meet with the customer to investigate.
Isaac Brownman
Assistant Town Manager
Town of Longboat Key

Lighthouse Point

To: John Saputo, Longboat Key Assistant Town Manager Isaac Brownman
Hi John, thanks for your email and I'm sorry to hear that this problem persists. I just spoke with the assistant town manager and he provided me a point of contact with public works who is the Town utility manager. His name is Jessie Camburn. He will be expecting your call.
Isaac, as discussed a few minutes ago. Please take this for action. Perhaps a visit to the property is needed to investigate the issue. It is not new.
Steve Branham
Commissioner
Town of Longboat Key

Lighthouse Point

To: Longboat Key Commissioner Steve Branham
Admiral---Really? Sir is this an issue? A beautiful sign must come down at the prestigious St Regis Resort, but me and my neighbors at Lighthouse Point just asking for clean water that we can drink. Water that does not stain our tile in the shower or water that does not leave black and red lines in our toilets? Our water has been independently tested and found to have not so nice creatures in it. One of my neighbors was tired of waiting for action and installed his own \$27k full filtration system for his entire house. Please let us know if no action being taken for us so we can all go out and buy our own filtrations system. To add insult to injury you send us a monthly bill for impure water that we are hesitant to drink!
John Saputo
Longboat Key

Against Archway Sign on St. Regis Pier

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton
I am an active fisherwoman who lives in Bay Isles. From my beach club, I often walk down to the St. Regis Pier to go fishing. I have not done this since the archway sign was erected. In fact, I have seen very few fishermen there since the archway was placed. Please do not approve to allow the sign to remain.

See Letters, page 6

Live in Your Home’s Best Light
CALL BRINGLES BLINDS TODAY

SALE! \$500 OFF all Custom Interior Shutters & Shades



Longboat residents
and business owners
Chris & Dana Bringle

Bringles Blinds provides affordable blinds, shutters, shades,
and master installation services to the Longboat Key,
Sarasota, Bradenton, Lakewood Ranch and surrounding areas.

CALL FOR A FREE QOUTE — 941-320-7019
BRINGLEBLINDS.LBK@GMAIL.COM
BRINGLESBLINDS.COM
*Offer valid with minimum purchase of three

RINGSIDE
EAT. DRINK. SAVOR



Sarasota’s Newest Dining Spectacle - Now Open!

A fresh, inventive dining destination just a short stroll from St. Armands Circle, Ringside balances bold flavors and Gulf seafood favorites in the mesmerizing setting of Cirque St. Armands Beachside.

opalcollection.com/cirque-st-armands

941.388.5555

KeyObituary

Joel Feidelman: A Life Lived with Passion for Music, Sports &Community

The communities of Longboat Key and Washington, D.C., are mourning the loss of Joel R. Feidelman, a man whose life, spanning 91 years (February 11, 1934 – October 14, 2025), was defined by sharp intellect, profound generosity, and an infectious enthusiasm for his passions.

A Longboat Key resident and retired Senior Partner at the international law firm Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson, Mr. Feidelman was remembered by loved ones as “a gentleman with a beautiful smile, infectious laugh, quick wit, and a compassionate and generous heart.”

The Pantheon of Passions

Mr. Feidelman was a man of intense, eclectic enthusiasms that shaped his personal and social life:

A Devoted Sports Fan: His loyalty spanned eight decades, starting with the New York Yankees in childhood. He was a lifelong fan and season ticketholder for the Syracuse Men’s basketball team (his alma mater), the Commanders (formerly Redskins), and the Wizards (formerly Bullets). He was known for his dedication to securing “good seats... and even better parking!”

A Music Aficionado: Above all, Mr. Feidelman loved music. He amassed a personal library

of over 4,500 CDs and was a regular at venues ranging from the high culture of the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., to the intimate setting of the Birchmere in Alexandria, Virginia. His tastes were broad, encompassing opera, Broadway musicals, American and Irish folk music—a genre he supported by helping produce the albums of the Maine-based folk trio, Schooner Fare.

The Collector: He was a true bibliophile who maintained an extensive library and was an enthusiastic collector, saving the Playbill from every show he ever attended and amassing sports memorabilia, especially Yankees artifacts.

A Legacy of Law, Service, and Social Progress

Born in Hazleton, Pennsylvania, Mr. Feidelman was a highly decorated student, graduating magna cum laude from Syracuse University in 1955 and earning his J.D. from Yale University Law School in 1958.

Following law school, he served as a Captain and Assistant Staff Judge Advocate in the U.S. Air Force from 1958 to 1961, during which time he discovered his love for folk music.

His legal career was spent entirely at Fried, Frank, where he rose to become Co-Chairman of the Litigation Department in Washington and the Partner-in-Charge of the Government Contracts Practice Group.

Beyond his professional life, Mr. Feidelman was a dedicated community leader:

He was an active member and former President of the UJA Young Leadership Cabinet of Greater Washington, and the first recipient of the Greater Washington UJA Young Leadership Award in 1969.

In a move ahead of its time, during his term as President of the Woodmont Country Club (1983-1984), he famously rewrote the club’s bylaws to ensure stronger legal protections for women members.

A Storied Final Chapter

In retirement, Mr. Feidelman shared what his family called a “storybook marriage” with his wife of 38 years, Jan. Together, they satisfied his passion for travel, visiting all fifty states, eighty-five countries, and six of the seven continents. Their adventures included hot air ballooning over Turkey, Myanmar, and Australia.

Mr. Feidelman is survived by his loving wife, Jan, his two daughters, Nancy Feidelman and Karen Hamlin, and five grandchildren. He was a member of Temple Beth Israel in Longboat Key and maintained his connection to his childhood synagogue in Hazleton, Pennsylvania.

A Celebration of Life for Joel Feidelman will be held on Friday, February 7, 2026, at 3 PM at the Plymouth Harbor Retirement Community Chapel, 700 John Ringling Blvd. in Sarasota, FL. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial donations be made to the ACLU (American Civil Liberties Union) or UJA (United Jewish Appeal).

BREAKFAST • BRUNCH • LUNCH • DINNER • CATERING • GOURMET DELI & BAKERY • CORNER STORE



WEEKLY SPECIALS

BEST BRUNCH
ON LONGBOAT KEY

20% OFF BOTTLES OF WINE DAILY

RESTAURANT & DELI

HAPPY HOUR 3-6

NIGHTLY DINNER SPECIALS



525 ST. JUDES DRIVE • LONGBOAT KEY, FL 34228 • HARRYSKITCHEN.COM • (941) 383-0777

Growing in Jesus' Name



CHRIST CHURCH
OF LONGBOAT KEY
PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)

LONGBOAT KEY
FOOD DRIVE

To Benefit
Our Daily Bread
of Bradenton

Wednesday, November 5th • 9:00 – 10:30 AM

Christ Church of LBK Parking Lot
6400 Gulf of Mexico Drive, Longboat Key

Our Daily Bread meets the needs of hundreds of hungry, needy people in Manatee County by serving daily lunches and stocking an open food pantry.

WHAT IS NEEDED?

Canned Tuna • Chicken • Meats • Dry Pasta • Ramen Noodles

Peanut Butter • Jelly • Canned Vegetables • Coffee • Condiments

OTHER ITEMS IN HIGH DEMAND: Diapers (Sizes 3 & 5)

Toilet Paper • Tooth Paste • Tooth Brush • Shampoo

CHECK DONATIONS: (Made payable to: Our Daily Bread) are greatly appreciated as well.

We invite everyone to join in this effort to serve the needs of those hurting in our community.

QUESTIONS? Contact Sue Wertman at quackbf@aol.com

6400 Gulf of Mexico Dr. • 941.383.8833 (office) • www.christchurchoflbk.org

THE
LAZY LOBSTER

NEW HOURS!
NEW MENU!

Enjoy your favorites all day!

Great food & drinks served continuously.

MONDAY - FRIDAY: 11:30 AM - 9:00 PM

Early Dining & Happy Hour Menu

11:30 AM – 5:00 PM

All-Day Dinner Menu

11:30 AM – 9:00 PM

SATURDAY: 1:00 - 9:00 PM

Early Dining & Happy Hour Menu

1:00 – 5:00 PM

All-Day Dinner Menu

1:00 – 9:00 PM

CLOSED SUNDAYS

5350 Gulf of Mexico Dr. | In the Centre Shops

www.LazyLobsterofLongboat.com | 941-383-0440

Growing in Jesus' Name



CHRIST CHURCH
OF LONGBOAT KEY
PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)

Welcoming & Friendly

Worship With Us at Our Church

Sunday Service 10:00 AM

Dr. Julia Wharff Piermont, Pastor

Visitors & Residents Welcome

Watch Our 10:00 AM Service Live:

www.christchurchoflbk.org (follow YouTube link)

6400 Gulf of Mexico Drive • 941.383.8833 • www.christchurchoflbk.org

Rebirth, from page 1

• Tommy Bahama’s Power Re-Entry: The most symbolic return is Tommy Bahama Restaurant, Bar & Store (465 John Ringling Blvd.). Reopening in late September 2025, the brand made a strategic and massive commitment by moving into a newly transformed, two-story, 10,000-square-foot space. This integration of 5,000 sq. ft. of luxury retail on the ground floor and a 5,000 sq. ft. restaurant on the second floor is a clear vote of confidence, signaling that the Circle’s luxury retail-dining model is the sustainable template for this market. It directly translates to 150 peak-season jobs.

• Themed Luxury Dining Anchor: The new Ringside at Cirque St. Armands Beachside opened its doors in March 2025. This sophisticated, circus-themed experience—the premiere restaurant in the new Cirque St. Armands Hotel on Lido Key—injects new high-end traffic to the St. Armands area. This resort-affiliated concept acts as a crucial draw, linking resort guests directly to the Circle’s commercial offerings.

• New Global Flavors: The Circle’s commercial vibrancy is further amplified by new arrivals like Flambo Island Cuisine (40 S. Blvd of the Presidents). This family-owned venture, focusing on island-inspired dining with a blend of Trinidad and Tobago flavors, underscores the enduring tenant demand for prime St. Armands retail slots.

The clustering of new and established fine dining—including classics like Columbia Restaurant and Crab & Fin—is showing that despite infrastructure challenges, the premium-traffic economic generator of St. Armands is fundamentally stable and aggressively attracting high-capital tenants.

Infrastructure Investment

Critically, the city of Sarasota is actively pursuing \$10 million in targeted flood mitigation funding for St. Armands Circle under the Resilient SRQ program. This investment—focused on upgrading pump stations, installing tide backflow prevention devices, and designing storm surge protection—is an explicit acknowledgment that future economic stability hinges on climate-resilient infrastructure.

Enduring Tenancy

New and resilient dining venues, including 15 South by Napulè and Ringside Restaurant, are complementing the repair efforts of established tenants, confirming that market demand for sophisticated, experiential coastal dining remains robust despite the prior year’s physical setbacks.

Longboat Key: Endurance and Investment Secure the Luxury Segment

On Longboat Key, the narrative is one of unwavering continuity and targeted, ultra-luxury development, backed by strategic civic improvements.

Community Hall Approval

In a civic victory, the Sarasota County Library and Community Hall project received final commission approval in April 2025. The project—a public/private partnership enhanced by over \$3.5 million in private donations—will serve not only as a cultural hub but as a critical, hurricane-ready emergency resource center staged at the Town Center Green.

Preservation of Identity

In an assertion of local will, the Town Commission unanimously voted to keep the historic name of Gulf of Mexico Drive in October 2025. This decision, prioritizing community stability and avoiding the costly administrative disruption for over 5,100 addresses, was a direct rejection of the proposed name change, cementing the importance of local tradition and home rule.

Ultra-Luxury Real Estate

The island’s real estate market is undergoing a structural transformation toward premium, resilient inventory. Flagship residential components of projects like the St. Regis are setting new benchmarks for quality. This flight to quality is driven by discerning buyers seeking properties built to the latest Florida Building Code (FBC) standards, featuring impact-resistant construction and elevated foundations, which translates directly into perceived durability and long-term asset value.

Buyers are explicitly valuing hurricane-resistant features, such as concrete block construction, impact-rated windows, and elevated floor plans, with new builds commanding a clear premium and facing lower insurance scrutiny. The market is thus becoming a clear delineation between two-tiered stock: older homes facing extended market times and increased insurance risk, and new construction which is positioning itself as the standard for secure, long-term coastal ownership.

Longboat Key’s Resort Monoliths

The resilience story along the Sarasota coastline is not just about rebuilding; it’s about strategic, high-value investment—a double-fisted power play centered on elite retail and luxury resort tourism.

The data confirms two major economic pillars are fully engaged: St. Armands Circle’s dining sector is booming with resilient new concepts, and Longboat Key’s resort infrastructure is solidifying its role as the island’s primary economic engine.

Longboat Key’s Resort Duopoly: The Dual Economic Anchors

Longboat Key’s economic security is anchored by the two fully operational luxury resorts: The Resort at Longboat Key Club and the St. Regis Longboat Key Resort. These properties are self-contained economic hubs driving property values and employment.

The St. Regis Longboat Key Resort opened November 2024. This \$800 Million development has already been added to the tax rolls, driving up the entire island’s property valuation. It provides a new benchmark for ultra-luxury hospitality with 166 rooms and 67 high-end condominium units. Its five destination restaurants (CW Prime, Riva, Aura, Oshen, The St. Regis Bar) and full-service spa create hundreds of high-wage hospitality jobs and attract a global clientele with massive disposable income, sustaining high commercial occupancy.

The Resort at Longboat Key Club with 410 acres, 226 guest rooms, 45 holes of golf, an award-winning tennis center, and a 291-slip deep-water marina, this property is consistently cited as Longboat Key’s largest employer and tax contributor. Its multi-year, multi-million dollar refurbishments—focused on yacht-sleek, resilient design—ensure its competitiveness and ability to attract the conference and high-end leisure business that sustains year-round economic activity.

Key Club as Property Value Catalyst

The resort lifestyle, amenity-rich environment, and consistent flow of affluent repeat visitors directly contribute to higher-than-average median home prices in the surrounding Longboat Key Club community (\$1.4 Million median listing price). As a pipeline for future property buyers, resort guests often convert to second-home owners.

In short, the Sarasota Keys are not just recovering; they are fortifying their economic structure through calculated, high-capital investment in luxury tourism and retail, making the market significantly more resistant to future economic or environmental shocks.

Ads that work...

ads@Lbknews.com

941.387.2200

Transform Your Interior Space For Less ...

Now 35% Off Roller and Solar Screen Shades with Free Cordless option or Save additional \$100 Off Motorization



★2024★

THE OFFICIAL COMMUNITY CHOICE AWARDS

Sarasota

WINNER

★2025★

THE OFFICIAL COMMUNITY CHOICE AWARDS

Sarasota

WINNER

Call for a Free Quote 941-360-9200

Visit our Showroom

4201 N. Washington Blvd. Sarasota

Mon-Fri 9 am to 5 pm & Sat 10 am to 2 pm

www.blindsanddesignsofflorida.com



Editor Letters

Letters, from page 3

Margaret Sanchez
Longboat Key

Longboat Club Road

To: Longboat Key Commissioner Gary Coffin
Thanks for checking on the status. There were a couple of property maintenance issues that were identified in the Code Enforcement case for this property. Since initiation of the case, the homeowner has cleaned up the pool cage to where it does not appear to be a danger anymore. Landscaping on the property has been cleaned up and there is a permit in system for the roof to be replaced. Code Enforcement is continuing to monitor.
Allen Parsons
Assistant Town Manager
Town of Longboat Key

Longboat Club Road

To: Longboat Key Commissioner Gary Coffin
Thank you for reaching out. I have copied Allen Parsons for the latest information.
Isaac Brownman
Assistant Town Manager
Town of Longboat Key

Longboat Club Road

To: Longboat Key Assistant Town Manager Isaac Brownman
Isaac, the above referenced property had some safety issues several months back. I was just checking in to see how that has progressed?
Gary Coffin
Commissioner
Town of Longboat Key

What would it look like if Melissa hit us

To: Longboat Key Commission, Sarasota City Commission
Jamaica has long been my favorite part of the Caribbean to visit. My first trip there was 40 years ago, when my friend and I rode motorcycles along the north coast from Discovery Bay west to Negril, and then up into the Blue Mountains. We experienced the incredible hospitality of the people who live on the beautiful island when we ran out of gas somewhere south of Falmouth, in a part of the country far removed from the tourist resorts. We created quite

a scene, two tourists on motorcycles far away from the hotels of the north coast, pushing our bikes along the road with the sun setting. Nearly half a dozen people stopped to help us out, and they wouldn't let us pay for the gas that they siphoned from someone's car. So, we ended up buying them dinner and Red Stripes at a local restaurant and had a fantastic evening. I went back to that same area years later with my wife, riding horses up in the mountains on days we weren't diving on the reefs or climbing the waterfall at Ocho Rios.

And now, that same island is getting slammed by a monster Category 5 hurricane. To be clear, we have always had powerful hurricanes, and we will continue to have them well into the future. But what is new is the frequency of such storms. Over the past 100 years, there have been 44 storms that have reached Category 5 levels in the North Atlantic Basin. But what is unusual about our recent history is the frequency of these storms. The graph below shows the number of hurricanes that have reached Category 5 status in the North Atlantic Basin over the past 115 years, in 10-year increments (except the last category, which only has five years).

Note that we had Category 5 hurricanes way far back in our history. And that the 1930s was especially bad in terms of these monster storms. But look at the entire record, and you'll see that in the first 8 decades, we had a total of 23 Category 5 storms, but we've already had 21 such storms over just the past 2 ½ decades alone. There is a statistical test that can be run (Chi-Square analysis with Yates correction) that concludes that the distribution of storms per decade differs from an even distribution across time. It doesn't say why, but the obvious conclusion is that there are more Category 5 storms, on average, across the past 25 years than the prior 80 years. So, the next time someone says "We never used to see storms this powerful" you'll know that's not true. But also, the next time someone says "We've always had powerful hurricanes" you'll know that they've not included the caveat that we're seeing a lot more of them lately. Those two comments are inaccurate and incomplete, respectively. And neither is helpful, frankly. For more detailed information, view that portion of our website that focuses on Hurricanes – how they affect our bay, how they're changing over time, and what we need to do to accommodate these changes - Hurricanes | Sarasota Bay Estuary Program.

This is how Climate Change is manifesting itself. It's not as if we've never had powerful hurricanes, it's that the frequency of powerful hurricanes is increasing. Why? Because hurricanes are "heat engines" which turn the thermal energy of warm, moist air and warm water into mechanical energy. In this case, the mechanical energy is in the form of wind and waves. More heat, more fuel. More fuel, more powerful hurricanes.

You can see something similar when you look at the frequency of high rainfall events. It's not as if we've never had intense rain events before, but the frequency of such is increasing in recent years, as summarized in a prior Director's Note, and as shown below – Director's Note: Is rainfall trending in our region? – Sarasota Bay Estuary Program.

The waters south of Jamaica are warmer than they would have been without climate change, which increases the likelihood for more powerful storms. According to the Weather Channel,

See Letters, page 11

Elevate your leisure time with unparalleled experiences.

As a member you'll enjoy:

• Championship Golf

• Private Beach & Pool

• Deep-Water Marina

• Pickleball & Tennis

• Spa & Wellness Center

• Five Exclusive Restaurants

Contact membership@longboatkeyclub.com or (941)387-1661 for a tour.



LONGBOAT•KEY•CLUB





LEARN MORE

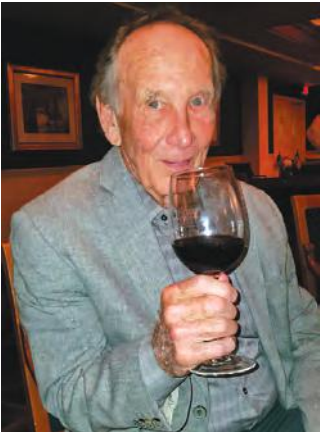
WineTimes

Great but Neglected Wines...

One or more of these neglected wines will add something unexpected to your Thanksgiving.

S.W. and Rich Hermansen
Guest Writers
wine@lbknews.com

Some of the best wines that we have tasted belong in the category of “neglected wines”. By “neglected”, we mean small numbers of bottles sold relative to top selling wines. For example, the popular Italian white wine, Pinot Grigio, sold 250 million bottles in 2022 compared with Vermentino sales of 10 million bottles. The excellent 2924 Argiola Costsmolino Vermentino (\$17) from Sardegna in Italy blows away most of the Pinot Grigio in its price range. It has sweet fruit taste on the front despite a low level of residual sugar, a mouth feel of citrus and tart green plum acidity, and a strong finish of seabed minerals. In Italy, Vermentino wines are gaining popularity at the expense of Pinot Grigio. In the US, the “Vermentino” name, perhaps alluding to “ferment”, sounds too much like “vermin”. Neglect of this lovely wine will likely continue until wine merchandizers come up with a different take on the name. Too late for this wine to become a Thanksgiving favorite, we fear. Those who can find a good Vermentino will find this wine a great pairing with turkey and dressing.



Two other promising candidates for Thanksgiving wines, the Arneis from the Piemonte region of Italy and the Gewürztraminer from the Alsace in France, the Alto Adige region in the Italian Alps, the USA, and Germany, suffer from neglect due to their names. In the Piemonte dialect, Arneis means “troublesome child”. The grape variety had disappeared into back corners of vineyards until its revival in the 1970’s. The Gewürztraminer grape variety has a name that most wine drinkers cannot pronounce or remember.

Wine experts classify the Arneis and Gewürztraminer varietal wines as aromatics. They show rich floral and fruit overtones on the nose and pleasing acidic tastes on the tongue. The revival of Arneis happened at the Vietti winery in 1967. The winemaker collected Arneis grapes from Vietti and neighboring plots and made the first vintage of Roero Arneis. Today Arneis varietals such as the 2022 Mauro Molino Roero Arneis DOCG (\$20) from the Piemonte have attained high ratings. The 2018 Trimbach Gewürztraminer from the Alsace (\$26) offers the aromas and tastes characteristic of a classic Gewürztraminer.

One or more of these neglected wines will add something unexpected to your Thanksgiving table and bring smiles to the faces of guests. We will have more to say about rose and red wines for the Thanksgiving feast. Stay tuned.



S. W. Hermansen has used his expertise in econometrics, data science and epidemiology to help develop research databases for the Pentagon, the National Institutes of Health, the Department of Agriculture, and Health Resources and Services. He has visited premier vineyards and taste wines from major appellations in California, Oregon, New York State, and internationally from Tuscany and the Piedmont in Italy, the Ribera del Duero in Spain, the Barossa Valley and McLaren Vale in Australia, and the Otago Valley in New Zealand. Currently he splits time between residences in Chevy Chase, Maryland and St. Armand’s Circle in Florida.

Rich Hermansen selected his first wine list for a restaurant shortly after graduating from college with a degree in Mathematics. He has extensive service and management experience in the food and wine industry. Family and friends rate him as their favorite chef, bartender, and wine steward. He lives in Severna Park, Maryland.

THE EDUCATION CENTER
AT TEMPLE BETH ISRAEL

Like College, Only Better!

2025-2026

LECTURE SERIES

PAINTING CURRENT EVENTS

QIGONG YOGA **MEDITATION**

BRIDGE MAH JONGG CANASTA

SUPREME COURT AMERICAN HISTORY

LITERATURE & POETRY **MOVIE & BOOK GROUPS**

MUSIC & ART APPRECIATION JAZZ NIGHTS

MORNING FORUMS THEOLOGY **WORLD POLITICS**

FILM FESTIVALS THEATRICAL PERFORMANCES

AUTOBIOGRAPHY **IPHONE & IPAD** BIRDING

NATURE WALKS WELLNESS NORDIC WALKING

LANGUAGES **PIANO LESSONS**

SUNDAY CONCERTS BROADWAY BIOS

CRAFTS SPECIAL ONE-TIME EVENTS

& MUCH MORE!

Everything Under The Sun To Learn & Enjoy

Many Programs Available on Zoom.

THE EDUCATION CENTER AT TEMPLE BETH ISRAEL

567 Bay Isles Road, Longboat Key, FL 34228

VISIT OUR WEBSITE www.TBleducationcenter.org

For a brochure or inquiries call: (941) 383-8222

or email Admin@tbieducationcenter.org

D R I F T

KITCHEN & BAR

A photograph of a woman with long, wavy brown hair, smiling and holding a glass of wine. In the foreground, there is a white bowl containing a dish of food, possibly seafood or meat, garnished with herbs. The background is blurred, showing an indoor setting.

Top-Ranked for a Reason

Perched on the eighth floor of Lido Beach Resort, Drift ranks #1 among 900 Sarasota restaurants on TripAdvisor for its unrivaled views and unforgettable flavors.

opalcollection.com/lido-beach

941.388.2161

A stylized blue palm tree logo.

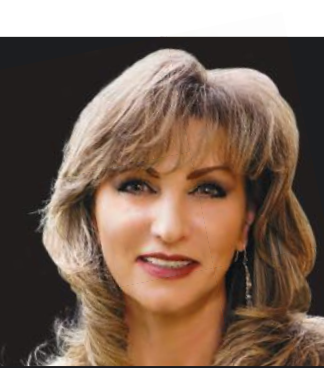


TOP .5%
IN THE WORLD



\$3.4 Billion Career Sales

JUDY
KEPECZ
HAYS
Team



Leah
George
941-780-0597



Judy
Kepecz-Hays
941-587-1700



Steven
Kepecz
941-376-6411

Casa del Carnevale on St. Armands



139 S Washington Drive
\$17,500,000
CasaDelCarnevale.com

Siesta Key



21 & 25 Lands End Lane | \$12,400,000
21 Lands End Lane | \$9,900,000 - 25 Lands End Lane | \$2,500,000
21LandsEndLane.com

Hideaway Bay



757 Hideaway Bay Drive
\$7,488,000
757HideawayBay.com

Ritz-Carlton Managed



1300 Benjamin Franklin Drive #709
\$3,750,000
BeachResidences709.com

Villa di Lancia



2165 Gulf of Mexico Drive #114
\$2,250,000
VillaDiLancia114.com

Our expertise is undeniable—deeply understanding the local market and truly listening to our clients.

L'Ambiance



415 L'Ambiance Drive #A801
\$6,995,000
LAmbianceA801.com

435 L'Ambiance Drive #L807
\$3,500,000 | Furnished
LAmbianceL807.com

415 L'Ambiance Drive #B202
\$2,600,000 | Furnished
LAmbianceB202.com

Country Club Shores



521 Wedge Lane
\$1,880,000
521WedgeLn.com

Promenade



1211 Gulf of Mexico Dr
#704 - \$999,000
Promenade704.com

1211 Gulf of Mexico Dr
#105 - \$899,000
Promenade105.com

Tangerine Bay Club



350 Gulf of Mexico Drive #211
\$938,500
Tangerine211.com

Golden Gate Point



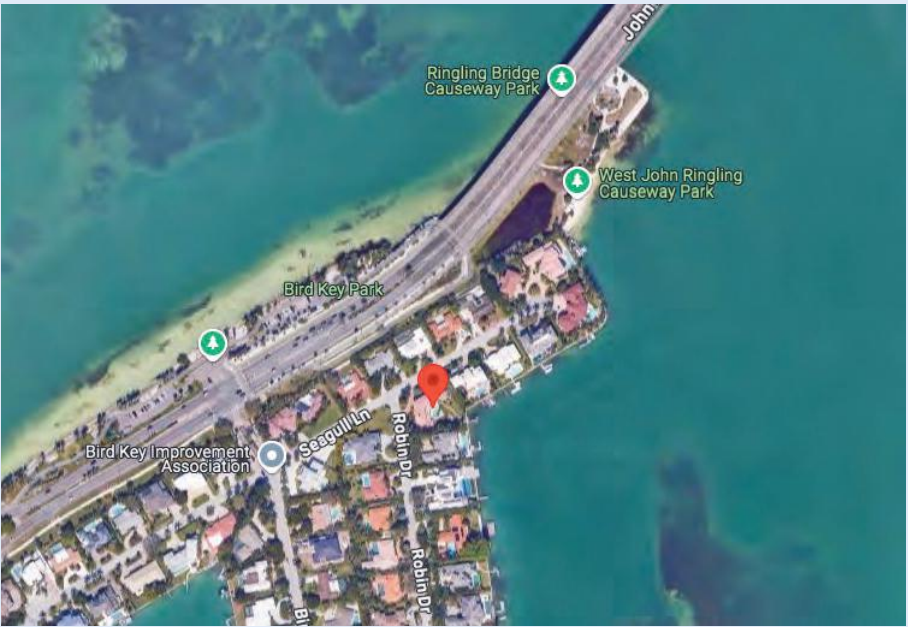
660 Golden Gate Point #32
\$899,000
MarinaView32.com

100 North Tamiami Trail | Sarasota, FL 34236 | Kepecz@JudyHays.com | www.LongboatKeyLuxury.com

KeyRealEstate

Bird Key, Lido Key, Longboat Key latest sales

Address	Sq. Ft.	List Price	Bed/Bath/Half Bath			Days On Market	Sale Price
203 ROBIN DR	5,660	\$5,395,000	3	5	1	143	\$3,760,000
1212 BENJAMIN FRANKLIN DR Unit#909	1,812	\$975,000	2	2	0	141	\$955,000
765 JOHN RINGLING BLVD Unit#32	816	\$320,000	2	1	0	16	\$310,005
6011 EMERALD HARBOR DR	1,929	\$1,850,000	3	2	0	248	\$1,750,000
2020 HARBOURSIDE DR Unit#454	2,462	\$1,650,000	3	3	0	185	\$1,560,000
575 SANCTUARY DR Unit#A302	1,823	\$1,650,000	3	2	1	18	\$1,550,000
791 SAINT JUDES DR N	1,508	\$1,260,000	3	3	0	128	\$1,215,000
749 PENFIELD ST	2,905	\$975,000	3	3	0	25	\$917,000
600 FOX ST	1,427	\$899,999	3	3	0	236	\$810,000
5155 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#9	624	\$625,000	1	1	0	41	\$595,000
640 FOX ST	1,248	\$595,000	2	2	0	168	\$535,000
3540 GULF OF MEXICO DRIVE Unit#202	1,479	\$575,000	2	2	0	169	\$530,000
1930 HARBOURSIDE DR Unit#142	1,192	\$549,000	2	2	0	191	\$470,000
408 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#2210		\$70,000				0	\$64,000



203 ROBIN DR



JEFF
RHINELANDER

941-685-3590

Jeff@jeffrhinelander.com



COURTNEY
TARANTINO

941-893-7203

courtney.tarantino@floridamoves.com



443F John Ringling Blvd. • Sarasota, FL 34236



BIRD KEY • SARASOTA
247 Robin Drive
New Construction • \$13,999,000



BIRD KEY • SARASOTA
605 Wild Turkey Lane
2,200 SF • \$1,995,000



L'AMBIANCE • LONGBOAT KEY
435 L'Ambiance Dr #J703
3BR/2BA/1HB • \$4,795.000



NOW PENDING

GRAND BAY • LONGBOAT KEY
3030 Grand Bay Blvd #381
3BR/3.5BA • Furnished • \$2,795,000



BEACHES • LONGBOAT KEY
775 Longboat Club Rd #203
3BR/3BA • Gulf front • \$1,999,000



COUNTRY CLUB SHORES • LONGBOAT KEY
510 Wedge Lane
4BR/3BA • Canal front • \$2,215.000

OnPatrol



The following are actual police reports as written by Longboat Key Police Officers. They are edited for length, punctuation and to protect privacy.

Oct. 24

Person

12:38 a.m.

Officer Miklos while on patrol at Bay Isles Parkway when he observed an unknown man walking a bicycle near the entrance to Publix. Officer Miklos initiated a consensual conversation with the man who advised he jsut started a new construction job on Longboat Key. The man advised he wanted to arrive early to ensure he was not late for his new job. The man advised he was attempting to get his driver license but did not currently have one. The man advised he rode his bicycle from Manatee County and was looking for a place to stay until his starting time. Officer Miklos advised the man that longboat Key has strict town ordinances that prohibit overnight camping and loitering at night. Officer Miklos advised the man he could not stay near any business and the public parks did not open until 5 a.m. The man advised he was unaware of any ordinance and would travel south to the New Pass Bridge until Overlook Park opened at 5 a.m. A record after the fact video on Vehicle 119 was created showing the man leaving the parking lot. Case clear.



Oct. 25

Persons

2:28 a.m.

Officer Van Dyke responded to the 4800 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive in reference to suspicious persons. Although the caller didn't wish to meet, he said that the individuals were consuming narcotics on the beach after hours. Upon arrival, responding Officers located a group of adults on the beach. They didn't appear to be in possession of drugs and not under the influence. The subjects were advised of the town ordinance regarding hours on the beach. The subjects returned to their condo while responding officers remained on the scene. Case clear.

Oct. 26

Vehicle

7:58 a.m.

Officer Mathis was dispatched to North Shore Road in reference to a suspicious vehicle. The man reported that a suspicious white Chevrolet Impala with a rear window busted out was in the parking lot and it did not belong at the location which is properly posted as private property. As Officer Mathis arrived at the incident location, the suspicious Impala with a white male driver was leaving. The driver was operating the vehicle while unrestrained. Officer Mathis then activated his emergency equipment to conduct a traffic stop. The driver pulled over to the southbound shoulder of Gulf of Mexico Drive just south of North Shore Road. Officer Mathis approached the passenger side window, introduced himself and provided the reason for the traffic stop. During this time, Sgt. Montfort contacted the driver at the incident location. In sum and substance, the driver advised that the Impala was not that of a property owner nor registered guest of the location and therefore trespassing. Officer Mathis then advised the driver of the suspicious vehicle 911 call. The driver explained that he and his girlfriend were camping on the beach last night and that once he returned to the car this morning, a man contacted him about trespassing on the property. At this time, the homeowner did not wish to criminally trespass the man or his girlfriend since they just used the parking lot and swam across to Greer island to camp. The man further advised that after the contact with the homeowner is when he entered his vehicle, left the property and passed by his patrol unit while not wearing a seatbelt. Officer Troyer and Officer Mathis then gave the man the opportunity together his remaining items from the beach and lease. Once the man gathered his items from the beach, he left the area. The man was ultimately cited for not wearing his seatbelt while driving on Gulf of Mexico Drive and given a verbal warning for trespassing on private property.

Person

3:20 p.m.

Officer Troyer was dispatched to Harbourside Drive in reference to a suspicious person. The caller said two juveniles driving a white Ford F-150 and a red Toyota Tacoma were fishing on private property. Upon arrival, Officer Troyer met with the security enforcement for the resort and he stated that at 12 p.m. two juveniles were fishing on private property and everytime the security officer told them to leave, the juveniles snuck away. The guard said they were only able to verbally told the juveniles to leave but did they evaded the guard and would not stick around. The guard felt his only option was to contact the police so that they were aware. The guard did not have any identity on them and suspected and prior to the call.

Noise

6:31 p.m.

Officer Pescuma was dispatched to Lighthouse Point Drive in reference to a noise complaint of loud music. Upon arrival, Officer Pescuma met with the caller, who advised that there was loud music coming from across the waterway. Officer Pescuma was able to observe the music stemming from Overlook Park. Officer Pescuma arrived at the park and could still hear the loud music coming from a gray Toyota SUV. Officer Pescuma made contact with the owner and advised him of the noise complaint and educated him of the town ordinance. The driver complied and turned the music off. A written warning was issued. Case clear.

Property

8:45 a.m.

Officer Nazareno was dispatched to the 1900 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive for a property damage report. Upon arrival, Officer Nazareno made contact with the complainant who advised that a white pickup truck with a trailer turned into Harbour Sound Drive. The driver advised the driver that he was dropping off a tree at Harbour Point Road and gave his information. The estimated amount of damage to the gate operator box was \$7,000. The homeowner was given the case number.

Oct. 28

Vehicle

10:11 a.m.

Officer Mathis while on marine patrol observed a vessel washed ashore on the east side of Whale Key. The vessel is a sailboat which was unoccupied. An attempt was made to contact the boat owner but was unsuccessful. Officer Mathis will attempt to contact again and begin the process to have the vessel removed. Case clear.

10:17 p.m.

Officer Miklos was traveling southbound in the 5400 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive when he observed a large car part in the southbound lane and a racoon laying in the northbound lane. Officer Miklos removed the car part and placed it in the grass on the west side of Gulf of Mexico Drive. Officer Miklos called Officer Tillman and requested he check the police station for a shovel to remove the racoon from the street tot he west side of the roadway. At approximately 11 p.m. Officer Miklos was dispatched to the 5600 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive in reference to a citizen's assist due to a caller reporting he hit an armadillo south of Harry's Corner Store and was missing a wheel well cover. The complainant requested a call if the car piece was located. Officer Miklos contacted the complainant and advised him that he had previously removed the piece out of the street and placed it in the grass on the west side of the street. The complainant advised he would retrieve it in the morning on his way into work. Case clear.

Oct. 29

Buoy

4:01 p.m.

Officer Mathis contacted police in reference to a trap floating in the exterior canal behind her residence. Upon Officer Mathis' arrival at the incident location, Officer Mathis attempted to make contact with the homeowner by ringing the doorbell but received no answer. Officer Mathis then utilized the walkway to the rear area of the home to access the dock. From the dock, Officer Mathis observed what appeared to be a buoy for a submerged trap. From Officer Mathis' vantage point, he observed no markings on the buoy. The buoy for the submerged trap is floating in the center of the exterior canal and does not appear to be a hazard or blocking the canal. Case clear.

Oct. 30

Person

8:33 p.m.

Officer Pescuma was dispatched to Bay Isles Parkway in reference to a suspicious person in a gray Ford Explorer, SUV attempting to make entry for a Walmart delivery. Upon arriving on scene, Officer Pescuma met with the security guard at the gate and he said that a white woman approached the gate in a Gray Ford SUV trying to make entry to deliver a Walmart order for a resident. The guard gate worker said that he was not notified of the delivery and got concerned and called 911. After multiple attempts to contact the homeowner with negative results, and the delivery driver departed the area before Officer Pescuma's arrival. Case clear.

The advertisement for LBK Liqueurs features a central graphic of a pink flamingo standing on its left leg, with its right leg tucked up. The text "LBK" is in a large, black, serif font, and "Liqueurs" is in a black, cursive script font. To the right of the flamingo, the phone number "941.953.1835" is displayed in a black, sans-serif font. Below this, the text "The Island's largest selection of Beer, Wine & Spirits" and "Come check out our competitive prices!" is centered. Further down, "Discounts on cases of wine | Special orders welcome" is centered. Below that, "Locally owned & operated" is centered. At the bottom, the address "Whitney Beach Plaza" and "6854 Gulf of Mexico Drive | Longboat Key, FL" is centered. On the left and right sides of the bottom section, there are illustrations of three liquor bottles in yellow, teal, and magenta colors.

Editor Letters



Letters, from page 6

these changes have increased the potential damage from Melissa by as much as 50% - Climate Change Fuels More Powerful Storms Like Melissa | Weather.com.

So, back to the topic – what would it be like if Melissa hit our region? Well, the storm surge maximum recorded in Jamaica of 13 feet is higher than the worst-case scenario shown on the State of Florida’s Statewide Vulnerability Assessment tool - SVA. But if you look at their worst-case scenario of 10 feet of sea level rise (a coarse way to estimate impacts of a 10-foot storm surge) it shows all of our barrier islands would be under at least five feet of water, with some areas (like Longboat Key Village) submerged by up to 10 feet of water. That’s not surprising, because that same GIS tool shows that most of the roads in Longboat Key Village will have standing water on them with even a two-foot storm surge. With 10 feet of storm surge, there would be standing water (to different depths) covering pretty much every part of Manatee County west of 75th Street.

In the City of Sarasota, 10 feet of storm surge would cover Bird Key and St. Armands and all the barrier islands, but would also extend east past Palm Avenue –

Farther south, 10 feet of storm surge would extend east of Tamiami Trail, with surge funneled farther east by the low-lying areas around South Creek and around Lyons and Dona and Roberts Bay –

According to the latest (March 2025) polling conducted by FAU, more than 67% of Floridians are moderately or extremely concerned about hurricanes becoming stronger and/or more frequent - 5_FCSMarch2025_Survey_Summary.pdf. 56% of Floridians are moderately or extremely concerned about increased rates of sea level rise, and 63% of Floridians are moderately or extremely concerned about the impacts of storm surge on our coast.

Nearly 90% of Floridians believe that our climate is changing (they’re right) and almost two-thirds of Floridians want state and federal governments to do more to address the impacts of climate change, including majorities of Democrats, Republicans, and Independents.

So... will we act in a manner consistent with the clearly expressed concerns of our friends and neighbors? Or will we continue our current path, which seems akin to the old phrase of whistling past the graveyard?

Dave Tomasko
Executive Director
Sarasota Bay Estuary Program

SB180 Talking Points Below

The Town of Longboat Key (Town) is a vulnerable, low-elevation, barrier island that has a long history of proactively working to protect its residents and visitors. The Town’s Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Code both contain regulations that were adopted to ensure compliance with the FEMA Community Rating System (which directly impacts flood insurance rates for property owners) with the objective of minimizing flooding risks to properties and structures throughout the Town based upon nationally established flood zones.

However, flooding impact within the Town have become more and more apparent over the past 10 years. The Town recently accepted a Sea Level Rise and Recurring Flooding Resilience Plan (Plan) that contains a collection of best practices, administrative actions and projects intended to prepare the Town for changes in asset management and operational needs likely to manifest as sea level rises.

A number of the Plan’s recommendations addressing flooding impacts to properties and structures cannot be fully implemented due to SB 180 and the subsequent extensions of the moratorium on restrictive or burdensome comprehensive plan amendments and land development regulations. These recommendations include:

- requiring new seawalls to be established at minimum heights to help prevent over-topping of seawalls during higher-than-normal tides and storm events. Lower seawalls cause ‘flood trespassing’ onto adjacent properties, public drainage systems and/or into roads;
- requiring newly constructed structures to meet FEMA flood requirements, plus an additional mandatory ‘Freeboard’ height to maintain revised FEMA flood elevation requirements (which are generally 2 feet lower than prior FEMA flood elevations).

Enhanced flood protection measures for the benefits of the Town’s residents and properties cannot be mandated because of existing state law (SB 180) that prohibits the Town Commission from adopting more “restrictive” measures, even if those restrictive measures provide a heightened level of protection to the people and properties within the Town.

The Town has also paused a citizen-requested amendment that would address dock size and the navigability of manmade canals. Dock sizes and the maximum length of their projection and extension into the Town’s waterways are regulated within the Town’s Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Regulations. SB 180 and its antecedents, has prevented the Town Commission from moving forward with amendments to the Town’s dock regulations that have been requested by Town property owners. Specifically, the Town’s residents have requested more stringent standards be incorporated into the Town’s dock regulations to incorporate a vessel projection length into the maximum projection length of a dock within the Town’s existing dock regulations.

These topics and others that address flooding, resiliency, and stormwater management are critical to the Town’s long-term resiliency. In light of recent hurricane impacts, such measures, if implemented through the local, public, legislative process would serve to reduce impacts to properties.

The Town would urge the Florida Legislature to create exceptions to the SB 180 moratorium that is repeatedly extended and created a “one size fits all” prohibition on local governments legislating on priority concerns like resiliency, flooding, and stormwater management that are incorporated into their Comprehensive Plans and Land Development Codes. This type of overarching, perpetual moratorium does not serve property owners interests because they do not allow local governments to respond to actual land development code needs within their communities.

See Letters, page 12

LONGBOAT KEY TENNIS CENTER

Join the fun!

10 OPEN COURTS | TOURNAMENT PLAY | LESSONS

FULL SERVICE TENNIS PRO SHOP

ROUND ROBIN LEAGUE

CERTIFIED INSTRUCTORS AND CLINICS

OPEN MON-FRI 7:30 AM - 5:00 PM

SAT-SUN 7:30 AM - 1200 PM

SEASONAL AND ANNUAL PASSES ENJOY

UNLIMITED FREE PLAY!

590 BAY ISLES ROAD | LONGBOAT KEY, FL

941.316.8367

Ads that work...

ads@Lbknews.com or 941.387.2200

Laid-Back Waterfront Living!

744 JUNGLE QUEEN WAY • LONGBOAT KEY
3BR/2BA • 1,688 SF • \$1,200,000

Fully renovated, furnished coastal retreat includes a single car garage, deeded beach access and two boat lifts with quick access to the Bay and Gulf.

405 BRYN MAWR ISLAND, BRADENTON
2BR/2BA • 1,392 SF • \$649,000

Never flooded! This POOL home, with a 70 ft. private waterfront dock, is located on a deep saltwater canal with direct bridge-free access to Bay.

CALL FOR YOUR PRIVATE TOUR!

Teddi Aberle, Realtor • 813.503.6128 • teddiaberle@yahoo.com

Your Hometown Realty, Inc. • P. O. Box 10367 • Bradenton, FL 34282

Place Your Bets!

ONE EYED JACKS POKER ROOM

70 TVS - SIMULCASTING

Watch and wager on thoroughbred & greyhound tracks from across the country

DAILY & MONTHLY TOURNAMENTS

HIGH HAND PAYOUT SPECIALS

Poker

LIVE ACTION CASH GAMES

TEXAS HOLD 'EM

7 CARD STUD • OMAHA

VEGAS STYLE GAMES

ULTIMATE TEXAS HOLD 'EM

WILD STUD 3-CARD

FACE UP PAI-GOW

DINING AVAILABLE • ENTREES, HANDHELDS, PIZZAS, SALADS

4404 BEE RIDGE RD
SARASOTA, FL 34233

SUNDAY: NOON - MIDNIGHT
MON-SAT: 10:00AM - 2:00AM

WWW.SKCPOKER.COM
941-355-7744 EXT 1001

Editor Letters



Letters, from page 11

We hope that you will consider creating either exceptions to SB 180, for vulnerable low-lying barrier islands, or sunset the law entirely ending the ongoing extensions of this law.
Isaac Brownman
Assistant Town Manager
Town of Longboat Key

Senate Bill 180

To: Longboat Key Commission
All: I met this afternoon with Senator Jim Boyd. He suggested that I send him a specific list of what is a problem for us with SB 180. I had mentioned the sea wall issue and the general issues of comp plan revisions. They are willing to amend the legislation with those issues that are slowing or restricting building a resilient community, but are frustrated with those communities that have made it difficult to see timely release of building permits (not us) and anything to do with building moratoriums.
As soon as you can put together a simple list that could be included in an amendment to SB180 he is happy to forward it to those who are moving forward with amendment language. P.S. - on another front we also discussed property taxes - and that was a fruitful but longer chat that can't be captured in this email.
BJ Bishop
Commissioner
Town of Longboat Key

SB180 Talking Points

To: Longboat Key Assistant Town Manager Isaac Brownman
I think our inability to add a mandatory additional 2 feet of freeboard to counter FEMA's ridiculous lowering of the flood level is a good case study of 180's harm to resilience legislation. I would describe it in discussions with legislators. Any tinkering with 180 should allow for that kind of change.
Ken Schneider
Mayor
Town of Longboat Key

Veteran's Day & Celebration of Town Founding

To: Longboat Key Commissioner BJ Bishop
I am going to add this to the Senator's calendar. He may have a conflict but he won't know until closer to the date.
If he is able to attend, he certainly will!
Amanda Romant
Senior Legislative Assistant to Senator Jim Boyd, District 20
Bradenton

Veteran's Day & Celebration of Town Founding

To: Legislative Assistant to U.S. Senator Jim Boyd Amanda Romant
Dear Jim , Will, Fiona & Joe: Longboat Key will be hosting a celebration of our Veteran's and the 70th Anniversary of the founding of the Town of Longboat Key (actual date of founding is 11/14) on Saturday November 8 at 4 p.m. at Town Center Green (our new stage and lawn) on Bay Isles Road. We are excited to be hosting this special event with Retired Coast Guard Admiral Steve Branham speaking. I hope you can all join us. Call me if you have any questions.
BJ Bishop
Commissioner
Longboat Key

Forty Carrots Field Trip

To: Forty Carrots Molly Bowbeer
Molly, thank you so much for getting everything coordinated on your end. I'm sure getting 30 or so parents and their kids coordinated for a field trip requires a special talent. I'm so sorry that you missed the trip. It was a remarkable experience that the kids and the parents will not soon forget. The St Regis is truly a special place and a fabulous addition to our community. I felt like the kids were very well behaved, and the onsite event went off without a hitch. Jak and I would have loved to have seen you again, we will stop by one day soon.
Gary Coffin
Commissioner
Town of Longboat Key

Forty Carrots Field Trip

To: Longboat Key Commissioner Gary Coffin
I just wanted to extend my sincerest thank you to you for all you did to help organize an absolute amazing trip for our Forty Carrots Families and Children to the St. Regis Longboat Key Resort. Everyone was absolutely blown away and could not believe how incredible the experience was. The children absolutely loved it and the parents were so impressed. Thank you so much for offering this to our school as we truly had the best time. I was sad to not go and see you and Jak! Hope you are all doing well and thank you so much again!
Molly Bowbeer
Forty Carrots
Sarasota

Bravo!

To: Longboat Key Commission

After we learned LBK commissioners had recently decided NOT to MANDATE the rename of Gulf of Mexico Dr on LBK, and we are compelled to saybravo, and we agree that you made the correct decision! We applaud you!
That whole demand over renaming, Gulf of Mexico and Tamiami Trail, and any roads are currently named "Gulf of Mexico," is not only an ignominious idea, but also a very costly one!
As a former commercial & residential property manager for 10 yrs, then owner of a PR/marketing company in CO & CA for 30 yrs, I am very well aware of the logistical nightmares. The cost to property owners and LBK, not to mention the manpower and many requirements necessary to do it properly, and correctly, would be a long time challenge.
We don't live on the Key, but have many friends who do, including our doctors. We love our Longboat Key barrier Island, and totally support you because you protect us, on the mainland, and you give us a lot of great opportunities that enhance our lives!
And, whoever had the idea to rebuild the Longboat Key docks in the Village, deserves our deepest gratitude and sincere appreciation because that's one of the places we go to decompress. When we visit, and sometimes stay-cation on LBK, we aren't the type to leave anything behind. We always make every effort, while visiting all parts of LBK, to pick up trash or report things that are wrong, because we love it so much.
As far as the "rename idea," we appreciate that you were intelligent and thoughtful enough to understand the logistics and costs! Therefore you definitely made the right decision to NOT to "rename" Gulf of Mexico Drive.
So thank you for sticking to your guns and not caving to political pressure.
Besides, the attach meme that has been floating around was not only a bit comical, but I sent it to our insurance agent, a conservative man, who also thought it was funny and said he would send it onto Slide Insurance. I asked him not to, because I didn't want us to be singled out. But technically, it is true. If you haven't seen this, I hope it brings a smile to your face too. Again, thank you!
Marge McCarthy and Pat Hinchliffe
Bradenton

Canal Navigation Dredge Program Analysis

To: Longboat Key Vice Mayor Debra Williams
Ma'am, I received the information that you requested and attached is the information that you requested. In addition, Tara Hollis provided this explanation:
I have attached updated slides with the representative minimum/average/maximum values that include the outliers. With regard to the minimum values, I did remove parcels with \$0 taxable value due to full disability or other personal exemptions that reduced the parcel value to \$0. Also, for each category, I reviewed both land use category and assessment category to pull parcels that represented the type of parcel being described in the table (i.e. for restaurant, we used land use codes associated with restaurants, etc.)
These have been calculated based on the rates shown below.

Assessment	First 5 Yrs	Annual	Year 6		
Annual					
Ad-Valorem Millage Rate (1)	\$	0.0615	\$	0.0318	
Non-Ad Valorem Per EBU	\$	622.00	\$	321.90	

Note: (1) Millage rate will change annually based on overall Town-wide Taxable Value.
I am very sorry it took so long to get you this information, but I hope this is the information you were looking for.
Charles Mopps
Public Works Director
Town of Longboat Key

Canal Navigation Dredge Program Analysis

To: Longboat Key Public Works Director Charlie Mopps
To further clarify, does this mean that the highest valuation properties are not represented in these numbers? Is it possible to get the representative minimum, representative average, and representative maximum with the low and high end outliers included?
Debra Williams
Vice Mayor
Town of Longboat Key

Canal Navigation Dredge Program Analysis

To: Longboat Key Vice Mayor Debra Williams
Vice Mayor Williams, I asked the Funding Consultant to help answer the question. With regard to the minimum and maximum categories, they first eliminated some of the outliers. For example on the low end there were some parcels that have little to no taxable value due to additional exemptions (i.e. disability, etc.). Once the outliers were eliminated (from both the min and max end, if any) they then calculated a representative minimum and maximum based on the 10 – 15 lowest values and 10 – 15 highest values for each category (customer class and direct/non-direct). The average values also excluded the outliers. I hope this helps answer the question, if there is additional information you need, please ask and I will do my best to get you the answer.
Charles Mopps
Public Works Director
Town of Longboat Key

Canal Navigation Dredge Program Analysis

To: Longboat Key Assistant Town Manager Isaac Brownman
Can you please provide some clarity and additional data on the attached power point slides?

See Letters, page 13

Send us your best thoughts...
letters@lbknews.com

Editor Letters



Letters, from page 12

Do the “representative minimum” and “representative maximum” represent the actual lowest valuation and highest taxable values, respectively? Additionally, can we get a range of costs for the representative median? This would present a clearer picture of how the taxes will be distributed across properties.

Debra Williams
Vice Mayor
Town of Longboat Key

Canal Navigation Dredge Program Analysis

To: Longboat Key Commission

Based on some feedback at the last commission meeting, Charlie Mopps and the canal program team put together additional information below and attached:

- Below is the Total Valuation for canal fronting properties (Direct Access) and the same for the no direct access properties (2025 Values). Also, below is the total number of slips based on current information. Attached are examples of Representative Cost Slides that would be used during Public Outreach, for reference.

Tara Hollis, Principal Consultant, Willdan Financial Services

- Total valuation of both the Non-Direct Access and Direct Access properties as well as the resulting Ad Valorem and Non-Ad Valorem Assessments. (Based on July 2025 data from property assessors’ offices. Includes only Real Property.)
- Approximate number of docks/slips on the island. Note: This is the original number we have been working with since last year.

Residential/Commercial/Condo/Etc.	1,800
Marina Dry Slips	194
Marina Wet Slips	291
Total	2,285

Isaac Brownman
Assistant Town Manager
Town of Longboat Key

LBK Ribbon Cutting Information

To: Longboat Key Mayor Ken Schneider

I hope all is well with you. As you know – hopefully – we’re having a ribbon-cutting event for the project that created the modifications to the town’s seawall at Bayfront Park. The attached flyer has been sent out to local media, and we expect a couple of reporters and Fox 13, at least. We have worked with the town’s staff to set up an agenda, but we have “TBD” listed for your part.

Forgive me for being presumptuous, but I thought that you being the mayor would be best to discuss items bigger than the seawall project alone, since we’ll have others cover that.

Commissioner Coffin will be speaking about the relationship between the Town and the SBEP, and the project itself, while Charlie will talk about details of the project. I’ll talk about the issue being addressed, the proliferation of plastic seawalls.

What I thought would be interesting would be if someone, like the mayor, to talk about the broader issues, of how healthy waters affect the quality of life of residents, the economy, etc. And, maybe, discuss other projects, like the Towns efforts to replace the wastewater pipeline under the bay. That is a much bigger investment in the bay’s health than the seawall – might as well take advantage of the media presence to talk it up, is my take on it.

Anyway, just some ideas from me. Attached is the invitation for our event, and below is a summary of remarks, in order of appearance.

Dave Tomasko
Executive Director
Sarasota Bay Estuary Program

Gulf of Mexico Drive/SR 789 Construction Project Updates

To: Longboat Key residents

Gulf of Mexico Drive (GMD) Turn Lane Nighttime Lane Closures

Superior Asphalt will conduct night work from Monday, November 3, through Friday, November 7, beginning at 9:00 pm and ending at 6:00 am. They will close 1 of 2 lanes on GMD with flaggers on both ends of the work zone and will have a flagger on side streets within the work zone directing the motoring public to the direction of flowing traffic onto GMD. This night work is being done to maintain the project schedule, to safely mill and pave the roadway, and to minimize impacts to traffic.

SR 789 Resurfacing from Coquina to SR 64:

The resurfacing project will begin after October 31, 2025, and is scheduled to complete by May 1, 2026. Resurfacing activities are planned to take place overnight during the course of the project, and motorists can expect single-lane closures during the period. See the attached Fact Sheet from FDOT for additional information.

Lynn Curreli
Senior Office Manager
Town of Longboat Key

Loss of Public Trust and Unequal Treatment of Citizens Exercising Constitutional Rights

To: Sarasota City Commission, City Manager Dave Bullock, and City Attorney Robert Fournier

I write today as a deeply concerned and frightened citizen. What I have witnessed — and what has been widely reported — regarding the conduct of Sarasota Police Chief Rex Troche has shaken my confidence that this city’s leadership will fairly and impartially enforce the law.

When a police chief responds to the lawful exercise of a constitutional right by deploying officers in hard body armor carrying long guns into a public meeting, it sends a chilling and unmistakable message: that citizens who choose to exercise their rights will be treated as potential threats rather than as members of the public deserving protection. That is not law enforcement. That is intimidation under color of law.

This is the new segregation. Once, our nation tolerated public officials who used fear and “safety” as justifications to deny basic rights to citizens they disfavored. Today, we are witnessing that same discriminatory mindset applied to those who exercise their Second Amendment rights. The uniforms have changed, but the principle of unequal treatment remains the same — and it must not be tolerated.

I no longer have confidence that Chief Troche can uphold his oath of office in an unbiased and constitutionally faithful manner. His conduct reflects personal and political bias rather than professional restraint, and it has further eroded what little public trust remains between the Sarasota Police Department and the people it serves.

I am angry, I am concerned, and I am scared — not of my neighbors or fellow citizens, but of public officials who appear to believe they can decide which rights deserve respect and which rights deserve intimidation. No one in uniform, no one in office, and no one acting under government authority has the right to suppress the lawful exercise of a constitutional freedom.

Prayer for Relief

- That Chief Rex Troche be immediately relieved of duty for conduct unbecoming of his office and for actions inconsistent with constitutional policing and the public trust.
- That the City of Sarasota take immediate steps to ensure unbiased policing practices that respect and protect the fundamental and constitutional rights of all citizens — regardless of political view, lawful activity, or personal beliefs.
- That the City issue a clear, firm, and public statement condemning the intimidation or over-policing of lawful conduct, reaffirming that Sarasota will not tolerate any law enforcement behavior that chills the exercise of protected rights.

Our community deserves leadership that defends every citizen’s liberty with integrity and fairness. I urge you to act decisively to restore faith in the rule of law and the impartiality of those sworn to uphold it.

Scott D. Barrish
Sarasota

Questions on Zenith Building Development Application

To: Sarasota City Commission

I have seen the articles being published in our local papers that this Zenith Development project is “Nearing approval”.

I have not seen any of the updated plans or resubmission materials that would give any status of the City-owned Trees that were the focus of my first email, and our main concern on this project.

The building itself appears to be within its allowed zoning, and the footprint is also within their rights.

The question that I would like to have answered is whether or not the City will protect their property - namely, the 2 Oak Trees along Main Street, which are set well to edge of the sidewalk away from the private property lines, and should not be considered as belonging to the property or the developers.

This entire section of Main St is lovely because of the shade trees on Both Sides. I hope you see and appreciate this for yourselves if you ever get to Lower Main St.

Could someone who is familiar with the Plans get in touch with us, and the rest of the Public, who are anxious to hear that these Trees are being kept safe? Thank you and I hope to hear from someone soon on this.

Katherine Orenic
Sarasota

Questions on Zenith Building Development Application

To: Sarasota City Commissioner Jen Ahearn-Koch

As you are the contact person regarding the Tree Ordinance compliance for this Application, I wanted to reach out with our Public Input.

Looking at pages 109 and 110, we are particularly concerned about the Proposed Removal of the only 2 Live Oak Trees on this site plan.

Both are located on Main St, and both appear to be replaced by lesser trees after the building is constructed.

This proposed Removal is Unacceptable to the City Residents and must not be Permitted.

These 2 Live Oaks are City property. They were planted by the City in the City Right of Way, and they belong to the Landscape Design of our Downtown Streets - these trees should not be cut down.

We have a Tree Ordinance for a Reason - and that is to protect healthy trees from stupid death.

Please do what you can to insist that these 2 Trees Remain unmolested. It is Bad Enough that we will lose the 5 Beautiful (and Healthy) Black Olive Trees that provide the Best Shade and Design Continuity all along our Main St. Or at least they did, before the stupid Lot line to Lot Line building style was coded into our City Design. Such a poor idea to not encourage grand entrances, elegant setbacks and benches along store fronts.

Regardless - we do not want this Redevelopment Application to be allowed to take these 2 City Owned, Live Oak trees. It is Unnecessary if the finished plans show New Trees in these same places at the end. All the residents of Main St will be watching closely. In advance of your help, we Thank You!

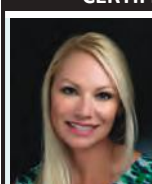
Katherine Orenic
Sarasota

Business Directory

Professional Home Watch & Concierge Service



CERTIFIED • BONDED • INSURED • TRUSTED



- Detailed Interior & Exterior Home Checks
- Time & Date Stamped Reporting & Photos
- Concierge Services to Fit Your Needs
- Home Maintenance Coordination

Cindy Jessup, Owner



WHC Welcome Home
CONCIERGE
The Home Watch Experts
941.915.1248
www.whcsarasota.com



L♥ved again
Boutique
UPSCALE WOMEN'S CONSIGNMENT STORE



SALE

HIGH END CLOTHING, SHOES, AND ACCESSORIES

- JOHNNY WAS • CHANEL
- HERMES • JIMMY CHOO

4141 S. Tamiami Trail #8 • Sarasota
BESIDE TRADER JOE'S
941.702.8159



GREENWICH INTERIORS, LLC

*Creating beautiful, functional
residential and commercial spaces.*

- New construction
- Remodeling
- Project management

We bring your vision to life.

NANCY O'ROURKE, Principal
(941) 279-7500
nancy@greenwichinteriors.com
Greenwichinteriors.com



Mesa Aesthetics
wellness

BE WELL WITH DR. MESA!

- Direct Primary Care
- Weight Management
- Anti-Aging Care
- Now Offering: The HydraFacial

Dr. Nathalia Mesa
941-251-0600
www.mesaesthetics.com

Wildewood Professional Plaza
3645 Cortez Road West, Suite 110
Bradenton, FL 34210

Hablo español



Cortez Bait & Seafood

Fresher than Fresh!
Local Florida Seafood
Oysters • Shrimp • Clams
Fish Spread • Smoked Mullet



MON - SAT: 10 AM TO 6:30PM | SUN: 10AM TO 5PM
941.794.1547 12110 Cortez Road West
www.cortezbaitandseafood.com Cortez, FL
SEE US ON FACEBOOK



Call for a
FREE Evaluation!

SERVICES

- Personal Care
- Respite Care
- Alzheimer's Care
- Light Cleaning
- Med Administration
- Meal Preparation
- Errands & More

ROSA TORRES, OWNER
941-536-6372
epichomecareprovider@gmail.com

KAREN & ANGELO POMPETTI
Two Generations of Master Barbers

Traditional & Cutting Edge Barbering
38 Years in Business



200 CENTRAL AVE. SUITE 11
ACROSS FROM WHOLE FOODS
484-889-8991 • menshaircutsarasota.com

Steff's Stuff

ANTIQUES AND TREASURES

ESTATES & CONSIGNMENTS ARRIVING DAILY

5380 GULF OF MEXICO DRIVE
IN THE CENTRE SHOPS • 941.383.1901
CLOSED THROUGH MID-OCTOBER
SteffsStuffLBK.com

ANTIQUE ORIENTAL RUGS.COM



FOR OVER 40 YEARS...
ALL HAND CHOSEN
ALL ONE-OF-A-KIND
BOUGHT • SOLD • APPRAISED

Visit our Sarasota Gallery
Call Robert Mosby
941.925.1025
By appointment only

DESIGN
DESIGN
DESIGN
DESIGN
DESIGN

Celebrating 27 years
on the island!

EXCELLENCE
AND EXPERIENCE
IN HAIR AND NAIL DESIGN

941-387-9807

Welcoming the clients and
stylists after the closing of
David Gregory Salon!

6840 GULF OF MEXICO DRIVE
AT WHITNEY BEACH PLAZA
www.design2000longboatkeyfl.com

THE FISH HOLE

18 HOLES
OPEN 9am-9pm
7 days a week
COME PLAY
a ROUND!



ADVENTURE GOLF

115 BRIDGE STREET
BRADENTON BEACH, FL
34217
PHONE: (941) 778-3388 www.THEFISHHOLE.com

Angelo Pompetti Bonetti

Professional men's barber services.
At our salon or at your residence
on Longboat or Lido Key.
Call or text for appointments.

200 Central Ave. 941.297.8991
Suite 11
www.menshaircustsarasota.com

SARASOTA
PAINTING

INTERIOR / EXTERIOR / CABINET

FULLY INSURED • OWNER OPERATED

CALL OR TEXT 941-900-9398 TODAY!

OWNER: DON HUBIAK
Instagram Page: @SarasotaInteriorPainting



Taxes and Accounting 5370 #202

941-387-0926 CPA GMD

Bob and Mary are @
5370 #2020 Gulf of Mexico Dr



Art Ready To Hang
Sale



Sarasota Arts, from page 1

mance spaces, including two new cabaret theatres and a future mainstage, alongside 127 desperately needed parking spaces. With \$46 million already secured, FST anticipates a phased opening, with housing and parking available within two years.

Sarasota Orchestra’s Grand Design: A \$400 Million Acoustic Beacon

Just a few miles east, the Sarasota Orchestra is laying the groundwork for a generational transformation with its \$375–\$425 million Music Center at 5701 Fruitville Road. This monumental project aims to deliver the Florida Gulf Coast its first-ever concert hall purpose-built for acoustic music. Conceptual designs, fueled by a transformative \$60 million anonymous gift in 2025—a record for Florida performing arts philanthropy—show a 32-acre campus. At its heart will be an 1,800-seat state-of-the-art acoustic concert hall, accompanied by a 700-seat flexible recital hall and a dedicated education wing. This investment is projected to be an enormous economic catalyst for the region, generating over \$150 million in annual economic activity and creating 1,200 permanent jobs. The Orchestra projects a groundbreaking in early 2027, with the facility welcoming patrons for the 2029-2030 season.

The Players’ Revival: A New Home at Payne Park

Completing the trio of cultural advancements is The Sarasota Players. The community’s oldest performing arts organization has found its new permanent home by securing a 30-year lease for the Payne Park Auditorium. The Players are undertaking a full-scale, \$2.5 million adaptive reuse renovation of the 1960s-era building. The conversion will transform the structure into a modern, accessible 200-seat performance venue featuring flexible seating and significant acoustical improvements. With the city’s Parks and Recreation Department having vacated the premises, construction is slated to begin in late 2025, with a target opening of late 2026 to coincide with a new theater season. This project ensures The Players remain a central, accessible hub for community theatre while providing a venue for other local arts groups.

Unified Impact on the Arts Landscape

Together, these three projects represent a bold commitment to Sarasota’s future. The combined investment will not only provide world-class facilities and performance capacity for the entire Gulf Coast—including audiences from Longboat Key and Manatee County—but will also strategically invest in the creative workforce itself. By addressing the critical need for affordable artist housing (FST) and building acoustically superior venues (Sarasota Orchestra), Sarasota is signaling its intent to be a premier destination for both patrons and professional artists worldwide.

Ads that work...
ads@Lbknews.com

Longboat Key News
Sarasota City News

PO Box 8001
Longboat Key, FL 34228
941-387-2200
www.lbknews.com

Steve Reid, Editor & Publisher
sreid@lbknews.com

Associate Publisher
Melissa Reid

Columnists
Susan Goldfarb, Sig Hermansen,
Greg Rusovich, Blake Fleetwood

Sales
Lillian Sands
Steve Reid
ads@lbknews.com

Graphic Production
Dottie Rutledge

Seawall, from page 1

national focus on incorporating ecological benefits into coastal infrastructure. “The Town is pleased that this project came together,” said Charles Mopps, Longboat Key’s Public Works Director. “We all look forward to the follow-up studies and observations to determine the positive impacts this addition has made to the park and the bay.” SBEP will now conduct monitoring to assess the rate of marine life recruitment, species composition, and overall ecological impact. This data is crucial, as the Bayfront Park project serves as a pilot program that could dictate how Longboat Key and other urbanized coastlines manage their waterfronts in the face of rising seas and hardening shorelines. The Living Seawall offers a powerful, tangible demonstration that shoreline protection and environmental stewardship are not mutually exclusive. It is a critical piece of the town’s broader resiliency effort, complementing large-scale projects like beach renourishment and neighborhood road elevation, by focusing on restoring the living fabric of Sarasota Bay

Give the Gift of Tennis Lessons
AFFORDABLE - PROFESSIONAL - DOWNTOWN SARASOTA
Give your children or grandchildren professional tennis instruction at the City of Sarasota’s Payne Park.

Foam Ball:
Ages 4 to 6, Tuesdays 4 to 5 p.m. kids learn proper contact and swing using soft foam tennis balls to develop confidence. \$20

Red Ball:
Ages 6 to 10, Tuesdays 5 to 6 p.m. Focus on , preparation, foot work, hand-eye coordination and contact. \$20

10 And Under High Performance:
Mondays 5 to 6 p.m. Focus on biomechanics, technique, footwork, agility, shot-making and rallying. \$20

Middle and High School Tennis Prep:
Wednesdays 4 to 6 p.m. complete tennis training to bring the game to a match-ready level. \$30

Individual Junior lessons \$60 per hour.

Sherry ‘Nef’ Price is a USPTR certified professional. She played at IMG and Division 1 College.
Call Payne Park Tennis center at 941-263-6641 to schedule.
Payne Park Tennis Center, 2050 Adams Lane, Downtown Sarasota, 34237

KeyCrossword

Answers at www.lbknews.com under the “Key Recreation” category or search keyword “crossword.”

TV Trivia
Edited by Linda and Charles Preston

ACROSS 1 Senegal capital 6 Vapor: prefix 10 Site of Timbuktu 14 Turn over 18 Garden flags 20 Straitlaced 21 High spirits 22 Marquisette 23 Field sport stick 24 Well-off, in Toledo 25 Long-running TV anthology 27 MacArthur-Lord vehicle 29 Calm 30 Stated 31 Mandel or Terry 32 Martinet 33 WWII craft 36 Spare 38 Delhi nurse 41 Brilliant 43 Sash for Butterfly 46 ___ pig’s eye! 48 Protective garb 51 Underhanded 52 In pain from punishment 55 Gave off a stink 57 Attic communes 58 Fishing net 59 Ukrainian city 61 Roof overhangs 63 Trade center 64 Roman philosopher 66 Navigates 68 Life force 70 Eateries 72 Do a baker’s job 74 Troilus or Cressida 77 Ordeal 79 GA city 81 Amorous 83 Gentleman’s chick 86 Mites 88 Old Brazilian money 90 Novelist Jong 91 In the offing 93 Colored glass 95 Pawns 97 Lacy, caplike headdress 99 Standing rule 100 Baby goat 101 Until, for Shelley 102 Acted like a peacock 104 Means’ complement 106 Speck 109 Notice 110 Chili con carne cook? 113 Feedbag tidbit 115 French novelist Claude 118 Country festival in the Low Countries 119 “77 ___”; Zimbalist film 123 “20/20” host 126 Significant time divisions 127 Quixote or Lawrence, in films 128 West of the Urals 129 “Miami ___” 130 Evaluate 131 Sex 132 “Buddenbrooks” author 133 Rival of Harrow 134 Lacking bubbles 135 Fabric workers DOWN 1 Ich liebe ___: I love you, in Lübeck 2 Tapestry 3 Very warlike Plains Indian 4 Fly at 5 Dwell 6 Basle’s “___ in Paris” 7 Forgettable facts 8 Cheese lovers 9 “Typee” shelf companion 10 Confused 11 Make changes 12 Petrarch and Schiller subjects 13 Forms notches 14 Ice sheet 15 The Lip 16 Hostelry 17 Dupin’s creator 19 Six, in Turin 26 Have in mind 28 Aromatic herb seeds 32 The return of Jack Tripper 33 “Ship of the Andes” 34 Old World falcon 35 Lovers’ appointment 37 Ventilate 39 Star of “The Millionaire” 40 Simian 42 “The Six Million Dollar Man” 43 Mel and Lyn 44 Suffering ennui 45 Man of Abadan 47 Pts. of speech 49 Volga tributary 50 St. Petersburg’s river 53 Van Doren’s defunct quiz show 54 Stress stomach symptom 56 Fender flaw 60 Symbol of strength 62 Your majesty 65 Opera highlight 67 Meadow 69 Manners and customs 71 Pouches 73 Hind 75 “One Day at ___” 76 More amiable 78 Member of the fold 80 Old ___: Satan 82 Rattan 83 Reindeer people 84 Blazing 85 Recipient 87 Devil fish or manta 89 Islamic sect 92 Tightened up 94 Summer vacation objective? 96 Tokyo, once 98 Admonish 103 Knucklehead 105 Beethoven’s “Moonlight ___” 107 Sampled 108 Cleopatra’s lover 111 Five, in Cádiz 112 Ruhr city 114 Positive attribute 116 Eat away 117 Type of roofer 118 Mongol ruler 119 Bondsman 120 Caspian feeder 121 Dress 122 Hiring dept. 123 Father of Cush 124 Can, neighbor 125 Card game	<table><tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr><tr><td>18</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>19</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>20</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>21</td><td></td><td></td><td>22</td></tr><tr><td>23</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>24</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>25</td><td></td><td></td><td>26</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>27</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>28</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>29</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>32</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>33</td><td>34</td><td>35</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>36</td><td></td><td>37</td><td></td><td></td><td>38</td><td>39</td><td>40</td><td></td><td></td><td>41</td><td></td><td>42</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>43</td><td>44</td><td>45</td><td></td><td></td><td>46</td><td></td><td>47</td><td></td><td>48</td><td></td><td></td><td>49</td><td>50</td><td></td><td>51</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>52</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>53</td><td>54</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>55</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>56</td><td></td><td>57</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>58</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>59</td><td></td><td>60</td><td></td><td></td><td>61</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>62</td><td></td><td>63</td></tr><tr><td>64</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>65</td><td></td><td>66</td><td></td><td></td><td>67</td><td></td><td></td><td>68</td><td></td><td>69</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td>70</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>71</td><td></td><td>72</td><td></td><td></td><td>73</td><td></td><td>74</td><td></td><td></td><td>75</td><td>76</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>77</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>78</td><td></td><td>79</td><td></td><td></td><td>80</td><td></td><td>81</td><td></td><td>82</td></tr><tr><td>83</td><td>84</td><td>85</td><td></td><td></td><td>86</td><td></td><td></td><td>87</td><td></td><td></td><td>88</td><td></td><td></td><td>89</td><td></td><td>90</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>91</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>92</td><td></td><td>93</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>94</td><td></td><td></td><td>95</td><td></td><td>96</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>97</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>98</td><td></td><td>99</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>100</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>101</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>102</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>103</td><td></td><td></td><td>104</td><td></td><td></td><td>105</td><td></td><td>106</td><td></td><td>107</td><td>108</td></tr><tr><td>109</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>110</td><td></td><td></td><td>111</td><td>112</td><td></td><td></td><td>113</td><td>114</td><td></td><td></td><td>115</td><td>116</td><td>117</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>118</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>119</td><td>120</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>121</td><td></td><td></td><td>122</td></tr><tr><td>123</td><td>124</td><td>125</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>126</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>127</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>128</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>129</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>130</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>131</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>132</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>133</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>134</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>135</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18					19				20				21			22	23								24				25			26		27						28						29						30					31				32					33	34	35					36		37			38	39	40			41		42		43	44	45			46		47		48			49	50		51			52				53	54				55				56		57			58						59		60			61				62		63	64					65		66			67			68		69				70					71		72			73		74			75	76					77				78		79			80		81		82	83	84	85			86			87			88			89		90		91				92		93				94			95		96			97					98		99					100				101		102						103			104			105		106		107	108	109					110			111	112			113	114			115	116	117					118						119	120				121			122	123	124	125								126					127				128						129				130					131				132						133				134						135		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																												
18					19				20				21			22																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																												
23								24				25			26																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
27						28						29																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
	30					31				32					33	34	35																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																											
				36		37			38	39	40			41		42																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																												
43	44	45			46		47		48			49	50		51																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
52				53	54				55				56		57																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
58						59		60			61				62		63																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																											
64					65		66			67			68		69																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
	70					71		72			73		74			75	76																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																											
				77				78		79			80		81		82																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																											
83	84	85			86			87			88			89		90																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																												
91				92		93				94			95		96																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
97					98		99					100				101																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																												
102						103			104			105		106		107	108																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																											
109					110			111	112			113	114			115	116	117																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																										
				118						119	120				121			122																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																										
123	124	125								126					127																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
128						129				130					131																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
132						133				134						135																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																												

A CENTURY OLD STORY

EST. **M** 1922

MIRA MAR

Residences

SOUTH PALM AVENUE

A story that began over 100 years ago and is still being written today.

Once a beloved landmark, now an enduring icon reborn. Mira Mar is the future of luxury living in Sarasota, grounded in the grandeur of its past, and offering an unparalleled residential experience in the heart of downtown.

One of Sarasota's few remaining flagships of the great Florida Land Boom of the 1920's, it is with great pride that we restore the Mira Mar to its rightful place as a gleaming icon of Sarasota.

Rising elegantly above South Palm Avenue, the revived and resplendent Mira Mar presents a limited collection of 70 estate-style residences across two 18-story towers. Each home is designed to the highest standards, with sweeping views, refined interiors, and private access to best-in-class amenities.

MIRA MAR IS MORE THAN A RESIDENCE —
IT'S A RETURN TO GRACE.



THE FIRST, LAST, & ONLY OPPORTUNITY OF ITS KIND



CALL FOR YOUR PRIVATE APPOINTMENT:

(941) 390 2955

MIRAMARSARASOTA.COM

53 S PALM AVE, SARASOTA, FL 34236



**COLDWELL BANKER
REALTY**



ORAL REPRESENTATIONS CANNOT BE RELIED UPON AS CORRECTLY STATING REPRESENTATIONS OF THE DEVELOPER. FOR CORRECT REPRESENTATIONS MAKE REFERENCE TO THIS BROCHURE AND TO THE DOCUMENTS REQUIRED BY SECTION 718.503, FLORIDA STATUTES, TO BE FURNISHED BY A SELLER TO A BUYER OR LESSEE. THIS PROJECT HAS BEEN FILED IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA AND NO OTHER STATE. THIS IS NOT AN OFFER TO SELL OR SOLICITATION OF OFFERS TO BUY THE CONDOMINIUM UNITS IN STATES WHERE SUCH OFFER OR SOLICITATION CANNOT BE MADE. PRICES AND AVAILABILITY ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE ANYTIME WITHOUT NOTICE.