# Longboat Rev Rews FREE

June 7, 2024

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Estate sells for \$19.75 million ...page 9

# InsideLook Library a 'done-deal' except for funding Longboat's 'enhancements'

The Town Commission and Longboat Key Community Foundation will soon undertake a fundraising campaign to raise about \$3.5 million to pay for enhancements to meet the needs and desires of residents.

#### STEVE REID **Editor & Publisher** sreid@lbknews.com

The long-awaited completion of the Town Center for some, and a confusing and somewhat beguiling project for others, the future Longboat Key Library is a "done deal" says Town Manager Howard Tipton.

The done deal aspect is Sarasota County's commitment to fund and operate what is called the Core Library at an anticipated cost of \$11.1 million.

That amount covers the cost of a 10,000 square foot facility to be constructed on the periphery of the Longboat Key Town Center Green between Publix Plaza and the Longboat Key Public Tennis Center.

The Town Commission and Longboat Key Community Foundation will soon undertake a fundraising campaign to raise about \$3.5 million to pay for enhancements to meet the needs and desires

of residents. Those enhancements include about 2,000 square feet of additional space that can accommodate up to 200 people to allow everything from lectures and performances to community meetings. The enhanced meeting room will cost about \$2 million and the additional \$1.5 million to be raised will fund a covered terrace that commissioners believe will serve as a shaded gathering spot overlooking The Green.

Detractors of the plan say that

libraries are antiquated and that every form of news media, literature, journals, as well as visual entertainment can be found in devices that most people carry from place to place and room to room. See Library, page 2

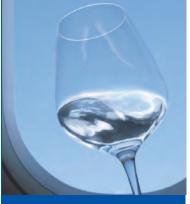
### **Lido Shores** top sale closes at \$12.5 million

Record for the region's most architecturally significant enclave of homes.



A waterfront home sold for \$12.5 million in Lido Shores, setting a record for the region's most architecturally significant enclave of homes.

Surrounded by Sarasota School of Architecture landmarks, the contemporary home located at 1325 Westway Drive in Sarasota closed June 7 and represents the third highest sale ever in all of Lido Key, Bird Key and Golden Gate Point. It was an all-cash deal. Co-listed by Nicholle DiPinto McKeirnan and Roger Pettingell of Coldwell Banker Realty, the property features a 5,400 squarefoot, three-bedroom main house and a two-bedroom guesthouse. An enclosed courtyard is situated between the two homes with a 60' heated lap pool. The views from the one-half acre property sweep across New Pass to the Southern shoreline of Longboat Key. The home was built in 2011 by the sellers, David and Linda Hargreaves, and features a 4-car garage, boat dock with two boat lifts, floor-to-ceiling glass windows, gourmet kitchen, summer kitchen and rooftop terrace with unobstructed Gulf of Mexico views. See Sale, page 6



Wine is up in the air ...page 11



## **Beauty & Intention**



Longboat preps for storms ...page 15

Feisty mob in Longboat Village ...page 10

Impromptu beachside inspiration on the northern tip of Longboat Key.

#### Library, from page 1

Other opponents say the library does not fulfill the original concept of a community and/or art center, and that if constructed, will preclude what they say is a far more necessary enhancement for Longboat life.

But for the entire Town Commission and the numerous supporters, the library and the fact that the county will spend \$11.1 million constructing it, amounts not only to a gift, but a crown jewel of sorts that will finish the final component of the Town Center project.

#### Managing support

Longboat Key News spoke with Town Manager Howard Tipton on Friday to get his take, find out the latest details and see how he anticipates the fundraising evolving.

Tipton pointed out that the current Town Hall Commission Chambers can only hold a maximum of 80 people and the new facility could serve as a meeting place for some of the most important meetings that have in the past had to be held in other venues. He added that the idea held by many of a traditional library fails to recognize that the "programming" will be customized to meet the needs of the community.

Tipton said that meetings could be held for Chess Club events, Rotary or Kiwanis Club Meetings, kids programs and senior enrichment classes.

He added that the existing Longboat Library, located across Bay Isles Parkway beside Town Hall, is only open two days per week and is in disrepair. It is only about 1,500 square feet in size and Tipton characterizes it as "a building in need of investment." He added that there is really no plan for the old library space and suggested that it could be renovated to be used for office space.

"Libraries today reflect the communities they serve. This will be built and programmed to reflect our community. Nobody wants to have a dead facility or something they do not want," said Tipton. Another important aspect is that the future Library will be open six days per week and Tipton says that one issue that many Longboaters face is social isolation and the library will help.

"Social interaction is important; so many people move down here and they may lose a spouse or may not have the network of friends and family they had in their previous home. When that network is lost, the library can help create that sense of community," said Tipton.

#### **Fundraising effort**

There are many moving parts in the fundraising effort. Longboat Key certainly wants to raise the \$3.5 million to build out an expanded version of the library. If an individual or entity donates that amount, Tipton said Sarasota County has agreed that such a gift would qualify as a naming right for the entire library. The County has adopted a policy that 25 percent or more of the total cost of the project must be donated to qualify for the right to name the building.

The Longboat Key Community Foundation headed by former Mayor Jim Brown will help lead the effort and steward the fundraising process, says Tipton. Brown has been involved in the Community Center project since its inception more than 15 years ago when the original plan was to build a center at Bayfront Park. Years later, a plan was developed with the Ringling College to build an art and community center, but the Longboat Key Commission scuttled the entire relationship and idea when two commissioners repeatedly criticized both Ringling and the project until Ringling President Larry Thompson politely withdrew the organization from moving forward.

When Ringling left, the Town activated the site by developing a Town Center Green. Next, through donations, spearheaded by a \$500,000 gift from Sarah and Paul Karon the commission built the existing pavilion on the site. When completed, Tipton says the library will become "the heart of the Town Center."

"It's the crowning piece of the Town Center and gets us to the finish line. When we have the ribbon cutting for this library, everyone in the community will show up and it will be a great moment for our small town," said Tipton.

Longboat Key must fundraise quickly since the County must know by September whether it is building the Core Library or one with the additional Longboat Key enhancements. Tipton said the goal is to complete the fundraising by August and added that several residents have expressed interest in contributing.

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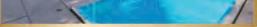






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# EditorLetters

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.

#### Visible beach lights

Trish, please pass this on to the Commissioners, thank you. As a resident of Longboat Key, I am writing to express my concerns about the lights along GMD that are visible from the beach. I know this issue has been discussed. Are there plans

To: Longboat Key Town Clerk Trish Shinkle

Please pass this on to the Commissioners, thank you. As a resident of Longboat Key, I am writing to express my concerns about the lights along GMD that are visible from the beach. I know this issue has been discussed. Are there plans to shield these lights?

My other concern is the St Regis lighting. The condo lights are still visible from the beach. What are the plans for code compliance? Early July, when the first nests should be hatching is coming soon. These lights are disorienting to the hatchings as well as the nesting females.

Thank you for your consideration of this issue.

Dianne Frank

Longboat Key

#### Visible beach lights

To: Dianne Frank

Thanks for checking up on these important issues. The Town is actively working on getting the street lights along GMD screened. Shields have been ordered and their installation is a priority. Code Enforcement staff also are continuing to follow-up with the St. Regis project. A number of citations have been issued and will continue to be issued until compliance is achieved. The contractor is aware of the issues and is working to get the lighting into compliance.

We appreciate interested and caring citizens like yourself. For future issues, please feel free to reach out to the Town Code Enforcement team directly at codeenforcement@longboatkey.org. Allen Parsons

Director Planning, Zoning & Building Department Town of Longboat Key

#### Visible beach lights

To: Longboat Key Planning and Zoning Director Allen Parsons

My concern is the financial penalty is not motivating them to solve the problem. With dry conditions it is even more of a challenge for the turtles.

BJ Bishop

Commissioner Town of Longboat Key

#### Visible beach lights

#### To: Dianne Frank

The matter of the street lights and St. Regis lights has been before us for several weeks. St. Regis has been notified and fined and has nearly fully complied with our requirements. We continue to follow up as some technical issues with their lighting and staff are being fixed. We are also working on our end to shield the roadway lights, which should be accomplished shortly. This is a high priority for the Town, and we receive regular reports from Turtle Watch



and other neighbors on its status. Ken Schneier Mayor

Town of Longboat Key

#### Gulfstream roundabout travel times

To: Longboat Key Vice Mayor Mike Haycock

I wanted to follow up with you after the MPO meeting. Following you will find the travel times from Ken Thompson parkway to US 301 at Fruitville coming off longboat Key. This also contains traffic volumes. As mentioned in the meeting today, we are seeing a significant increase in volumes. I will work on getting some data to you that shows travel times before the roundabout was ever constructed, so you can compare the roundabout to the true before condition.

Neal Turner

Engineer

Florida Department of Transportation

#### Gulfstream roundabout travel times

To: Florida Department of Transportation Engineer Neal Turner

Neal, thank you for the follow-up. During the season traffic typically backs up 1-2 miles north of Ken Thompson Parkway. Is it possible to pick a point mid key like Bay Isles Parkway. Comparing traffic before and after the Roundabout Construction will allow is to see if further improvements are needed. When will your dashboard be complete and what will it include?

Thanks again for furnishing this data and analysis during our peak season periods.

Mike Haycock

Vice Mayor

Town of Longboat Key

#### Gulfstream roundabout travel times

To: Longboat Key Vice Mayor Mike Haycock

I wanted to follow-up with you on this. I apologize for the delayed response. We are getting several requests for similar data on the travel times in Sarasota through the roundabout on US 41 and Gulfstream Blvd. We have gathered all the data necessary and are working on compiling it into a presentable format and reviewing it in house to make sure all the data points are represented properly (travel times, volumes, crashes, etc.). I will reach out to you again with that data in the near future.

Thank you for your patience on this and, again, I apologize for the late reply.

Neal Turner

Engineer Florida Department of Transportation

#### Gulfstream roundabout travel times

To: Florida Department of Transportation Engineer Neal Turner

I guess better late than never but surprised it took 5 months and a discussion with L.K. Nandam to get a response. As I mentioned in my last note, traffic often backs up 1-2 miles onto LBK during the season so using Ken Thompson Parkway won't accurately reflect the traffic congestion among from LBK.

#### See Letters, page 7



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**2110 HARBOURSIDE DR., #547 | LONGBOAT KEY** Delight in captivating bay vistas in this well-maintained 2,039 sq. ft. condominium in The Atrium, situated in Fairway Bay in the gated community of Bay Isles. This 3-bedroom, 2-bath residence features many updates, and floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors to the southeast-facing terrace, showcasing gorgeous views of Sarasota Bay and the city skyline.



**2185 GULF OF MEXICO DR., #212 | LONGBOAT KEY** Villa Di Lancia, one of Longboat Key's premier communities. This corner residence boasts 3 bathrooms, and epitomizes tropical Gulf-front living. The covered terrace, connected to the living room provides a spacious year-round haven to immerse yourself in the stunning surroundings. A spiral staircase offers easy access to resort amenities and the beach just outside. Includes 2 parking spaces.



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### Longboater Launches Non-Profit to Empower Women

Michele De Luce, a resident of Longboat Key, is poised to launch a non-profit organization, Celebrate Her Wisdom<sup>™</sup> (CHW), aimed at empowering women to proactively protect themselves and their families before facing life's toughest challenges. More than just a non-profit, CHW aspires to become a national movement fostering a sisterhood where women can share knowledge, build emotional and financial security, and strengthen their families.

De Luce, drawing from her firsthand experiences of life's ups and downs, founded CHW with a vision of preparing women for both positive and challenging events. The platform offers practical guidance on emotional, financial, and physical security, helping women to secure their futures before life's unpredictable events unfold.

#### The Unpreparedness Gap: A Key Focus

Central to CHW's mission is addressing The Unpreparedness Gap (TUG)—the gap between what is ideally needed to navigate a significant life change and the actual level of preparation, encompassing emotional, financial, and physical aspects. This gap can emerge during various life events, including marriage, childbirth, loss of a loved one, serious illness, caring for aging parents, and unexpected relationship changes.

"The Unpreparedness Gap is about recognizing the disparity in readiness for life's transitions," De Luce explains. "By acknowledging this gap and taking proactive steps, we can navigate significant life changes with greater resilience."

Power to Protect: Navigate Life's Challenges with Confidence

The "Power to Protect" campaign, a cornerstone of CHW, is a national initiative designed to empower women of all ages and backgrounds. It focuses on equipping women with the tools and resources they need to face the future with confidence.

Why Women? Women often face distinct obstacles regarding preparedness. Societal expectations can hinder discussions about emotional, physical, and financial security, making the Unpreparedness Gap a significant hurdle. The Power to Protect campaign addresses these challenges head-on.

#### A New Novel: "Angels & Intuition"

De Luce's soon-to-be-released novel, "Angels & Intuition," serves as the catalyst for the CHW movement. It tells the story



of a young woman navigating love and loss, underscoring the courage needed to embrace vulnerability while safeguarding oneself and loved ones. The protagonist faces a last-minute antenuptial agreement that shatters her fiance's promises, leading to a cancelled wedding. This gripping narrative, endorsed by Shark Tank investor Barbara Corcoran, highlights the importance of resilience and preparation.

"Angels & Intuition" aligns perfectly with CHW's mission, reflecting themes of strength, resilience, and proactive preparation. Barbara Corcoran praises the book as a powerful story that encapsulates De Luce's vision of empowering women.

For more information, visit Celebrate Her Wisdom<sup>™</sup>. https://celebrateherwisdom.org/

#### Sale, from page 1



David Hargreaves was a long-time executive for Hasbro, before retiring. The Dipinto team continues to work with and represent the Hargreaves as they build a new waterfront home nearby.

According to Nicholle DiPinto McKeirnan, who is partner of the DiPinto Group at Coldwell Banker, the landmark sale propels her team's volume to north of \$100 million in sales in the last 18 months.

McKeirnan, a full time Longboat Key resident, said that working with her brother Patrick and the rest of her group marks the high point of a three-decade career in real estate.

"Our team consists of six full lime realtors with no assistants. We work collaboratively and we work almost seamlessly," says DiPinto McKeirnan. "After my real estate career as a solo agent in Connecticut for 27 years, the team feels like a family."

McKiernan noted that she usually lets the house speak for itself when taking part in showings, but this property was different. For instance, on the day she showed the buyer of the property, dolphins were frolicking and jumping in the water in front of the house. This certainly added ambiance to the property and view.

The DiPinto Group has sold multiple properties for the Hargreaves over the past decade.

The Group is also marketing a listing in Lido Shores at 1212 Center Place. The Lido Shores community enjoys its own private beach with gated access.

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# Editor Letters

#### Letters, from page 4

The travel times shown in the powerpoint show 10-15 minutes to get to downtown during the peak afternoon hours. My experience and that of our citizens is it takes 30 -60 minutes to make this trip during season in the afternoon. I personally think the Gulfstream roundabout has helped traffic flow but look forward to seeing if the numbers prove this out

I look forward to your report.

Mike Haycock

Vice Mayor

Town of Longboat Key

#### LBK North meeting

To: LBK North Representatives, Longboat Key Commission

Please pass along these 3 points of information to your community, as our next LBK North meeting is not until June 20th

1. The Town Commission has a workshop Monday, June 17th on 4 topics of high interest to many of us on the north end.

Here is what is on the Agenda (exact order TBD):

FDOT presentation on Longboat Pass Bridge - we are hopeful that FDOT (& our Town Commission) took our LBK North Community feedback seriously

Utilities Undergrounding Project Update - where your questions about timelines, underwater transformers and safety, speed to replace, etc will be answered

Canal Maintenance Project Update - which most likely will include recommendations on how various properties on the Key could be \$ assessed

Gulfside Road Beach Update- erosion strategies, potential timing etc.

Commission workshops are open to the public and start at 1pm. Any present member of the public can comment on an agenda topic (3min max). Commission meetings can also be viewed live on your computer (go to Town website and click on town commission meetings live) or after the fact, using the same link.

2. Related to bullet point 4 above, you may have read that the Ohana property has been sold. As we all know, LBK residents are a generous group, and up until the Ohana owners of the last few years, those decades of benevolence continued with all Gulf front property owners - allowing LBK to have a fully walkable beach, tip to tip. We are hopeful the new owners of the Ohana property are a bit more community minded (and kind-hearted) and will work with the Town and LBK North to come up with a solution that allows residents and our environmental groups (turtle, seabirds) to traverse the area once again. Commissioner BJ Bishop raised this opportunity along with Mayor Ken Schneier at the last Commission meeting. Stay tuned.

3. We want to encourage resident registration for LBK E-Notification (top right on Town website). This is different than "Alert LBK" and allows you to get information on a variety of topics (you select which ones you want) including notifications on roadwork that causes lane closures, lane shifts, emergency information, various Town meetings, special events, etc.

Paul Hylbert Maureen Merrigan

Jeff Driver

LBK North Board

#### **Mangrove protection**

#### To: Rusty Chinnis

I spoke with Hannah Westerveldt this morning about mangrove protection on LBK. She told me she has been working with all the Anna Maria communities on this matter, including the possibility of delegation, and has been keeping Allen in the loop. A few takeaways: 1. While what happened at Gull Drive in Anna Maria is still somewhat fuzzy, it seems the Anna Maria City mangrove/sea wall ordinances were either ineffective or brought to bear too late in the process to avoid the mangrove removal. 2. Hannah said clearly that local ordinances can be more stringent than state rules, but the method of enforcement of those ordinances vis a vis State rules is less clear. 3. We should carefully review our land use rules as they regard



mangrove trimming and removal and construction in areas where mangroves exist , e.g., sea walls, to make sure we know how to protect them. 4. It is important to know when an owner/ developer has applied for a State permit for removal. There is no current provision for FDEP to notify a municipality that such an application has been filed, but that may change and there are databases that can be checked periodically. 5. I asked if delegation to a municipality or a group of FDEP authority can involve permitting, enforcement or both. Hannah said the rules contemplate a delegation of both and is not aware of any delegation of less than full authority. Ken Schneier

Mayor

Town of Longboat Key

#### **Mangrove protection**

To: Longboat Key Mayor Ken Schneier

Thanks for following up on this Ken. If I'm correct Anna Maria had no authority to stop the removal of the mangroves. It's my understanding that an Army Corp permit was the only one required and it appears that it was a "rubber stamp."

The bottom line is that mangroves in general and Longboat specific are threatened.

Since I moved here in 1981 enforcement has always been an issue with fisheries regulations and all others. That's why I'm so passionate about having Longboat Key and other Island Communities enforce and strengthening the rules protecting these critical plants.

Rusty Chinnis

Longboat Key

#### **Mangrove protection**

To: Longboat Key Mayor Ken Schneier

Yes, we've (Suncoast Waterkeeper) been following permits and violations for several years and in my opinion the system is broken and needs to be crafted and enforced by local governments.

Rusty Chinnis

Longboat Key

#### **Mangrove protection**

To: Rusty Chinnis

Hannah believed both FDEP and ACE permits were issued but that stricter local ordinances could be enforced. Definitely needs more study.

Ken Schneier

Mayor

Town of Longboat Key

#### Greer Island Beach Swimmer and Motorboat problem

To: Longboat Key Commissioner BJ Bishop

My name is Joan Bergstrom and I am a 60 year resident of the Lands End / Longboat Pass area located at the extreme North end of Longboat Key.

I would like to support the suggestions recently made by Tom Mayers to more clearly separate and delineate the East swimming area from the West boating area at Longboat Key Pass.

It is confusing and difficult to enforce with how it has been presently laid out. We are, daily, witnesses to the comings and goings in the Greer Island Beach area and entrance to Greer Island Inlet and definitely, there is a secret problem to be solved. There must be a clearer delineation between the Beach frontage designated as Swim/ Kayaker Zone and the Beach frontage **See Letters, page 12** 



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# KeyRealEstate

## Bird Key, Lido Key, Longboat Key latest sales

Address	Sq. Ft.	List Price	Bed/B	ath/	Half Bath	Days On Market	Sale Price
1800 BENJAMIN FRANKLIN DR Unit#A602	1,980	\$2,000,000	3	3	0	140	\$1,662,500
476 MEADOW LARK DR	3,336	\$4,249,000	4	3	1	50	\$4,000,000
1325 WESTWAY DR	6,590	\$13,995,000	5	6	2	196	\$12,800,000
3710 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#B3	680	\$317,500	2	2	0	27	\$300,000
571 SAINT JUDES DR Unit#1	372	\$320,000	1	1	0	12	\$314,000
3710 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#E13	657	\$349,000	2	2	0	32	\$335,000
626 SPANISH DR Unit#112	1,399	\$399,000	2	2	0	175	\$350,000
6800 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#199	1,449	\$679,000	2	2	0	3	\$679,000
604 BAYPORT WAY Unit#604	1,483	\$700,000	2	2	0	5	\$687,000
3070 GRAND BAY BLVD Unit#616	1,380	\$899,999	2	2	0	94	\$875,000
591 HIBISCUS WAY	1,369	\$965,000	3	2	0	17	\$950,000
4966 GULF OF MEXICO DR	1,334	\$1,200,000	3	2	0	0	\$1,200,000
1211 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#603	1,585	\$1,595,000	2	2	0	8	\$1,500,000
699 PENFIELD ST	2,536	\$2,100,000	2	3	0	122	\$1,500,000
1485 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#209	1,839	\$1,625,000	2	2	1	40	\$1,550,000
616 ROUNTREE DR	1,949	\$1,795,000	3	2	0	142	\$1,650,000
3540 MISTLETOE LN	3,166	\$2,295,000	4	3	1	9	\$2,110,000
5941 EMERALD HARBOR DR	2,606	\$2,749,000	3	2	1	89	\$2,300,000
6485 GULF OF MEXICO DR	2,000	\$3,500,000	3	3	0	76	\$3,000,000
786 NORTON ST	3,120	\$4,900,000	4	3	1	7	\$4,900,000
415 L AMBIANCE DR Unit#A401	3,220	\$5,500,000	3	3	2	4	\$5,550,000
6633 GULF OF MEXICO DR	9,622	\$19,750,000	7	8	2	0	\$19,750,000



6633 GULF OF MEXICO DR



### JEFF RHINELANDER 941-685-3590

Jeff@jeffrhinelander.com





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courtney.tarantino@floridamoves.com

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#### COUNTRY CLUB SHORES 585 GUNWALE LANE • LONGBOAT KEY, FL \$6,490,000

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#### BIRD KEY 328 BOB WHITE WAY | SARASOTA, FL \$2,195,000

Welcome to this impeccably renovated home, fully prepared for you to move right in. With fresh paint, designer wall treatments, and breathtaking new lighting, every detail has been carefully curated to perfection. Inside, the open floor plan allows natural light to pour into the spacious rooms, creating an inviting ambiance throughout. The heart of the home lies in the dreamy white kitchen, boasting quartz countertops, new appliances, and an exquisitely designed island that seamlessly connects to the tile-accented family room. Step outside to discover your own private oasis—the resort-worthy pool area awaits, promising endless relaxation and blissful moments.

#### SARASOTA HARBOR 765 JOHN RINGLING BLVD. #5 | SARASOTA, FL \$599,000

Experience breathtaking waterfront vistas from this exquisitely remodeled, light-filled condominium. Situated on the ground floor, this 2-bedroom, 1-bathroom residence offers a welcoming atmosphere from the moment you arrive. Upon entry, you'll be greeted by a well-appointed kitchen and living space bathed in natural light, seamlessly connected to a dining area and a spacious living room boasting stunning Bay views. Meticulously renovated, this unit features brand-new tile flooring throughout, updated kitchen cabinetry and appliances, and a contemporary bathroom vanity. Located in the vibrant 55+ maintenance-free Sarasota Harbor community, residents can enjoy sweeping panoramas of Sarasota Bay.

# OnPatrol

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

#### June 1 Speeding

8:15 p.m.

Officer Miklos while on patrol near the 400 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive, observed a black Nissan pass at a high rate of speed. The Nissan appeared to be looking to pass the vehicle in front of a no passing zone. The Nissan appeared to be looking to pass the vehicle in front in a no passing zone. Officer Miklos began traveling southbound on Gulf of Mexico Drive behind the black Nissan. The black Nissan swerved into the northbound lane of Gulf of Mexico Drive almost striking a vehicle near the 3300 block.

Officer Miklos initiated a traffic stop and the Nissan came to a stop where Officer Miklos made contact with the driver. The driver advised that he didn't have a driver's license or a passport. Officer Miklos requested a routine backup officer to assist in the situation. The passenger advised he did have a valid driver's license. Officer Miklos advised the driver to step out of the vehicle and walk to the rear of the vehicle. Officer Miklos conducted a frisk search for safety due to the driver being nervous and attempting to put his hands in his pockets. The driver provided his pertinent information via a translator app provided by a Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Officer that had stopped to assist until Sgt. Puccio and Officer Nazareno arrived. Officer Miklos issued the driver a criminal citation for operator a motor vehicle without a license and provided him a Sarasota County Court date. Additionally the driver was issued a citation for failure to maintain a single lane. The passenger provided a valid license and was allowed to driver the vehicle from the scene. Case clear.

#### Spotlights

#### 9:04 p.m.

Officer Miklos was dispatched to the 3700 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive in reference to a group of people on the beach with spotlights. Sarasota Sheriff's Office Dispatch advised the complainant did not wish to meet with the police. Upon arrival, Officer Miklos came into contact with the subject and her family who stated they were crab fishing. Officer Miklos advised them that they can't have spotlights on the beach at night during sea turtle nesting season. The woman advised that she was not aware of the issue and that her family was leaving the beach. The woman and her family left without further incident. Case clear.

#### Mob in Village

#### 10:20 p.m.

Officer Tillman spoke with a complainant who wanted to file a police report on a disturbance that occurred yesterday on Bayside Drive in the Village. The complainant stated that between 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. he was approached by an unknown crowd of local people on Bayside Drive. The crowd was saying that he was trashing up the place and needed to leave the area. The complainant stated that he does not know the people and this was his first interaction with them. The complainant insisted on a report in case future problems arise. Case clear.

#### June 2

#### **Close call**

#### 5:29 p.m.

Officer Maple responded to North Shore Road for a civil disturbance. Upon arrival, a group of beachgoers who stated they were in the water and a southbound open designed boat almost hit their 12 year-old son who was in the water near the family jet skis. A short verbal confrontation ensued with a the father and the boat operator prior to the boat leaving the area and heading south. No physical contact was made and the beach goers were instructed to call 911 if the situation happens again. Family members stated the boat operator was not steady on his feet and was belligerent. No vessel ID numbers were observed. Case clear.

#### **Citizen dispute**

#### 6:39 p.m.

Officer Miklos was dispatched to the 5600 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive in reference to suspicious unoccupied vehicle parked on private property while running. Sarasota Sheriff's



Office advised that the vehicle was a gray Saab parked in a resident's spot for approximately 15 minutes. Upon arrival, Officer Miklos came into contact with the complainant and a man who identified as the Homeowner's Association President. The complainant advised that the vehicle had been left unattended with the keys in the ignition, while the engine on, since 6:19 p.m. The complainant advised she saw an unknown man and woman leave the vehicle and head east on Tarawitt Drive or Jungle Queen Way. Officer Miklos conducted a check of the vehicle and observed the keys in the ignition and a cell phone on the passenger seat. Officer Miklos advised a check of the vehicle and observed the keys in the ignition and a cell phone in the passenger

seat. Officer Miklos advised the complainant that the vehicle was on private property and they could have the vehicle towed from the location. Officer Miklos advised that he would issue the vehicle a citation for unattended motor vehicle. While finishing the citation, the owner of the vehicle approached the officer's vehicle. The owner of the vehicle advised that he had parked the vehicle at the location to unload a cooler and beach supplies. The owner advised he lived on Tarawitt Drive across Gulf of Mexico Drive. The car owner advised that he had left the vehicle running due to him locking the keys in the vehicle and he had a lock smith on the way to unlock his vehicle. Officer Miklos issued the owner a citation in which he became very irate. The man began calling the complainant vulgar names and said he did not have to talk to them. At this time, Officer Miklos requested Sgt. Puccio to assist. The car owner kept trying to incite a reaction from the complainant and was advised multiple times to remain by his vehicle. The locksmith arrived on scene and unlocked the vehicle for the owner. The owner angrily left the scene without further incident. Case clear.

#### June 4 **Citizen dispute**

#### 3:05 p.m.

Officer Ferrigine responded to Gulfside Drive for a family disturbance. Upon his arrival, Officer Ferrigine was met with Manatee County Marine Unit who advised this incident occurred on Jewfish Key on the party's boat. Officer Ferrigine spoke to the complainant who advised she was on the boat with her whole family and friends when her stepfather put the boat in drive and the complainant fell into the middle part of the boat from losing her balance. The complainant stated she then got into a verbal argument with her stepfather for not giving her a heads up before putting the boat in drive. During Officer Ferrigine's interaction with the complainant, he smelled a strong odor of alcoholic beverage from her breath and was not making sense of most of the things she was saying. The complainant stated when she was arguing with her stepfather that's when her mother got in between the both of them put her hands out to make distance between them. Officer Ferrigine spoke to the woman who stated she got into the middle of the both of them to avoid a physical altercation. The complainant stated she was not injured nor was a physical altercation occurred. There was no signs of any injury on scene and the complainant left the area and refused to talk to police anymore and she ordered an Uber to go back to her rental unit. Case clear.

#### **Erratic motercyclists**

#### 9:00 p.m.

Sgt. Butler while on patrol traveling southbound on Gulf of Mexico Drive observed heavy traffic accumulating southbound. Sgt. Butler looked ahead and saw multiple motorcycles driving erratically, swerving in and out of traffic at a very slow speed. Sgt. Butler waited for northbound traffic to subside and activated his emergency lights and sirens. Multiple vehicles yielded and Sgt. Butler was able to stop the four motorcycle/mopeds at the 800 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive. Sgt. Butler approached the operators of the motorcycles and requested their driver's licenses, registrations and proof of insurance. The operators used their mobile phones to translate and communicate during the stop. One driver produced a valid temporary Florida Driver's license and was unable to produce an insurance card. The license plate was not assigned to the vehicle. Through translation, the driver said he just purchased the motorcycle and used this tag as it belonged to him from another motorcycle. The driver was cited for the Florida State Statutes detailed in the arrest report and ordered to report on July 1 to the Silvertooth Judicial Center. The second driver who was operating produced a Florida Driver's card and a Columbian Driver's license, registration but no proof of insurance. When asked, the second driver said he has been living at his address for one year and five months. This is a violation of Florida State Statute and he was cited for the violations detailed in his arrest report and ordered to report to the judge. The third driver produced a Venezuelan Identification Card, but failed to produce registration and proof of insurance. When Officer Pescuma asked him if he had a driver's license said no. The third driver was issued a citation and given a date to report in court. The fourth driver produced a Florida ID card, registration and no proof of insurance. This was also a violation of Florida State Statute and she was cited for the violations and order to report to court. All parties arranged to have their vehicles removed. Case clear.



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#### June 6 Fireworks

#### 9:19 p.m.

Officer Miklos responded to the 6300 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive in reference to a group of people shooting off fireworks on the beach. Sarasota Sheriff's Office Dispatch advised the fireworks were reported by an anonymous caller who did not wish to meet with police. Upon arrival, Officer Miklos came into contact with a group of 10 people on the beach. Officer Miklos did not observe any fireworks being shot off at the time, and he spoke with the person at the address and he advised he was on vacation from North Carolina and celebrating a birthday. The man and his family were cooperative throughout the interaction. Officer Miklos informed the man that the use of fireworks were illegal in Florida except on January 1, July 4, and December 31. The man was checked for any wants or warrants and had negative results. Case clear.

# WineTimes

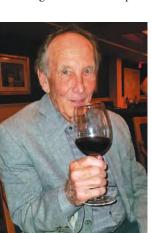
## The Spirit of a Signature Snack Box

Spirit doesn't try to compete with Air France in the culinary arts. The on-board wine list featured four nondescript wines, Sauvignon Blanc and Cabernet Sauvignon from Spain, a Barton and Guestier Rose, 'and a sparkling wine from France.

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

Leaving two hours late from Chicago O'Hare on a Spirit flight to Tampa and with a drive home from Tampa ahead, we had limited ourselves to a second glass of wine. Spirit

doesn't try to compete with Air France in the culinary arts. The on-board wine list featured four nondescript wines, Sauvignon Blanc and Cabernet Sauvignon from Spain, a Barton and Guestier Rose', and a sparkling wine, from France. We settled for the Rose'. It turned out to be a highly rated, dry, and pleasantly acidic blend of Grenache, Tempranillo, and Cinsault wines from the Languedoc region of France. It retails for little more than \$7.



We had sampled a thick potato and ham soup and a hefty meatloaf plate at lunch in a Road Dwag eatery in Southern Wisconsin, and had passed on airport food during the long wait for boarding the plane. Hours later, when the flight reached 35 thousand feet, we had a sudden hunger attack.

We scanned the Spirit Sips and Snacks inflight menu like law firm interns looking for loopholes. The Dot's Homestyle pretzels, Boom Chicka Pop popcorn, Cheez-It Snack Mix, Pringles, and M&M Peanuts, Share Size, remined us that we could have bought a bag of snacks from CVS and brought it aboard, but decided against it. A cheese board? Enough of that in cheesehead Wisconsin.

One item on the menu did look interesting. The Signature Snack Box looked like a French version of US Army K rations (dimensions 8 X 4 X 2.5"). It included a tasty selection of gourmet snacks: Mario Herb and Spice Pitted Olives, Wonderful Pistachios Roasted and Salted, Acacia Gourmet Cream Crackers, Glacier Ridge Farms, Smoked Gouda Spreadable Cheese, and Sheila G's' Brownie Brittle Chocolate Chip.

We feel obligated as food critics to report on the quality of foods served in various venues. Fortunately in this case, we can give the Spirit Signature Snack Box high marks in the economy inflight snack meal category (under \$10). The herb and spice green, pitted olives begin the meal with a healthy appetizer. A generous portion of shelled pistachios could be shared with seatmates. The gourmet cream crackers provided a base for the spreadable smoked Gouda cheese. The package of Sheila G's brownie brittle chips also had enough to share. We ate them all, though, and would have eaten more.

We applaud Spirit Airlines for making a tasty selection of snacks available to air travelers. The heavy plastic film wrap



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 Otego Valley in New Zealand. Currently he splits time between

residences in Chevy Chase, Maryland and St. Armand's Circle in Florida.

Rich Hermansen selected has 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.

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around the box, we discovered, helps build up an appetite during the struggle to tear it open. Fitness and feast combined.

As an aside, the US military Meals Ready to Eat (M Re's) are available on the web. They have gained popularity among hikers, hunters, and survivalists. People into these culinary adventures have posted comparisons of US military MRE's and the French and Belgium Ration de Combat Individuelle Rechauffable (RCIR). The exchange rate between the RCIR and the MRE range from 1:5 to 1:15; that is, one RCIR will trade for 5 to 15 MRE's. All depending on tastes, the reviewers add. Bon appetit!

S. W. Hermansen has used his expertise in econometrics, data



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# Editor Letters

#### Letters, from page 7

designated as Motorboat Zone. There needs to be a clear division of the two areas.

As it is ,the motor boaters are moving their boats into the swim zone by simply removing the Swim Zone floats and they are ,from time to time, completely encroaching upon the swim area and continue to block the channel into the Greer Island Bay that was designed and recently dug as a \$1,000,000. passage for owners to have as an access to their homes and docks inside that Greer Inlet and also was to permit safe swimming from propellers and the clear passage for the Manatees and sea life who use the Greer Island Bay pass for refuge from boaters.

Although, this problem was visited and partially solved last year by Manatee County and the LBK Commission ,it is still an ongoing difficulty for the Longboat Police to enforce the motor boaters encroachment and blockage of this important waterway.

It is confusing as instead of dividing the beach into an East beachfront for the Swimmers and Kayakers and the West Beachfront for the motorboaters. the East beach front has been designated 3/4 of it for Swimmers and Kayakers and 1/4 left for motorboaters. Please make the Bridge the division so that the issue I forever solved by further delineating an East side beachfront for Swimmers and Westside beachfront for Motorboats using the bridge line itself as the division between the two areas.

Please see the attached, Tom Mayers' photo solution described by marked photo on following attachment. Thank you for your prompt consideration of this matter.

Joan Bergstrom

Longboat Key

#### Greer Island Beach Swimmer and Motorboat problem

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton

Can you reach out to Joan? I think this is a good idea - if you have not seen this area you may want to visit up there.

BJ Bishop Commissioner Town of Longboat Key

#### Jewfish Key use of Linley St. boat ramp

To: Longboat Key Commissioner BJ Bishop

I was speaking with Rusty Chinnis about the issue of Jewfish Key residents using/abusing the Linley Street boat ramp and wanted you to be aware of a recent experience I had while walking by there.

There were two tractor trailers loaded with large trees parked along the edge of Bayside Dr where it clearly says "no parking ". A forklift operator unloading one of the trucks backed up with out looking, forcing me to avoid him. The apparent supervisor asked me if I had "a problem "and I pointed out it was a no parking zone. His comment was yes, I know and I pointed out there was no access for a fire truck or an ambulance and he just shrugged. Over an hour later, the trucks were still there, blocking the road and the boat ramp.

It seems there should be some degree of restriction or total prohibition on these activities that are both dangerous and disruptive to the Village. This is not an isolated incident, there are many days when construction materials, trees, etc are being loaded and unloaded at that location.

Jill Nemeth Longboat Key



#### Jewfish Key use of Linley St. boat ramp

To: Jill Nemeth, Rusty Chinnis

Thank you both for your continued feedback as staff evaluates this opportunity with our neighboring jurisdictions.

Howard N. Tipton Town Manager Town of Longboat Key

Jewfish Key use of Linley St. boat ramp To: Jill Nemeth Jill - thanks for info. Talked with Rusty. Your info helps! BJ Bishop Commissioner Town of Longboat Key

#### Jewfish Key use of Linley St. boat ramp

To: Longboat Key Commissioner BJ Bishop

Clearly contractors working on Jewfish are using the dock and ramp for commercial purposes. I gave Allen a thumb drive with a couple months of pictures showing the extensive and regular use of the Linley dock by large trucks and barges going to JFK and back. So we've got lots of evidence. As I stated at yesterday's hearing, I believe that such commercial usage of a public dock requires a concession agreement under 92.07. Alternatively, the Town has the authority to regulate the use of its public dock... which could include the outright prohibition of commercial uses.

James G. Haft Longboat Key

#### Jewfish Key use of Linley St. boat ramp

To: James Haft

Totally agree. I will follow up with staff to be sure that we are putting a stop to this issue. BJ Bishop

Commissioner

Town of Longboat Key

#### **Beer Can/Greer Island Beach Plan**

To: Longboat Key Commission

Please consider this suggestion:

The Police and Sherriff Department have a problem maintaining order with the plan design they have now on the East side of the bridge beach. Every weekend they are having to explain and deal with people who don't understand the current plan. They could just put a swimming only float under the bridge on the south side of the beach (where they removed the one that was there before, a few years ago) and put another swimming only float on the north side of the beach under the bridge. This would be easier for the police to patrol and easier for the people to understand. The "Swim Only Beach for people, kayaks and paddle boards" would be an asset to everyone. Here are two aerials with an explanation of what the change would look like. On North Longboat Key Pass we have over 100 boats on a normal weekend, 200 boats on a busy weekend and as many as 300 boats on an especially busy weekend and they have plenty of places to go with the Jewfish Key Sandbar and the area to the West of the bridge. It will probably take the city and county governments weeks or months to make any change. The people from the boats would have the use of the "Swim Beach" if they just walk 50-100 feet from their boats on the West side of the bridge. This should be considered a boat traffic calming improvement and will be safer and better for the people, manatees, birds and other wildlife. All that we are asking is that you have rules and laws that match the rules and laws on Coquina Beach which is just North of the Beer Can/ Greer Beach on North Longboat Key.

#### See Letters, page 13



# Editor Letters

#### Letters, from page 12

With these reasonable rules and laws in place enforcement should be easier. Tom Mayers Longboat Key

#### Jewfish Key use of Linley St. boat ramp

To: Longboat Key Public Works Director Isaac Brownman Can we do this? Seems to make sense. BJ Bishop Commissioner Town of Longboat Key

#### Jewfish Key use of Linley St. boat ramp

To: Longboat Key Commissioner BJ Bishop

Excellent idea. The party boats tend to encroach onto the kayak area, and I suspect the some of the "no motorboat" signs/bouys mysteriously move or disappear.

Jim Haft Longboat Key

#### Please consider this suggestion

To: Jim Haft

Thanks for your support. We have had more than 6 large boats blocking the channel between our dock and the bridge completely blocking the channel that we paid over 1 million dollars to dredge. It was so bad that even the manatees could not get by the boats, much less other boats being able to use the channel for its intended and stated purpose. We have an active group of manatees using the channel and the Beer Can/ Greer Bay every day and we want to protect this endangered species and not encourage more boats playing loud music, trespassing and bring kids to jump off the bridge. The police say that they don't have the manpower to enforce the laws and don't. The current beach design makes it difficult to enforce the laws that the people don't understand and some willing break the laws. The Town of LBK and the Manatee County Commissioners have legal boat parking areas at each end of the beach with the current design and signage.

Tom Mayers

Longboat Key

#### **De-annexation**

To: Longboat Key Commission

Although de-annexation is now moot (for the time being anyway), there will still be a 1 p.m. Commission hearing today. I plan on attending to share a few observations with the Commission on the Linley dock issue, among other things. There should be plenty of time for the commission to hear from citizens at 1 p.m. Feel free to attend and speak about your concerns.

Jim Haft

Longboat Key

#### Jewfish Key Contraction Request Withdraw

To: Longboat Key Town Commission

The purpose of this email is to share with the Town Commission an email transmitted this morning from the attorney for the Jewfish Key Preservation Association withdrawing and revoking the Contraction Petition submitted on January 16, 2024. The withdrawal and revocation notification is provided below.

Despite this withdrawal, the Town Commission should still plan on convening at 1 pm to open the public meeting since an afternoon session was noticed and there may be public that appear at that time. Given the withdrawal, there will not be a presentation from Town Staff on the Jewfish Key Contraction Request as previously identified in the meeting agenda and no further Town Commission action or discussion on the matter is required. In other words, the afternoon session will likely be extremely brief. The Town Clerk's Office is going to adjust the current notification about the afternoon session and the withdrawal of the contraction request on the Town's website and craft an appropriate message on the Town's social media page letting the public know so they can plan accordingly. If you have any questions regarding this matter and notification, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Maggie D. Mooney Town Attorney Town of Longboat Key

#### Jewfish Key Contraction Request Withdraw

To: Longboat Key Town Attorney Maggie Mooney

As you know I represent Jewfish Key Preservation Association, Inc. (the "Association"). Please be informed that the Association, along with the property owners of Jewfish Key, has decided to formally withdraw and revoke the Voluntary Contraction Petition submitted on January 16, 2024. This decision comes as we are currently in the process of reassessing the Voluntary Contraction Petition in light of the findings and recommendations contained within the Requested Voluntary Contraction of Jewfish Key Feasibility Study conducted by the Town of Longboat Key.

Consequently, there will be no petition or proposal for the Town Commission to consider at the upcoming June 3, 2024 Town Commission Regular Meeting. As a result, this item should be removed from the agenda of the said meeting.

Should you require any further clarification or have any questions, please feel free to contact me directly. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Aaron Thomas

Firm Principal

Jewfish Key Preservation Association, Inc.

#### **Pedestrian Cross walk**

To: Sarasota City Engineer Nik Patel

I was not sure which of you should receive this message, so I'm sending it to both.

First, it's like the field of dreams - build it and they will come. I'm hoping the numeric data supports my observational data and that golfers are back! Also from my observational data, walkers, birders, and others are discovering the new Nature Park. Hurray!

Second, since Bobby Jones reopened, several Glen Oaks residents have mentioned the lack of a pedestrian crosswalk to me. They are referring to a crosswalk that marks where pedestrians should cross Circus Blvd to enter Bobby Jones near Assinger Way. With the increased traffic, it seems like a good idea to mark the roadway to identify for pedestrians, and all others who want to safely enter to golf or enjoy the Nature Park where they should cross Circus Blvd.

Hoping you are enjoying a little time off! Kathy Kelley Ohlrich Sarasota

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# Longboat preps for storms at Key Club







The Town of Longboat Key's 22nd Annual **Disaster Preparedness Seminar was held June** 5 in the Longboat Key Club's Harbourside Ballroom, which the Club donated for the event. The event featured Brian LaMarre as the keynote speaker. LaMarre is a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Tampa and the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration Gulf of Mexico Regional Collaboration Team Lead. More than 300 were in

# KeyCrossword

#### ACROSS

- 1 Fragrance base 6 Aegean isle 11 "Shane" star 15 Benevolent brother 18 Insect stage 19 Actress Leachma 21 Israeli port 22 Easy as \_\_\_\_ 23 Aristocratic intellectual 27 Inflames 28 Green 29 Jalopies 30 Kindled 31 Mister, in Mainz "The\_\_\_ Love' 32 33 Office worker's wear 39 Mil. school 41 Gallant muskete 45 Assistant 46 Bahrain export 47 Family outcast 49 Slammin' Sam \_\_\_ Pasha: Egyptian viceroy 1863-79 51 53 Frenzy 54 "Do say..." 55 Kite's org. 56 \_\_\_\_-Tin-Tin 58 European capita 59 Ind. mediator 60 Kill or joy lead-ir 61 Anti-union canine
- 64 James\_ philanthropist
- 66 Fred's dancing
- sister
- 69 Sugar pill
  - Sailing

**Color Captions** 

#### Edited by Linda and Charles Preston

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12 Perform

11 Bringing up the rear 44 Steeple

91 Hassle 47 Short single 93 Droll one 48 Soviet police 95 Attempt 50 Fumbles 96 "Marriage is a \_\_\_ 51 \_-Chinese Cervantes 52 Feeling poorly 101 Stiff drink 57 \_ Jima 102 Public officer 60 Repute 103 Totally defeat 62 WWII vessels 104 Semetic language 63 Wild asses 106 Pythias's pal 65 "Toledo" painter 108 1/8th gallon 66 Head monk 68 Notes outstanding 110 NCOs 70 Scots' family group 111 Part of QED 71 Teacher's deg. 112 Defy danger 72 Fetches 113 Over again 73 Core group 114 Indian tourist town 74 Poet Nash 115 Walked on 76 Macaw 116 Last Supper 78 Baker's topping depiction 79 French tale 117 Little ones 80 Bandleader Kay 118 Buffalo's waterfront 82 Humbug! 83 "\_\_\_ a Parade" 119 6/6/44 121 Wedding words 85 Each and \_\_\_: all 89 Court wear 122 Before poetically

#### attendance.

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	8 London teenagers

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