



Longboat Key News

September 20, 2024

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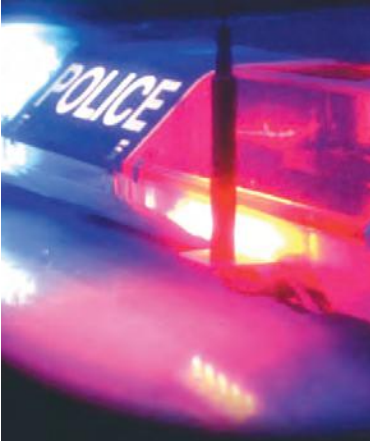
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Longboat leaders to face tunnel vision on Monday

In many ways, Longboat Key, despite the absence of a Main Street, offers something far more grand – Gulf of Mexico Drive — a 10 mile landscaped corridor stretching the entire length of the idyllic island. But not all is perfect.

STEVE REID
Editor & Publisher
sreid@lbknews.com

Most communities come replete with a Main Street in the center of town from which businesses and pedestrian activity form a defacto hub for both residents and visitors.

In many ways, Longboat Key, despite the absence of a Main Street, offers something far more grand – Gulf of Mexico Drive — a 10 mile landscaped corridor stretching the entire length of the idyllic island.

But it is not all perfect on Gulf of Mexico Drive. On the north end near the Longbeach Village, residents have long complained that the approach heading south off of Longboat Pass Bridge creates a dangerous situation when pedestrians and bicyclists attempt to cross between the village and the beach. This was partially addressed several years ago by lowering the speed limit to 35 miles per hour. But more is on the way.

Longboat Key Public Works Director Isaac Brownman told Longboat Key News that a long-



planned roundabout that would calm traffic, while not stopping cars, may be funded due to some recent news from the Sarasota/Manatee Metropolitan Planning Organization.

Things could happen very quickly, but it will be a challenge because the Town has to enter into an agreement with Manatee County as well as the Florida Department

of Transportation (FDOT) because Gulf of Mexico Drive is a state road. If the Town can enter into an agreement quickly, it is possible that the
See Roadway, page 2

Buyer options increase, condo fees cause concern

Certain real estate relationships are axiomatic: softening sales turn into increasing inventory, which translates into falling prices.

STEVE REID
Editor & Publisher
sreid@lbknews.com

The regional real estate market has certainly softened over the summer. Certain real estate relationships are axiomatic: softening sales turn into increasing inventory, which translates into falling prices.

And while a summer slow down is expected, the Realtor Association of Sarasota and Manatee reports that “the extent of these shifts is noteworthy as we approach the prime selling season.”

Key trends

Closed sales for both condominiums and homes peaked in April and May but a decline in sales continued through the summer. As far as inventory, the number of homes available in the market, while it has remained stable over the summer, is significantly higher than this time last year.

There is good news, especially for single-family homes where prices have held steady after dipping last June.

In Sarasota County, closed sales for single-family homes has seen a slight year-over-year decrease of 1.9 percent since 2023. In August 2024, there were 633 homes sold. Of these transactions, 36.2 percent were cash deals. In August, sellers received on average 93.7 percent of their original list price, a 2.2 percent decline from July 2023.

The inventory of single-family homes shows 2,907 active listings in Sarasota County, translating to a 4.6 month supply of inventory. In Manatee County, there was a slight decrease in overall sales in August 2024 with 615 transactions compared to 616 a year prior. The average sale price in Manatee County dropped by one percent in one month between July 2024 and August 2024. The RASM President Tony Barrett is optimistic that buyers will “Be back soon when the chill sets in.”

Barrett said its natural to see a price correction after the spikes experienced in 2022 and 2023.

Townhomes and Condos

This is where the market softening is most apparent with a 22.2 percent decrease in condominium closed sales in August 2024 compared to a year prior.

In Manatee County, condominium sales dropped by 11.2 percent year-over-year.

The RASM President says that the decline in cash sales suggests a shift in investor activity.

The HOA Fee factor

Many buyers and existing owners of condominiums have grown fearful of potential assessments for deferred maintenance.

Condo Associations must legally now build up reserve funds or complete repairs ahead of the new legislation.

Condo Associations must legally now build up reserve funds or complete repairs ahead of the new legislation that followed the collapse of Champlain Towers in Surfside, Fla. If a condominium contains three or more stories, a milestone inspection is required once the building reaches 30 years old. This affects dozens of buildings throughout Longboat, Lido and Sarasota County.

A second milestone inspection is then required every 10 years and HOAs are responsible for all costs arising from these inspections and complete financial reserve studies to address any needed repairs or maintenance.

In short, after the end of this year, an association may no longer underfund its reserves and unit owners cannot opt out of funding such reserves.

Roadway, from page 1
project could enter the contract phase as soon as June 2025.

Brownman describes it as a simple, single-lane roundabout in which all drivers will turn right and exit either to the beach, to the west, head south on Gulf of Mexico Drive, or turn off into the Village on Broadway.

Brownman said that it is difficult for people to make the walk across Gulf of Mexico Drive because of the distance across the road and a roundabout would dramatically increase safety without stopping traffic.

If the town cannot forge the necessary agreements with the FDOT and Manatee County for the project, the roundabout issue would have to be revisited in 2027 or 2030 when other funding becomes available.

Tunnel vision
About 2/3 of the way south on the 10-mile-long road is something of an anomaly—a pedestrian tunnel that crosses underneath Gulf of Mexico Drive.

The tunnel was built in 1978 by the Arvida Corporation, which at that time, owned both sides of the road. Town Manager Howard Tipton says current ownership of the tunnel is in question, but the Bay Isles Association has been maintaining the tunnel for decades.

“They don’t feel they own the tunnel and it is an asset outside of their gates and they want to divest from that responsibility,” said Tipton.

This presents various scenarios and opportunities for the Town of Longboat Key. Tipton says he prefers a joint-relationship between the FDOT, which owns and controls Gulf of Mexico Drive, the Town, and likely Bay Isles.

Because the tunnel is underground, it has a pumping system and the water is transported to a pond within Bay Isles. Another issue is the ramp down into the tunnel on both the east and west side of GMD is not ADA compliant because the slope is simply too steep. Tipton said a transfer in ownership would likely trigger the necessity for ADA compliance.

Finally, which entity will pay for maintenance costs? Tipton says the tunnel is the safest way for pedestrians to cross the busy road. The tunnel is situated south of the Fire Station on the east side of GMD and near Seaplace on the west side.

Tipton says that if the Town gets involved, it could increase signage and it is already wide enough since it was designed for golf carts to be able to cross at the same time.

Tipton is going to ask the Town Commission on Monday if it will allow staff to look into

the various issues and what the historical cost of maintenance was and projected costs would be as well as which entities would likely assume which responsibilities.

Tipton said the pumps to drain the tunnel were just replaced by the Bay Isles Association and he believes it is in sound structural condition.

“It is a community asset worth the Commission taking a look at,” said Tipton.

Tipton said at this juncture the only cost if the Commission moves forward is staff time to explore the salient issues.

Country Club Shores turn lanes
Tipton was excited to mention good news from the FDOT that the Country Club Shores turn lane project that has been in the works for more than eight years will receive additional financial support from the FDOT.

The plan is to create stand-alone turn lanes for nine Country Club Shores street entrances that emanate from the east side of Gulf of Mexico Drive across from the Islandside Golf Course. The plan is to have separated turn lanes so drivers don’t use one continuous turn lane as a passing lane, creating a new hazard.

Tipton said the FDOT committed \$1.3 million toward the project, but the problem is the bids came in at \$2.6 million. Now, the FDOT is indicating that it will fund the entire project at increased cost.

The road will be slightly widened on the west or Golf Course side and Public Works Director Isaac Brownman says the Key Club has been extremely accommodating. The existing bike lanes will be widened as well. Additionally, traffic will be slowed slightly from 45 mph to 40 mph, creating a transition before drivers heading south reach the 35-mph zone, leading up to New Pass Bridge.

Brownman says there is an entire corridor plan for the 10-mile roadway that includes landscaping and numerous improvements. It is dubbed a Complete Street Plan.

“The goal is the Town Commission wants to see the bulk of Gulf of Mexico Drive redesigned. We are looking long-term and it will require quite a bit of time and money. This section at Country Club Shores could serve as an initial stage of that long-term project,” said Brownman.

Brownman added that there will be plantings in the medians within the turn lanes in an effort to beautify the roadway.



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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.

FPL

To: Longboat Key Commission, Sarasota City Commission
The MSLC Board requested a representative of FPL be asked to attend a future meeting to discuss various issues of concern.
I spoke today to Devaney Iglesias of FPL and she will be attending the Board’s Thursday, Jan. 9, 2025 meeting at 9:30 a.m.
She did ask that, in order to bring in the appropriate FPL staff, if you will please provide what items the Board wishes to discuss in advance. This will allow the persons involved in specific issues to answer questions and provide information. As you know, there may be questions about rates, customer service, storm issues, etc. She would like to have persons there who would be able to answer your questions and concerns. Please mark your calendar for our January 9, 2025, to participate in conversation with FPL. Any questions, please let us know.
Gail Loeffler
Administrative Coordinator
ManaSota League of Cities, Inc.

FDOT

To: Longboat Key Vice Mayor Mike Haycock
Thank you Vice Mayor Haycock, here is a plan sheet of the Hornblower Lane location (bottom frame). The FDOT required these medians as part of our project design. The bids have been received, and we anticipate starting construction in the near future. As you may recall, the project has been under design and FDOT permitting for some time, and this is the configuration the FDOT approved for permitting purposes. Because a car exiting Hornblower will be exiting from the right side of the road, it looks like there may be enough room to position oneself in the median before merging into traffic (this would be for one car; two cars could not do that and stage at the same time). Included Tip for FYI as well:
Isaac Brownman
Public Works Director
Town of Longboat Key

Country Club Shores Turn Lane

To: Jeff McKee
I will follow-up and get back to you. This project will be covered in the 1 p.m. Commission meeting at Town Hall on Monday. I suggest you or Chris attend and share your concerns. I will be out of town.
Mike Haycock
Vice Mayor
Town of Longboat Key

Country Club Shores Turn Lane

To: Longboat Key Public Works Director Issac Brownman
Passing on for input and follow-up. Can you forward the most recent drawing of this area.
Mike Haycock
Vice Mayor
Town of Longboat Key

Country Club Shores Turn Lane

To: Longboat Key Vice Mayor Mike Haycock
Chris and I read the article in the Observer and are concerned about the proposed curbbbed median south of Hornblower Ln. We have lived on Hornblower for 25 years. While we welcome a turn lane on GOM we feel the curbbbed median will create more problems for us when turning south from Hornblower Ln. One of the purposes of such a lane should also be the merging of traffic onto GOM. The curbed median would prohibit this function for residents on our street. I understand the aesthetics of a median but it shouldn’t impede flow. We ask that the town/commissioners reconsider the placement of the median as shown in the Observer article.
Jeff McKee
Longboat Key

So sorry about cats and dogs being eaten stories...

To: Springfield Mayor Rob Rue
Dear Mayor Rue- as an elected commissioner in Longboat Key FL I cannot fathom the horror inflicted on your community with the fake stories about dogs and cats being eaten. Please know you, your City Council and your community are in my prayers. I hope these politicians will stop this nonsense so you can return to a place of peace.
BJ Bishop
Commissioner
Town of Longboat Key

So sorry

To: Longboat Key Commissioner BJ Bishop
I am unsure of the appropriateness of this discussion in this venue, but since you have brought it up here as a Town Commissioner and LBK Official, I believe it merits a response.
You write compassionately about restoring the Town of Springfield, Ohio, to a “place of peace.” Perhaps you could let their Mayor know how this could be accomplished in view of our compassionate Federal Government transporting twenty-five thousand people into their moderate sized town. With your wisdom and long experience as a Town Official and Mayor, I would hope you might have some ideas about this.
To help with this, you might wish to consider how the Town of LBK might respond to 1,000 people exiting buses in the middle of the night at, say, Bayfront Park, with no food, no shelter, no money, no English language skills, and no advance notice.
That’s about 25 buses. It indeed sounds like their community needs our prayers, as ours would under similar circumstances.
James R. Whitman
Longboat Key

So sorry

To: James Whitman
The Haitians in Springfield came legally as started by the Republican Governor and their Mayor. They are gainfully employed and are not eating dogs and cats. Do you really think death threats and schools forced to close with bomb threats does not deserve sympathy?
BJ Bishop
Commissioner
Town of Longboat Key

So sorry
To: James Whitman
Ps: anytime I identify myself as a town commissioner I must have the public disclosure - not for a discussion. So sad you believe death threats and school closures are not worthy of sympathy.
BJ Bishop
Commissioner
Town of Longboat Key

So sorry

To: Longboat Key Commissioner BJ Bishop
I am replying to you only to set the record straight. I never suggested that the current predicament of the people of Springfield is “not worthy of sympathy.”
To the contrary, I did state that I felt that “their community needs our prayers.”
I will further state that as we do not agree on facts, events, and sources, this “discussion” can serve no useful purpose, and I am choosing to disengage from it.
James R. Whitman
Longboat Key

Transfer funds

To: Sarasota Bay Estuary Program Executive Director Dave Tomasko
I agree with transferring \$20,000 from the unused funds from the artificial reef project to the GT Bray project.
Mike Haycock
Vice Mayor
Town of Longboat Key

Amendment to Interlocal Agreement

To: Longboat Key Town Clerk Trish Shinkle
Who needs to sign this? Does it require Commission action?
Mike Haycock
Vice Mayor
Town of Longboat Key

See Letters, page 7

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KeyNature

Off the beaten path of Longboat Key

MICHAEL GIVANT
Contributing Columnist
givant@lbknews.com

Last winter, off the beaten path on LBK, I got some close-up views of an avian winter visitor feeding and of some resident birds. While the birds caught my eye, the settings immeasurably enhanced the experience.

From a dock

In mid-afternoon at the end of the first full week of January, the temperature is in the 40s. It has been unusually cold, and there are dead fish in the water that have probably died from prolonged exposure to the cold. Standing at a dock 40 yards from our front door, I see five white pelicans in the water. My wife and I had to drive to a place near the Sunshine Skyway Bridge four years ago just to get a distant view of these winter migrants to Florida.

More than five feet in length with a nine-foot wingspan they are huge. Two paddle by the dock in unison. Their scabbard-like bills are a washed-out orange. Pouches, located under the birds’ lower mandible, look as if they are made of yellow rubber. There seem to be breeding plumes on their heads. Their eyes are jet black in the center with an area of yellow nearby. I get a peek into the partially open mouth of one whose pouch seems to have a long gray form in it, perhaps a fish.

A few days later at mid-morning there are 20 white pelicans on the water. Two of them paddle to the end where I’m standing. They seem to do everything in a synchronized manner: paddling, turning and feeding. They dip those enormous bills into the water, which is an inviting light, bright green. One comes up with a gray-silver fish. The bird points its bill upward, opening and closing it while swallowing hard 10 times, finally dispatching the fish. The two put their bills in the water facing each other. Below is a fish form that cuts the water’s surface with a fin. The poor creature offers little resistance, but they don’t take it. Why?

In the mangroves

A half-mile from where Longboat Key is connected to Anna Maria Island at its north end by a drawbridge is The Coquina BayWalk, which has footpaths and boardwalks that wrap around tidal lagoons and mangroves. One morning from the mangroves comes the mournful “hoo, hoo, hooing” sound of mourning doves. Wings aflutter, one lands on a wooden railing. The bird’s colors and the lines of its feathers blend with swirls in the wood. The subtle detail makes the moment delicious.

In the corner of a tidal lagoon is an immature little blue heron. This bird is an oddity because in its mature phase the medium sized heron has a slate blue body and washed out wine colored neck. However in it’s immature phase the bird is white with a light gray almost

translucent bill with a black tip. This one has a few dark areas on its body, suggesting that some blue is starting to show.

The bird snakes its way through the mangroves staying very close to shore. As its legs come out of the water and go back in, I cannot tell if they are light yellow or light green. It moves left then right, leaving small nearly smooth ripples in its wake. Suddenly the heron snakes out its long thin bill. Did it get a large insect? As the bird moves out of sight, the scene takes on a life its own: a calm, clear morning highlights the mystery of mangroves, their shadows and silence.

In a preserve

One afternoon in March my wife and I are walking through the Quick Point Nature Preserve at the south end of Longboat Key. In the past it’s been a pleasant walk rather than a good birding spot. A snowy egret, nicknamed “golden slippers” because of its black legs with yellow feet, is in Sarasota Bay with one foot out of the water on a stick. It looks as if it’s waiting for its shoe size to be measured.

Coming back a large brown bird flies across the path and lands on a mangrove root in some thick vegetation. The bird is unmoving and in a hard-to-see spot. It’s a heron, and the white lines on its body suggest that it’s an immature yellow-crowned night heron. The bird walks over mangrove roots and between some branches. The color and texture of its feathers blend into the branches. If it didn’t have an amber eye, we wouldn’t know if we were looking at a bird or at a branch. Soon it disappears into the stillness.

At the edge of a tidal pool, the water looks like milk of magnesia has been poured in it. On a mangrove branch that is partially in the water is a regal looking snowy egret with trailing breeding plumes. It’s decked out for the mating season. The compact white bird leans toward the water and dips in its black bill quickly and repeatedly.

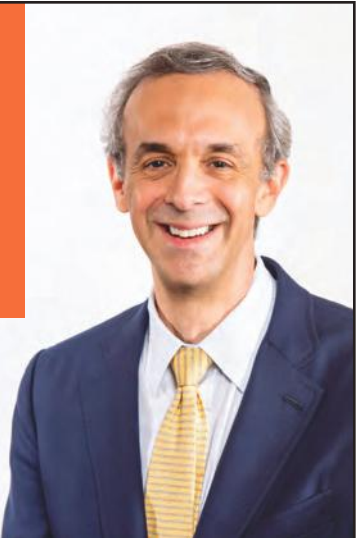
Next to the egret on a mangrove root is a tricolored heron. Gray with a white belly and some yellow down its long neck, this bird is also a fish eater. Its long, thin rapier-like bill seems to cut the water. Although I don’t see any fish in their bills, it seems as if both birds are feeding well. The tricolored heron turns around on the root. Neither is going anywhere.


Taken by the scene, I realize that more than the peaceful coexistence of the birds makes the moment. It’s the unexpected setting and the solitude found here that so enhances this walk.

That’s why it often pays to get off the beaten path.




HERE COMES THE SUN!



RON KASHDEN

For Sarasota City Commission - District 2




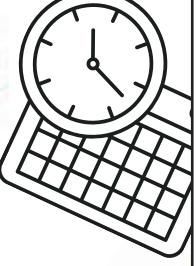
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LUNCH RESUMES OCT 15TH

Editor Letters

Letters, from page 4

Special magistrate hearing September 11th regarding sea turtle light violations

To: Longboat Key Commissioner Gary Coffin
I will give an update but it will only for purposes of information the Commission that the quasi-judicial hearing is still active and pending (since the enforcement case is still active and been resolved) due to the Special Magistrate's continuance. I will continue to strongly discourage the Town Commissioners from a public discussion about an active code enforcement case.
Maggie D. Mooney
Town Attorney, Town of Longboat Key

Special magistrate hearing September 11th regarding sea turtle light violations

To: Longboat Key Town Attorney Maggie Mooney
Maggie, I attended the above referenced meeting and inquiring if this is a meeting I will report on at our September 23rd regular workshop meeting?
Gary Coffin
Commissioner
Town of Longboat Key

US Recycling update

To: Sarasota City Vice Mayor Jen Ahearn-Koch
From Patrick Seidensticker the lawyer representing US Recycling in the sale on Thursday last week.
"Pat,
Environmental testing continues as does the Contract for sale of the property. There was a brief extension just executed under the contract.
Other than that – no news."
Pat Robinson
Deputy City Manager, City of Sarasota

US Recycling update

To: Sarasota Deputy City Manager Pat Robinson
Thank you for the update from Mr Seidensticker, I appreciate it.
Jen Ahearn-Koch
Vice Mayor
City of Sarasota

Idea for roundabout

To: Sarasota City Vice Mayor Jen Ahearn-Koch
With the recent passing of Ernie Kretzmer, I would like to propose to the city of Sarasota that we recognize his contributions to the community. Ernie was a huge supporter of the arts community in Sarasota and his passing leaves a huge void in that community. He spent the majority of his life as an engineer and was instrumental in supporting one of the roundabouts that we have in the city. It's my understanding that the intersection of Orange and Ringling was completed due to a contribution that Ernie made to Sarasota. I don't have the particulars but it's likely the city has records that show Ernie had a hand in seeing to the finalized construction of that roundabout. I'd like to propose that the intersection be named in his memory and honor. The recognition of Ernie Kretzmer would be forever etched in the fabric of our city and his family, friends and recipients of his generosity would be forever grateful.
Joseph Holt
Sarasota

Idea for roundabout

To: Joseph Holt
Thanks so much for reaching out per your request to acknowledge and honor Mr. Ernie Kretzmer and the long-lasting impact his generosity has had on our community and City.
I was unaware that he contributed to the roundabout at Ringling and Orange so, "thank you" for bringing that to my attention. There is a plaque for that intersection already but I can not recall if there is an acknowledgement of his donation currently but we can certainly look into that.
I have copied the City Manager Mr. Brown and Deputy City Manager Mr. Robinson on this email so we can look into the protocol and process for such a request. I am confident they will be in touch (and copy me as well please).
Jen Ahearn-Koch
Vice Mayor
City of Sarasota

Retirement

To: Dale Adcock
I do remember you. Thank you so much for the message, the recognition, and the compliment. I centered my entire career and leadership on being a "public servant", that is, being responsive to citizens. Hope all is well with you and thank you again.
Marlon Brown
City Manager
City of Sarasota

See Letters, page 12



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LEARN MORE

StayingAlive

Coffee vs. energy drinks

Energy drinks are legal pharmaceuticals.

MATTHEW EDLUND, MD
Contributing Columnists
edlund@lbknews.com

Caffeine may be the perfect drug of the Internet Age—cheap, legal and available absolutely everywhere. For a population complaining of fatigue, exhaustion, stress and insomnia, it appears a near perfect antidote. Yet how we deliver our drug of choice changes the results on our brain and body.

So here's a quick review of some of the cultural, social and biological differences between coffee and energy drinks:

Culture

Few drinks can claim a place in the creation of the English, American, French and Russian revolutions, but coffee can. Beyond activating the minds of revolutionaries, coffee drinking is highly social, and for centuries coffeehouse owners have tried to make their businesses centers of community life. You don't bring children to a bar. Coffeehouses can be a place to meet business colleagues, future mates and listen to the lonely local poet as you surf the net. By comparison, you drink energy drinks alone, unless your sports team is imbibing them together at half time.

Food and food products: Few would dispute that coffee is a food. Though often adulterated with a bewildering list of ingredients that begin in an organic garden and end in a petrochemical can, coffee does come from trees. Many advertisers hope coffee drinkers believe those trees are tended by picturesque third world planters who love their mountain misted arbors as much as their barefoot children, if only to justify the exorbitant price they pay for each cup. Some researchers argue half the antioxidants obtained by Americans come from their coffee cups, which as Michael Pollan would point out, tells you a great deal about the average American diet.

Energy drinks are not attached to such sentimental images. They are at best food products, legal pharmaceuticals, delivering a certain dose of caffeine plus sugar (with its quick calories) and vitamins. In real ways their "energy" components may originate with energy companies like BP, extending from the PET bottles from which they are normally dispensed to the flavorings, stabilizers and preservatives within.

Age

Coffee drinking starts early but often extends through a lifetime. The ritual of awakening and brewing a fine cup to activate the still sleepy brain is common to teenagers and 80-somethings. Yet few of us would expect grandma to knock back one or two cans of Monster Energy Drink every night. Energy drinks are the perceived provinces of youth.

Dose

Coffee comes in many different caffeine doses, from the four to 12 mg of decaffeinated brews to the 40 to 80 mg of the average cup to the hundreds of milligrams of special Starbucks and cappuccino brews. Energy drinks can range upward from low numbers to 200 to 300 mg of caffeine. Used regularly all such drinks create caffeinism, the addiction to caffeine that can move from the buzzing speed of the addict to the withdrawal hell of headaches, nausea, vomiting and terrifying sleeplessness.

Why are energy drinks so popular? If coffee and tea are such culturally accepted ways to obtain caffeine, why are energy drinks so increasingly popular? The usual suspects can be trotted out: they provide a quick hit; the high doses; you can guzzle energy drinks anywhere and nobody will ask you to sit down and talk with them. However, there's a bigger invisible elephant lurking around—the abolition of rest, and its biggest time component, sleep.

Rest deprivation and the need for energy

Americans have knocked off 90 minutes of sleep in the last 40 years, and we're working overtime to shave off more. Workingwomen are madly multitasking, hoping for six and a half hours of shuteye before the next fast-paced day. Rest, as a chance to think, consider and reflect, seems as quaint an idea as scheduling a coffee break in an auto plant.

The situation is worse for adolescents and young adults. Teenagers lose about a third of their brain's synaptic connections when they enter puberty. Building the growing brain requires time



and energy, and adolescents need about nine hours of sleep to function and do marginally well in school.

These days they're getting perhaps six and a half to seven and a half sleep hours a night. There's no point in resting when you're text messaging two hours a day, netsurfing, doing homework and playing video games while taking cell phone calls from mom and dad. Not getting enough rest to grow and rebuild their brains, let alone stay awake through morning classes, children turn to energy drinks. Suddenly they've got the power to keep going.

Until they can't. Caffeine's drug half-life is perhaps five to 10 hours for many, though it can extend to 16 or more hours for some. That means, in the good case, half the caffeine dose is gone in five hours, three-quarters in 10 hours, seven-eighths in 15 hours. For many, sizable blood levels of caffeine never go away—which means they never properly sleep.

Stealth energy drinks

Adults differ only in degree. The parents of caffeinated children drink coffee to get through working days and nights to meet deadlines, or resort to the energy drinks that dare not speak their name, century old brands like Coke and Pepsi. Colas are just stealth energy drinks.

Yet from a national health standpoint, we're getting close to a tipping point. When people sleep less than six hours a night, they:

1. Gain weight
2. Start to look pre-diabetic
3. Get more coronary artery disease
4. Get more infections, especially colds
5. Get more depressed
6. Feel perpetually cranky, irritable and uncivil

Since sleep and rest are required for learning and memory, many of us suffer from buzzing brains with incessantly broken attention, making creative and productive thinking increasingly difficult, as Nicholas Carr demonstrates in his book "The Shallows."

And what's the standard answer to all this fatigue and tense exhaustion? More caffeine.

Fix the caffeine fix

1. Recognize rest is like food—necessary for function and survival. Sleep deprive any animal long enough and it gets sick and dies. People need to get rest.
2. Recognize that caffeine is a drug—an enormously pleasant and useful drug, but a drug whose "normal use" can abuse our bodies.
3. Use caffeine the way it's meant to be used—as a food we love. Energy drinks may have their use in sports, where even the slightest edge can mean everything to competitors, or for shift workers tending a nuclear reactor at 1 a.m.

But foods are social glues, cultural treasures and forms of celebration. We want to dine, not feed. We want to talk to our fellow imbibers, appreciate the taste of whatever caffeinated brew we're ingesting. It's fun to sip a cup among peers, family and friends, giving us a better chance to enjoy the buzz and enliven our brains.

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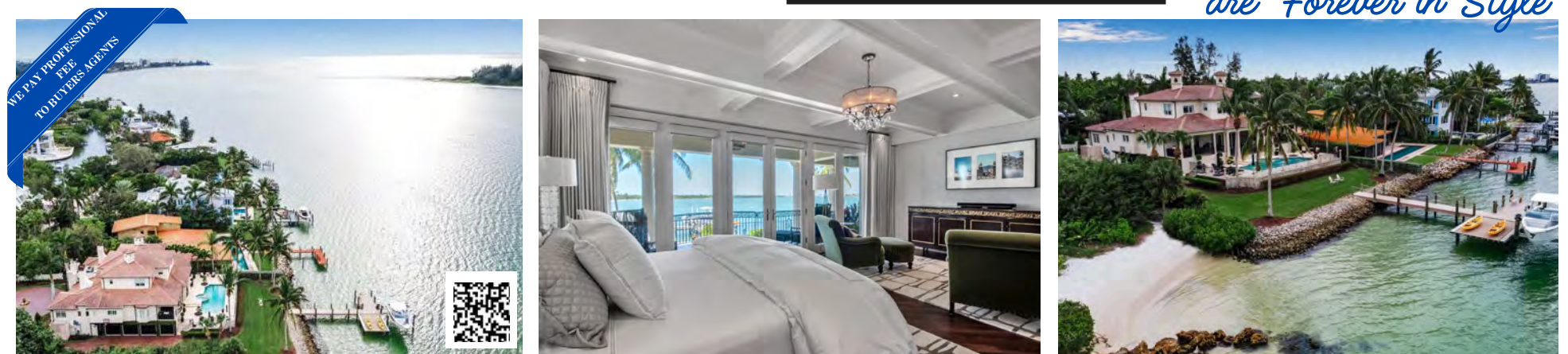
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3500 Bayou Louise Lane - Siesta Key- \$10,500,000 Partially Furnished

Located on the sought-after northern tip of Siesta Key, this exceptional gated estate offers unrivaled forever vistas of the Gulf of Mexico, the city, moonrise-sunrise, and sunsets. This home boasts 5 bedrooms and 5.5 bathrooms, sprawling across 6,300 sq. ft. under air. This residence exemplifies luxury at its finest. Featuring a grand 40x20 pool and spa, an elevator, complemented by a 24K boat lift with a 12x20 platform for kayaks or jet skis, perfect for the boating enthusiast. The main level showcases an exquisite primary suite with sweeping panoramic water views, a warm wood-paneled office with a fireplace, a great room with a fireplace, a Clive Christian-inspired kitchen, and a guest bedroom. The 2nd level has 3 bedrooms ensuite—additionally, 4-car garage, a gym and game room. The owner can enjoy access to a beach just steps away, ensuring the ultimate in coastal living.

[3500BayouLouise.com](https://www.3500BayouLouise.com)



2251 Gulf of Mexico Drive #204 - \$7,999,000

This epic Gulf-front corner residence, which feels like a home on the beach, offers 3 bedrooms plus an office (or 4 bedrooms) and 3.5 bathrooms in a lavish 4,032 sq. ft. space. Revel in your own 3,400 sq. ft. terrace featuring an infinity pool, fire pit, and summer kitchen, with private stairs leading straight to the beach. With a gourmet kitchen, social room, guest suite, fitness center, and a stunning 5-car garage, Aria delivers unparalleled luxury and on-site management.

[2251GulfofMexicodr.2seeit.com](https://www.2251GulfofMexicodr.2seeit.com)



415 L'Ambiance Drive #A401 -\$5,840,000

Experience luxury at L'Ambiance with this Southwest corner residence featuring a spacious wraparound terrace and stunning sunsets. Enjoy private elevator access, a custom-designed interior with new windows, kitchen, and baths. The Royal floorplan offers three bedrooms, all ensuite, a powder room, and a bonus room. Residents benefit from concierge service, a 24-hour guard gate, an Olympic-sized pool, two tennis courts, a fitness center, game rooms, a library, a wine room, and guest suites. Small pets are welcome, and one underground parking spot is included.

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[lambianceA401.com](https://www.lambianceA401.com)



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www.65Lighthouse.com

1241 Gulf of Mexico Drive #105 - \$2,575,000-Furnished

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[WaterClub105.com](https://www.WaterClub105.com)

408 Jackson Drive-\$2,888,000

Spacious 3-bedroom-plus-den/3-bath home, with an optional 4th bedroom, features a private pool, lush garden, and contemporary updates. Highlights include a modern kitchen, vaulted ceilings, and a versatile family room. A separate casita adds extra comfort. Enjoy elegant outdoor spaces and a prime location near St. Armands Circle.

[408JacsonDr.2seeit.com](https://www.408JacsonDr.2seeit.com)



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OnPatrol

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

Sept. 13 Disturbance

12:44 a.m.
Officer Tillman responded to the 2400 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive for a family disturbance. Officers responded and spoke with the complainant. The complainant who advised her boyfriend and her were in a verbal argument when he was asked to leave the residence. The boyfriend refused to leave until the police was called. The boyfriend had left the premises in a red Mustang prior to our arrival. The south license plate camera was checked and is currently not working. The complainant stated that she is not in fear of him returning and he does not have access to the building. Case clear.

Roadway

6:59 p.m.
Officer Mathis was dispatched to the 2500 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive in reference to a pothole in the roadway. The complainant advised that the hole appeared to be the beginning of a sinkhole under the roadway. Upon Officer Mathis' arrival to the location, he was able to locate the pothole which is on the northbound side of Gulf of Mexico Drive in the turning lane to turn onto Bay Isles Parkway. Officer Mathis placed several traffic cones with reflective markings around the area of the pothole which was four inches in diameter but underground the hole is washed out to be about the size of a basketball. Public Works was notified. Case clear.

Guest

11:00 p.m.
Officer Mathis responded to the 1600 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive in reference to a suspicious person. Upon Officer Mathis' arrival, he met with the resort's office manager who advised that she has a resort guest that was very upset at the fact resort staff entered the room to provide a turndown service. The Office Manager explained that the turndown service is provided for guests that do not have their privacy light turned on and that this service is scheduled nightly at 5 p.m. through 9:30 p.m. Officer Mathis then made contact with the guest who was waiting just outside the elevators on the fifth floor. The guest was extremely upset that resort staff entered his room while he was sleeping. The guest advised that he was unaware of the turndown service and acknowledged that he did not have his privacy light turned on. Officer Mathis explained to the guest that the staff member entered the room to complete the service only because the privacy light was not on. The guest responded that he would just sleep in the floor in front of the door to prevent staff from entering his room again and that he would leave first thing in the morning. After brief mediation the incident was resolved and the guest returned to his room. Officer Mathis returned downstairs and advised the office manager that the incident was not a criminal matter. Case clear.

Sept. 14 Driver's license

9:48 p.m.
Officer Ramsaier received a license plate camera notification stemming from the Longboat Key south end site camera



of a northbound vehicle on Gulf of Mexico Drive with an expired Florida Driver's license and no insurance on file. An FCIC/NCIC query was conducted and confirmed the registered owner's driver's license has been expired as of Jan. 5, 2023. The vehicle was located and a traffic stop was conducted at Bay Isles Road. The registered owner was operating the vehicle at the time of the stop. Officer Ramsaier made contact with the driver. Officer Ramsaier explained the reason for the traffic stop being for the registered owner having an expired driver's license and the vehicle not having insurance on file. Officer Ramsaier asked the driver for her license, registration and insurance card. The driver replied she didn't have one. The driver was asked if she knew that her driver's license since January, to which she replied that she did. Officer Ramsaier asked if the driver was aware that she needed a valid driver's license to operate a motor vehicle and she replied that she did. Officer Ramsaier issued a citation for an expired driver's license greater than six months, no proof of insurance. Case clear.

Trespassing

9:06 p.m.
Officer Maple, Officer Tillman and Officer Mathis were dispatched to the 1600 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive for a suspicious persons. Upon the officers' arrival, they met with the manager and two security personnel who stated there were two individuals on the property acting suspicious. The manager stated she had seen the older teenage boys walking on the property taking selfies and exterior perimeter pictures. The individuals were asked to leave several times as they continued to walk about the outside of the property taking pictures. The individuals were wearing blue jeans, one had a white hoodie and the other a dark blue hoodie. Both were wearing bandanas covering their faces which they would drop to take pictures and then recover faces afterwards. Individuals were about six feet tall, male, with long hair. Suspicious persons had departed prior to their arrival and a canvass of the area produced negative results. The resort security increased the perimeter patrols and stated they would reach out with any additional sightings. Case clear.

Sept. 15 Driver's license

12:02 p.m.
Officer Butler was alerted via the license plate recognition

camera of a northbound vehicle from the south end of Gulf of Mexico Drive with the registered owner having a suspended/revoked/canceled driver's license. An FCIC/NCIC query was performed and confirmed that there was no valid driver's license and no auto insurance. The vehicle was located pulling into the parking lot of 400 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive. Officer Butler conducted a vehicle stop and made contact with the driver. The driver was explained the reason for the stop and he stated in substance that he didn't have a driver's license or insurance. Upon a query of DAVID is was found that his driver's license and was expired since March 27, 2006. The driver was not the registered owner but probable cause was established based on the lack of insurance and the close resemblance of the registered. The driver provided a Mexican Consular ID card and stated he didn't have a Florida driver's license. He further states he has been living in the United States for over a year. He was also asked if he was operating a motor vehicle due to an emergency and he stated no, he was just going to work. The driver was wearing a restaurant work shirt. Case clear.

Pool

2:11 p.m.
Officer Pescuma was dispatched to the 6900 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive in reference to construction noise, specifically a chainsaw. Upon arrival, Officer Pescuma observed the sound of a chainsaw and made contact with the construction worker who said he was subcontracted by a pool and spa company. The residence was having a pool installed. Officer Pescuma advised the man of the construction noise ordinance prohibited on Sundays, holidays and between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. The man was issued a written warning, case clear.

Sept. 16 Trespassing

9:21 a.m.
Officer Nazareno and Officer Troyer were dispatched to the 5500 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive on a reported trespassing. Upon arrival, Officer Nazareno made contact with the manager of the Inn who advised that she called in regard to an occupant who refused to leave the property after being asked. The manager said the man was asked to facate the property after he became upset and made the manager uncomfortable. The manager said the man complained about the condition of the unit he was renting and became upset with the manager. The manager said she advised the man that he would receive a refund for his stay, but the guest became irate and raised his voice to the manager. The manager said the guest was asked to leave because she felt uncomfortable with his actions. Officers Nazareno and Troyer responded to the guest's room with another representative of the Inn. The guest was contacted and stated he was in the process of packing and would be out by 10 a.m. In the officer's presence, the owner of the Inn advised the man to leave the property immediately. The guest was then issued a trespass warning, which he acknowledged by signing. The man refused to allow for a thumbprint on the trespass warning. Case clear.

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1561 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#301	5,895	\$12,430,000	3	4	1	0	\$12,430,000
1561 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#604	4,967	\$9,183,510	3	4	1	0	\$9,183,510
1581 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#608	4,017	\$7,960,850	4	4	1	0	\$7,960,850
1581 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#305	4,017	\$7,650,000	4	4	1	0	\$7,650,000
1591 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#314	2,249	\$7,250,000	2	2	1	0	\$7,250,000
1591 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#411	3,130	\$5,250,000	2	2	1	0	\$5,250,000
1591 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#311	3,130	\$4,950,000	2	2	1	0	\$4,950,000
1591 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#514	2,249	\$4,576,500	2	2	1	0	\$4,576,500
1591 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#414	2,249	\$4,520,000	2	2	1	0	\$4,520,000
1581 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#406	2,347	\$4,463,500	2	2	1	0	\$4,463,500
1591 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#516	1,556	\$2,480,350	2	2	0	0	\$2,480,350
1581 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#307	1,721	\$2,480,350	1	1	1	0	\$2,480,350
3514 MISTLETOE LN	2,502	\$2,100,000	3	2	1	0	\$2,100,000
771 MARBURY LN	3,016	\$2,100,000	5	4	0	26	\$1,985,000
3526 FAIR OAKS LN	2,634	\$1,675,000	3	3	0	9	\$1,625,000
3221 BAYOU WAY	2,639	\$1,575,000	3	3	1	137	\$1,400,000
4545 GULF OF MEXICO Unit#409	1,340	\$1,250,000	2	2	0	71	\$1,200,000
606 BUTTONWOOD DR	1,971	\$1,200,000	3	2	0	116	\$1,025,000
731 FOX ST	1,650	\$935,000	3	2	0	143	\$870,000
2600 HARBOURSIDE DRIVE Unit#B-10		\$500,000				6	\$450,000
1945 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#M2-102	928	\$498,000	2	1	0	121	\$427,000
2110 BENJAMIN FRANKLIN DR Unit#404	1,248	\$950,000	2	2	0	103	\$950,000



1591 GULF OF MEXICO DR



JEFF
RHINELANDER
941-685-3590

Jeff@jeffrhineland.com



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BIRD KEY • 410 MEADOW LARK DRIVE • SARASOTA, FL
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This well-maintained four-bedroom residence features an open-concept floor plan, with the primary suite at the back of the home, Includes new impact windows, sliders, and doors. Boat dock with electricity and water, sailboat-deep water, a 16,000 lb boat lift, and a floating dock, perfect for the boater who dreams of an active water lifestyle.



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This home combines luxury, convenience, and amenities, with breathtaking views and unmatched privacy. The spacious living and dining areas are perfect for entertaining, and a recently updated kitchen is a chef's dream. Adjacent to the kitchen is the family room, and French sliders lead to a deck that extends the backyard view.

Editor Letters



Letters, from page 7

Retirement

To: Sarasota City Commission
A really nice and simple message that I thought I would share.
Marlon Brown
City Manager
City of Sarasota

Retirement

To: Sarasota City Manager Marlon Brown
You might not remember me, as you are always in touch with so many residents of Sarasota: let alone the duties you have had as our City Manager. We last corresponded on some questions I had during the Bobby Jones Golf Complex renovation. That being said, I wanted to wish you the very best in your upcoming retirement. It’s a big move to a new stage of life that offers many opportunities. Grab on to them all. Especially those which you may not have had time for in your career.
In my opinion, you have been an outstanding City Manager and perhaps our best. Your ability to respond to citizen’s needs and concerns was the best. And I thank you so very much for the time you spent both as an Assistant City Manager and as our City Manager. All the very best to you.
R. Dale Adcock
Sarasota

Sarasota Open

To: Sarasota City Parks and Recreation Director Jerry Fogle
Thank you for the email Jerry. Without proper access to the bathrooms for the players based on the Baldwin’s new layout / rules (security issues with the players), and the fact that they would not allow us to get a temporary permit for alcohol, or work under theirs, which is very common with a proper agreement, and the fact that the rents from last year were based on fictitious number provided by the Baldwins (Sherman stated in the City meeting that you were at with us, where he first said that they was losing out on \$30,000 in profits for the days of the tournament, then he re-stated and said he was actually losing \$45,000 in profits as a result of the tournament). This is also based on his prior statements that they were doing \$70,000 per week in sales at Court 13. In reality, they are doing \$6,500 to \$8,500 per month in gross sales, which is about 1/40th of the actual numbers. There was an extra \$16k plus in the April revenues from us, which more than tripled any other month thus far.
In the same meeting, Marlon erroneously stated that he met with the City Commissioners regarding the Baldwins agreement with the City, and Sherman immediately stated that he was in the meeting and that he was there when all the City commissioners had unanimously approved the agreement and thought it was great. In fact, Marlon sent an email the next day apologizing to us for miss-stating that he had brought the agreement to the City commissioners. Since the total value of the contract was less than \$200,000, it only needed his approval. Elizabeth and I also spoke to Commissioners Kyle Batte and Erik Orroyo and they both said they never saw the Tevatan Agreement with the city.
Lastly, we were notified that Sarah Baldwin contacted Priscilla Gratton at the foundation questioning our donation. Ms. Gratton verified the donation, but this type of behavior does not sit well with any of our team. We spoke to many folks who are members at Payne Park, and most said that they loved having the tournament there. But Sarah’s survey is now saying that most members don’t want the tournament there. With all these issues stated above, we can no longer have the tournament at Payne Park and will have to move on to another venue going forward. The primary reason we were doing the tournament at Payne Park was based on Elizabeth Moore’s love and support of the downtown community. She wanted to drive business and revenues to the downtown area where she lives.
We appreciated You, Marlon, Mark, Carly, Bjorn and Sue, and thank you for your help and kindness in prior years. It is unfortunate that we have to say good-bye. We do hope that the Baldwins find success at Court 13 and do right by the City.
Steve Gareleck
Elizabeth Moore Sarasota Open

Sarasota Open

To: Steve Gareleck
I hope your day is going well. Please understand that if you are unable to provide the requested information to Ms. Baldwin/Mr. Baldwin by Monday, September 16, the City will be unable to host the EMSO event next year. Per Ms. Baldwin’s email, there will be no extensions on the deadline. Thanks, and enjoy the rest of your week!
Jerry Fogle
Parks and Recreation Director
City of Sarasota

Sarasota Open

To: Steve Gareleck
Not how it works, Steve.
Sara Baldwin
Tevatancorp

Sarasota Open

To: Sara Baldwin
I’m gathering info. We did not agree with your deadline. Thanks.
Steve Gareleck
Elizabeth Moore Sarasota Open

Sarasota Open

To: Steve Gareleck
Should I assume you’ve decided to move your event to a new location since we have not heard back from you on the last two emails, and the deadline is now a week away?
Sara Baldwin

Tevatancorp

Sarasota Open

To: Steve Gareleck
I’m aware of a records request for our company. Was that from you?
Also, is there any chance you told the alcohol department that we serve alcohol to the general public?
Sarah Baldwin
Tevatancorp

Sarasota Open

To: Steve Gareleck
I set the deadline in our meeting with Jerry, and he agreed it was fair and reasonable. As I have repeated multiple times, I am not willing to extend it. Labor Day is one day, and we don’t think it’s reasonable to request an extension of a “couple extra weeks” because of a one-day holiday. I was able to speak with people in the alcohol department last Thursday and today.
I just got off the phone with the alcohol department, and they emailed me this:
You(r) license type is limited to: Drink for consumption on premises only. Sales to members and nonresident guests only. By F.S. 561.20(7)(a)2, 561.20(7)(a)(c), 565.02(4)
You cannot have 2 alcoholic beverage licenses on the same location. If the ODP temporary permit is being requested for an event to be held on your licensed premises. During the permitted dates and times of the event, no sales or service of alcoholic beverages may be made under your permanent alcoholic beverage license in the area identified for use by the temporary permit applicant in Section 5 of the ODP application. Failure to comply may result in administrative charges being filed against your license.
This has been going on all summer. Here is the timeline for your reference:
• May 31, 2024: Steve emailed saying, “Since Tommy’s Express Car Wash wants to start a marketing campaign in July / August time frame with the tournament as mentioned, we would need to see if there is a mutually beneficial way to do this as soon as possible”
• June/July: many back and forth emails and an in person meeting with Steve, Sarah, Mark Hamilton. Sarah’s communication about alcohol remains consistent, and Sarah is prompting Steve to get in touch with the alcohol department to clarify.
• August 1, 2024: Sarah reminds Steve alcohol can’t be sold to the public under their license and directs him again to contact the Florida Alcohol Department.
• August 15, 2024: Sarah sets the September 16th contract deadline with clear non-negotiables. Steve is given an entire month more to address logistics.
• August 23, 2024: Steve repeatedly questions the September 16th deadline despite it being clearly communicated. He also requests Sarah handle contacting the alcohol department which is his responsibility.
• August 29, 2024: Sarah reaffirms no extensions will be granted.
• September 3, 2024: Steve requests an extension, citing delays due to Labor Day Weekend.
• September 4, 2024: Jerry Fogle confirms the City is not involved and has had been consistent that this is between Tevatan and the EMSO.

At this point, we consider spending any time on this topic past 9/16 to be damaging to our business.
Furthermore, we ran a customer survey, asking their opinions on various topics, including staff, products, and programming. One of the questions was whether our customers would like to see the EMSO return to PPTC, and out of 300+ respondents, nearly two-thirds responded that they would not like to see your return.

We’re trying to act in good faith here, but we’re reaching the end of our limit to collaborate on this. As you said in May, we’re looking to see if there is a “mutually beneficial way to work together.” That answer seems to be “no,” but we’re willing to remain available to you until 9/16 to see if there is a path forward.
Sarah Baldwin
Tevatancorp

Sarasota Open

To: Sarasota City Parks and Recreation Director Jerry Fogle
Thanks Jerry. Sarah said that the deadline was something you worked out with her. Let’s extend a couple weeks. Thanks.
Steve Gareleck
Elizabeth Moore Sarasota Open

Sarasota Open

To: Steve Gareleck
I hope your day is going well. As you are aware, the agreement will be between your team and Ms. Baldwin/Mr. Baldwin. This is not a City of Sarasota agreement. The City will work with your team, after you have a fully executed agreement with Ms. Baldwin/Mr. Baldwin.
Any deadlines and discussions will be with Ms. Baldwin/Mr. Baldwin. Thanks, and enjoy the rest of your week.
Jerry Fogle
Parks and Recreation Director
City of Sarasota

Sarasota Open

To: Sarah Baldwin
Since the information I received was very different than the information you provided to us, I put a call into licensing to get something in writing. I’m guessing since it was a holiday weekend that they may be delayed, but I am waiting for a call back.
As the Elizabeth Moore Sarasota Open is a party with tennis, alcohol and food are critical components. You had said that as of now, you would not allow us to serve alcohol, unless we get approval in writing from the alcohol licensing, that would be a non-starter. Let’s extent this a couple extra weeks just in case. I’m sure Jerry should be fine with that. Jerry, could you let me know.
Steve Gareleck
Elizabeth Moore Sarasota Open

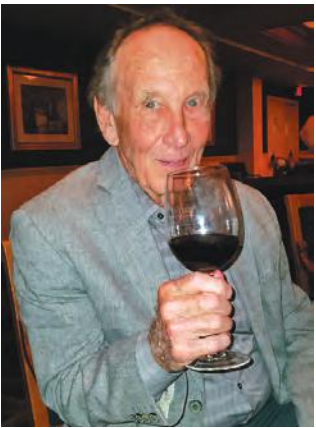
WineTimes

Harry’s New York Bar in Paris

These menus bolster the provenance of Harry’s Bar’s claims to have invented or first published recipes for classic cocktails.

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

After ordering a Negroni cocktail and chatting about the origins of classic cocktails with Doug Miller, an affable and busy bartender at the Lido Beach Resort Tiki Bar, we learned that Doug had visited Harry’s Bar in Paris and had been given photographs of old menus from Harry’s that listed iconic drinks such as the Bloody Mary, the French ‘75, the SideCar, and the White Lady.



These menus bolster the provenance of Harry’s Bar’s claims to have invented or first published recipes for classic cocktails. The slogan of Harry’s Bar - Traditionally inventive since 1911 – underscores the cocktail expertise of the bartenders.



The original name of Harry’s, The New York Bar, had a literal meaning: in 1911 a famous jockey in the USA, Tod Sloan, moved a large mahogany bar from its earlier location on 7th Avenue in New York to Paris and put it in a bistro. Sloan hired a Scottish bartender from London to run the place, Harry MacElhone, author of Harry’s ABC of Mixing Cocktails, who later bought the bar and gave it his name.

During and after WWI, American expatriates in Paris began meeting at the bar. Writers Sinclair Lewis, Ernest Hemingway, Gertrude Stein, and F. Scott Fitzgerald, actors Humphrey Bogart and Rita Hayworth, boxer Jack Dempsey, and tennis champion Big Bill Tilden frequented Harry’s. Musician and composer George Gershwin composed An American in Paris in the “Ivories” piano bar.

More recently, French and international patrons have joined the Americans at Harry’s. Isabelle MacElhone, the widow of Harry’s grandson Duncan, described Harry’s Bar as “... like a club without an official membership.”

When enjoying a craft cocktail, thank Harry’s Bar in Paris. Harry’s has advanced the craft of mixing cocktails to the level that we see today.

And by the way, the Negroni originated in 1919 at Caffè Casoni in Florence Italy in response to a special request by Count Camilo Negroni, who asked bartender Fosco Scarselli to add gin to a drink made of sweet vermouth and Campari. The Negroni is becoming more and more popular in the States. The Spanish tapas restaurant Beso in downtown Sarasota, for example, is featuring the Negroni and other



Amari cocktails.

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.



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Letters, from page 12

Sarasota Open

To: Steve Gareleck
9/16/24 = deadline to have any necessary contracts signed between EMSO and Tevatan. No exceptions or extensions will be provided.
Sarah Baldwin
Tevatancorp

Sarasota Open

To: Sarah Baldwin
Is this deadline something from the city based on your 8/15 meeting with them? I was not in that meeting and was not aware of it.
Steve Gareleck
Elizabeth Moore Sarasota Open

Sarasota Open

To: Steve Gareleck
Oh I didn't understand your question. The genesis of that date was a meeting we had with the city on 8/15. And I explained it in two of my emails on that day. Thanks!
Sarah Baldwin
Tevatancorp

Sarasota Open

To: Sarah Baldwin
Can you please let us know. Thanks.
Steve Gareleck
Elizabeth Moore Sarasota Open

Sarasota Open

To: Sarah Baldwin
Who came up with the Septembet 16th deadline? Was that from the City? The information was given to me by the person in charge. I will email her and get her to send an email regarding alcohol.
Steve Gareleck
Elizabeth Moore Sarasota Open

Sarasota Open

To: Steve Gareleck
Respectfully, I don't have time to track this down for you again, as I've spent hours with that department learning the rules. I have also spoken to the person in Sarasota who is in charge of enforcement, and she has confirmed what I have been told and told you multiple times. As a reminder, last year, you told me I was wrong about the alcohol permit myriad times, and the information I provided the entire time turned out to be accurate. Because of that, I had to drop what I was doing to meet someone to sign the alcohol paperwork on the day before the event. We will not doing that again.
If you think that something is now different, please have Karina email me and everyone on this email chain the answer to this question:
Can an 11C licensee allow another company to sell or give away alcohol to the general public at their location while still operating their business as normal? If so, how?
If we get that, I will bring it to the area's enforcement person to confirm. At this point, the onus is on you to provide

the necessary information so that everyone on this email chain is comfortable with the alcohol plan. Further resources can be found in these statutes specifically: 561.20(7)(a)2 561.20(7)(a)(c) 565.02(4).
If you can solve this issue, we must also ensure that all necessary terms are agreed upon and all contracts between Tevatan and the EMSO are signed before September 16th. I don't want to tell you how to operate your business, but I believe parallel processing contracts, tent rentals, and the alcohol plan will be required to meet the deadline.
I want to reiterate expectations clearly because we have had our fair share of communication issues... as I said in my email last week unless we can have all of this agreed to and contracts signed between Tevatan and the EMSO by September 16th, this will not work for us. Last Friday, that was four weeks away. Today is three weeks away. This date came specifically from a meeting we had with the city last week, and they agreed that this was a reasonable timeframe.
Sarah Baldwin
Tevatancorp

Sarasota Open

To: Sarah Baldwin
I spoke with Karina Riviera who is in the Division of Alcoholic Beverages, whose direct extension is 41682, or press 1 and you will get her when you dial the phone number you provided. She is with division of licensing, and she said that she is the appropriate department to discuss the licensing, not with Meloney Osbourne, who is in Administration. She said it is no problem to do a temporary permit event called an "ODP" underneath or concurrent with your existing license and it is a separate event license. The cost is \$25 up to 3 days so we would need three of them consecutively. It can only be applied for 30 days prior to the event, so you can have "both", but they different. I explained that you would be keeping your license active, and she said that was fine. Please call her to discuss, as the answer you gave us was very different than the information we were provided. The event for alcohol would be outside of court 13. Thank you.
Steve Gareleck
Elizabeth Moore Sarasota Open

Sarasota Open

To: Steve Gareleck
I heard from Meloney earlier in the week and she said she hadn't heard from you yet. Have you made any progress on this front?
Sarah Baldwin
Tevatancorp

Sarasota Open

To: Steve Gareleck
I don't believe I ever said I would send you the contact info, but I'm more than happy to share. I normally speak to Meloney Osbourne.
Please keep us updated as soon as possible on your progress. We're committed to making a "go" or "no go" decision by September 16th for our business. Thanks!
Division of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco, Bureau of Law Enforcement
Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation
Phone: 239-344-0885
Sarah Baldwin
Tevatancorp

Sarasota Open

To: Sarah Baldwin
Hi Sarah. You had said you were going to let me know who you spoke with and send the contact info. If you could please send that information, it would be appreciated.
Steve Gareleck
Elizabeth Moore Sarasota Open

Sarasota Open

To: Steve Gareleck
Have you been able to speak with the Florida alcohol department on my previous email?
As we've said before, our non-negotiables are that we need to remain open with our space unobstructed and our licenses intact. If there are workarounds within those parameters, we're certainly open to further conversations about the EMSO at PPTC.
That said, we're planning our 2025 events and marketing calendar, and so we're setting September 16th as the deadline by which we will decide whether working with the EMSO is viable. If you are still interested in having the open at PPTC this year, that gives you a full month more to work out the logistics and we can get contracts signed so that the process can move to the city.
And if you've already made other plans, please let us know as soon as possible so we can plan accordingly. Thank you for understanding where we're coming from.
Sarah Baldwin
Tevatancorp

Sarasota Open

To: Steve Gareleck
I spoke to the Florida alcohol department, and they said it is not allowed to split up our space and that we cannot allow you to sell (or give away) alcohol to the public under our club license. They are adamant that we would have to waive our liquor license like last time, which, as we've said, is not something we are willing to do again. At this point, my best suggestion would be to call them directlty to see if they have any other ideas or workarounds.
Sarah Baldwin
Tevatancorp

Sarasota Open

To: Steve Gareleck
I can be available next Wednesday August 7 before 2 p.m. or after 4 p.m.
Please let me know; I can go over to PP.
Elizabeth Moore
Elizabeth Moore Sarasota Open

Sarasota Open

To: Sarah Baldwin
It probably makes sense to keep it simple. You would be getting a substantial boost in beverage sales at your bar, as you would have your normal patrons plus the folks from Grandstand getting into the air conditioned space and buying there as well. I would think you would do the same pricing as us which would be a bit higher, so the pricing is the same (event pricing is usually higher). We would have a small kiosk outside and we would sell some food items and beverages similar to last year. Let me know if that would work.
Elizabeth Moore Sarasota Open

Sarasota Open

To: Steve Gareleck
I realized after we met, we never discussed "the economics of food and beverage sales" in person today but that was a point you had in your previous emails on this email chain. Is your plan that we would participate in the sales as part of the tournament? What did you have in mind there?
Sarah Baldwin
Tevatancorp

Sarasota Open

To: Sarah Baldwin
Hi Sarah. Would you be able to meet in person at the club next Wednesday afternoon and do a walkthrough and go over the points in my last email. Because you are looking to do a walkthrough outside of the facility for players on the sidewalk, it would be good if Jerry or Mark could facilitate that as additional permits / approvals may be needed. Please let me know. Thanks
Steve Gareleck
Elizabeth Moore Sarasota Open

Sarasota Open

To: Steve Gareleck
I responded to this email on 6/14. When I hadn't heard back, I assumed you had decided to proceed with other options.
As I said in that email, my dad is out of the country so a call of any kind is not possible until after 8/8. That is beyond the date that we committed to having this locked in or not by so email is best.
1. Player's tent on the property but not in our space is between you and the city. Players would need to access locker rooms through the side entrance so the footprint of our space doesn't change - including the side gate remaining open to our customers the entire time. This is a non-negotiable for us and would also require staging and storage places coordinated with the city so our patio remains as is.
2. Our liquor license if for the entire property.

Sarah Baldwin
Tevatancorp

Sarasota Open

To: Sarah Baldwin
Hi Sarah. Could you please comment / respond on the below? It covers several areas that we would need to understand where you are on this. I thought it would have been easier to get on a video or voice call instead of going back and forth. Over communication is key on this. Please let us know. Thanks.
Steve Gareleck
Elizabeth Moore Sarasota Open

Sarasota Open

Read more letters on Sarasota Open at www.lbknews.com and click on Letters

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