



Longboat Key News

February 7, 2025 *Serving Longboat Key, St. Armands, Downtown Sarasota & Anna Maria Island* FREE

InsideLook



Tariffs, taxes and the wine biz ...page 6



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\$4.2 million LBK beach view ...page 12



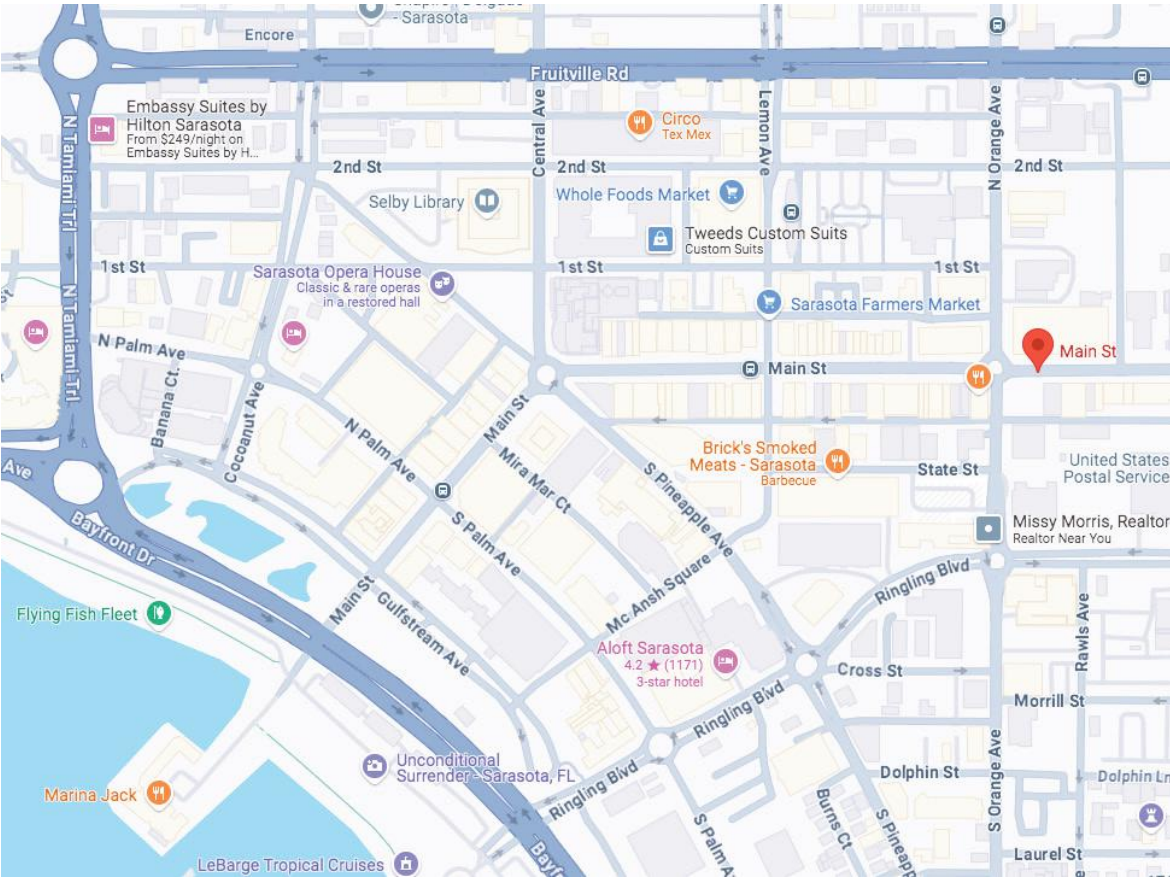
I am docked for the night! ...page 10

Main Street ream p plan has merchants upset over lost parking

Members of Sarasota's Downtown Improvement District (DID) board sounded critical of a city plan that would remove about 0 parking spaces from Main Street.

Two transportation planners updated the board on the "Main Street Complete Streets" project, an initiative to increase downtown walkability and pedestrian access after months of public input. Most people responding to city surveys on the project said they wanted bet-

See Parking, page 15



Creedence Clearwater Revival's Stu Cook lists Modernist home

Stu Cook, the bassist of rock band Creedence Clearwater Revival, recently listed his Sarasota waterfront residence for \$9.975 million.

Cook was a member of the American rock band from 1959 to 1972. The band, known for hits like Bad Moon Rising and Fortunate Son, helped define a new era of rock.

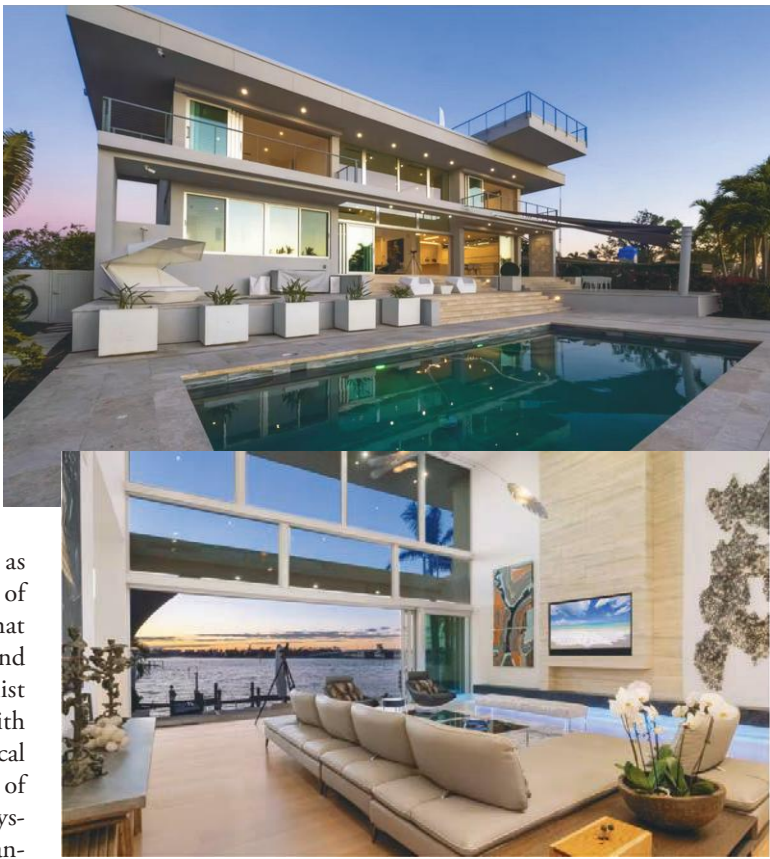
The home was designed by Carl Abbott, who studied under modernist architect Paul Rudolph, and designed many of the iconic School of Modern Architecture buildings and homes. Sarasota School of Architecture, otherwise known as Sarasota Modern, a distinct version of regional mid-century modernism that was popular between the 1940s and 1960s and combined the minimalist intentions of the International Style with elements tailored to Florida's subtropical climate. This meant large expanses of glass, shaded courtyards, and louver systems were frequently employed to manage sunlight, heat, and humidity.

Originally built in 2002, Cook's home was completely overhauled in 2016 with new electrical and plumbing systems, new floors and finishes, and smart house features. Located within the San Remo Estates, a waterfront community prized for its access to the open waters of Sarasota Bay, the clean-lined architectural eye-catcher sits on less than half an acre with a private dock. Spanning about 4,600 square feet, there are four bedrooms and four full bathrooms, plus a half bath split over two main levels.

Cook and his wife, Dana, bought the waterfront home in San Remo estates in 2013 for \$2.95 million, records show.

An accidental fire in the kitchen, the result of a cooktop that was left on, burned down most of the Gulf Coast home, save for some bearing walls, the concrete pad and the garage. The home had to be completely rebuilt, and all new systems—from electrical to plumbing to the HVAC—were put in place.

The Cooks worked with architect Carl Abbott, who designed the original home, which was built in 2002, to bring his plans back to life. Abbott, a modernist, is the last surviving original member of the Sarasota School of Architecture, a post-war modern style that emerged in the Gulf Coast city.



Starbucks to open on Longboat

Starbucks will open late summer 2025 at 3174 Gulf of Mexico Drive.

Big-name brands are uncommon on the Key, with Publix, CVS and J. McLaughlin being on the shortlist.

CEO of Topper's Craft Creamery and Master Licensee for Starbucks Greg Sausaman is bringing Starbucks to Longboat Key, with the help of some other local partners.

In the plaza located at 3170 GMD is also retailer Swim City.

The available space's lease is listed as \$32 per square foot for a lease term of up to 10 years and triple net, meaning the tenant is responsible for taxes, maintenance and insurance.

Before Starbucks, the spot was occupied by Michael Saunders & Co, Next door at 3172 GMD was the Turtle Coffee Bar before being destroyed by hurricanes.

Café on St. Armands Now Open

Café on St. Armands, the reimagining of Café L'Europe, is now officially open. This Mediterranean-inspired dining destination brings bold flavors, vibrant spaces, and a modern twist to the heart of St. Armands Circle.

See Cafe, page 2

LBK Commissioner BJ Bishop Travels to DC to Advocate for Issues Impacting Longboat Key and Other Municipalities

At-Large Longboat Key Commissioner BJ Bishop traveled to Washington, D.C., this week to meet with members of Florida's congressional delegation and advocate for key federal issues affecting municipalities, including the Town of Longboat Key.

"We had a very productive week meeting with our Senate and Congressional representatives, as well as staff who have been key to our success bringing our issues to the forefront," Bishop said.

Bishop was joined by more than 50 other city leaders, from throughout the state in the FLC federal advocacy trip known as the Federal Action Strike Team (FAST) Fly-In. FAST is responsible for advocating the League's federal priorities to the Florida Congressional delegation.

"Strong partnerships and open communication between local, state, and federal government agencies are essential to supporting our cities," said FLC President Michael C. Blake, Mayor of Cocoa. "The League's FAST Fly-In event provided a valuable opportunity to engage directly with our state's congressional leaders and discuss key issues affecting our communities. We appreciate the congressional delegation's time and commitment to these important discussions."



Debbie Scaccinoce, Bradenton Beach, BJ Bishop, Longboat Key, Congressman Vern Buchanan, and Jen Ahearn-Koch, Sarasota.

During their time in the nation's capital, local leaders urged Congress to support legislation safeguarding the tax-exempt status of municipal bonds. These bonds are essential tools for local governments to finance critical infrastructure projects.

In addition, they advocated for a long-term National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) reauthorization and support for legislation that would simplify the federal grants process. The group also focused its advocacy efforts on finding a long-term solution to PFAS in soil and water and providing federal liability protection for cities, among other issues.

Before heading to Capitol Hill, representatives from the FLC and National League of Cities (NLC) federal advocacy team provided a federal briefing. The group met with most members of Florida's congressional delegation, including Senator Rick

Cafe, from page 1

Proprietors Amanda are running the operation and the parent company is Oysters Rock Hospitality. The following staff are in place:

- Managing Partner, Eleni Sokos (and ORH Executive Vice President)
- Chef Jeremy Wehr, Kitchen Manager

The restaurant is open daily at 431 St. Armands Circle.

- Café Soleil: 8 AM – 2 PM
- The Wet Bar: 10 AM – Last Call
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3480 BAYOU SOUND | LONGBOAT KEY
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3408 FAIR OAKS LANE | LONGBOAT KEY
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Contact: Nicholle DiPinto McKiernan 941-928-2922



3927 SOMERSET DRIVE | SIESTA KEY
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3 Beds 3 Baths 2,758 Sq. Ft.
Contact: Jules Mackie 773-704-14383



4844 BRYWILL CIRCLE | SAPPHIRE SHORES
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3 Beds 3 Baths 2,672 Sq. Ft. with Casita
Contact: Jules Mackie 773-704-1438



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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.

Library/Community Center

To: Editor
Longboat Key has been a part of my life for over 50 years. My father was a three-term mayor and a Town Commissioner for almost 14 years. I have been a (seasonal) resident for over 30 years. For nearly 25 years, Longboat Key has envisioned a central gathering place for our island. Over the years, this vision has taken different forms from a community center funded by Longboat taxpayers to a donor-funded arts, culture, and education center in collaboration with Ringling College. While these earlier initiatives did not come to fruition, the dream of a vibrant Town Center remained strong. What was missing was the right partnership. Now, Longboat Key has found the perfect partner to bring this vision to life and I am assisting in any way I can to help make this a reality. The journey began with a partnership between the Town and Sarasota County to acquire the land for the Town Center Green, a 4.81-acre park at the heart of the Key. To complete the first two phases, (i) Town taxpayer money was used, (ii)

Sarasota County provided a substantial grant, and (iii) private donors generously contributed, all to fund the pavilion and stage that are now being enjoyed by the community.
Now, Sarasota County Libraries has committed \$11 million to build a new Library/Community Center at Longboat's Town Center. But today's libraries are far more than books, they have evolved into dynamic hubs of technology, learning, and community engagement. This new Library/Community Center will feature state-of-the-art technology, gathering spaces, and opportunities for lectures, workshops, and lifelong learning. Most importantly, all events and programming will be free to the public, ensuring accessibility for everyone.
Through extensive public outreach, residents have voiced a clear desire for a larger and more versatile space to enhance the core offerings of the Library/Community Center. To meet these needs, the Town of Longboat Key is seeking to raise at least \$3.5million in private donations for critical additions, including:
— A welcoming plaza with a spacious social area;
— A larger meeting space for 200+ attendees with built in versatility to break out into

See Letters, page 8

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WineTimes

Wine and Beer Exports and Tariffs

Wine and beer exports have taken on the curious roles of bellwethers of the impact of tariffs on exports.

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

Wine and beer exports have taken on the curious roles of bellwethers of the impact of tariffs on exports. During the latest round of globalization of businesses, the proportion of wine exports in global wine sales has increased from 10% in the 1960's to 42% in 2022. (Source: Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations Global Trade Atlas.) This means that wine producers in many countries depend heavily on wine exports to pay their operating expenses, and that, due to the close ties of wines to regions within countries, tariffs on wine imports will force buyers in the USA to pay even higher prices than before for a Port or a Malbec or a Champagne or any other wine not produced in sufficient quantities in the States. In Washington DC, the same politicians who have enshrined the idea of free enterprise are now playing politics with tariffs. Imposing a 25% tariff on Mexican and Canadian imports to retaliate against lax control of illegal immigrants and smuggling of Fentanyl seems more likely a backlash against imported beer as a favor to Budweiser. Recall Trump's tariffs imposed on French wines during his prior tenure.

Tariffs on wine and beer imports have a much greater negative impact on the small producers that use traditional and more sustainable farming practices. The much larger producers will simply press more of the cheaper grapes and add doctored juice to their mass market wine. Further consolidation will reduce the diversity of distinct tastes of wine and beer. Perhaps this result becomes another example of what happens to those who try to raise standards of living in less prosperous and weaker countries. The chaos of trade wars inspired by pollical factions makes a mockery of the ideal of a free enterprise economy.

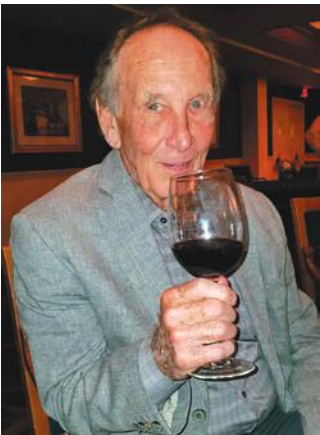
It may be a good time to stock up on wine imports before tariffs take effect. French wines will likely be an early target of Trump Admin II. Look for good prices under \$50 on Piper-Heidsieck Brut and the elegantly structured Billecart-Salmon with close to a 50% blend of the third Champagne grape after Chardonnay and Pinot Noir, Petit Meunier, at a price range around \$90.

Wine prices of imported and domestic wines are increasing with or without tariffs, so having a few bottles tucked away will help bridge spikes in prices. Rhône Valley wines such as the 2017 Château Gigognan Bois des Moines Côtes du Rhône Villages (\$24) and the 2023 "Luberon", Legende de Bonpas (\$16) will coexist well with California Cabs and Oregon Pinot Gris.

<https://cdn.shoplightspeed.com/shops/628469/files/67472400/1500x4000x3/other-whites-rhone-white-blend-luberon-legende-de.jpg>

Tariffs on beer and wine will cause hardships among small farmers, wineries, and breweries both here and abroad, favor large corporations, raise prices, and limit consumer choices. Anyone paying attention will see how politicians use them to their own advantage.

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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Editor Letters



Letters, from page 4

smaller spaces if desired; and

— An elevated & covered outdoor terrace connecting the Library/Community Center to the Town Center Green.

While Sarasota County will allocate \$1 million annually for operations and maintenance for the entire facility, the above three essential enhancements will not be County-funded. Longboat Key needs the support of donors, large and small, to make this vision a reality.

Every contribution, no matter the size, will bring us closer to transforming the Library/Community Center into a true gathering place - a space for learning, connection, and enrichment that will serve our island for generations to come.

I hope that many of you will be open to a meeting to discuss this opportunity to make a meaningful and lasting impact on Longboat Key. Your support will help create a space where knowledge, culture, and community come together, all free and open to the public. I would be delighted to set up a meeting with those parties from Sarasota County Libraries and the Town of Longboat Key to provide you with more specifics on this wonderful project. Alternatively, I can set up individual meetings if that would be your preference. In any event, please contact me at Jeffrey.lenobel@gmail.com or 917-376-7000, or Susan Phillips, Assistant to the Town Manager, at sphillips@longboatkey.org or 941-316-1999, x1212

Jeff Lenobel
Longboat Key

Good news - with cae ats

To: Longboat Key Commission, Sarasota City Commission

Yesterday afternoon, the portal though which we receive Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funds became available for us to access again. As such, we're moving forward with our habitat restoration projects – letting our contractors know that we will once again be able to process properly documented invoices for contracted work.

This whole episode was an uncomfortable one for us, because our normal contacts at EPA – who could walk us through the implications and timelines of this event – were effectively told not to communicate with grant recipients such as the SBEP. Basically, we had no idea if this “freeze” would be over in a week, or a month, or if all BIL funds would be clawed back in their entirety. We've decided that a cautious approach is the right one, and our next Policy Board meeting will include the need for guidance on how to structure our budgets, moving forward.

We believe that the FY24 and FY25 BIL funds could potentially be safe, but we don't know that for certain. We also believe, but do not know for certain, that our FY26 BIL funds are not as likely to be available, since they've not yet been allocated for distribution. So, for now, this means that our approach will be one where we will move forward with projects that are to be funded with FY24 and FY25 BIL funds, but perhaps not move forward with any preliminary work for FY26. This actually has implications for our FY25 budget as well, because one of our

FY25 BIL projects is to work on the design and permitting of a project (Rose Park) that was then to be constructed with FY26 funds.

At this point, we do not have a solid fix on what will be available for Section 320 funds, but we anticipate that the Section 320 funds will be the same as what we've received for FY25.

The re-establishment of our BIL funding portal is good news, but we don't have the certainty we're used to, so our budget and workplan for this upcoming year will have to incorporate a level of flexibility that makes sense, moving forward.

Keep in mind, the main function of the SBEP is to deliver on a plan to protect and restore the water quality and natural resources of this beautiful bay, while ensuring that public access to this improved bay is increased for all residents. And on that topic, we've got a lot of good news on the bay's health coming out.

Looking forward to our briefings and the upcoming Policy Board meeting, one of the most important ones we've had in a few years now.

Dave Tomasko
Executive Director
Sarasota Bay Estuary Program

Designated Parking for Handicapped Dogs

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton

I have been a full time LBK resident since 2019. Recently have enjoyed the use of the newly renovated dog park for my three dogs. 1 of my dogs is a large handicapped dog with only 3 legs and it is not easy for her to walk much distance from my car to the entrance

I am writing to ask you to consider dedicating two or three parking spaces in front of the entrance for owners of handicapped dogs. I have seen other handicapped dogs at the park & there is a need, especially during season.

Debi Nettlow
Longboat Key

Designated Parking for Handicapped Dogs

To: Debi Nettlow

Thank you for your message through the Town's web portal. Your suggestion to provide some dedicated parking for people who have handicapped animals is the first time I've had this request and I've been doing this type of work for a few years now. You mentioned you've seen this in other areas and if you can recall where, we'd like to contact those cities to see how they make it work.

Whether we're talking about able bodied people or animals, we appreciate being made aware of the challenges distance can make as it is your experience that increases our awareness. Thank

See Letters, page 12

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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.

Jan . 3 Neighbor

9:22 a.m.
Officer Van Dyke responded to Bayou Circle in reference to a suspicious person. The reporter advised dispatch that although she's not home, a neighbor informed her that a known general contractor was at her residence. The woman advised that although the man didn't know that he's unwelcome at the residence at the time, they were in the middle of an ongoing civil dispute regarding payment for his services. Therefore, the woman didn't feel comfortable with the man at the residence at the time. She believed that he may drive a black truck, but she's uncertain. The subject was gone on arrival, Officer Van Dyke canvassed the area yielding negative results. It should be noted that the woman request a patrol request to dispatch but didn't request one when Officer Van Dyke called her directly. Case clear.



traveling southbound on Gulf of Mexico Drive in the 5500 block and initiated a traffic stop via overhead emergency lights. Officer Miklos met with the driver and advised her for the reason of the stop. The driver advised that she was aware that her license was suspended due to a previous citation being in collections. The driver advised that she was waiting for her income tax return to pay off the citation. At this time, Officer Miklos requested the driver's registration and proof of insurance. The driver advised that she did not currently have insurance for the vehicle she was driving. Officer Miklos requested the driver park her vehicle at the 5300 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive instead of being on the side of the road. Officer Miklos returned to his vehicle and issued a criminal citation for driving while license suspended with knowledge. Additionally, the driver was issued a citation for not having proof of insurance and a warning for driving with an expired license. The driver was able to call a valid driver to pick up her vehicle and advised they had an estimated arrival of 3:30 p.m. The driver acknowledged her Manatee County Court date of March 15. The driver was advised she could not drive her vehicle until her license was valid. Case clear.

Feb. 1 Dog

7:58 p.m.
Officer Troyer responded to the 5600 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive on a report of a noise disturbance. The complainant contacted the police department for a barking dog. The complainant met with Officer Troyer and invited him into the apartment to hear the noise. The complainant opened the back sliding door then Officer Troyer heard a slight barking noise coming from the area, but the noise wasn't very loud. The complainant said the barking was a constant issue, and the dog was coming from another apartment and the dog owner was later identified. The complainant said that the neighbor left the dog unattended for a few hours which frequently happened. The complainant also mentioned he felt the neighbor should not be a dog owner, and that the officer should take custody of the dog as this was an animal cruelty. Officer Troyer informed him that he would not, as a barking dog was not in violation of Florida Law for animal cruelty. Officer Troyer also told the complainant that the barking did not appear to be a noise ordinance violation as the barking was not very loud and could only be heard for a brief period. Officer Troyer told the complainant that he could speak with the neighbor about the issue but the complainant said he was not home. While there, the neighbor arrived. The two men spoke about the issue and exchanged contact information so they could communicate about mitigating the dog barking and possibly the complainant watching the dog from time to time. In the end, the two men were able to come to a solution with the dispute about the dog barking and were satisfied. Case clear.

Feb. 3 Parking

10:21 a.m.
Officer Miklos responded to Longboat Drive South in reference to illegally parked construction vehicles blocking traffic. Upon arrival, Officer Miklos located one truck and trailer parked on the street near an active construction zone. At this time, Officer Miklos was able to safely maneuver the street without issue. Officer Miklos made contact with the construction crew and advised them of the parking complaint. The construction crew agreed to move the truck further away from the stop sign at Longboat Drive South and Broadway. Case clear.

Vehicle 2 4 p.m.

Officer Miklos while on patrol received a license plate alert for a vehicle with a suspended registered owner. Officer Miklos conducted a registration check of the black Hyundai and confirmed that the owner was suspended for an unpaid traffic fine as well as expired since August. Additionally, the vehicle returned as an uninsured vehicle. Officer Miklos observed the vehicle

Feb. 5 Construction

7:22 a.m.
Officer Pescuma responded to the 3300 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive in reference to construction noise. Prior to arriving on scene, Officer Pescuma notified the caller and advised her that there is a town wide waiver for an exception to sound regulations has been issued for construction ativity associated with hurricane related storm damage only and the allowed hours are as follows:
Monday through Friday 7 a.m. – 7 p.m.
Saturday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday/Holidays no construction noise allowed.
The waiver expires May 1, 2025.
The caller stated that she was unaware if there were any exceptions due to the hurricane. Case clear.

Parking

1:21 p.m.
Officer Pescuma was dispatched to Wedge Lane in reference to two suspicious vehicle NCIC/FCIC shows that the vehicles were not reported stolen or abandoned. There were no occupants and the vehicle was not derelict. Upon further investigation the owner of the gold Chrysler minivan resides at Birdie Lane and went fishing with a neighbor of the caller. The 2023 gray Hyundai SUV is visiting a neighbor. No suspicious activity was observed, caller was notified and advised. Case clear.

Fire

1:22 p.m.
Officer Van Dyke was dispatched to the 3400 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive in reference to a rescue assist for a gas line break. Upon arrival, Officer Van dyke smelled the odor of natural gas, therefore he blocked north and southbound traffic just south of the incident as Longboat Key Fire Department was enroute. Several units responded and the utility company arrived shortly afterwards. It was determined that a four inch pipe was cut into by contractors working on the property. Longboat Key Fire handled the case, therefore nothing further to report. Case clear.

Feb. 6 Boat

2:05 a.m.
Officer Troyer while on patrol and conducting a routine business check at the restaurant on Broadway observed a large watercraft docked at the restaurant. The dock had a sign which said "No Overnight docking" as well. Officer Troyer did not observe any vessel registration numbers on the vessel either. As Officer Troyer approached the vessel, he observed lights on the inside and heard a coughing noise coming from someone inside of the vessel. Officer Troyer announced his presence and was greeted by a man. Officer Troyer informed the man why he was contacting him, as he was docked and there was signs posted to prevent this. Officer Troyer asked him if he had permission to be docked there to which the man said he did. The man told Officer Troyer that he had dinner at the restaurant and one of the hostesses gave him verbal permission to dock overnight as he had just arrived into the area from Massachusetts. Based on his contact and the time of night, Officer Troyer had no way of verifying if the man had permission to dock overnight, but did not have any calls for service for him being there. Officer Troyer cleared the scene afterwards. Case clear.

Vehicle

9:22 p.m.
Sgt. Montfort while on patrol noticed a vehicle traveling south on Gulf of Mexico Drive that did not dim its headlights. Sgt. Montfort ran the driver's information through ELVIS and the information stated the driver had an active warrant for her arrest through Sarasota County Sheriff's Office for failure to appear for a criminal arraignment on a misdemeanor charge. Sarasota County Sheriff's Office was contacted and the warrant was confirmed active. The driver was placed under arrest and hand cuffed. She was then transported to the Sarasota County Jail for booking. Upon arrival at the jail, the driver was turned over to jail staff without incident. The driver's car was inventoried by Officer Troyer and given to the towing company. Case clear.

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1930 HARBOURSIDE DR Unit#122	1,192	\$649,000	2	2	0	176	\$625,000
4440 EXETER DR Unit#104	992	\$450,000	2	2	0	36	\$440,000
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Editor Letters

Letters, from page 8

you for letting us know and we look forward to exploring how this might work.
Howard N. Tipton
Town Manager
Town of Longboat Key

Parking for Handicapped Dogs

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton
In July, we started a written dialogue regarding the use of the Bayfront dog park for handicapped dogs. An administrative Assistant was kind enough to call me to further discuss the issue and how I might want to see a policy implemented and I appreciated the attention and problem solving. The August, September and October storms hit and there were more immediate and pressing problems and understandably, the dialogue was left hanging. Therefore, I am resurrecting this issue in the hopes that we can come to a solution and I need your assistance.
As we are getting back to normal, my problem still exists to wit: there are times I am unable to park near the entrance of the dog park to offload my 3 dogs, 1 of which is handicapped and has only three legs. She is not able to walk a great distance and on one occasion I double parked and was issued a citation. The park has been such a great addition but let's implement a policy/system/parking space whereby the dog park can be used for its intended purpose by all dogs. Perhaps a sticker which would allow me to park in a special parking spot dur-

ing limited hours or some other policy. Mine is not a unique problem. If we work together, I know we can find a solution
Debi Nettlow
Longboat Key

Parking for Handicapped Dogs

Debi Nettlow
This is something we can discuss. Maybe a space restricted to handicapped dogs could work.
Ken Schneier
Mayor
Town of Longboat Key

Parking for Handicapped Dogs

To: Longboat Key Mayor Ken Schneier
Thank you, Ken for your response. How do I move forward on this? As you can imagine it's really crowded this time of year up until June 1 or so. I appreciate your consideration.
Debi Nettlow
Longboat Key

Parking for Handicapped Dogs

To: Debi Nettlow
We have our monthly regular Commission meeting this Monday, February 3 at 1 pm. Any member of the public may speak on any subject near the beginning of the meeting, so I would encourage you to address the Commission then.

Regardless, I will raise your issue at some point.
Ken Schneier
Mayor
Town of Longboat Key

Parking for Handicapped Dogs

To: Longboat Key Mayor Ken Schneier
Good morning Mayor. I was just wondering when there would be a vote on my issue and how I would know the result of that issue.
Debi Nettlow
Longboat Key

Parking for Handicapped Dogs

To: Debi Nettlow
At the end of our Monday meeting, we discussed your proposal to address accessibility for disabled dogs to the Bayfront Park dog parks. Even after adding a substantial number of new parking spaces to that lot over the past 2 years, the variety of uses and users during Season overfills the lot at critical times. We decided that dedicating one or more spaces to disabled dogs would not be an efficient use of such a scarce resource and would be very hard to enforce. However, we have directed staff to locate and mark an area near the dog park labelled "disabled pet drop off area" or the like, which would allow an owner to secure a disabled pet in the appropriate park and find an open space nearby. Let's see how this works.
Thanks for bringing this matter to our attention.
Ken Schneier
Mayor
Town of Longboat Key

Parking for Handicapped Dogs

To: Longboat Key Mayor Ken Schneier
Thanks, Ken and to the Mayor and commission members for your consideration. The spot closest to the front gate and to the right of the handicap person spot would be great.
It's not ideal, as it requires me to leave my pets unattended, even if just for a short period, but it is better than nothing. Thank you for being open minded about this unique issue and one that is certainly of first impression. Know that this will make a difference for Lola and other handicapped dogs.
Debi Nettlow
Longboat Key

Hornblower Lane

To: Scott La Rue
As promised, I have forwarded your inquiry to Allen Parsons, our Director of Planning and Zoning, in hopes that he can advise you on the status of your project.
Ken Schneier
Mayor
Town of Longboat Key

Hornblower Lane

To: Longboat Key Mayor Ken Schneier
Good afternoon. I am the owner of the single-family residence at Hornblower. I sustained about \$75,000 of damage to my home during the most recent hurricane. The damage was caused by wind-driven rain that seeped in around my windows.
The windows have been manufactured, and I am waiting on a permit to install them. The company is Armorvue Window & Door. I have been waiting since the end of December. First, I had to complete the FEMA paperwork, which was promptly done and submitted, but I haven't received any further guidance from the building departments.
The windows are the first step in my repairs, and I can't proceed until they are done. Any assistance or guidance you can provide would be greatly appreciated.
Scott LaRue
Longboat Key

Finding Our Strengths/GMD Clean Up

To: Town of Longboat Key Department Heads
I am proud to announce that we had over 115 volunteers who worked together to collect ~500 bags of debris today! We nearly filled the equivalent of a 40-yard dumpster. I don't have many words other than... Wow!
It was heartwarming and exciting to see who heard about and participated in the cleanup. A special thanks to our own staff and all the sponsors/supporters who helped make this happen.
A huge thank you to Public Works (and Tip) who collected

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Letters, from page 12

all the bagged/bulk items and disposed of it immediately today in our own (PW) dumpsters. With that said, I have notified FDOT that there is no need to collect debris from the right of way on Monday as we have already taken care of it.

Based on the overwhelming positive feedback from this event, there is undoubtedly an opportunity to hold similar, volunteer led events in the future. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me directly. Attached are a few photos of today's activities.

Alexandra Lowe-Mains
Office Manager Public Works
Town of Longboat Key

Finding Our Strengths / GMD Clean Up

To: Longboat Key Department Heads

As previously discussed, there will be a Longboat Key Gulf of Mexico Drive Volunteer Cleanup being held on Saturday, February 1st from 9am-11:30am.

Volunteers are to sign in at 9am at the Longboat Island Chapel (6200 GMD) and will be assigned to 'Zones' across the island. Participants will be given safety vests, bags, pickers, and gloves. We have designated eight (8) debris drop locations in the following areas and these will be marked with small signs during the hours of the event:

- 100 Broadway
- 6200 Gulf of Mexico Dr
- 5370 Gulf of Mexico Dr (Centre Shops)
- 4052 Gulf of Mexico Dr (Bayfront Park)
- 3170 Gulf of Mexico Dr (Swim City)
- 2162 Gulf of Mexico Dr (Fire St 92)
- 1000 Block of Gulf of Mexico Drive (Country Club Shores Entrance)
- Overlook Park Entrance

FDOT will be collecting the bagged debris from these locations on Monday, February 3rd. In addition, FDOT will be placing message boards at the ends of the island displaying text regarding the cleanup so motorists are aware.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to me if you have additional questions and feel free to keep my cell phone number handy if you may need to reach me on Saturday. I will be onsite for the entire duration of the event.

Alexandra Lowe-Mains
Office Manager Public Works
Town of Longboat Key

Finding Our Strengths / GMD Clean Up

To: Longboat Key Department Heads

The Town was approached by a resident who had interest in taking lead on a volunteer based GMD Cleanup to collect debris leftover from the claw trucks and/or just regular trash left along the roadside from littering. I was assigned to work with this resident and connect them with FDOT to help coordinate and get things moving in the right direction.

The event is scheduled to take place on Saturday, February 1st from 9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. with a sign-in station at the Longboat Island Chapel. I have arranged to have Keep Manatee Beautiful and Suncoast Aqua Ventures to assist in providing additional volunteers, buckets, pickers, and gloves. FDOT is in full support of the event and will provide safety vests and may erect message boards on the ends of the island (TBD). A hydration and snack station will be available onsite as well. I will talk separately with Public Works on a few other items we may need Town help/support with. There are multiple groups who have come together to support this event with SRQ Strong managing the registration, please see the attached flyer. (Please note: There is an error that will be corrected ASAP on the EventBrite Page as SRQ Strong accidentally listed St Mary's rather than Longboat Island Chapel).

After volunteers sign-in, they will be assigned to a particular Zone to collect debris and deposit it at a dedicated 'drop site' along GMD. Per our latest communication with FDOT, they said they would collect the bags from 'drop sites' and I will be reconfirming that along with an anticipated timeframe for collection. Within each Zone we will identify and inform volunteers of public parking areas, restrooms, and water bottle refill stations. No parking will occur within the GMD right-of-way.

Some of the details are still being worked out, but in summary; that is where we are at. It would be great to have the flyer shared on the Town's social media platforms. I will be onsite

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for the entire event helping coordinate and helping make sure things run smoothly. I can share a count as to how many folks have registered a few days prior to the event.

As far as the Finding Our Strengths Gathering, I am not involved in that but I have seen the flyer circulating and there has been a request to have it shared on the Town's social media page and/or possibly posted on the Town Hall bulletin board. I personally feel it would be appropriate to share on social to show our support and encourage community gatherings of this nature.

Alexandra Lowe-Mains
Office Manager Public Works
Town of Longboat Key

Finding Our Strengths / GMD Clean Up

To: Longboat Key Department Heads

This is the event that Alex is heading up. It is a clean up event and she volunteered her expertise on making this happen. The Eventbrite registration is for awareness of how many folks are coming. I included her to provide further guidance.

Charles Mopps
Interim Public Works Director
Town of Longboat Key Public Works

Finding Our Strengths / GMD Clean Up

To: Longboat Key Department Heads

I have not but I'm checking with the sergeants and will let you know.

Frank Rubino
Interim Chief of Police
Longboat Key Police Department

Parking, from page 1

ter outdoor dining and shopping, as well as "lush and attractive landscaping."

However, two members of the DID board, which includes downtown commercial business owners, zeroed in on a part of the plan that raised alarm bells to them: The project concept calls for the removal of 105 on-street parking spots.

An analysis found there are currently 2,052 spots in the Main Street corridor, according to city documents.

The DID board is appointed by the City Commission with a self-described mission "to foster a vibrant, competitive, and thriving downtown that attracts and retains businesses, employees, residents, and visitors," according to its website.

Board Member Harmoni Krusing, owner of Lotus Boutique, said parking was the top problem for downtown businesses.

Fifty-one of the spots would be removed from a continuous stretch of Main Street from Orange Avenue to Pineapple Avenue, according to city planning documents. The others are scattered in different sections of Main Street.

The City Commission will meet with staff in one-on-one sessions before the entire project goes before commissioners at a public meeting, Corales told the DID board.

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1932 HARBOURSIDE DR., #242
LONGBOAT KEY, FL
2BR/2.5BA • 1,192 SF • Bay views



PROMENADE • \$2,250,000
1211 GULF OF MEXICO DR., #401
LONGBOAT KEY, FL
3BR/3BA • 2,100 SF • Gulf & Bay views



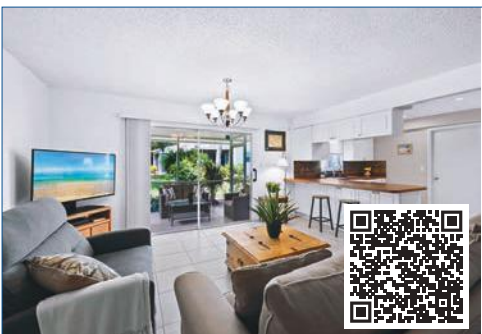
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597 CUTTER LANE
LONGBOAT KEY, FL
3BR/2BA • 1,963 SF • 103' of Waterfront



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569 SUTTON PLACE
LONGBOAT KEY, FL
3BR/2BA • 1,198 SF • Furnished



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LONGBOAT KEY, FL
2BR/2BA • 1,456 SF • Gulf to Bay



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2301 GULF OF MEXICO DR., #85N
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ISLANDER CLUB • \$649,000
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2BR/2BA • 1,235 SF • Furnished



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2BR/2BA • 1,458 SF • Gulf & Bay views



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3BR/2BA • 2,762 SF • Waterfront

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