# Longboat Rey Rews

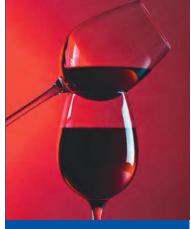
August 16, 2024

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

## InsideLook



Mote releases Sea Turtle ...page 15



Consider wine by the glass ...page 11



## St. Regis opening ushers in new era on Longboat Key

It took nearly 1,000 construction workers, \$1 billion, and about seven years of legal wrangling and community fighting to arrive at what can only be called a pinnacle of success.



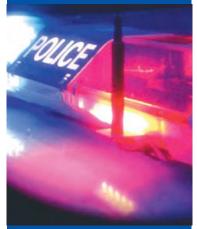
#### **STEVE REID Editor & Publisher** sreid@lbknews.com

The opening of the St. Regis Longboat Key last Friday marks the beginning of a new era on the sunladen island surrounded by a sea of turquois.

It took nearly 1,000 construction workers, \$1 billion, and about



Avoiding the middle is unwise ...page 6



Brown barking dog beckons fear ...page 10

seven years of legal wrangling and community fighting to arrive at what can only be called a pinnacle of success.

If there is one individual who can be credited for bringing his dream to completion, it is the project's developer and hotel owner Chuck Whittall.

"I have built hundreds of projects around the country and this is by far not only the biggest project and undertaking, but this is my favorite development I've ever been involved in," said Whittall.

And what is not to fall in love with at the St. Regis?

Curated details abound throughout the property. Walking through the hotel entrance at the Friday soft opening, the hotel lobby and main bar goes beyond all superlatives and imagery found in the most highend resorts. Hand-painted murals, chandeliers and the glass installa-

President and CEO of Marriott International Anthony Capuano, St. Regis Longboat Key General Manager Winfred van Workum and St. Regis Longboat Key developer Chuck Whittall.

tions over the bar rival a Chihuly exhibit. Jazz softly plays through a grand piano and the marriage of marble, exotic stonework, frescoed walls and innovative lighting blend romance, opulence and a true sense of immediately escaping into a world of grand aspiration.

This focus on detail and opulence

is apparent through each of the 69 hotel rooms with rates already averaging \$1,200 per night. Whittall said that November is almost completely sold out and he is excited about the number of bookings for weddings in the ballroom. About a dozen are planned already this fall with the first wed-

#### ding scheduled for Nov. 2, 2024.

Of interest to residents and visitors alike will be the two restaurants, including a C.W. Prime Steakhouse, three bars, and a beach grille. There will also be a Monkey Bar located on the beach and that will be open in the coming days.

See St. Regis, page 12

### Siesta tops U.S. News list of best U.S. beaches this year

Siesta Key beat out three Hawaiian beaches, two other Florida beaches, two California beaches, one in Alabama and an area of coastal North Carolina, as noted in the rest of the 2024 list:

- No. 2 Maui.
- No. 3 —Honolulu-Oahu.
- No. 4 Kauai.
- No. 5 Gulf Shores in Alabama.
- No. 6 Clearwater Beach.
- No. 7 Destin.
- No. 8 Malibu.

• No. 9 — The Outer Banks in North Carolina, including the beaches at Kitty Hawk, Nags Head and Kill Devil Hills.

 $\bullet$   $\,$  No. 10 — Laguna Beach, which is about halfway between Los Angeles and San Diego.

The U.S. News says, "With 8 miles of white sand to spread out on, this Florida barrier island off the coast of Sarasota was made for beach bums. Enjoy Siesta Key's laid-back atmosphere while relaxing on Crescent Beach, a secluded stretch of sand with an area for snorkeling. For more excitement, check out Siesta Beach, which boasts tennis and volleyball courts, a play-ground and concessions. Or, head to Turtle Beach for premier beachcombing opportunities. What's more, travelers can avoid costly parking fees by utilizing Siesta Key's free trolley service during their trip."

U.S. News travel rankings are based on an analysis of expert opinions and traveler reviews. We also rely on our in-destination writers and editors for their recommendations and insider knowledge.

The scoring for vacation rankings, the magazine adds, gives 50% of the weight to users' reports. "Anyone has the ability to vote on the destinations included on our ranking lists," U.S. News notes.

### Sarasota County Acquires 4.38 Acres of Sensitive Land

Sarasota County has added 4.38 acres of environmentally sensitive land in South Venice to its Land Acquisition and Management Program. This acquisition is part of the county's broader initiative, which includes the Environmentally Sensitive Lands Protection Program (ESLPP) and the Neighborhood Parkland Acquisition Program (NPP).

Since its inception in 1999, the ESLPP and the NPP have collectively acquired over 110 properties, encompassing more than 41,000 acres of protected land. The latest acquisition, located at 0 Lemon Bay Drive, is within the South Venice Lemon Bay Preserve protection priority site. This site, identified for its environmental significance, has been targeted for protection since 1998.

The recently available parcel was nominated earlier this year by landowner Skip Berg. On July 9, Sarasota County Commissioners approved the purchase of the land through the ESLPP. The property, situated adjacent to both Lemon Bay and Alligator Creek, is predominantly mangrove swamp, with some mesic hammocks and remnant scrub habitat. It serves as a sanctuary for various native species, including brown pelicans, roseate spoonbills, and gopher tortoises.

The acquisition will enhance biodiversity, protect species and habitats, and establish wildlife corridors, while also providing nature-based recreational opportunities for the community. The purchase is expected to be finalized by December.

### More than 6 millions of gallons of sewage flows into Bay

Because of the rainfall that Tropical Storm Debby produced, the City of Sarasota ended up discharging about 6.243 million gallons of raw sewage into Sarasota Bay and another 11.483 million gallons of partially treated effluent, city staff informed the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) on Aug. 10.

That report covered the period from 4 a.m. on Aug. 5 through 11:55 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 8, it noted.

The city's advanced wastewater treatment plant, which stands at 1750 12th St., suffered severe effects, the report said. Operations staff members "did everything in their power to control the flow coming into the facility," the report pointed out. "The collection system had all lift stations at high well status and all pumps running to push the flow to the plant to avoid numerous catastrophic spills in the field," the report explained.



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**3621 SAN REMO TER | SARASOTA** \$9,750,000 - Under Construction 5 Beds 7 Baths 5,328 Sq. Ft. 400' Wide Bay Inlet Contact: Patrick DiPinto 941-323-0033



5444 GULF OF MEXICO DR | LONGBOAT KEY \$6,900,000 - Bayfront 1.06 Acres 5 Beds, 5 Baths, 6,000 Sq. Ft. Rooftop Terrace and Private Beach Contact: Tracey Stetler 941-266.9001



**1212 CENTER PLACE | LIDO SHORES** \$6,995,000 - New Construction 5 Beds 6 Baths 4,750 Sq. Ft. Rooftop Terrace and Private Beach Contact: Steven Moore 401-767-7180



**109 N WARBLER LANE | BIRD KEY** \$11,750,000 - Under Construction 4 Beds 5 Baths 5,292 Sq. Ft. Oversized Deep Water Bayfront Lot Contact: Patrick DiPinto 941-323-0033



6489 GULFSIDE ROAD | LONGBOAT KEY \$16,995,000 - Under Construction 4 Beds 5 Baths 6,614 Sq. Ft. 100' of Beachfront Contact: Steven Moore 401-767-7180



4136 HIGEL AVE | SIESTA KEY \$16,995,000 - Under Contract 5 Beds, 7 Baths, 8.964 Sq. Ft. 1 Acre Modern Compound Contact: Patrick DiPinto 941-323-0033



610 YARDARM LANE | LONGBOAT KEY \$4,699,999 - Country Club Shores 4 Beds 5 Baths 4,138 Sq. Ft. Canal Front with Bay Views Contact: Nicholle DiPinto 941-928-2922



405 28th STREET | ANNA MARIA ISLAND \$3,600,000 - Anna Maria Island 5 Beds 4 Baths 3,735 Sq. Ft. 80' of Waterfront Contact: Steven Moore 401-767-7180



5440-5442 GULF OF MEXICO DR | LONGBOAT KEY \$6,900,000 - Vacant Land 2.08 Acres Proposed for 7 Buildable Lots w/Private Beach Contact: Tracey Stetler 941-266.9001

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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.

### **Sharing Good news**

To: Longboat Key Finance Director Susan Smith

Sue, Good morning. I hope you are doing well. I am happy to share that the Florida SAFE local government investment pool is hiring Chandler are the Investment Advisory to their \$1.7 billion LGIP. The attached announcement was sent to current pool participants:

"Good morning. I hope you are doing well.

I am happy to share that the Florida SAFE local government investment pool is hiring Chandler are the Investment Advisory to their \$1.7 billion LGIP.

The attached announcement was sent to current pool participants last week. As noted in the announcement, our contract with Fl SAFE will be approved by the board next week. Once the contract is in place, we can discuss further.

One of the components of the FL SAFE program is a Bond Proceed / Arbitrage Rebate program. As an issuer of debt, we'd like your input as to possible enhancements to that program.

We can talk more when our contract is in place. I'll be in touch soon."

Mel Hamilton

Senior Vice President

Relationship Manager

Chandler Asset Management



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### Sharing Good news

To: Longboat Key Vice Mayor Mike Haycock Some big news for our Investment Advisory consultants. Thought I'd share. Susan Smith Finance Director Town of Longboat Key

### **Sharing Good news**

To: Longboat Key Finance Director Susan Smith Thanks for sharing. Any specific benefit for us? Mike Haycock Vice Mayor Town of Longboat Key

### **Sharing Good news**

To: Longboat Key Vice Mayor Mike Haycock No, no impact to us. Susan Smith Finance Director Town of Longboat Key

### A question about Drones Photography on Longboat Key

To: Longboat Key Commission

My wife and I have reservations for a two week stay on Longboat Key in January 2025. As an FAA licensed drone pilot, I would like to take some aerial photos and videos of your amazing area. So, I'm contacting you to ask about the drone photography regulations/restrictions on and around Longboat Key.

I would also offer to take aerial photos and videos of Longboat Key for your media use if wanted. My website has examples of the kind of high-resolution images I can capture. Thanks for your response. We look forward to our January 2025 visit. Stay safe and well.

Bill Byrd Owner and Pilot Eagle Eye Drone Shots

### A question about Drones Photography on Longboat Key

To: Longboat Key Town Clerk Trish Shinkle Can staff answer this? I cant't. BJ Bishop Commissioner Town of Longboat Key

### A question about Drones Photography on Longboat Key

To: Longboat Key Commissioner BJ Bishop

I have sent to those who would be able to respond so an answer may be forthcoming. Trish Shinkle Town Clerk

Town of Longboat Key

See Letters, page 5



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## Editor Letters

### Letters, from page 4

### St Regis code enforcement

To: Longboat Key Planning and Zoning Director Allen Parsons

Thank you for following up. I confirmed with code enforcement this morning that this issue was being addressed by their office. Thank you and if I can be of any assistance, feel free to contact me.

Paul B. Dezzi Fire Chief

Town of Longboat Key

### St Regis code enforcement

To: Longboat Key Commissioner BJ Bishop

Thanks BJ. Code Enforcement has been following up on lighting issues at this property regularly. Staff has been in contact with the property's management & with contractors. In addition, the property continues to receive citations for lighting violations. We will continue to work to get the property into compliance and pursue appropriate Code Enforcement actions. I also followed up with Cyndi.

Allen Parsons Planning and Zoning Director Town of Longboat Key

### St Regis code enforcement

To: Longboat Key Planning and Zoning Director Allen Parsons What are we doing? BJ Bishop Commissioner Town of Longboat Key

### St Regis code enforcement

To: Jenny Quinn

This came in our public mail - I do not think this is the image St. Regis wants. Please direct this to appropriate staff ASAP. Our wildlife are important to LBK.

BJ Bishop

Commissioner

Town of Longboat Key

### St Regis code enforcement

To: Longboat Key Mayor Ken Schneier

I have been hearing reports from fellow Mote volunteers and staff that several nests in this area have disoriented over the last couple of months. I was curious to see how the lighting had hopefully improved since the last time I was out looking in the evening.

I was shocked to see the numerous white lights coming from ground floor opening.

These photos were taken at 10:30 pm starting from north end of property at waters edge aka wet sand. I walked to the groin and stopped.

I will send a second email with photos showing one super bright light coming from the center of the property. It appeared to be pretty far east. It was as bright as the photo shows!

Given the number of disorientations which likely resulted in dead hatchlings, what action is planned to resolve these lighting issues in common areas which management has control over? Once there are hotel guests and residents onsite there will be potential for more issues. Our town Marine Protection ordinance goes to Oct 31st. We might have nest without yellow stakes but still viable and they do need our help! Appreciate your assistance once again to get action to correct lighting issues.

Cyndi Seamon Longboat Key

### Future for women

To: U.S. Rep. Congressman Vern Buchanan

I want to bring an issue to your attention that impacts every woman in this country. It is menopause. Halle Berry recently brought this issue to Capitol Hill and is supporting research for the issues related to menopause. It is a subject that many will be uncomfortable talking about and it is an issue that many doctors don't understand. This is critical healthcare for women in mid-life.

There is currently bi-partisan legislation on the Hill for this important issue. I am the Grandmother of four granddaughters and this must be addressed for me and future generations.

BJ Bishop

Commissioner Town of Longboat Key

### St Regis Code enfocement

To: Longboat Key Commissioner BJ Bishop, Town Attorney Maggie Mooney

See Letters, page 7



## eyOpinion

## **Candidates better stop ignoring the middle**

There are still 80 days before the election. The candidate who is best able to put aside the current myopic strategy will win. Time after time, post-election analysis illustrates how centrist, swing voters shifted to a particular candidate and carried the day. It's amazing that individuals seeking to lead the free world can't figure that one out.

### **GREGORY RUSOVICH Guest Writer**

### rusovich@lbknews.com

Neither the Trump nor the Harris campaign is making any legitimate outreach to win the support of centrist, swing voters. Instead, both actually are snubbing this relatively small,

but crucial middle. Their singular and insular strategy is to energize and turn out base voters. This decision to give undecided voters the big heave-ho is clearly reflected in the vice-presidential choice of each campaign.

Ignoring centrist swing voters is a relatively new phenomenon in presidential politics. Ron Faucheux, a leading political analyst and pollster, observes, "Historically, parties balanced the interests of reliable loyalists with strong appeals to wider audiences. This forced them to honestly consider the wants and needs of a broader swatch of Americans." John F. Kennedy chose Lyndon Johnson as his running mate to attract Southerners who had strayed from the Democratic RUSOVICH Party. Ronald Reagan picked George H.W. Bush for the No. 2 spot on the GOP ticket specifically to connect to centrist voters. But neither



Trump nor Harris shows any inclination to meet historical norms.

Former President Trump had an ideal opportunity to galvanize the center by choosing former U. N. Ambassador Nikki Haley. Such a rational, popular choice would have placed Trump in a commanding position heading into the election. Selecting Senators Marco Rubio or Tim Scott would have helped significantly with Hispanic and Black voters, respectively. Gov. Glenn Youngkin would have provided a boost from suburban moderates. Any of these solid choices could have broadened Trump's appeal. Instead, Trump chose Ohio Senator J.D. Vance with the clear goal of exciting the base, not expanding it. Forget about the critical 12-15% of persuadable voters. Trump went all in with his populist soulmate.



Trump's selection of Vance also violated one of the cardinal rules in choosing a vice-president - do no harm. Vance's ill-advised previous denigration of certain women as "childless cat ladies" placed the campaign on the defensive for several weeks as Democrats and establishment media quickly defined Vance by his comment. He has since gained some traction, but unnecessary damage was done.

Vance's addition to the Trump ticket also provided an opening for Kamala Harris to show moderation and temperance in her vice-presidential choice. She had a golden opportunity to tag a relative moderate, Pennsylvania Gov. Josh Shapiro. Instead, she doubled down on her leftist instinct and opted for Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz, a cohort who does nothing to expand the base.

It was a doozy of a decision. Walz supported providing driver's licenses and tuition-free college for illegal immigrants. He dithered over sending the National Guard to Minneapolis during the Black Lives Matters riots in 2020 as fires and violence spread. The former teacher's union member decried what he dubbed as the school choice "agenda." (Actually, Governor, it's a parents' agenda, as they, not you, should determine the best schools for their children.)

To further demonstrate his woke credentials, Walz signed a bill as governor encouraging access to gender-affirming health care — which can include a range of medical procedures and care such as surgery and puberty blockers — without the intervention of out-of-state laws.

The Harris campaign also failed the cardinal rule. Walz has done harm. He has distorted his National Guard record. He did not carry a gun in combat (as he indicated), and he demonstrated little valor in bolting from his unit shortly before it was deployed to Iraq. In 2018 he praised Muslim cleric Imam Asad Zaman, who previously touted Hitler and more recently refused to condemn the Oct. 7 Hamas terror attacks on Israel. Walz also doled out more than \$100,000 in funding to Zaman's Muslim American Society of Minnesota nonprofit over the years.

This narrow-minded election paradigm not only divides America during campaigns but significantly hinders effective governance. Peggy Noonan said it best in a recent Wall Street Journal column, "I don't know if this is a shrewd strategy to achieve victory in November, but it strikes me as a signal moment and, in the largest sense, not constructive. When you stick with your side, when it's all or nothing, you go on and win, to operate in an all-or-nothing style, which in a 50/50 country causes more tension, anger and division...You aren't persuading the other guy, you're just overwhelming the other guy. It's heady and polarizing."

There are still 80 days before the election. The candidate who is best able to put aside the current myopic strategy will win. Time after time, post-election analysis illustrates how centrist, swing voters shifted to a particular candidate and carried the day. It's amazing that individuals seeking to lead the free world can't figure that one out.



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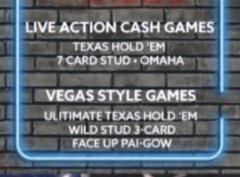
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## **Editor Letters**

#### Letters, from page 5

Thanks BJ. As you know, Code Enforcement is about achieving compliance. If corrective action isn't achieved, we will escalate Code Enforcement actions appropriately.

Allen Parsons

Planning and Zoning Director Town of Longboat Key

### **St Regis Code enforcement**

#### To: Longboat Key Fire Chief Paul Dezzi

Code Enforcement must be very frustrated. I know I am. Daily fines do not seem to be making much of an impression. What did we do when we had the same issues with Zota? I thought we took a bit more aggressive action.

BJ Bishop

Commissioner

Town of Longboat Key

### **St Regis Code enforcement**

To: Longboat Key Planning and Zoning Director Allen Parsons

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Allen Parsons Planning and Zoning Director Town of Longboat Key

### Sarasota Bay Estuary Program

#### To: Longboat Key Commission

SBEP is excited to announce its plans for another restoration ribbon-cutting event! This one, set for Thursday, September 19 at 9:30 a.m. at GT Bray Park, celebrates the creation of wetlands at a large stormwater convergence site in the City of Bradenton. Reservations are not required for this event. I will be contacting our Manatee County, City of Bradenton, and EPA Policy Board members to request that they speak.

Since the event is scheduled for the day after Jay's Birthday and just before his final week with SBEP, we are planning to celebrate him too. His party will be hosted right after the ribbon cutting under the same pavilion. We will have food and drinks of some sort - and the opportunity for attendees to say kind words about him. If you'd like to join the festivities, please carve out an additional half hour to an hour after the formal event concludes.

Please see the attached flyers for more information. I would be happy to answer any questions you have about either event.

Megan Barry Public Outreach Manager Sarasota Bay Estuary Program

### Thank you

To: Longboat Key Fire Chief Paul Dezzi

Thank you for your hospitality yesterday and for briefing us on Longboat Key. We certainly look forward to continuing our discussions in the future and be of resource to the township! Sami Araboghli

Military Legislative Assistant

Office of Congressman Greg Steube (FL-17)

actually affecting our weather. The rainfall totals expected before landfall were in the range of 8 inches or so. Instead, we had areas with almost double that amount. Hopefully, folks paid attention to the last part of that first Note, where we discussed how climate change is making storms less predictable. Basically, the longest-term data sets we have show that our air and water temperatures are increasing, especially over the past 20 or so years. The ability to predict the intensity of storms is weakened by the fact that our air and water are warmer now than what we experienced in the 20th Century, on average.

In the second Note, we supplied photos that showed the impacts from the storm, from flooded neighborhoods to wrecked boats. Also included were some photos that showed evidence of a huge influx of stormwater runoff - the dark water along the mainland shoreline in contrast to the turbid waters coming into the bay from the Gulf of Mexico.

In the third Note, we showed some of the results of the initial sampling effort, which supported the prediction that we'd likely have the combination of salinity stratification and bottom water hypoxia. That is, so much freshwater came into the bay that it formed a layer of fresh to brackish water on top of the saltier water underneath, and the saltier water underneath was starting to experience low levels of dissolved oxygen. When that happens, not only will the clams and worms and starfish and bottom-related organisms (such as crabs and rays) likely die, but their decomposing bodies would further increase the nutrients in the bay, add to the bacteria levels in the bay, and help to further decrease the amount of oxygen in the bottom of the bay. Earlier today, I was contacted by someone who saw blue crabs swimming to the surface in Little Sarasota Bay, which likely indicates that the bottom of the bay's levels of dissolved oxygen are crashing.

So, what's to add here? Well, we just got our bacteria levels back, and suffice it to say that our earlier recommendations to stay out of the water have been verified. Nine locations were sampled out in the middle of the bay, from Ringling Causeway south to Venice Inlet (the same stations sampled after Hurricane Ian came through). We compared our results against the Class 3 Marine waters' standard for the fecal indicator bacteria "Enterococci" standard of 130/100 ml, and each site exceeded those values. Roberts Bay had the highest values, by far, as shown below:

These values are from the middle of the bay, not the shoreline. Which means they are likely lower than values closer to the shore, as well as values in our numerous creeks. So, the guidance we provided earlier (before we had data) was correct - "Don't go into the water" at least until we have evidence of improving water quality. After Ian, it took between two and four weeks for water quality to recover, which is probably in line with what we're going to go through after Debby -Hurricane Ian's Impact on Sarasota Bay

We'll end this Note on two positive points. First off, we are without a doubt healthier, across the bay, than we were during the years 2013 to 2019. FDEP has put every portion of the open waters of Sarasota Bay on their draft "de-list" list, because of their documentation of our water quality improvements. We are also expecting to see a substantial increase in seagrass acreage, although the exact numbers won't be available until early next year. That's not by chance alone, that's due to the \$300 million investments that have been completed or which are underway in our watershed. It appears, as we've discussed previously, that we may have already reached the pollutant load reduction goal we set back in 2021 - not because of projects the SBEP has done, but because of massive investments in wastewater upgrades and stormwater retrofits that we've made by our local governments. So, our ability to recover from the impacts of Debby, as large as they are, has been enhanced by our healthier bay. Simply put, Sarasota Bay will be able to recover from this impact more easily than would have been the case if we still had the widespread degraded conditions that existed a few years ago.

Into this situation, we've just recruited our latest employee, Dr. Ryan Gandy. As you well know, Dr. Jay Leverone was planning on retiring this fall. Jay has been the SBEP's scientist for well over a decade, and the habitat restoration projects that we've accomplished over that time - those are due to him. There are oyster reefs and wetland restoration projects all over the bay that owe their existence to Jay's skills, persistence, and enthusiasm. He coordinated all aspects of the design, permitting, construction, and construction management for our Bipartisan Infrastructure Law projects at FISH Preserve, kickstarting the artificial reef program, the massive wetland creation projects at GT Bray Park, and getting contractors selected for the seawall

#### See Letters, page 8

### Thank you

To: Longboat Key Fire Chief Paul Dezzi

We greatly appreciate the invitation. It was a pleasure to sit down with all of you and learn more about your needs and priorities. Please don't hesitate to reach out anytime.

Erica Gregory

District Director

Congressman W. Gregory Steube (FL-17)

### Thank you

To: District Director Erica Gregory

Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedule to meet with the department heads of Longboat Key. The discussion was informative for all of us and we look forward in working with you more closely in our overall town operations.

Paul B. Dezzi Fire Chief Town of Longboat Key

### **Hurricane Debby**

To: Longboat Key Commission, Sarasota City Commission Back to talking about Debby, as in three of the last four Director's Notes -Director's Note: Rain amounts from Potential Tropical Cyclone Four (sarasotabay.org) Director's Note: Post Debby Impacts (sarasotabay.org) Director's Note: Results from first post-Debby sampling efforts (sarasotabay.org)

Let's start with the first one, where we spelled out the likely impacts of Debby, prior to it

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### The News

## Editor Letters

### Letters, from page 7

enhancement project at Longboat Key's Bayfront Park, to name just a few. We needed to find someone for Jay to pass the baton to, so that we could continue our "biased towards action" approach to bay restoration and we are happy to announce that Ryan will be filling that role.

Dr. Gandy comes to us via the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, having overseen diagnostic studies and ecosystem-scale restoration projects ranging from South Florida's stone crab fishery to trying to restore the collapsed oyster fishery of Apalachicola Bay. Ryan received his BS from the College of Charleston, and his MS and PhD from Texas A&M University. His first official day at work will be September 16th, which will give him a twoweek overlap with Jay – to get him up to speed on our ongoing work and processes.

Time is of the essence, because as bad as Debby's impacts were, and will continue to be for likely a few weeks still, keep in mind that Debby was a Tropical Storm over a hundred miles to the west of us. We may not feel like it, but we dodged another bullet. Maybe our luck will last a few years or decades. But it's only wise to expect that storms as bad if not worse than Debby will become more common in the next few decades than they were the past few decades.

Dave Tomasko

Executive Director

Sarasota Bay Estuary Program

### Meeting

To: Longboat Key Commissioner BJ Bishop

Hope all is well! Just wanted to let you know that I am in town for the next few weeks, and would certainly be interested in meeting to catch up and discuss any updates with Longboat Key or any issues the town may be experiencing. What does your and your team's availability look like over the next couple weeks?

Sami Araboghli Military Legislative Assistant Office of Congressman Greg Steube (FL-17)

### Sea turtles

To: Venice City Mayor Nick Pachota

Mayor thank you for joining the challenge. This has been a hard fought battle for the turtles, as well as trying to generate some participation from our commissioner's across the state. Response has been much lower than I anticipated. Our natural resources and marine lifestyles are one of the main reasons visitors come to our state. Your donation will certainly help, particularly in light of tropical storm Debby's impact on us. The nests really took a beating across entire coastline, and the teams of Volunteers that document, maintain and care for them are stretched even further. Again thank you for your concern and cash. I'll be seeing you

at our next plan gathering. Gary Coffin Commissioner Town of Longboat Key

### **Correspondence from Gary Coffin**

To: Longboat Key Town Clerk Trish Shinkle

To whom it may concern: I have received the correspondence from Commissioner Coffin and accept his challenge. My personal donation of \$200 for a sea turtle nest will be made to Mote Marine Laboratory Sea Turtle Program. Please share this information

To whom it may concern:

I have received the correspondence from Commissioner Coffin and accept his challenge. My personal donation of \$200 for a sea turtle nest will be made to Mote Marine Laboratory Sea Turtle Program. Please share this information with Commissioner Coffin and thank him for taking up the cause.

Nick Pachota

Mayor

City of Venice

### Sarasota Ordinance

To: Sarasota City Attorney Robert Fournier

I think you're the right person to notify regarding an incomplete draft of an ordinance to be discussed at the upcoming Monday's Commission meeting.

Upon reviewing the draft of the ordinance for the Cross St. vacation, I noticed 2 proffers that the planning board directed to be added to the ordinance, but both items are missing (see attached annotated pdf).

During the planning board meeting, the vacation was discussed at length. City staff had advised against approving the vacation. To address the concerns raised by the Planning Board members, the applicant agreed to additional proffers. Only after these proffers given, was there enough consent to get a majority of the members to approve.

Somehow during the drafting of the ordinance, both key topics have been omitted. I'll leave it to your sage guidance as to whether a revised draft should be circulated prior to the discussion, or whether the item should be pulled and rescheduled in the future with a corrected draft.

The draft, in its current form, nullifies all of the discussion had by the Planning Board and does not accurately reflect the approval.

Ron Kashden Sarasota

See Letters, page 13





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470 E ROYAL FLAMINGO DR	2,480	\$1,725,000	3	2	0	22	\$1,675,000	
3710 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#G-34	1,056	\$325,000	2	2	0	2	\$275,000	
74 TWIN SHORES BLVD	960	\$328,000	2	2	0	63	\$310,000	
507 FOREST WAY	1,440	\$649,000	2	2	1	82	\$610,000	
1085 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#101	1,172	\$699,000	2	2	0	351	\$680,000	
4425 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#101 a	1,008	\$985,000	2	2	0	6	\$985,000	
720 HIDEAWAY BAY DR	2,983	\$1,649,000	3	2	2	153	\$1,400,000	
5055 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#535	1,509	\$1,787,000	2	2	0	66	\$1,650,000	
730 PENFIELD ST	3,086	\$1,795,000	3	2	1	247	\$1,675,000	



730 PENFIELD ST



### JEFF RHINELANDER 941-685-3590

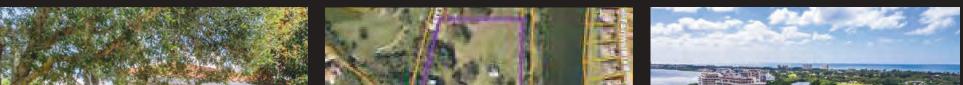
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### PALMER FARMS 2651 GERRY ROAD | SARASOTA, FL JUST SOLD - \$2,400,000

Represented the buyer of this just under 11-acre expanse of property, located at the very end of a canopy road, centrally located in Sarasota. Large portions of this land remain primarily untouched, however it does include two barns with seven stalls and three private paddocks, a 25' x 30' covered parking area (all with water and electric) and a pond.



### GRAND BAY IV 3010 GRAND BAY BLVD., #422 | LONGBOAT KEY, FL NOW PENDING - \$1,145,000

Representing the buyer of this 2BR/3.5BA residence with sweeping water views of Sarasota Bay. Grand Bay is a gated community with a 24-hour manned gatehouse. It features 2 heated swimming pools with spas, tennis courts, clubhouse for meetings and parties, state of the art fitness center plus Beach access at the exclusive Bay Isles Beach club.

## OnPatrol

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

### Aug. 9 Fishing

12:44 a.m.

Officer Mathis responded to the 7200 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive in reference to missing fishing poles. Upon his arrival, Officer Mathis met with the complainants who advised that they were fishing from the prohibited fishing area on the center of the drawbridge when they lost two fishing poles. Initially, the complainants suspected someone had stolen their fishing poles that were laying against the guardrail of the bridge hanging over the side. It was undetermined if the fishing poles fell into the water or not. No crime was articulated and neither complainant had descriptions, serial numbers or make of fishing poles that were missing. Neither party wanted to complete a report. Case clear.

### **Traffic citation**

10:33 p.m.

Sgt. Montfort while on patrol observed a vehicle approaching from the rear with an inoperable headlight. Moreover, the vehicle had its high beam activated on the driver's side of the vehicle. Sgt. Montfort pulled to the shoulder to let the vehicle pass and observed the vehicle was bearing a temporary registration. Sgt. Montfort conducted a traffic stop int eh 1200 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive and made contact with the driver who said she was aware of the headlight being out and then realized her high beams were on and subsequently turned them off. Sgt. Montfort asked her for her license and registration and insurance which she provided. She said she was on her way to work in Bradenton. While in conversation, Sgt. Montfort detected a strong odor of marijuana emanating from the vehicle. Sgt. Montfort inquired if the woman possessed a medical marijuana card to which she said she did not. The driver was asked to exit the vehicle, which she complied. Sgt. Montfort conducted a probable cause search of the vehicle and located a plastic baggie containing a green leafy substance consistent to marijuana. The driver was the sole occupant of the vehicle and the marijuana was located on the passenger side floorboard of the vehicle, next to a bag of clothing and fresh food. Sgt. Montfort conducted a chemical presumptive field test which resulted in a positive test as marijuana. The driver was processed and released int eh field with a notice to appear and a uniformed traffic citation. The driver is scheduled to appear in the Sarasota Court on August 29 at 9 a.m. Case clear.

### Aug. 10 Parking

1:48 a.m.

Officer Butler while on patrol observed a car parked in front of a home on North Shore Road, unoccupied with the front driver door open. An FCIC/NCIC check was performed and the vehicle was not reported stolen, abandoned nor was it derelict. Moreover, there was no signs of forced entry and items in the vehicle appeared not to be disturbed. The auto was registered to a rental company and the operator is undetermined at this time. Officer Butler closed and locked the door for safekeeping. Case clear.



### Speeding

1:29 p.m.

Sgt. Puccio while on patrol in the 6900 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive observed a vehicle pass northbound with speed reading of 48 mph in a 35 mph zone. At that point, Sgt. Puccio initiated a traffic stop and explained to him the reason for the stop. Sgt. Puccio asked for his driver's license which he said he did not have one. The driver provided his name and date of birth which was the same as the information on the license plate of the vehicle he was driving and in fact he was the registered owner. At that point, Sgt. Puccio was able to retrieve his Florida driver's license more than six months and a written warning for unlawful speed. He was provided a Manatee County Court date. He contacted a friend with a valid driver's license who was en route to pick him and the truck up which was relocated to the parking lot at the corner of Broadway and Gulf of Mexico Drive. The driver was instructed not to drive until he obtained a valid driver's license. Case clear.

### Aug. 12 Remains

#### 1:01 p.m.

Officer Pescuma was dispatched to the 6700 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive in reference to possible human remains found on the beach. Upon arriving on scene, Officer Mescuma met with the complainant who showed Officer Pescuma and Sgt. Butler the bones located on the beach dune. The complainant stated that officers were out last week to investigate. Sgt. Butler cross referenced the police reports and found that the Medical Examiner's office determined the remains to be not human. Case clear.

### Aug. 13 Driver's license

12:29 p.m.

Officer Pescuma while on patrol, received a hit for a license plate reader camera for an expired driver's license. Officer Pescuma queried the state link FCIC/NCIC database and confirmed that the registered owners had an expired driver's license. The vehicle was located and a traffic stop was conducted on a 2014 gray Dodge. Officer Pescuma made contact with the driver and introduced himself and gave him the reason for the traffic stop. Officer Pescuma handed the officer his Florida ID card. The driver stated the registered owner is his mother. Officer Pescuma asked the man if he had a valid driver's license and he said he did not nor was issued one. Officer Pescuma asked him why he was driving and he said he is working construction on Longboat Key.

Officer Pescuma issued a criminal citation for driving without a license. Case clear.

### Aug. 14 Noise

7:33 a.m.

Officer Nazareno was dispatched to DeNarvaez Drive for a noise complaint call regarding construction noise prior to 8 a.m. Upon arrival, Officer Nazareno observed workers at the construction site using power tools and gave them the order to stop. Officer Nazareno made contact with the employee in charge. The employee was issued a written warning for violation of a sound ordinance. Case clear.

### Aug. 15 Dogs

9:30 a.m.

Officer Nazareno was dispatched to Golf Link Lane for an animal problem call. Upon his arrival, Officer Nazareno made contact with the complainant who stated that at approximately 9:30 she was walking her dog in the 1000 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive when suddenly a brown dog tried to attack her dog aggressively running toward her dog. She also stated that the owner of the dog at the time was picking up dog litter when the brown dog got away from the owner. The other owner left the scene after checking the dogs for injuries. There were no bite marks or punctures observed on the dog. Animal control was not needed to investigate the incident since no dog bite occurred. The complainant described the other dog owner as a white woman in her 30s with light brown hair, wearing a pink tank top and pink shorts and was last seen walking southbound towards the 700 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive. Officer Nazareno canvased the area from the 700 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive for the other owner but was unable to locate her. Case clear.

### **Cell phone lights**

10:03 p.m.

Officer Martinson was dispatched to the 3200 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive on a call of a suspicious person. Upon arrival, Officer Martinson walked onto the beach and located two young teenage girls walking and playing on their cell phones. Neither girl had a flashlight and they were advised to stay off the cell phones until they're off the beach because since it is turtle season white lights were not allowed. The girls apologized and agreed to stay off the cell phones. Case clear.



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## WineTimes

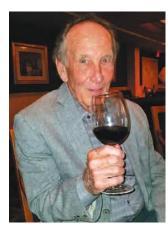
## What to Look for in Wines by the Glass

A list of wines by the glass in a bar serves as a useful starting point for a basic list of wines to buy for guests in your home.

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

Wine by the glass has become an expected offering at the bar of an upscale restaurant serving lunch or dinner. Diners

often choose to have a glass of the wine at the bar while waiting for guests to join them, or to kick back and decompress before dinner, or to get a feel of the place before deciding to dine there. The restaurant itself may use the bar as a convenient parking place for diners who are waiting to be seated at a table they have reserved or diners who do no have reservations and have to wait for a table to become available. Couples or single diners at times choose



to dine at the bar, and restaurants serve lunch or dinner at the bar to small parties when no tables are available.

In general a bar would expect to recover the wholesale cost of a bottle of wine in the price of a single six ounce pour. A standard 750ml bottle holds about four six-ounce glasses of wine. The price of a single serving of wine also covers the costs of providing small samples of a wine, the costs of buying and cleaning glasses, staff salaries, location rents, spillage and breakage losses, licensing, and other overhead expenses. We see prices of a glass of an inexpensive wine as low as \$6-\$8 in a bargain cafe, and prices of a glass of inexpensive wines in upscale restaurants beginning at around \$10. A glass of wine in a pricey urban or suburban location may cost \$15 at a minimum. Happy Hour prices bring the price of a glass of inexpensive wine down by as much as half, but a customer at a popular location may have to stand three deep at the bar to buy a glass of wine. Bars serving cocktails and beer as well as wine by the glass provide a healthy share of the profits of restaurants.

Diners at restaurants should look for the telltale signs of a good bar for wine by the glass. The list of wines available by the glass does not need to be extensive; six to eight better wines at reasonable prices will satisfy a wide majority of wine drinkers. In the USA, a wine bar has to have a Cabernet Sauvignon and a Chardonnay by the glass. That restriction may limit selections that may offer better quality for the price. A wine list should include at minimum a crisp white wine with floral or fruit tastes, such as a Sauvignon Blanc, Pinot Grigio, Chenin Blanc, or Bordeaux Blanc with Sémillon; a



lighter red wine, say, a Chianti (Sangiovese), a French Rhône Valley Grenache, a Pinot Noir, a French Beaujolais; or California Valdiguié; and, a French Provence rosé or a rosé made from red grapes. An astute wine buyer caters to special tastes by adding a split of domestic sparkling wine and a sweet White Zinfandel or Moscato. Inferior choices of alternative white, light red, or rosé wines raise doubts about the selections of wines by the glass.

Also look for amenities that distinguish a good bar. Better wine glasses, storage, and presentations speak well for a wine bar. Enticing bar foods complement good wines. Comfortable bar seating, soft lighting, and attractive decor improve the experience. Danger signs include draining wine from the bottom of a bottle, storing wine bottles under hot lights, and ambient noise and glare.

Diners, like good bars in restaurants, and restaurant owners, have much to gain from making diners feel well served. Don't hesitate to call for a manager when a glass of wine or the bar itself does not meet your expectations.

A list of wines by the glass in a bar serves as a useful starting point for a basic list of wines to buy for guests in your home. Here's a list of five wines that a good bar in a home might offer:

Cabernet Sauvignon Chardonnay Crisp White Light Red Rosé

- 2021 Alexander Valley Vineyards Estate Cabernet Sauvignon \$23
- 2022 Decoy Chardonnay \$18
- 2023 Man Family Free run Steen Chenin Blanc \$10
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#### St. Regis, from page 1

The Monkey Bar pays homage to the now-legendary Murf Klauber who developed the Colony Beach & Tennis Resort that became a world-famous destination for more than four decades on the site. The Colony had its own Monkey Bar that was bedecked with murals and served as a popular focal point where residents and visitors converged beside the more than 400 feet of Gulf front beach.

#### The effect of time and space

Exactly 14 years ago, the Colony Beach & Tennis Resort shut down following years of litigation between Klauber and the unit owners who refused to pay assessments which led to the dilapidation and eventual demise of the resort. The Colony in 2001 housed President George W. Bush the night before the Sept. 11 attacks and everyone from Howard Stern to Vice President Al Gore and an endless array of tennis stars often converged on the property. Klauber also brought Nick Bollittieri, perhaps the most famous tennis coach of all time, to the property where he started his first teaching academy.

Perhaps it is the storied past of the property that led Klauber's daughter, Katie Moulton, to tell the crowd at the soft opening of the St. Regis on Friday that there is magic fairy dust in the sand on the site and it just needed to be stirred for the new era to be born.

And structurally what a difference in both the look and feel of the resort. The old Colony was built on-grade with wooden structures that looked weathered and somewhat withered, especially toward the end before being demolished. The new resort is built to the latest construction standards, and it is as if Whittall after his many years staying in resorts throughout the world fashioned a no-expense-spared property manifesting and reinventing the greatest features that inspired him from his many adventures.

For instance, there is a lazy river that winds through the property, there is a grotto where one can relax and take a sophisticated cocktail to unwind. There are tortoises on property for guests to pet. There is a spa that not only has a steam room, but a snow room and a cold plunge pool, not to mention a fireplace and Gulf front view.

And everybody knows computers and lighting can now transform events moment by moment. Whittall points to a far wall in the ballroom where a \$500,000 LED screen coupled with LED lighting can completely transform the 12,000 square foot ballroom space all with the goal of creating fully customized and transformative events as far from ordinary life as imaginable.

#### Living on property

Other than the 166 hotel rooms, there are 69 condominium residences where owners will all have access to the resort amenities. The condominiums are all sold with prices that range from \$2.2 million to \$25 million for a penthouse. A series of pools, fountains and an aquatic tank that serves as a marine rescue and rehabilitation destination weave between the hotel and the residences.

In many ways, Whittall said he was building his own future while building the resort. And although his work as a developer as President of Unicorp continues unabated, he owns one of the penthouses and says he plans to spend as much time as possible on the property, especially since he is also the owner of the hotel.

Resort General Manager Winfred van Workum told the audience at the opening ceremony that Whittall has more tenacity, passion, and grit than anyone he had ever met. Workum added that the resort, while entirely open, is still ramping up to full capacity in all of its restaurants and amenities.

Whittall told Longboat Key News that the C.W. Prime Steakhouse is mostly booked up through September and he encourages anyone interested to call to make reservations. He hopes that members of the community have a drink in the main bar and enjoy both the visual beauty and the perfection of service.

But most meaningfully, residents and visitors should feel a sense of satisfaction and achievement that the island they love has a newly placed jewel right at its center and the halo effect that economists posited the resort would have on neighboring properties is apparent at every turn. For Whittall, his dream on Longboat is now complete, "My goal was to build something that would be a place for the community to spend everything from their most romantic evenings to significant events – a focal point, bringing Longboat Key together.

"I feel that has been achieved; this is a place for the entire community," said Whittall.







Taylor Coan, in blue on right, is excited to have her wedding — the first ever to be held at the St. Regis — in November.







## Editor Letters

### Letters, from page 8

### Sarasota Ordinance

To: Ron Kashden

Following up on this from yesterday, it does seem after review that the ordinance that is in the agenda package for the public hearing on Monday is complete, although of course it is subject to modification before "second reading" based on items that might be raised during discussion. The "open sky" proffer in its revised form has been consolidated into Condition G which formerly only addressed the access easement. Also, the tree protection proffer was consolidated into Section H.

Robert M. Fournier City Attorney City of Sarasota

### Stormwater drainage along Myrtle Street

To: Sarasota City Vice Mayor Jen Ahearn-Koch

Was just on a meeting call with the combined community health action teams (CHATs). These are the Community Health Action Teams for the county. As you probably know, these are community lead groups working in coordination with the Community Health partnerships to improve the Health of Sarasota county residents.

A question came up about storm water runoff along Myrtle Street. North of Myrtle is county and south is city.

If there is an issue with storm drainage, who should that be addressed to the city or the county?

Is there still a combined city county commission meeting still being held to address such issues?

Washington Hill Sarasota

### Stormwater drainage along Myrtle Street

To: Dr. Washington Hill

Thanks for the email. The City's stormwater is managed entirely by the county with assistance from the City. Having said that, anyone can reach out to the City and we can help coordinate service. If the City can easily solve an issue, we will. And at the very least be a conduit of communication. It is important we know where "hot spots" and problems are located. I have copied Mr. Brown and Mr. Robinson in this email as well.

Jen Ahearn-Koch Vice Mayor

City of Sarasota

### **Subscription**

To: Sarasota City Manager Marlon Brown

I was curious if the City could get an online subscription to the New York Times, or at the very least if I could get one using my subscriptions allowance? I often get sent articles in reference to the NYT and I can't read them.

I believe the City used to have a subscription but I am it sure what happened "(or even if the City still might have one). Thanks for looking into this when you can.

Jen Ahearn-Koch

Vice Mayor

City of Sarasota

### A possible solution for urban flooding

To: Peggy Cockerill

Thank Peggy, I'll do a search for the article and I am pretty sure I have an understand the direction of the article but supplemental info and research are always helpful!

Jen Ahearn-Koch Vice Mayor

City of Sarasota

A possible solution for urban flooding

hour per week, and not at weekends. Yet, on the 3rd of August, for example, he was at it from just after noon on and off until past 6 pm.

It is now gone 6pm and he's at it again, disturbing the peace of a Sunday evening, banging his drums just as loud as can be. There is no escape for us. I thought there was an ordinance that was supposed to take care of this offensive, and intrusive noise pollution. If there is, why can't it be enforced, and if you didn't get around to it yet, why not?

Do we, as seniors minding our own business, not get ANY support from the City? Do we not matter?

Enough is enough. If any of you expect us to vote for you, you are sorely mistaken unless and until you begin to treat us with the same deference and consideration you seem to be giving this one callous, inconsiderate so-called musician.

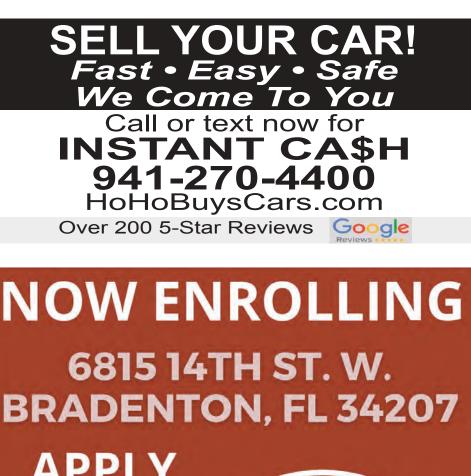
Tina Steele Rosemary District

### **Noise Pollution**

To: Tina Steele

Good evening Mrs Steele, I am extremely sorry that you and your neighbors are experiencing this! It is totally not fair and I am having it addressed!!! Please provide me the address so that this matter can be handled. Once again my profound apologies that you're having to endure this. Thank You with humble regards.

Kyle Scott Battie Commissioner City of Sarasota



APPLY NOW!

To: Sarasota City Vice Mayor Jen Ahearn-Koch

Darn. You can Google "sponge cities" and read non subscriptions articles. Debby Trice read it and said when the city re-built Bobby Jones some of the techniques stated in the article were put to use. It worked when Debby flooded as lake Bobby Jones filtered the flood water as it slowly released back into the bay. Another important aspect of a sponge city is it absorbs rain water and does not allow it to run.

By not allowing zero lot buildings to be erected would be a good place to start. I have met you and know we are on the same page. Cement does not absorb water. I live on Floyd street and can tell you the water raises closer and closer to my door step as these houses get built. Thank you for getting back to me.

Peggy Cockerill

Sarasota

### **Noise Pollution**

To: Sarasota City Commission

After a couple of months of blissful peace and relative quiet, the drumming has recommenced over the back fence. He's at it 3 to 4 times per week, and both weekend days. We had a meeting with him last year, moderated by Sgt. Luciano of the Sarasota PD, and Chris (the renter and drummer) said that he would endeavor to keep his practicing to no more than an

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# Mote Marine Laboratory releases rehabilitated sea turtle "Lil' Dougie" off Siesta Beach

On Monday morning, August 12, Mote Marine Laboratory released a 154-pound, about 3-foot-long, subadult, female loggerhead sea turtle nicknamed "Lil' Dougie" off Siesta Key Beach.

Lil' Dougie's journey began on Memorial Day, May 27, 2024, when she was found floating in Blackburn Bay by Sarasota County Sheriff's Office's Creative Communications Specialist Doug Johnson and his wife Susannah while they were paddle boarding. Named after Doug who played a crucial role in her rescue, Lil' Dougie was quickly brought to Mote Marine Laboratory for emergency care.

"When we found her unable to submerge herself on Memorial Day, a day where there is heightened boat traffic, we knew we had to stay with her until Mote arrived," said Doug Johnson. "It was just incredible to be part of this turtle's rescue, and then, today, witness her being released again. We're grateful to Mote for what they do, and are happy to have helped this turtle return to where she came from."

Upon arrival at Mote's Sea Turtle Rehabilitation Hospital, it was discovered that Lil' Dougie was missing part of her left front flipper, likely due to a shark interaction. Additionally, she was suffering from anemia, lethargy, and buoyancy issues. Immediate treatments included subcutaneous fluids, injectable antibiotics, and placement in a shallow rehabilitation pool.

Despite her initial challenges, Lil' Dougie demonstrated remarkable resilience. She began eating well, eagerly accepting shrimp, capelin, and squid. Over the following weeks, her condition steadily improved, and her buoyancy issues resolved. By July 6, Lil' Dougie was exhibiting normal neutral buoyancy, and she was given deeper water to swim in. Her left front flipper has also healed well.

After 78 days of dedicated care, Lil' Dougie has been released. With a PIT tag, a Passive Integrated Transponder tag, the same technology as the "microchips" used in pet dogs and pet cats, affixed by Mote's team, her return to the ocean will not only signify her successful recovery but will also allow her to be identified in the future if she is ever encountered again.

"Days like today, where we are able to successfully rescue and release a sea turtle after expert rehabilitation care at Mote, is what inspires me. Not every turtle, especially a turtle with a potential shark bite or a turtle found floating on Memorial Day, is as lucky. Without the help of Doug and Susannah, we wouldn't have been able to have helped this turtle, and we are so grateful for the incredible support and partnership we have with the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office," said Gretchen Lovewell, Mote's Strandings Investigations Program Manager.

Lil' Dougie's story underscores the resilience of these creatures and the commitment of those working to protect sea turtles.

These research efforts are supported in part by grants awarded from the Sea Turtle Grants Program and Longboat Key Turtle Watch used to purchase equipment.

Within Sarasota or Manatee County waters, if you see a



## KeyCrossword

### CROSS

- ACROSS 1 Pointers 5 Spectacle 9 Porgy 13 Double-edged dagger 18 Wife of Bragi in
- Norse myth 19 Hemingway, to
- friends 20 Leander's love 21 Concealed or lost
- 22 Mesh weave 23 County in Ulster 24 mundi: in the
- year of the world 25 French historian
- Ernest 26 Render powerless
- 29 Farm machines
- 31 Silkworm 32 Reception room
- 34 Turkish general 35 \_\_\_\_ cog: lose
- reasoning ability 39 \_\_\_\_ Na Na
- 41 Indian goat antelopes
- 43 Baby powder
- 47 Abnormal growths
- 49 Disconnected
- 49 Disconnected 51 Ancient Israeli
- seaport 53 Slalom and
- downhill skiing

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stranded or dead sea turtle or marine mammal please call Mote's Stranding Investigations Program, a 24-hour response service, at 888-345-2335.

If you see a stranded manatee or sea turtle in state waters or a stranded or of Sarasota or Manatee counties, please call the FWC Wildlife Alert hotline at 1 (888) 404-FWCC (3922). For stranded dolphins or whales anywhere outside Sarasota or Manatee Counties, please call NOAA Fisheries at 1 (877) 433-8299.

Mote's sea turtle activities are conducted under Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Marine Turtle Permits 155, 216, 027, 054, 070, 048, 126, and 028.

#### Fast Facts:

• Mote's Sea Turtle Rehabilitation Hospital has admitted more than 900 sick and injured sea turtles since 1995.

• The Sea Turtle Rehabilitation Hospital has treated all five species found in the Gulf of Mexico, including turtles that were sickened during the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

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