

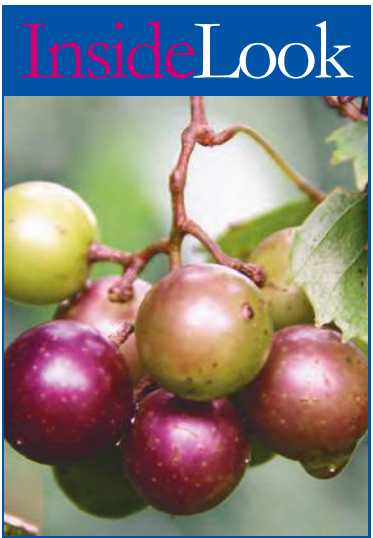


Longboat Key News

March 8, 2024

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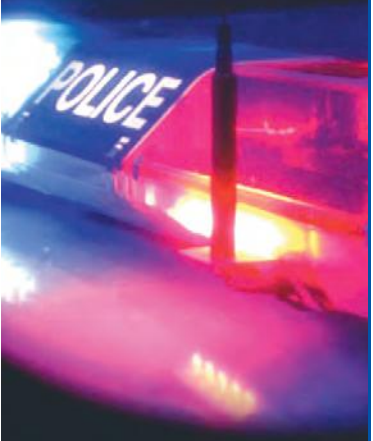
InsideLook
Evolution of the American grape ...page 12



Policy borders on insanity ...page 6



Lido Beach hits \$5.555 million ...page 9



Plenty of THC in plain sight ...page 10

Longboat Police arrest armed man for battery on an officer

A Manatee County man was arrested for resisting arrest and battery on a police officer last week in a quiet neighborhood on the island.

Manatee County resident Richard Chase was arrested for resisting arrest and battery on a police officer last week in the Emerald Harbor neighborhood of Longboat Key.

Longboat Key Officer Shawn Swinford was dispatched to Emerald Harbor for a man who

was allegedly yelling at neighbors and residents and who did not live in the area.

Dispatch advised the man in question was in his truck, which was stationary in front of the residence.

Officer Swinford arrived on scene at 3:30 p.m. on the March 1 after-

noon and reports the man immediately exited the truck and said he did not need to speak with the officer and told him to go away according to the police report.

Officer Swinford advised the man that he was called for a disturbance of some sort and Swinford

See Arrest, page 2

Kashden running for Mayor Alpert's seat

Kashden's wife, Kelly Franklin, has sued Sarasota City Commissioner Kyle Battie for alleged defamation.

Resident Ron Kashden has filed to challenge Sarasota City Mayor Liz Alpert for her District 2 seat on the City Commission.

Kashden is a former CEO of a New York-based software company and has been involved with the Sarasota Coalition of City Neighborhood Associations, a local advocacy group, and served as the secretary of the Laurel Park Neighborhood Association.

Kashden's wife, Kelly Franklin, has sued Sarasota City Commissioner Kyle Battie for alleged defamation. Battie accused Franklin of making a racist social media post at a January commission meeting. Franklin asserts she was not the author and it was a fabrication and she has been harmed by the commissioner's statements. Battie says his comments do not constitute defamation and were made in the course of his elected duties and is protected speech. The City is paying for Battie's defense.

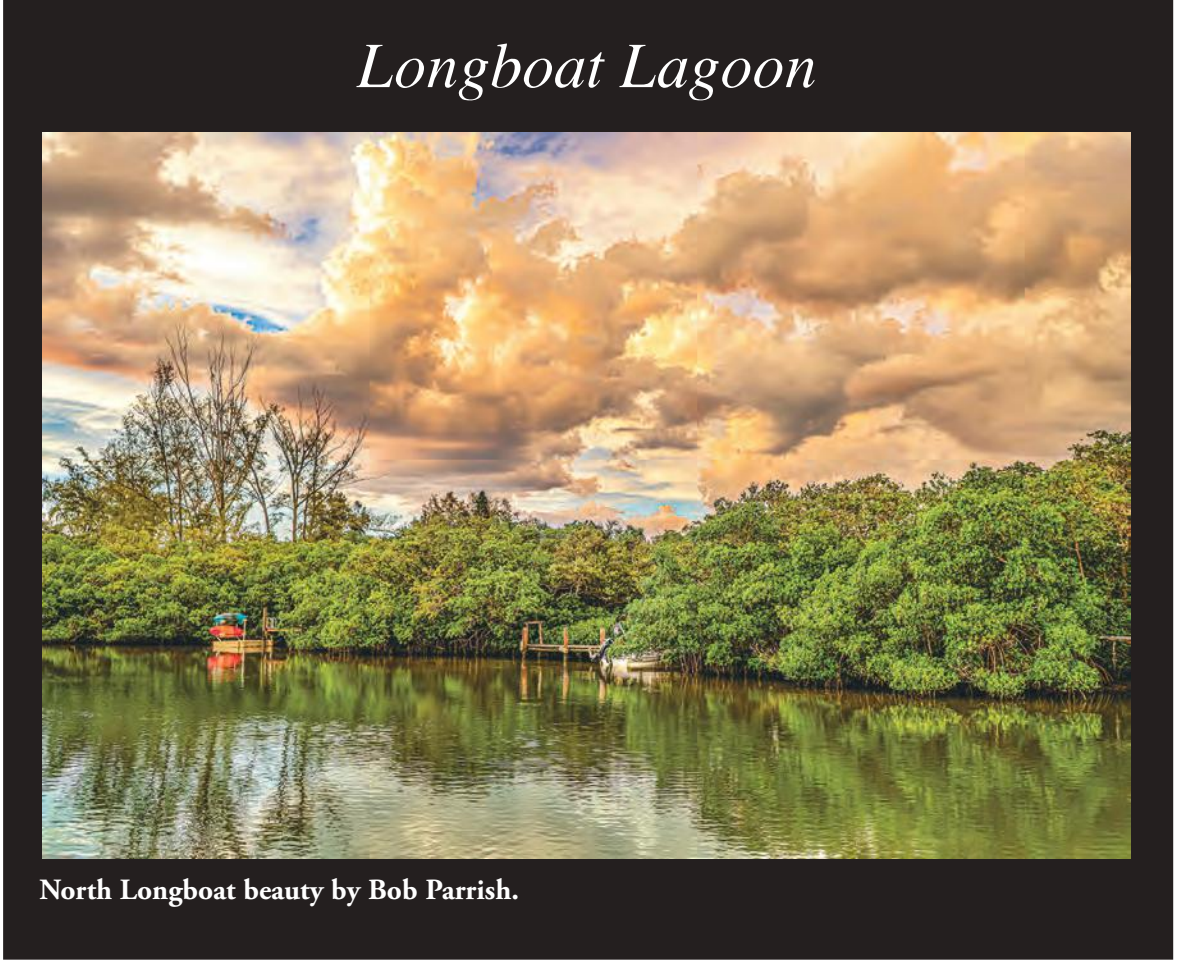
Winfred van Workum named GM at St. Regis Longboat

The St. Regis Longboat Key Resort has named Winfred van Workum as General Manager of the property, set to open its doors this coming summer



van Workum will oversee all operations of the 168 guest rooms, including 26 suites with terraces.

See Resort, page 2



North Longboat beauty by Bob Parrish.

Great White Shark Rose pings just offshore Sarasota

A 10-foot great white shark is continuing its visit in the warm waters off Southwest Florida.

The shark nicknamed Rose, tracked by OCEARCH, pinged far off the Sarasota coast at 4:11 p.m. Tuesday after surfacing around Cape Coral Sunday.

The 10-foot shark has a satellite tag attached to its dorsal fin which emits a ping when it breaks the water's surface and sends the animal's location to OCEARCH trackers.



Rose was located near the edge of the West Florida Escarpment. The 560-mile-long cliff in the Gulf of Mexico is 155 to 215 miles off the

coast and drops from a little over 300 feet to nearly 10,000 feet deep.

See Shark, page 2

Shark, from page 1

She previously pinged off the Treasure Coast Feb. 17 and 18 and Boynton Beach Feb. 19. Her tracker shows she's been spending winters around the Sunshine State since 2021, including the Gulf of Mexico in 2022 and 2023.

Rose isn't the only white shark to turn up in Sarasota waters this winter. A 10-foot great white shark named Penny pinged off the city's coast on Jan. 11.

White shark Rose was tagged by OCEARCH scientists on Oct. 4, 2020 off Lunenburg, Nova Scotia.

According to OCEARCH, she was named after Rose Bay near where she was tagged.

At the time, she measured 10 feet 5 inches, weighed 600 pounds and was classified as a juvenile shark.

Great white sharks can grow up to 20 feet long, but most are smaller with adult females averaging 15-16 feet long and males reaching 11-13 feet.

Rose has traveled 15,455 miles since scientists began tracking her in 2020.

Resort, from page 1

Van Workum has worked at The Breakers Hotel in Palm Beach and The Ritz-Carlton New York, Central Park. Born in the Netherlands into a family of hospitality entrepreneurs, van Workum's career followed in their footsteps, starting in The Hague, and spanning across global cosmopolitan destinations, notably, his recent roles as Market General Manager, overseeing the St. Regis, Bal Harbour and the W Miami. This newest appointment marks Winfred's fourth association with the St. Regis brand.

Arrest, from page 1

says the man immediately became agitated at the officer's presence. The man was ignoring the officer and started walking toward the residence at Emerald Harbor Drive says Swinford.

Officer Swinford said he did not know if he was trespassing at the location and so Officer Swinford advised him that he needed to verify as to whether he was allowed to be at the property at this time.

Dispatch had previously advised that the man did not live at the Emerald Harbor home.

Chase continued to be argumentative reports the police and did not want to speak with Officer Swinford stating he was doing work at the residence. While speaking with him, Officer Swinford tried to get more information on what took place, he became even more agitated and started walking around the front of his truck stating he was leaving.

Officer Swinford in his report says he told Chase he was not free to leave and to not get into his truck. Officer Swinford did not want him to get in his truck for officer safety due to the officer not knowing if there were any weapons says the police in its report. Swinford reports that Chase still ignored his commands. The man quickly went around his truck toward the driver side front door in a furtive manner, says the police report, and Officer Swinford reportedly told him to stop and the man did not stop and attempted to open the driver's door says officer Swinford. Officer

This is the Longboat Key Police Report account of the escalation:

"Swinford got between him (Chase) and the truck and put his hands up to stop him from entering the vehicle. During that moment, the man swung at the officer's right forearm.

Officer Swinford immediately grabbed ahold of Chase and he began to physically resist Officer Swinford.

During the struggle, a witness assisted Officer Swinford and grabbed ahold of Chase as they went to the ground.

During the struggle, the witness advised Officer Swinford advised Officer Swinford that Chase had a gun.

Officer Swinford observed the man to have a firearm in his waistband and it was quickly secured by the witness as Officer Swinford controlled his hands placing them behind his back. Officer Swinford placed the man into handcuffs, advising him that he was under arrest.

Longboat Officer Pescuma transport Chase to the Manatee County Jail where he was released to jail staff on the charges of Resisting Officer With Violence and Battery.

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Mote Marine unveils new exhibit

Mote Marine Laboratory & Aquarium unveiled a new exhibit titled Mystery Reef. Included in regular admission, the exhibit explores the threats facing Florida’s coral reefs. Through activities such as a scavenger hunt, puzzle blocks, and an air maze, guests will leave with a better understanding of reef risks and mitigation strategies.

Mystery Reef encapsulates research conducted by Mote scientists, addressing issues actively tackled by multiple Mote research programs, including Ocean Acidification, Coral Health and Disease, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, among others.

“Conservation of coral reefs isn’t just about protecting a beautiful ecosystem; it’s about safeguarding the very foundation of marine biodiversity and our planet’s health,” said Dr. Michael Crosby, Mote President & CEO. “By continually researching and sharing information on coral reefs, we illuminate the path toward their preservation, ensuring the intricate balance of life within our oceans for generations to come.”

While educating guests on the health of Florida’s coral communities, Mystery Reef also allows guests to become coral detectives for a day. Mote invites exhibit visitors to embark on an exhilarating, crime-solving scavenger hunt. With their sleuthing caps on, guests can investigate which prime suspect is guilty of hurting the reefs. Each suspect represents a different reef threat:

- Sickly Sal– Coral Disease
 - o Coral diseases, often occurring in response to environmental stressors, cause massive reef decomposition.
- Captain Conquerer– Invasive Species
 - o Invasive species are organisms introduced to an environment where they are not native, quickly adapting and reproducing. Due to a lack of natural predators, they overwhelm and dominate the environment. The red lionfish, a nonindigenous, venomous fish, exemplifies an invasive species harming Florida’s coral reefs.
- Corrosive Carl– Ocean Acidification
 - o Ocean acidification occurs when carbon dioxide (CO2) from the atmosphere is absorbed into the ocean, lowering the pH. Rising ocean acidification is associated with negative effects, including damaging coral reefs and disturbing calcifying organisms’ shell and skeleton growth.
- Miss Match– Coral Parents Incapable of Pairing Up
 - o Corals must be close in proximity to fertilize after spawning. As ocean health declines,



healthy coral parents become rarer, producing fewer healthy corals.

- Hot-Headed Hector – Rising Ocean Temperatures
 - As oceans absorb excess heat from greenhouse gases, water temperatures rise. Increased ocean temperatures may induce coral bleaching (loss of coral pigmentation), disruption of fish breeding grounds, intensified hurricanes, and sea-level rise.
- Guests can tangibly “mitigate” the suspects through various interactive exhibit elements. They will have the opportunity to “whack-a-lionfish,” simulate coral spawning through an air maze, and connect puzzle pieces to build a healthy reef. The exhibit will also showcase a giant inflatable coral where guests can complete their detective work.
- Mystery Reef is included in regular Mote Aquarium admission. Mote Aquarium is open from 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. every day. For more information, visit mote.org/mystery.
- The exhibit is paid for in part by Sarasota County Tourist Development Tax revenues.

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SARASOTA, FLORIDA



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.

Tip Talk regarding Future Longboat Library with Director of Sarasota County Libraries

To: Longboat Key Commission

Please check out this Tip Talk video about the future Longboat Key Library with Town Manager Howard Tipton and Director of Sarasota County Libraries and Historical Resources. It is very informative and discusses the planning, public input workshops, and design process for a customized facility to meet the needs of our community!

Please share this with your readers, association members, neighborhoods, and any other interested parties. We greatly appreciate your assistance in helping disseminate this important information to our community. This is also shared on our website, Facebook, X, Instagram and blast e-mail.

Susan Phillips
Assistant to Town Manager
Town of Longboat Key

Longboat Key Bicycle Association

To: Longboat Key Commission

If you can attend, please speak up for bike/ped access. I'd like to see better pedestrian crossing options on each side of the bridge, as I could see a lot of people walking back and forth over it - especially for sunsets.

Thom Cerny
Longboat Key

Traffic on island needs a remedy

To: Longboat Key Commissioner Debbie Williams

Hotel employee manatee county side. That's all I'm comfortable giving. It's another 2h 15 min ride home today!

Cam Wig
Longboat Key

Traffic on island needs a remedy

To: Cam Wig

Thank you for your email regarding traffic, it frustrates us all. Can you please identify yourself and your business?

Debra Williams
Commissioner
Town of Longboat Key

Traffic on island needs a remedy

To: Longboat Key Commissioner Debra Williams

The traffic on this island is atrocious. How can you ever get any good employees to stay and work on the island? Traffic from middle of the island can sometimes take over an hour to get to get to one of the bridges. There has to be a remedy to this solution, bus, train, boat, ferry something. My employees and staff that I work with all say they looking for jobs off the

island as it's too hard to get to work on time in the afternoons or it takes too long to get off.

Cam Wig
Longboat Key

Artificial Intelligence Headliners Lunch

To: Longboat Key Mayor Ken Schneider

Will I see you at the Headliners Luncheon in two weeks? We've got a great speaker – Dr. John Licato with the University of South Florida. He'll be discussing how AI will revolutionize businesses – including how it will affect the job market, education, transportation, healthcare... pretty much everything in our lives. It's not a seminar, but a higher level overview of AI. Super fascinating!

Come have lunch and learn more about what the future of AI holds. Details below:

Demystifying Artificial Intelligence
Wednesday, March 20
11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.
IMG Academy Golf Club

Let me know if you have any questions or if I can help in any way.

Carey Miller
Vice President of Operations
Manatee Chamber of Commerce

Potential increase in contribution rate

To: Longboat Key Commission

As a follow up to the discussion at the Commission meeting yesterday, I reached out to Dave Tomasko with the questions posed. Below is his response. We will invite Dave to provide an update to the Commission at the March 25th workshop and so that will be a further opportunity to discuss the matter.

Howard N. Tipton
Town Manager
Town of Longboat Key

Potential increase in contribution rate

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton

I cannot find the justification for the original funding distribution – most likely it was a combination of geography and political considerations. I do think that they tried to make sure that those local governments with elected officials on our board would pay into the program, but why Manatee County and Sarasota County pay more than the City of Sarasota, or why the City of Sarasota pays more than Bradenton or Longboat Key – I just don't know. And why Holmes Beach and Bradenton Beach, for example, are not included – I don't know. But it appears that adding them to the list would require us to develop a new Cooperative Agreement, which would then have to be reviewed and approved by each of the parties involved, which is an investment in time and legal review that might not be worth the effort (I'm fairly sure we'd burn up more money in legal review for a new Cooperative Agreement than any increased revenue).

We could come up with some sort of geographic and/or population-based estimate, but that would require more time and effort and expertise than we have on-hand. So instead of seeking to justify the funding formula, we've simply requested that the funding formula that has existed for 20 years be updated to account for the cumulative effect of 20 years of inflation. I do understand the desire to better understand the basis for the funding levels decided upon 20

See Letters, page 7

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Public Notice

Public notice is hereby given that Sarasota County Libraries is hosting a public presentation and workshop on Monday, March 18, 2024, regarding the new County library planned for Longboat Key.

The presentation and workshop will be held at the Town of Longboat Key, 501 Bay Isles Road, Longboat Key, Florida. There will be an opportunity for public input.

Doors open at 1 p.m. with a formal presentation beginning at 1:30 p.m.

Note: One or more Town Commissioners and Advisory Board members may be present.

No official public business or action will be taken at this event.

No verbatim record by a certified court reporter is made of these proceedings.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 286.26, F.S., persons needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the Town Clerk's office at 941-316-1999 seventy-two (72) hours in advance of this proceeding. If you are hearing impaired, please call 941-316-8719.

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Boater's dream property on oversized (19,994 sf) rarely available cul-de-sac end lot with a brand new 320-foot seawall located in Sleepy Lagoon, on the north end of Longboat Key. This location offers fantastic panoramic views of Bishops Bayou and the ICW. Situated on nearly a half-acre lot is a 3-bedroom, 4,157 sq. ft. home, which could be renovated or removed creating a build site for an incredible custom home.



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Enjoy the Gulf views from this 8th Floor Promenade condominium, offering 2-bedroom, 2-bath, an open floorplan, and a primary bedroom suite with balcony access. Resort living at Promenade is a discerning experience on the beach of Longboat Key!



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2110 HARBOURSIDE DR., #547 | LONGBOAT KEY

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

Editor Letters

Letters, from page 4

years ago, but I don't think it's any more sophisticated than what I described above. Sorry, but I don't have a better answer than this!

Dave Tomasko
Executive Director
Sarasota Bay Estuary Program

Potential increase in contribution rate

To: Sarasota Bay Estuary Program Director Dave Tomasko
Although not on the agenda, this topic came up briefly at our Commission meeting yesterday. The questions were two-fold from the Mayor – what was the rationale for the current funding distribution and why are some communities who directly benefit from your work not included? I know much if not all of these decisions happened before your time, but any insights would be helpful.

Also, important to mention that there was great appreciation for the efforts of the Estuary Program and for the improving conditions in the Bay. As an island community, our values are tied directly to the quality of the waters off of our shores and the results we've been seeing are moving us in the right direction.

We're looking forward to hearing from you at the Commission workshop on March 25th and appreciate all that you do on our behalf.

Howard N. Tipton
Town Manager
Town of Longboat Key

Potential increase in contribution rate

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton
Let's discuss next time we meeting.
Mike Haycock
Commissioner
Town of Longboat Key

Potential increase in contribution rate

To: Longboat Key Commissioner Mike Haycock
As you are aware, the Sarasota Bay Estuary Program (SBEP) focuses on developing a science-driven, locally-developed and non-regulatory approach to managing the water quality and natural resources of Sarasota Bay. Due mostly to the efforts of our local stakeholders, we have had great success on the water quality issue, as recent improvements are sufficiently impressive that FDEP has concluded that the entirety of the open waters of Sarasota Bay now meet our SBEP-developed water quality goals for nutrients. In short, we are no longer considered "impaired" for nutrients – quite a feat!

The SBEP did not pay for the projects that led to these improvements, but we did play a central role in developing the bay's ecosystem health report card, working with our consultants to produce a detailed pollutant loading model, and combining those two efforts and working with our stakeholders to develop our 20% inorganic nitrogen load reduction target. We have also worked with FDEP and others to document the improvements in water quality, which led to the recent decisions to "de-list" bay waters for nutrient impairment. We have also taken the lead on the design, permitting, construction and construction oversight of projects funded through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). In fact, EPA has informed us that SBEP's recently completed project at the Florida Institute for Saltwater Heritage is the first

See Letters, page 8

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Editor Letters



Letters, from page 7

BIL funded project to be completed in all of the southeastern US.

You are likely also aware that of our approximate \$1.1 million dollars in funding (\$1,146,000, to be exact) EPA provides about 74% of our funding. In 2004, the SBEP and its partners entered into an Interlocal Agreement that determined the annual local government contributions as: \$50,000 from Manatee County, \$50,000 from Sarasota County, \$33,000 from the City of Sarasota, \$133,000 from the SWFWMD, \$15,000 from the City of Bradenton, and \$15,000 from the Town of Longboat Key. I have not been able to find any detailed basis for the funding levels in that agreement, but I do believe that it was thought that such a formula broadly reflected the geographic coverage of those partners. However, the basis for the funding breakout was not documented back in 2004. While we could come up with a more precise breakout, questions would arise as to whether such a formula should be based on area, or population, or impervious area, etc. I don't believe it would be easy to come up with a new funding formula, which is why this request is based on simply adjusting the prior funding formula for the cumulative rate of inflation over the past 20 years (outlined below).

Out of an operating budget of \$1.146 million, we spend about 38% on salaries for our five full-time employees, and about 30% on operating expenses (including rent, computer support, employer contributions towards social security and Medicare, outside auditing services, workers compensation, outside legal counsel, etc.). That leaves us with approximately \$300,000 to spend on "projects". Of that \$300,000, we spend about 2/3rds of our project budget on Public Outreach and Engagement, including \$100,000 on the very popular Bay Partners Grant program. That leaves us with about \$100,000 to spend on other efforts – but \$50,000 is spent to maintain the fisheries independent monitoring program for the bay, which leaves us with \$50,000 / year for "science and restoration" projects. That is not overly problematic, since we are using the approximately \$900,000 year from the BIL funds for design and permitting and construction and construction management needs. However, we are now half-way through the 5-year BIL fund lifespan, and we are already not able to do as much in terms of scientific investigations as some on our Technical Advisory Committee would like us to pursue.

Which gets to the point of this email – a request from the SBEP for our local government partners to consider increasing their cash contributions to the SBEP. The amounts received from our local partners are greatly appreciated, but they have not changed in 20 years. What has changed, however, is the value of those funds, which have diminished over time due to inflation. Based on a web-based cumulative inflation calculator, it was determined that the cumulative rate of inflation over these past 20 years is approximately 60 percent - or an average of 3 percent/ year. With that in mind, I would like to formally request that the Town of Longboat Key consider increasing its annual contribution to the SBEP commensurate with attached table.

If all of our local partners increased their cash contributions as suggested, this would give us an additional \$174,000 a year to devote to scientific research and/or the design and permitting

of restoration projects on top of those identified in our five-year BIL Workplan.

I believe that the SBEP is well run and a bargain, and together with our partners, we have helped to turn our bay's water quality around in just a few years. With additional funding from our local partners – to account for 20 years of no increases – I think we can continue to do great work into the future. I thank you for your consideration, and if you need more details, please contact me at your convenience.

Dave Tomasko
Executive Director
Sarasota Bay Estuary Program

Sarasota Bay Estuary Program

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton

I would like to understand the methodology for these assessments and the exclusion of the Anna Maria towns (I guess Venice and Northport are actually south of the Bay). Our population is much less than 1/2 of Sarasota and Bradenton and much much less than 1/3 of Sarasota and Manatee Counties.

Ken Schneier
Mayor
Town of Longboat Key

Fire Department Visit and Tour

To: Longboat Key Commissioner Sarah Karon

I am following up with you after speaking with you yesterday whereby you mentioned you and your husband would like to visit the firehouse. My office is located at the north firehouse (5490 Gulf of Mexico Drive). I'd be happy to meet with you and introduce both the administrative staff and firefighters. Please provide me a few days that work for you and I will make sure to schedule one of those days.

Paul B. Dezzi
Fire Chief
Town of Longboat Key

Potential increase in contribution rate

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton

This is a disappointing answer. Does not seem that there is a desire to address Ken's concerns.

BJ Bishop
Commissioner
Town of Longboat Key

Commission update

To: Longboat Key Commission

As a follow up to the discussion at the Commission meeting yesterday, I reached out to Dave Tomasko with the questions posed. We will invite Dave to provide an update to the Commission at the March 25th workshop and so that will be a further opportunity to discuss the matter.

Howard N. Tipton
Town Manager
Town of Longboat Key

Potential increase in contribution rate

To: Sarasota Bay Estuary Bay Program Director Dave Tomasko

Although not on the agenda, this topic came up briefly at our Commission meeting yesterday. The questions were two fold from the Mayor – what was the rationale for the current funding distribution and why are some communities who directly benefit from your work not included? I know much if not all of these decisions happened before your time, but any insights would be helpful.

Also, important to mention that there was great appreciation for the efforts of the Estuary Program and for the improving conditions in the Bay. As an island community, our values are tied directly to the quality of the waters off of our shores and the results we've been seeing are moving us in the right direction.

We're looking forward to hearing from you at the Commission workshop on March 25th and appreciate all that you do on our behalf.

Howard N. Tipton
Town Manager
Town of Longboat Key

De-Annexation Request by Island Across from Shore Restaurant

To: Longboat Key Commission

Thank you for your public service on behalf of our community.

If we understand correctly, you have been asked to consider a request that the island across from the Shore Restaurant be "de-annexed" from the Town of Longboat Key. And we might understand correctly that the first step in consideration of any such request is the performance of a feasibility study.

We will follow with interest the results of that study to see if it identifies any advantages to the Town and its residents of such an annexation.

But we can identify in advance significant disadvantages, especially to those of us who live

See Letters, page 11

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2425 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#2C	1,470	\$1,799,000	2	2	0	106	\$1,725,000
1055 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#205	1,503	\$1,670,000	2	2	0	269	\$1,485,000
100 SANDS POINT RD Unit#211	1,941	\$1,495,000	2	2	0	159	\$1,350,000
2301 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#71N	1,235	\$1,295,000	2	2	0	106	\$1,260,000
3408 WINDING OAKS DR Unit#53	2,039	\$1,195,000	2	2	1	43	\$1,175,000
230 SANDS POINT RD Unit#3503	634	\$1,150,000	1	1	0	23	\$1,125,000
2358 HARBOUR OAKS DR	2,381	\$1,275,000	3	3	0	70	\$1,075,000
1945 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#M2-115	1,076	\$699,000	2	2	0	33	\$650,000



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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.

Feb. 29

Suspicious vehicle

6:40 a.m.

Officer Ferrigine while on patrol at Bay Isles Parkway, observed a white SUV fail to stop at steady red light before turning on red. The vehicle was traveling southbound on Gulf of Mexico Drive and Officer Ferrigine conducted a traffic stop on the SUV. The Officer made contact with the driver and Officer Ferrigine smelled a strong odor of marijuana emanating from his vehicle during the stop. He also observed a THC oil vape pen in plain view on top of his small work bag in the front passenger side floor board. Also there was a glass pipe in plain view with what appeared to be marijuana inside of it. The driver was detained and Officer Ferrigine conducted a search of the vehicle. Inside his work bag, Officer Ferrigine located a prescription pill bottle with the name rubbed off the label. Officer Ferrigine opened the bottle and located multiple white pills that appeared to be Xanax bars. Officer Ferrigine opened the bottle and located multiple THC oil vape pen on the side of the center console. Officer Ferrigine conducted a chemical field presumptive test on the THC oil and it was positive for THC. The driver was placed under arrest and was advised his Miranda warning. The driver's vehicle was towed away. Case clear.



Officer Zunz and asked if anyone had called the Police Department looking for a lost wallet. While typing the report, Officer Zunz contacted Officer Miklos saying he had been in contact with the owner of the wallet and advised he was on the way to pick up the wallet. Case clear.

Mar. 5

Unlocked

1:43 a.m.

Officer Maple while on patrol at the Whitney Beach Plaza, located an unlocked rear door. The facility had 24 hour access provided with a keypad. The rear entrance door was unlocked. There were no for unauthorized personnel or signs of criminal activity secured and details left at the main register. Case clear.

Mar. 1

Construction site

11:15 a.m.

Officer Ramsaier was dispatched to Bogey Lane for a public service call regarding garbage placed in a construction site container. Upon arrival, Officer Ramsaier met with the complainant who stated he found cardboard boxes in the construction site container with a name printed on it. Officer Ramsaier made contact with the person who agreed to remove the boxes from the container. Case clear.

Mar. 3

Kayak

8:44 a.m.

Officer Pescuma was dispatched to the 2200 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive regarding a suspicious person on a yellow kayak that came ashore. Upon arriving on scene, Officer Pescuma located the man and he stated he is in a race called 'The Everglades Challenge' from Fort DeSoto to Key Largo. Due to the inclement weather, he decided to come ashore until the weather passed. His intentions were to continue through New Pass inlet and transit the intercoastal waterway for safety concerns. The man had a float plan filed with the Coast Guard and the event coordinator. Additionally, he has a GPS and a personal Electronic Positioning Indicating Radio Beacon. Case clear.

Mar. 4

Found wallet

1:22 p.m.

Officer Miklos was dispatched to Weston Pointe Court in reference to found property. Upon arrival, Officer Miklos came into contact with a woman who found a wallet in a nearby park. Officer Miklos checked the wallet and found several credit cards, medical cards and an Ohio Driver License. Additionally, Officer Miklos counted \$128 in cash. Officer Miklos contacted

Dog on beach

9:11 a.m.

Officer Martinson responded to the 2300 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive for a report of a dog on the beach. Upon arrival, Officer Martinson made contact with a man and woman on the beach with a black German Shepherd dog. The woman on the beach was blind and said that was her seeing eye dog. Case clear.

Citizen assist

10:51 a.m.

Officer Martinson was dispatched to the 3100 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive for a citizen assist. Upon arrival, Longboat Key Fire Department was already on scene speaking with the man. The man's wheelchair battery was not completely dead and he was slowly traveling northbound towards his house in the Twin Shores area. The man did not want any help but Longboat Key Fire said they would stay with the man to make sure he made it home. Case clear.

Mar. 6

Suspended license

9:22 a.m.

Officer Pescuma while on patrol, was alerted to a license plate hit regarding a white Ford Explorer traveling northbound on Gulf of Mexico Drive. The car owner had a suspended driver's license. Officer Pescuma conducted a traffic stop at Bogey and Chipping Lane in a marked police vehicle. Officer Pescuma made contact with the driver who said he did not have a valid driver's license due to an unpaid toll. The man said he had an appointment scheduled to rectify the unpaid fines until he had his driver's license reinstated. Officer Pescuma issued a criminal citation for operative while driver's license is canceled with knowledge. The man made arrangements for another party with a valid license to pick him up. Case clear.

Suspended license

3:19 p.m.

Officer Butler responded to Bay Isles Parkway for a vehicle with a suspended driver's license. Officer Butler conducted a traffic stop and the driver was the registered owner. The driver said she knew she had a suspended driver's license and showed Officer Butler the citation she was issued the previous day by Longboat Key Police. Officer Butler confirmed by examining the citation which was issued for Driver's License suspended without knowledge. She further explained that the suspension was for her insurance and that her company made a mistake. Officer Butler advised that her license was still suspended and she could not drive a vehicle until it is restored. The driver was issued a citation for driving while license suspended with knowledge. Case clear.

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Editor Letters

Letters, from page 8

within sight, sound, smell and environmental and recreational impact of the island.

As we all discovered with the sand bar noise invasion (that, happily, seems to have stopped, thanks!), maintaining Town jurisdiction over code and other compliance on that island will be critical to protecting the interests of those of us who, from our homes, can see the island and the views beyond it, hear sounds created on the island, be impacted by barge and other cargo traffic from the Town dock to the island, be impacted by environmental effects emanating from the island, be impacted from smells traced to the island, and so on.

(An example of the latter: the overwhelming odor from a recent pump-out of the septic systems on the island and the off-loading of the pump-out materials into a tanker truck at the Town dock caused some of us to think that a major sewer leak had occurred in the Village. Fortunately, a Public Works expert responded immediately to our call about this and confirmed that the Town's sewer systems were intact.)

We very much appreciate in advance the upcoming hard work the Commission and Town staff will need to do on this important issue. And we very much appreciate everything else you do to maintain the paradise we call home.

Henry and Donna Rae Smith
Longboat Key

De-Annexation Request by Island Across from Shore Restaurant

To: Henry and Donna Rae Smith

Thank you for your thoughtful input on the contraction petition. I appreciate hearing feedback from all sides as we await the feasibility results.

Sara Karon
Commissioner
Town of Longboat Key

De-Annexation Request by Island Across from Shore Restaurant

To: Longboat Key Commissioner Sarah Karon
You are most welcome! And heartfelt thanks for all you do. And we've learned a new legal word: "contraction," thanks!
Henry Smith
Longboat Key

Letter from Camlin Home Corp

To: Longboat Key Commission
Passing along some very positive feedback from the Camlin Home Corporation. The team's strong customer focus continues to evolve and our new permitting system that turns on later this year will further enhance our capabilities.
Howard N. Tipton
Town Manager
Town of Longboat Key

Potential increase in contribution rate

Longboat Key News

Sarasota City News

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Longboat Key, FL 34228

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To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton
Please forward proposed "contribution table". We may want to ask why there's no contribution from Venice, Northport or the Anna Maria towns, and why our payment is so disproportionate to Sarasota City and County vis a vis our size.
Ken Schneider
Mayor
Town of Longboat Key

Request regarding home rule hero awards

To: Longboat Key Commission
Florida League of Cities (FLC) staff is working on compiling a list of 2024 Home Rule Heroes and has requested names of members from its regional leagues who have made strong advocacy efforts this year. FLC is looking at efforts made before session (examples: legislator meetings in the district last summer, fall or winter), testifying at a legislative county delegation meeting, capitol visits during legislative committee weeks, and during the legislative session.

If interested in being considered, please provide to me the specific advocacy efforts you have made by noon next Tuesday, March 5, 2024 . If you responded to legislative alert emails, please forward details of those efforts as well. FLC has a good list going, and does not want to miss anyone who was active in advocacy efforts. This is also open to other all local municipal elected officials who were active in advocacy efforts in our

ManaSota League area of Manatee and Sarasota Counties.
I know many of you have participated in meeting with local legislators and events such as Legislative Action Days. Also, if you have met in person or by other means with legislators please submit who you spoke or met with and perhaps a little about what was the topic of your meetings.
As noted above, please forward the information to me no later than Monday, March 4, 2024, so we pass along your advocacy efforts.
Gail Loeffler
Administrative Coordinator
ManaSota League of Cities, Inc.

Support for Strong Local Government Urban Fertilizer Ordinances

To: Longboat Key Commission
We wanted to let you know that the letter, with 57 local government official signatures, was sent on Thursday to the Governor, Senate President, House Speaker, and all Florida House Representatives and Senators by Jon Thaxton, currently the Gulf Coast Community Foundation Senior Vice-President for Community Leadership, and formerly a Sarasota County Commissioner and Florida Consumer Fertilizer Task Force member.
A press release was distributed around the state. As a signatory, you may get inquiries from the press. Thank you so much for lending your voice to this cause. With any luck,

See Letters, page 15

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What we talk about when we talk about health

Americans have possessed an impoverished vision of health.

MATHEW EDLUND
Contributing Columnist
edlund@lbknews.com

In 1947, the World Health Organization defined health as “a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being.” Do most folks take that expansive view?

The kinds of statements you’ll get from people are more like these:

“The doctor says I’m in great shape.”

“I eat real healthy.”

“You really are doing great.”

“I got great doctors and great medical care.”

The first statement was made by a man whose lipid levels had gone done appreciably with statins, and died of a heart attack six months later. The second came from a patient who considered pizza a food group and noted his “really healthy” use of “heart healthy cereals” like Cheerios. The third was the declaration of an internist to a fellow writhing with chronic pain, impressed more by his low blood pressure and cholesterol values than his continuing misery. The fourth implicitly believed medical care = health – though in most measures of what provokes better physical health, medical care is far down the list compared to factors like sanitation and lifestyle.

How you talk about health doesn’t just change your view of health – it changes your health and that of people around you.



MATTHEW



This deeply impoverished “absence of disease” model has now achieved signal success through the protocol guidelines and checklists pervading present day American medical practice. Your doctor doesn’t talk to you anymore because she is filling out boxes on her electronic health record – which then determines your “health.”

Many of the boxes indeed are useful – at least if your definition of health is restricted to longer lifespan. Controlling blood pressure matters. So does avoiding diabetes, and never getting on – or then getting off – cigarettes. But the real way physical health is achieved for the general population – through lifestyle and behavioral changes – rarely achieves even a single box on the checklist.

And mental, social and spiritual well-being? They’re not even in the conversation. Medical care is today more and more limited to specific “risk factors” affecting longevity. Everything else is off the table.

For present day medical practice, most of the important factors affecting your health don’t get assayed. In essence, they don’t count.

Population Versus Individual Health

Health planners, social scientists and public health officials are deeply concerned with health endpoints that matter economically and societally. Most of these involve death.

Lifespan is often reviewed by looked comparing countries. Here, the US usually ranks around 40 to 50th, while our per capita health care costs are generally twice as high as those of comparably developed countries.

Why the mismatch? In part, because of the perception that medical care – and high medical spending = health. Factors like sanitation, nutrition, education, vaccination, are much bigger factors in determining lifespan. But that’s “public” health. Public health does not have giant economic and political lobbies behind it – even if most of the world recognizes that public health efforts make populations live longer, feel better, and become more economically productive.

Yet the highly disciplined people who work hard to be healthy – and read carefully and thoughtfully the huge amount of “health” information available – can be fooled by the population statistics. Many believe that following lifestyle recommendations automatically means they will live longer.

They most probably will feel better. The odds favor that they will live longer.

But they are just odds. Chance, or what people see as luck, is a huge factor in individual health. You can do “all the right things” and still die at 20, or smoke three packs like the great pianist Eubie Blake and die at 100.

An example – Dr. Oz was shocked when he was found to have a large polyp on his screening colonoscopy. As he explained, he ate healthily, exercised, gave his life to helping others. How the heck could he get a big growth that might prove cancerous and kill him?

The same way most of us do – through chance. The risks of populations appear different when applied to individuals. You do what you can to improve the odds. But they are just odds, and the world is filled with uncontrolled and unknown variables.

Real Health

How you define a problem changes the problem. Americans have possessed an impoverished vision of health. That’s one of the reasons our health is so poor.

And that’s just looking at physical health – lifespan, infant mortality and the like. Start looking at “quality life years” and other measures and we do even worse.

It’s time for some better definitions. As Welch and others now recognize the importance of meaning and purpose – the “spiritual” dimension of health – it’s also time to add meaning and purpose to measures of physical, mental, and social well-being.

Such a four fold approach can be operationalized for populations and individuals. It can also be applied to all phases of medical care – with all four parts brought to bear on every illness, from colds and coughs to cancer.

Until that happens we won’t be talking about health. We’ll just be talking about sickness. We really deserve better.

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WineTimes

Indigenous American Wine Grapes

Indigenous American wines represent a tiny proportion of wine sales but have had a profound effect on global wine production.

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

The story of American grapes and their influence on the global wine industry has many twists and turns. Although Viking explorers during the 10th Century discovered grape vines growing wild in what is now Newfoundland in Canada, the species of grapes found there did not include the ubiquitous wine grape, vitis vinifera, which originated in Europe and first appeared in America centuries after the Vikings discovered grapes indigenous to the Americas. Almost all of today's grape wines come exclusively or in large part from the descendants of European vinifera, including Cabernet Sauvignon, Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, Syrah/Shiraz, Grenache, Malbec, Pinot Blanc/Gris/Grigio, and thousands more.

These varieties have a high sugar content available to convert to alcohol during fermentation, and flavors attractive to humans. The vinifera grapes in Europe developed over thousands of years into a vulnerable monoculture, susceptible to disease. The disease did arrive during the late 1800's, in the form of an insect called phylloxera from North America. The insect attacked vinifera vines, destroyed large numbers of them, and spread in the wind to neighboring vineyards.

Here is where indigenous American grape vines, originally the villains of this story, turned into the heroes. The indigenous American vines had long ago developed resistance to phylloxera. By grafting of vinifera vines onto the rootstock of American vines, European vineyards created a vine that had resistance to phylloxera in its roots and produced the taste of the Chardonnay grapes or whatever variety of grape a wine-maker may choose to graft onto an American rootstock.

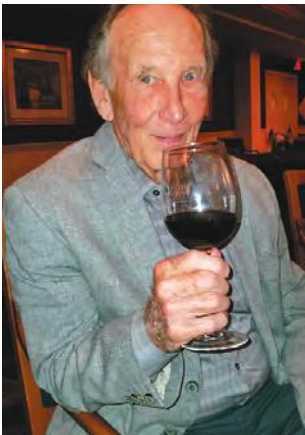
Adding resistance to phylloxera to vinifera vines has made an important contribution to European winemaking, yet American grapevines have done more. The indigenous American grape, Norton, stands on its own as a representative of Vitis aestivalis. Its intense dark fruit flavors and soft tannins compare favorably with older Merlot or Rhone red wine.

The French hybrids combine disease resistance and better tolerance of cold weather with the virtues of vinifera. We have tasted Baco Noir from Eastern Oregon. This hybrid extends the range of Pinot Noir into cooler climes with excellent results.

A friend (the Professor) shared a bottle of A Los Vinateros Bravos 2022 Pipeño Blanco with us. This hybrid of European and indigenous wines from the Itata region of Chile has a brown hue and aromas and flavors of fruits similar to guavas.

Indigenous American wines represent a tiny proportion of wine sales but have had a profound effect on global wine production. Try these unique wines.

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

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Letters, from page 11

all of this effort in advance of the preemption threat will successfully eliminate the chance of that threat.

Michael McGrath
Sierra Club Lead Organizer
Red Tide-Wildlands Campaigns

921 and 913 N Lime Ave
To: Sarasota City Manager Marlon Brown
FYI regarding the use of this property. It was determined to be a non-conforming use.
Lucia Panica
City Clerk
City of Sarasota

921 and 913 N Lime Ave

To: Sarasota City Clerk Lucia Panica
“We received a complaint from Marlon regarding these properties back on January 26, 2023. After much research and speaking with David Smith in Planning it was confirmed that these parcels were zoned ILW in 1974 and remained ILW until the 2004-05 text amendment. In order to prove our case, we would have had to clearly show that this business was violating uses provided for under the ILW one district and we weren’t able to do that. The property owner’s attorney also provided a declaration from the previous owner related to the use of the property which confirmed the previous use of the property. I have attached a copy of that declaration for your review. John Shamsey and Myra agreed that the current use is grandfathered in and is currently allowed even though their current zone district is DTE. We dismissed the case on 8/10/2023.”

The declaration from the previous owner is attached. Additionally, at the D&R CW last night, the owner of Southwest Concrete was present and stated they have been operating on the property for over 10 years. He also confirmed they just purchased the neighboring property, which is what he was previously leasing. I attached the updated property appraiser page.
Alison Christie
Development Services General Manager
City of Sarasota

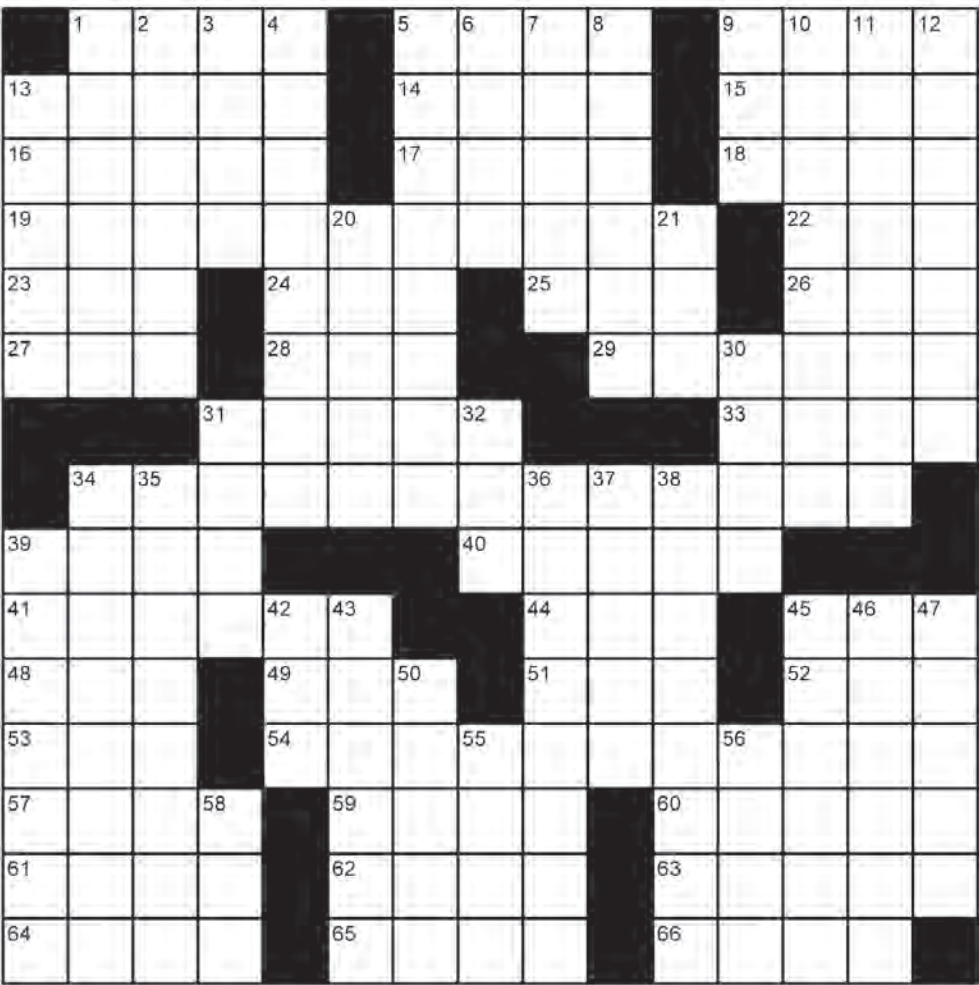
Newcomers Academy

To: Sarasota City Commissioner Debbie Trice
This morning at CCNA I introduced the idea of something I called Newcomers Academy. I thought of it because we are faced with hundreds of people moving to Sarasota every year from somewhere else. They arrive to become year-rounders or as snowbirds who will eventually become year-rounders, and our community’s first challenge is to help them transition their sense of identity, their caring, and their civic engagement (and maybe even their philanthropy) to here, Sarasota, from where they used to live. Each neighborhood association could do its own version, or, and I think ideally, it should be a CCNA project. I envision a simple format at a place such as where we were for CCNA – within which just a few people, or maybe only one person, go(es) over all “the basics”, such as I put into the list below. Some technology such as being able to show the City’s website would be great, but not essential. Some handouts of the sort the City already publishes would be helpful. Costs would be minimal. An hour or so on a week day evening, or on a Saturday morning – getting the word out would take some planning and working with local media. Yes, there could be flourishes – make it a social event with refreshments, bring in speakers from some of the cultural organizations, have the Chamber put together “welcome bags” of brochures (they are happy to do this if you give them a day’s notice and tell them how many you want). But I will just add here that the less burden it creates, for everyone – presenters

Academy Award Loser Jonah Kagan

ACROSS

- 1. Kickass
- 5. PBS science show
- 9. Acct. summary
- 13. Kitchen drawer?
- 14. Actress Olin
- 15. Deposed Iranian
- 16. Hang flaccidly
- 17. Bit of work
- 18. Prefix with wolf or rabbit
- 19. Recent Best Supporting Actor nominee
- 22. ___ Bud
- 23. Suffix with urban
- 24. Terre Haute sch.
- 25. Whitehouse or Reed, for RI
- 26. Eastern "way"
- 27. Sub-feathers coat
- 28. "___ Diego, which of course in German means a whale's vagina" ("Anchorman" quote)
- 29. Seattle's ___ Field
- 31. Effs up
- 33. Mayor-elect of Chicago
- 34. Disney Channel movie about a surfer who moves to Vermont
- 39. Seethe
- 40. Harold of "Ghostbusters"
- 41. Vice president Spiro et al.
- 44. OS of choice for Brown students
- 45. "So the ___ won't let me be or let me be me, so let me see" (Eminem lyric)
- 48. "Mine!"
- 49. "___ right?"
- 51. Suffix with morph
- 52. Glass or Gershwin
- 53. Hasty escape
- 54. Noted yellow saxophonist



57. It's parallel to the radius

59. Eastern princess

60. Greeting from lolcats or the main character of 12-Down

61. Type of beer served at the Ratty

62. Famous mother of eight

63. VapoRub maker

64. Maternal "Twilight" character

65. Bio. and geo., e.g.

66. Those, in Toledo
6. Count ___ (2004 Jim Carrey role)

7. Travel papers

8. They might get broken by a good juke

9. Direction from Bos. to Prov.

10. Recent remake of an 80's TV show

11. One who might sing "La Bamba"

12. Hilariously bad movie whose main characters can be found at the start of 19-, 34-, and 54-Across

13. Come clean

20. Bolt on a track?

21. Hot dog ___ stick

30. Monastery titles

31. Korean leader Syngman ___

32. Orch. section
34. Cult following of Insane Clown Posse

35. "I want to eat that!"

36. "I share your feeling!"

37. Savoriness

38. "Well done with that tricky action!"

39. "That did not work!"

42. ___-Mart

43. Smug looks

45. Recently closed Wednesday night spot

46. Kicks the bucket

47. Latin dog

50. Newton or Asimov

55. Not into

56. Frat letters

58. Gobbled

DOWN

- 1. Eff ups
- 2. Not as good
- 3. "Don't worry about me"
- 4. Drink in a pouch
- 5. "Nobody's laughing."

and participants alike - the better.

You told me, or so I understood, the Commission or City officials are already thinking about doing a video version that would be made available via YouTube, and/or at the City’s website. People could watch it on their own time, assuming they could be persuaded to do so. As a stand alone thing, I can see the value of it. The only problem is that it doesn’t allow for Q and A afterwards, as a “live” event would. I’ve thought about it, and if that happens, CCNA or a neighborhood association could advertise and recommend viewing the video, and tell people to then come to a gathering to talk about it and address questions and concerns the video would elicit. As I see it that could be workable. But I still see holding a “live” event as better – because it builds interest, positivity, and a feeling of social connection. Experiencing such an event with others

instead of alone in front of one’s computer will increase its effectiveness by a lot. (I’m a social psychologist and remember some of what I learned about the conditions that create lasting attitude change.)

I don’t know where this idea will go, but I will be glad to help if asked. My list (which is just a beginning and I know you can add more) How City Government works and is organized?

What Services City Government works and is organized?

Who are the major players and how they can be contacted?

What does a commission do, what do commissioners do, how is it organized?

How people get elected to be commissioners?

How to figure out what District you’re in, who represents your District?

When Commission meetings are held and

how can you attend, find out more?

What the Planning Board does et ceterra?
Other opportunities or residents to observe, learn, participate?

How to register to vote, where/how to vote?
What you will be voting for, what the ballot looks like?

How to interpret your tax bill, line by line?
Ways to become engaged, where you live and citywide?

And maybe add, these are the major issues facing our city and its surroundings?

Pressures of rapid development
Need for ease of transportation, affordable housing

Effects of climate change
How we work with homeless people
Etc. – lots of choices here

I hope this goes somewhere. Thanks for your interest.

Judith C. Mower
Sarasota

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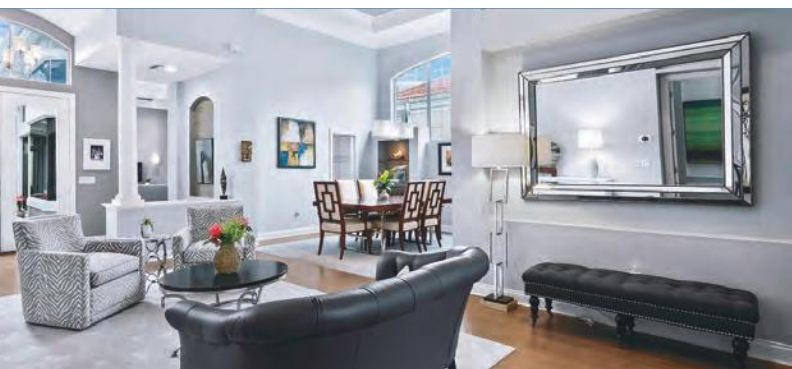
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