



Longboat Key News

May 26, 2023

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InsideLook



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bunny issues
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*Snakely fears
on the patio
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Downtown's Mira Mar Plaza closes for \$17.3 million

The three-story Mira Mar plaza is currently zoned as “Downtown Core,” which allows 50 dwelling units per

Sarasota's Mira Mar plaza on 47 S Palm Avenue sold last week for \$17.3 million. While no immediate development plans are in play, the site is zoned for 10 stories and 50 units per acre.

The roughly 40 commercial tenants of the plaza received the news via email that the property was sold by Mira Mar Plaza Associates, LTD—a group of investors including Sarasota real estate developer

See Plaza, page 2



Mote to help restore Alligator Creek



Sarasota County received a \$14.5M grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Transformational Habitat Restoration and Coastal Resilience Program, for the Alligator Creek Stream Restoration Project, which is in partnership with Mote Marine Laboratory.

As part of Sarasota County's ongoing commitment to improving water quality, the Sarasota County Board of County Commissioners will consider the grant allocation in the next few months. The NOAA grant funding, in addition to county's current commitment of \$1.4

See Restore, page 6

Sarasotan charged for sea turtle nest destruction

A man accused of digging inside a marked sea turtle nesting site was charged by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, a news release explains.

On Aug. 8, the FWC received a call about a disturbed sea turtle nest in Nokomis Beach Park. The caller sent a video of a man reportedly digging inside a marked nesting site.

The caller apparently knew the man seen in the video, but FWC officers weren't able to find him. Officers continued to keep an eye out for the man, but eventually, months passed with no other leads on his location.

It wasn't until this May that officers discovered new information while investigating which led them to the man in a neighboring county, according to the release.

See Charges, page 6

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Send us your reaction:

letters@lbknews.com

Plaza, from page 1

and owner Mark Kauffman to Miramar Acquisition Company, LLC. The deed shows Seaward Development’s address as the new owner’s address.

The Mira Mar Plaza was built in 1922 and has a National Historic Designation. The structure is listed on the Sarasota property appraisers’ website as 48,000 square feet and last changed hands in 1989 for nearly \$1.8 million.

Seaward Development wrote the following after the sale closed: “The Miramar Plaza in downtown Sarasota has changed hands, and the buyer acquiring the property, Miramar Acquisition Company, LLC, has plans to maintain the property for the foreseeable future. The previous property owner, Dr. Mark Kauffman, has owned and maintained this signature property for over 35 years.

One of Miramar Acquisition Company’s partners, Seaward Development, has been a tenant in the plaza for six years, and has a special appreciation for the unique South Palm Avenue location. The ownership group considers this property a long-term asset while analyzing the best options for the property for the future. The use of the property has evolved over time and has included apartments, a hotel, commercial retail, and office. Future Miramar plans will consider feedback from the local community, and honor the property’s past contributions to the city, as options could include a mixed-use development and considerations for affordable housing.

Seaward is a local Sarasota based small business that focuses on one-of-a-kind locations for commercial development, multi-family, condominium, and single-family homes. At this time Seaward will continue to operate their business in Miramar Plaza and looks forward to the community supporting the great mix of tenants for years to come.”

Seaward builds single-family homes, luxury condominiums and commercial projects. The firm built the 18-floor condo Epoch; the 16-unit condo 7 One One Palm and the Park Residences of Lido Key.

The City of Sarasota’s Historic Preservation Board voted unanimously last year to deny a demolition permit submitted by Seaward that would have seen the Mira Mar plaza replaced with a 10-story, mixed-use commercial and residential project.

Seaward’s last year for the property included two floors of retail fronting Palm Avenue and a residential component as well. When the demolition permit was denied and extensive repairs became evident, the initial sale fell through until terms were reached leading up to last week’s closing.

The three-story Mira Mar plaza is currently zoned as “Downtown Core,” which allows 50 dwelling units per acre and 10 stories. The City of Sarasota Historic Preservation Board would be required to review an application.



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\$ 15,000,000

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The reverse-style layout places the main living areas on the second level, optimizing the best of the views. The open concept of this level comprises the gourmet kitchen with its poured terrazzo waterfall edge island and Miele appliances, as well as the family room, living/dining room, and secluded master suite.



Stacked glass sliders create a seamless transition to outdoor living, opening to the glass-railing terrace, summer kitchen, built-in grill, and spiral staircase that leads down to the waterside hot tub. Boaters will appreciate the deep-water dock with multiple lifts.

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GULF FRONT NEW CONSTRUCTION



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Fabulous Gulf front lot offering nearly 100 ft. of sandy beach, this gorgeous DSDG Architect designed home is a rare find. Boasting almost 6,000 AC/SF, this spectacular home is custom built with the finest details throughout. Architect designed landscaped exterior and 4-car garage.

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Currently under construction and scheduled to be ready Fall 2023, this breathtaking 8,964 AC/SF residence is one of a kind, designed by DSDG. Gulf front property on one acre and offers a 2,000 SF roof terrace. Separate guest house and 8-car garage. No expense spared on this remarkable home.



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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.

Massive project a bad fit on Palm Ave.

To: Editor

I say ‘No!’ to 1260 North Palm Avenue. That is the address the Sarasota Development Committee is reviewing as the proposed site for an 18-plus-story high-rise named Obsidian. Our beautiful, charming city is loved by residents and tourists alike. Sarasota has building restrictions to retain this beauty and charm. Many areas need consideration to defeat this proposal. First, there is an 18-story height limit on buildings in Sarasota. The Obsidian proposal takes liberties with that rule, raising the height limit of 18 stories by increasing interstitial space between floors and increasing the height of each floor with 14-foot ceilings. This increases the total height 100 feet above the highest present building in Sarasota.

Second, the footprint of the high-rise is extremely small. It would take away the charm of low-rise stores along Palm, which it would replace. The building would have no setback. Additionally, the beautiful view of Bay Plaza walkways, a Tim Seibert architectural historic landmark, would be lost. Third, there is no room in the plan for waste management inside the building. Recycling/garbage containers for the number of occupants would detract from the Palm Avenue charm if placed outside. This high-rise proposal is not right for this place or space and it should be defeated.

Jan Joseph
Sarasota

Opposition to St. Regis Garage Expansion

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton, Town Commission

I am a resident in the Bay Isles section of Longboat Key. I strongly urge you to reject the St. Regis garage expansion plan to increase covered land by 15,000 square feet and to enlarge the garage structure to three stories for the following reasons:

1. St. Regis should have asked for what it wanted at the inception of the project not at close to the end. Its owners are sophisticated so is this a clever, if not deceptive, strategy? Why the 11th hour?
2. It sets a bad precedent. A waiver would effectively invalidate major protections of the Town Code.
3. It unfairly, if not illegally, discriminates against others by giving St. Regis a preference for more parking and more covered surface that the Town Code denies to homeowners.
4. It will materially and adversely impact our beautiful community by imposing an ugly, unprecedented commercial encroachment on the Gulf of Mexico Drive and surrounding communities.
5. It will disproportionately and discriminatorily increase value to St. Regis while negatively impacting neighboring communities.

6. It will add potential costs, risks and inconvenience due to water runoff in hurricanes and strong storms (query: should there be an environmental impact study?)

Just say no.
Martha Kenerson
Longboat Key

St. Regis Development - Proposed Multi-level Garage

To: Longboat Key Commission

My wife Kathryn and I have been residents of Longboat Key for twelve years. We arrived about the time the Colony was fading from its former glory and have watched the slow process of decline, consolidation of ownership and eventually the Town approval of a high-class residential development combined with a St. Regis Hotel. In our opinion the Town played an important, assiduous and balanced part in reaching that point. Agreement was reached in good faith, through a long and iterative process, with concessions and compromises on both sides.

We have been very supportive of the development up to this time, seeing it as a real asset to the island.

But now we respectfully ask the Commission to reject the proposed additional 3-storey garage. This would be an eyesore, less than 20 yards from Gulf of Mexico Drive and we totally reject the developer’s bland assurances about vegetation screening it from view. Worse, inevitably it would become an irresistible precedent for all future commercial and multi-unit dwelling developments throughout the Key.

The developer and the Town carried out detailed reviews of parking arrangements, before reaching agreement on the approved plans. For the developers to come back at this late stage seeking approval for the additional proposed garage has all the hallmarks of “bait and switch”.

If we could, we would certainly attend the Commission’s meeting on June 5th to express our views in person. But, unfortunately, we will be with family in Connecticut that day. So, again and respectfully, we urge the Commission to act in the interests of the community, listen to the residents who oppose it, and reject the developer’s proposed change to the approved Permit.

W Ron Lee
Longboat Key

St Regis Parking Garage

To: Longboat Key Town Commission

I am writing with regards to the St Regis Parking Garage. Clearly the developer waited till the end of the project to figure out that they needed to build a garage to solve an additional 3.5 minutes problem for retrieving a vehicle, from the double parking setup currently approved by the Town. This is major change to the approved plans and indicates the developer did not represent the development appropriately to take in what is a major expenses, and is not in line with the longboat key town aesthetics for this additional structure.

Hope the commission will reject the proposal and ask the developer to build what was approved and make it work.

Bashar Nejdawi
Longboat Key

Rabbit Infestation on LBK

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton

I want to ask for help on an issue that you must already be aware of. There is a rabbit infestation on LBK that has occurred since the coyotes left. They are eating the lawns and many

See Letters, page 5

GULF VIEWS

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\$1,300,000

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LONGBOAT KEY, FL
2BR/2BA | 1,358 SF | UPDATED
\$1,599,900

CASEY KEY WATERFRONT

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3BR/2BA | 1,170 SF | ASSIGNED BOAT SLIP
\$995,000

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EditorLetters



Letters, from page 4

low plants at our condominiums and homes, causing very unsightly landscaping and costing associations a great deal of money to restore and replace what they damage, only to have it eaten again in a few days.

The pest control companies use deterrents that are costly, barely work and, at best, simply drive the rabbits to neighboring properties. An island-wide solution is needed and only the Town can implement that.

I would ask that the Town investigate a solution. I am sure that the condo associations and homeowners would be willing to contribute to the cost since we will be spending the money one way or another and would rather spend it on something that works. Thank you for your consideration.

Gabe Rosica
Longboat Key

Rabbit Infestation on LBK

To: Gabe Rosica

Thank you for your email. Although I walk parts of the Town quite often, I can honestly say that I hadn't noticed the rabbit concentrations that you are referencing. In my past days in another part of the state, I would notice it due to rabbits being hit by vehicles and we'd be out picking up the carcasses. Again, not much clean up activity around Town in that regard. Not saying there aren't rabbits running wild, just haven't seen it personally to the degree you're indicating.

I've copied our Public Works Director Isaac Brownman on this and I'll speak with him about what options the Town might consider. However to be honest, I'm not sure of how the logistics

of something like that might work island wide nor do I see it as a priority for our scarce resources at the moment. I would suggest if you haven't already done so to reach out to the University of Florida/IFAS (both counties house them and they're also known as Extension offices) and see what they might recommend as it is a subject right up their alley. They may also have suggestions on plants that the rabbits do not enjoy as much.

Thanks again for sharing your concern. If after we investigate and there is an option that the Town can move on, we'll be back in touch.

Howard N. Tipton
Town Manager
Town of Longboat Key

Rabbit Infestation on LBK

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton

I can tell you it is a real problem in Fairway Bay. If we use aggressive repellants it will drive the rabbits to other areas on LBK if they are not already there. I will take your suggestion of contacting the University of Florida/FAS to see what they might suggest. Thank you for your prompt response.

Gabe Rosica
garosica@gmail.comLongboat Key

Rabbit Infestation on LBK

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton

I manage both Fairway Bay and Fairway Bay II. I can tell you that our pest control

See Letters, page 8



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SOLD \$705,000



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Restore, from page 1

million, will allow the county, project partners, and stakeholders to mitigate the past negative impacts of the urbanized Alligator Creek and restore vital ecological habitats.

“The Alligator Creek Stream Restoration project is an outstanding opportunity for Sarasota County to demonstrate that stream restoration via natural channel design is feasible in Florida,” said Sarasota County Public Works Stormwater Environmental Utility Manager Amanda Boone. “The restoration extends beyond the stream, restoring wetlands and upland habitats. Fisheries are an important part of Florida’s economy, and our restoration effort is intended to bolster habitat for important fish species.”

Designated as a Florida Department of Environmental Protection aquatic preserve and Outstanding Florida Water, Alligator Creek is an essential 11-square-mile tidal creek that serves as an urbanized drainage basin, flowing into Lemon Bay and is responsible for more than 20% of the water drainage. Historical nutrient loading and hydrologic changes in the 1940s, such as deep excavation and channelization, disrupted the natural water flow and reduced the creek’s connection to the floodplain and nearby wetlands. This, in combination with the creek’s steep-sided banks causing erosion and sedimentation, has degraded crucial benthic and fish habitats. Additionally, invasive vegetation and bank erosion have impacted the vitality of marine life, birds, and native animals that rely on the ecology and salinity of Alligator Creek.

The Alligator Creek Stream Restoration Project involves reconfiguring approximately 42 square acres of corridor and stabilizing banks to improve water quality and fisheries habitat. It will also prevent further erosion, reduce nutrient and sediment pollution, restore a more natural hydrology, and reconnect to adjacent wetlands. Another element of the project will focus on removing stream barriers to increase access to low-salinity habitats, which is important for fish nurseries and provide safe harbor during toxic red tide algal blooms. Habitat restoration will increase species diversity and stability including recreational sport fish species such as red drum, snook, sheepshead, and mullet, as well as the endangered smalltooth sawfish.

“This grant is a major success for realizing the county’s mission toward improving area water quality and creating flood resiliency. We’re so grateful for the continued support from county administration and the board of county commissioners,” said Sarasota County Public Works Director Spencer Anderson. “A special thank you to our project champions and supporters including U.S. Congressman Greg Steube, the Coastal and Heartland National Estuary Partnership, the Science and Environment Council of Southwest Florida, the Florida Department of Transportation, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Mote Marine Laboratory & Aquarium, the Bonefish & Tarpon Trust, and of course our local volunteer organizations and nearby residents.”

In partnership with Mote Marine Laboratory & Aquarium, a major component of the Alligator Creek Stream Restoration Project, is their monitoring and sampling of key fish species such as snook, tarpon, and red drum, in addition to providing design input to advance fish habitats. Mote began identifying and counting these species in the stream in 2021 to gather baseline data before the project’s commencement, and will continue to assess the effects of the stream restoration on fish health through ongoing monitoring before, during, and after construction.

Tidal creeks host a nexus of ecological interactions involving water chemistry, nutrient assimilation, and sediment dynamics, and are inhabited by a variety of fish species that serve as crucial water quality indicators, as they are sensitive to temperature, potential hydrogen (pH), salinity, and dissolved oxygen. The health of these fish populations is a direct indication of the creek’s water quality.

Mote has implemented technology to track fish movements, growth, and survival, by implanting a passive integrated transponder (PIT) tag prior to releasing them back to where they were collected. Further downstream, a solar-powered detection station picks up a signal

from the PIT tags when a fish swims over it, allowing Mote scientists to collect data to learn more about fish habitat use, directional migration patterns, and survival rates for different species, sizes, and life stages.

In addition to the habitat restoration and fish monitoring, local communities will benefit from increased protection from flooding, reduced park maintenance costs, and enhanced recreational opportunities, which are part of the project scope. Riparian buffers along lands adjacent to the approximately 3.4 miles of Alligator Creek, between U.S. 41 and Center Road, including Woodmere Park, Woodmere Park Addition, Alligator Creek Conservation Area, and three small pocket parks/preserves, will help reduce flooding and stormwater runoff impacts.

Charges, from page 1

Nathan John Lechner, 22, of Venice was charged with a third-degree felony for the destruction and molestation of a sea turtle nest.

“Florida’s sandy beaches provide important spring and summer nesting habitat for several species of federally threatened and endangered sea turtles, including loggerhead, leatherback and green sea turtles, with occasional nesting by federally endangered Kemp’s ridley sea turtles,” FWC leaders explained in the release.

According to the government agency, getting too close to nesting sea turtles can cause them to leave the beach before they complete nesting.

Bay Runner trolley service changes take effect June 1

Service changes for the City of Sarasota’s popular Bay Runner open-air trolley will take effect starting June 1, city staff has announced.

The new hours of operation will be as follows:

7 a.m. to 10 p.m., Sunday through Thursday.

7 a.m. to 11 p.m., Friday and Saturday.

The new hours reflect an adjustment to service as the numbers of part-time residents and visitors decline in the summer, a city news release explains. The change also offers riders an opportunity to reach their places of employment prior to 8 a.m., the release adds.

Since its first day of service on March 2, 2022, the Bay Runner has carried nearly 200,000 passengers, the release points out. A route map is available at www.SarasotaBayRunner.com. A mobile app with real time tracking and arrival information may be downloaded via the Apple App Store and Google Play, the release adds.

The Bay Runner carries a maximum of 28 passengers, it is equipped with a wheelchair boarding lift, and it transports bicycles, the release points out.

A city trolley and micro-mobility options were identified as a priority for the city on the basis of residents’ comments during the creation of the city’s first transportation master plan, Sarasota in Motion. The City Commission adopted the plan in 2020.

The City Commission partnered with the Downtown Improvement District (DID), the St. Armands Business Improvement District (BID), the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), and city staff to launch the trolley service. In addition to city economic development funds and a \$1.5 million FDOT grant, the DID and BID each is allocating \$50,000 annually toward the expense of the initial three-year program

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KeyRealEstate

Bird Key, Lido Key, Longboat Key latest sales

Address	Sq. Ft.	List Price	Bed/Bath/Half Bath			Days On Market	Sale Price
1300 BENJAMIN FRANKLIN DR Unit#601	4,194	\$5,500,000	3	3	1	210	\$5,300,000
1700 BENJAMIN FRANKLIN DR Unit#2A	1,492	\$1,400,000	2	2	0	109	\$1,375,000
1102 BENJAMIN FRANKLIN DR Unit#307	1,213	\$875,000	2	2	0	0	\$875,000
4651 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#402	3,900	\$4,380,000	4	4	1	188	\$4,630,000
388 FIREHOUSE LN	2,540	\$1,995,000	3	3	0	19	\$1,900,000
3575 MISTLETOE LN	3,436	\$1,798,750	4	3	1	48	\$1,600,000
1220 BOGEY LN	1,743	\$1,549,000	2	2	1	11	\$1,500,000
6979 LONGBOAT DR S	1,454	\$1,395,000	2	2	0	43	\$1,300,000
3235 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#A406	1,505	\$1,385,000	2	2	0	16	\$1,300,000
210 SANDS POINT RD Unit#2502	642	\$1,100,000	1	1	0	7	\$1,100,000
2045 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#M1-209	1,265	\$899,900	2	2	0	37	\$903,000
6701 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#308	990	\$750,000	1	1	0	47	\$755,000
698 SPANISH DR S	1,423	\$650,000	2	2	0	43	\$615,000
578 SPANISH DR S	1,337	\$599,000	2	2	0	59	\$545,000



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BIRD KEY
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EditorLetters



Letters, from page 5

company, Naturzone, is used by several communities on the island. Naturzone has said to me numerous times that there is an island-wide rabbit infestation. They are everywhere. We are doing our best to instill a plant plan that is less than appetizing to the rabbits, but this is easier said than done when you have a property as large as ours with so much established landscape. Any assistance that could be offered from the Town would be very much appreciated. Thank you again for your timely reply to Mr. Rosica’s inquiry.

Gabrielle Shaffer
Longboat Key

Rabbits

To: Gabe Rosica and Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton

From our perspective in Sabal Cove, the rabbit problem in Bay Isles began about two years ago and has gone from no rabbits to many since then. Our neighbor’s dachshund has killed 5 in the past 6 months, including 2 in her pool. They do substantial damage to flowers and grass, and repellants have a limited impact. I don’t know what the solution is (they present no danger unlike coyotes and raccoons), but it may be time for the Town to look into the issue before it spreads even further. Thanks.

Ken Schneier
Mayor
Longboat Key

Rabbits

To: Longboat Key Mayor Ken Schneier

Thanks for supporting this.

Gabe Rosica
Longboat Key

Rabbit Infestation on LBK

To: Longboat Key Mayor Ken Schneier

I’ve been noticing a lot of rabbits on the North End as well. Personally, I don’t see them as

a problem I think they were here long before we were and have finally maybe started to reestablish. Just my two cents. By the way I saw a video the other day of a coyote swimming from Longboat Key to Sister Keys. I’ll send that to you. I should be getting that information from the FDEP today, I’ll share that insight with you.

Rusty Chinnis
Longboat Key

Rabbit Infestation on LBK

To: Rusty Chinnis

I was happy to see a few rabbits here a few years ago, and our early flower damage problem was solved by some anti-rabbit spray. Others’ experiences have not been so benign, leading me to wonder if anything can be done to keep them from breeding like, um, rabbits. Dogs ripping them to shreds is not a good look for anyone either. We’ll see.

I just saw your film and was wondering what it was (I thought a dog) and who from. Interesting that there have been no reported coyote sightings here in several years. I look forward to a coffee when the mangrove report lands.

Ken Schneier
Mayor
Longboat Key

Kiwanis club meeting

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton

Tip I have just completed a “meet the Commissioner” meeting at the Longboat Key Kiwanis club breakfast. A request was made to have a Kiwanis club sign and possibly a Rotary club sign (if they’re interested) installed at the south entrance of the island at the welcome to Longboat Key sign. I advised them I would run it up the chain and see what we could do.

Contact person is Michael Garey.

Gary Coffin
Commissioner
Longboat Key

Kiwanis club meeting

To: Longboat Key Commissioner Gary Coffin

Thanks for the question. Unfortunately, because we have more non profits than just those two on the island that do things for the community, I don’t know how to approve one or two and not the rest. Keeping the island entrances clean and classy is the goal and we should probably be cautious about how much additional signage we want up.

I do believe that once the digital signs are up at both ends, there would be an opportunity to highlight (tastefully) an event that the Rotary or Kiwanis (or Garden Club, houses of worship, etc.) might be hosting.

Howard N. Tipton
Town Manager
Town of Longboat Key

St. Armand’s Winterfest

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton

I have written a proposed letter to Sarasota City objecting to the renewal of the St. Armand’s Winterfest event. Comments are welcome.

I think this should be addressed to the Mayor and the other four Commissioners on Town letterhead, with copies to Marlon Brown and Pat Robinson, and should be emailed shortly before the next City Commission meeting addressing the issue. While the Commission’s next meeting should be on Monday, June 5, neither that meeting nor any Commission agenda appears on the City’s website yet. Please keep an eye out.

Ken Schneier
Mayor
Longboat Key

St. Armand’s Winterfest

To: Longboat Key Mayor Ken Schneier

I too feel like the idea of the park was great, however the execution of it left a lot to be desired. The sidewalk was congested, and the event came off as a little shabby. The city decorates it very nicely, the addition of the “fair like” theme distracted from the holiday feel.

Gary Coffin
Commissioner
Longboat Key

St. Armand’s Winterfest

To: Longboat Key Mayor Ken Schneier

I believe your points are well stated. I appreciate the collegial tone. Thanks for composing a well written letter reiterating sentiments I believe many of my fellow Commissioners agree with.

Debbie Murphy
Commissioner
Longboat Key

How big of an area was impacted by Piney Point?

To: Longboat Key Commission, Sarasota City Commission

Successful resource management efforts have to be grounded in solid science. Both in Tampa

See Letters, page 9



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EditorLetters

Letters, from page 8

Bay and Sarasota Bay, we have the privilege of working with talented individuals doing great science. The attached paper is an example of this type of management-relevant science. Our colleagues at UF and the TBEP, led by UF's Dr. Elise Morrison, used a variety of tracers and water quality parameters to track the duration and spatial extent of impacts from the discharges of industrial wastewater from Piney Point. Of particular interest is the nitrogen isotope work. The ratio between two isotopes of nitrogen (N-15 and N-14) has been used for decades to distinguish between nitrogen loads from wastewater vs. nitrogen loads from "fertilizer". Well, the industrial wastewater that was released from Piney Point not only had excessively high values of nitrogen (over 200 mg/L, more than 10 times as concentrated as what came into our waterways from the Bee Ridge WWTP overflows) but it also had an isotopic signature that was extremely unique. This wasn't "fertilizer" it was a pool of 200 million gallons fertilizer that had been processed by the algal blooms that had been feeding off that fertilizer for more than 20 years. As a result, the isotopic signature of the discharges gave rise to a value that had not previously been recorded in our local waters. This unique signature thus acted as a "tracer" of the spatial distribution of the plume.

So how far away was this isotopic signature found? More than 40 miles away, up close to Tarpon Springs. It was found in the "reference site" that I proposed to UF researchers – a

location far enough away from Tampa Bay that it was thought it would be isolated from the impacts were anticipated in Tampa and Sarasota Bays.

In the early weeks of this event, I was told by the state's former Chief Science Officer that there was "no way" that Piney Point discharges could be impacting Sarasota Bay, I know, respect and admire this individual, but I disagreed, based on our work up in Anna Maria Sound, Our later work (another paper coming out soon) showed that Sarasota Bay certainly was impacted by those discharges, which helped to create massive blooms of what are referred to as "Lyngbya" or "gumbo algae". The paper attached here shows that the nitrogen from those discharges was detected more than 40 miles away. At that location, it didn't seem to have caused the problems that it caused in Tampa Bay and Sarasota Bay, but it was still a nitrogen load transported dozens of miles away from the release point.

Piney Point's impacts were huge, both in terms of the effects on our local ecosystems, and also the spatial scale of those impacts. In my opinion, we are not yet free of those impacts, because so much of the nitrogen in those macroalgal blooms does not "flush out" of our waters the way a phytoplankton bloom would. Thankfully, massive investments from the State of Florida, Manatee County and others have pretty much eliminated the likelihood of this happening again. At least for this facility (it's not the only one out there).

David Tomasko

Executive Director
Sarasota Bay Estuary Program

Manatee County Meeting

To: Longboat Key Commission

Just a few quick thoughts and background as you head into a very important meeting with Manatee County.

Funding from LBK

While Commissioner Van Ostenbridge is well aware of the money that comes from the "donor community" of LBK, it is always important to remind the larger audience (BOCC and especially the three new County Commissioners) of the contributions LBK residents makes to the County - and that the Town (LBK residents and businesses that pay Manatee County taxes) require little in return. We fund our own police, fire, much of our own beach re-nourishment and there is no big need to build schools, roads, sewer lines or underground electric here like they are currently doing everywhere else in Manatee County.

Investments in LBK - Whitney Plaza & County Art, Community, Education

In speaking with KVO about the investments that Sarasota County was making into the Key (Bayfront Park initially, followed by the substantial investment in the Library / Town Center), he agreed Manatee County needed to do more. He was not interested in partnering (investing Manatee County tax dollars) with Sarasota or in anything that was happening on Sarasota County land In LBK.

As a result, he seemed interested in the Whitney Plaza opportunity. We discussed the loss of the north end Art Center (that was utilized by the entire Key), the need for community meeting space on the north end, and the inability for Manatee County residents on LBK to travel off the island during season, in traffic, to take advantage of the significant investments the County was making in Bradenton & Lakewood Ranch (major recreation centers, libraries, parks, meeting locales). As you know, Tom Harmer worked with the County to move the Whitney Plaza concept forward. Kevin stated at the BOCC - Whitney Plaza could be a great opportunity to establish a County presence on the Key, without buying \$10M in land and building from the ground up.

Investments in LBK - Broadway roundabout

Accelerating this project and securing funding is a smart move by the County that will not go unnoticed. Everyone at the meeting should be reminded of the safety issues there. This intersection links a busy public beach access / parking, successful Manatee County commercial businesses, the Longboat Pass Bridge and several residential neighborhoods. The street crossing fatality near there certainly highlighted the danger in the area. The County has the power, connections, personnel and funding to get this done quickly.

Wishing you a productive Joint Government Meeting, am hopeful the BOCC comes through for you, LBK Manatee County residents and the rest of the Key on these and the other important initiatives you are discussing. I would be there with public comments if I was not out of state currently. Thank you for all you do for LBK!

Maureen Merrigan
Longboat Key

See Letters, page 12

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OnPatrol

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

May 19 Injured bird

Officer Smith was dispatched to Roundtree for a report of a bird hanging from a tree upside down. While on scene the bird fell to the ground and Officer Smith collected the bird and took to Save Our Seabirds. Case clear.

Citizen assist

8:03 p.m.
Officer Martinson responded to the 2600 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive for a citizen assist call. Upon arrival, the driver wanted to know if the officer could jump start their vehicle. They were advised that it was against policy for the Longboat Key Police Department to jump start citizen's vehicles. The caller stated they had contacted AAA and they were en route to assist. The caller and the vehicle were safely parked in the parking lot. Case clear.

May 20 Citizen assist

12:22 p.m.
Officer Smith was dispatched to the 5500 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive for a report of a water leak. Officer Smith arrived and located the leak it was behind the Public Works maintenance facility in Durante Park. Officer Smith notified the on call water department personnel and they requested Officer Smith turn off the water pump to avoid it from seizing up. Case clear.

May 21 Citizen assist

4:56 p.m.
Officer Smith was dispatched to Broadway for a report of a theft. Upon arrival, Officer Smith met with the caller and she stated that unknown persons had taken her purse, flip flops and beach blanket and left the beach. Officer Smith canvassed the area and was not able to locate any discarded items in the area, but was able to locate a security camera in the area. Officer Smith requested the subject show Officer Smith where the items were located at on the beach. Officer Smith walked with the caller to the area she said she was in, and then she realized she had placed the items further down on the beach. Officer Ferrigine and Officer Smith walked the caller to her property and inventoried her items and she indicated nothing was missing. Case clear.

Citizen assist

9:34 p.m.
Officer Martinson was dispatched to the 5400 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive for a citizen assist call. Upon arrival, Officer Martinson located a red Infiniti G37S parked up against some bushes with its lights on. The vehicle was turned off and no one was inside. The vehicle had been parked in the same spot with its lights on for the past two days and is owned by the owner of the hotel. Officer Martinson made contact with the vehicle owner's husband and informed him that the lights were left on when the vehicle had been parked. The husband stated they would turn off the lights when they came back out to the property in the morning. Case clear.



May 22 Traffic hazard

3:24 p.m.
Officer Martinez responded to the 400 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive in regards to a traffic hazard. Upon arrival, Officer Martinez observed a vehicle parked on the safety zone with a flat left front tire. The driver observed a vehicle parked on the safety zone with a flat left front tire. The male driver was out with an air compressor filling up the tire. The driver stated the tire was halfway pumped with air. Officer Martinez activated his lights and positioned his marked vehicle a safe distance from the scene. Officer Martinez then put a on a police safety vest and assisted with traffic control. The vehicle then was returned to operating condition and left the scene. Case clear.

May 23 Suspicious incident

7:02 p.m.
Officer Puccio responded to the Longboat Pass Bridge in reference to a possible fight on a boat out in the water involving three subjects by a caller who did not wish to meet with police. While en route Sarasota County Sheriff's dispatch advised that there was not a fight and the boat was departing. Upon arrival, Officer Puccio and Officer Tillman made a check of the area but could not locate the boat or anyone fighting. Case clear.

May 25 Noise complaints from land

5:11 p.m.
Officer Nazareno responded to Jackson Way for a noise complaint regarding construction noise after 5 p.m. Upon arrival, Officer Nazareno made contact with the employee from excavating and advised him that he was in violation of Longboat Key Town Noise Ordinance 130.02. The worker contacted his supervisor and was told to immediately stop the construction work. The worker was issued a written warning for the noise ordinance violation and was advised that citations will be issued for the next violation of the ordinance unless an exception is filed through Longboat Key Planning and Zoning. Case clear.

Animal on the patio

10:00 p.m.
Officer Miklos while on patrol was dispatched to Putter Lane in reference to an animal complaint about a snake in an enclosed patio. Upon arrival, Officer Miklos came into contact with the complainant who advised there was a small orange snake near her rear patio door. Officer Miklos observed a small approximately two foot long orange and brown snake in the corner of the patio. Officer Miklos gathered the snake in a bucket and relocated the snake outside the patio enclosure. Case clear.

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Life is Short: Buy the Beach House!

They say they will do it when they retire. They say they will do it when they save more money.

TRYLA LARSON
Guest Writer
tryla@lbknews.com

So many times, I have head people talking about someday buying a Vacation Home or Beach House. They say they will do it when they retire. They say they will do it when they have saved more money. I have also heard people say, “I wish I would have bought that place on Longboat Key”. However, I have never heard anyone say, ‘I wish I didn’t buy that beach house” or “I wish I wouldn’t have bought that place on the island”.

I have even heard my own husband talk about wishing his dad would have gone through with buying the place on the beach on Longboat Key when he was growing up. He would even add how they came here every summer as a family while he was a child and how he can’t even imagine what that beach house would be worth now. He is absolutely on the money when he says how much the home would be worth today. Without giving away any addresses or putting anyone in an unwanted spotlight I want to share with you some of the equity that is in some of the homes on Longboat Key.

One beach house on the north end of longboat key was valued at \$739,497.00 in 1999. Now in 2023 it is valued of approximately \$4,507,400.00. That a difference of \$3,767,903.00. A beach house close to the middle of the island sold for \$725,000.00 in 1995. It is now valued at approximately \$3,066,100.00, an increase of \$2,341,100.00. In 1998 a property on the south end of the island sold for \$640,000.00. In 2023 it is valued at approximately \$6,777,800.00, which is a tenfold increase in 25 years. WOW! Winner Winner Chicken Dinner!

I do realize there are expenses along the way. Things like add-ons, updates, rebuilds, and such are usually inevitable. That being said the equity that generally builds up in homes on Longboat Key is amazing. To paraphrase Economist Dr. Marci Rossell, even in a down economy real estate is one of the first areas to bounce back. It goes to show that it is never too late to start investing in real estate. Life is short, BUY THE BEACH HOUSE.

All statistics are from Steller MLS, Realest, Sarasota County Appraisers website and the Manatee County Appraisers Website.



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Letters, from page 11

Report on the Sarasota Bay Estuary To: Longboat Key Commission

I recently (May 12) attended a meeting of the SBEP Board, chaired by local mover/shaker Dave Tomasko. It was attended by representatives from local communities, including Sarasota’s mayor Jen Ahearn, LBK commissioner Mike Haycock, and Manatee County commissioner Kevin Van Osterbridge. I wanted to see what they were up to, and as often, I was the only member of the public in attendance!

These folks are involved in every facet of managing/improving our Sarasota Bay, including monitoring, red tide, pollution, development issues, etc. I’ll share a few of the issues discussed:

Red Tide: An experimental study of using ozone to manage the algae when it infests the Bay.

Pollution: Report of sanitary sewer/treatment upgrades including \$500 million in Sarasota and \$1 Billion in the overall area (including the nearby Manatee Southwest facility).

EPA: SBEP was awarded a “Proficient” rating by the EPA, which conveys entitlement for federal funding.

F.I.S.H Preserve: Currently being developed to include walking paths, removal/replacement of exotic and invasive species, etc.

I was especially interested to hear about the FISH preserve, having seen it frequently as I drove by on Cortez Road. “F.I.S.H.” stands for “Florida Institute for Saltwater Heritage.” You’ve probably seen it on the South side of Cortez Road just past Cortez Village. In 1990, a group of local residents contributed and purchased almost 100 acres of Bayfront land, preserving it for future use as a preserve and/or park. And just now you can see they are engaged in upgrading the area. I don’t have all the details, but am very thankful that our neighbors in the past saw fit to save that area from the inevitable development it would have seen otherwise. They have a website at <https://fishcortez.org>. Check it out.

It was suggested that I might want to apply for membership on their Citizens’ Committee, but when I found out our own Cyndi Seamon was already on it, I decided to let it slide!

Jim Whitman
Longboat Key

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Report on the Sarasota Bay Estuary Program

To: Jim Whitman

Thanks for this report. Dave Tomasko and his SBEP are great, hands-on advocates for our local waters.

Ken Schneier
Mayor
Longboat Key

How to Ride

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton

Just FYI below – interesting educational information about how the SCAT mobility-on-demand system works.

Isaac Brownman
Director Public Works
Town of Longboat Key

How to Ride

To: Longboat Key Public Works Director Isaac Brownman

Good talking with you today. Please see the attached How to Ride Guide that I mentioned. Additionally, below are some key points about the OnDemand service for your reference. I’m happy to answer any questions you may have.

Wheelchairs and other mobility devices can be accommodated in the vehicles. Those requesting wheelchair accessible vehicles should select that option when booking the trip.

Trip requests are to be made at the time of travel. The service does not take advanced reservations.

One person may request a trip for 1 to 4 passengers in their party.

The single ride cost is \$2.00 per trip. Those who qualify for Transportation Disadvantaged (TD) may ride for \$1.50. Children 5 and under are free with an accompanying adult.

Trips can be paid for by credit card or debit card through the app or by cash to the driver. Drivers cannot make change.

Trips can be requested through the app (OnDemand by Sarasota County), through the web at scgov.net/ondemand or by calling 941-300-1553.

The OnDemand service is part of Sarasota County’s overall mobility system. If a person wants to travel beyond their immediate OnDemand zone, they should request a trip to a mobility hub, transfer station, or bus stop and continue their journey beyond the zone.

Jane H. Grogg
Director, Transit
Sarasota County Government

How to Ride

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton

The maps suggest the On Demand service will take passengers from LBK to downtown and back without a transfer required. Is that accurate? If so, better than I thought.

Ken Schneier
Mayor
Longboat Key

How to Ride

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton

Thanks for sharing. I agree the key points which were shared on the OnDemand transit service are good talking points to raise on Thursday. Is there a takeaway we can leave which

See Letters, page 14

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Distinctive Bargain Wines

Not to be outdone by beer producers, wine producers have developed targeted promotions of brands.

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

We recall what would be considered an “influencer” were he now on social media. He convinced younger high school students to drink his favorite brand of beer: Falstaff. Most of our beer drinking took place either riding in or standing around cars. We were several or more years short of the legal drinking age. We blindly followed his lead and chugged down Falstaff in tall brown bottles.

Today we see breweries directing intense advertising campaigns to young men under age 25. Whether Bud Light, Coors Light, Budweiser, Miller Light, Corona Extra, Michelob Ultra, or Modelo Especial, brand loyalty comes to the fore before age 25 and may last a lifetime. Newcomers to the list of top-sellers list indicate the increase of Mexican and Central American buyers: the Mexican Corona and Modelo brands. The numbers sold seem larger than anyone would expect.

Not to be outdone by beer producers, wine producers have developed targeted promotions of brands. In much the same way the beer industry has consolidated top-selling brands (for instance, Constellation Brand Corona Extra and Modelo Especial’s combined 7.4% market share). The wine industry has consolidated both horizontally and vertically. E & J Gallo has added the low price tier Barefoot brand, the top selling brand, to its original E & J Gallo brand, the second best-selling brand. Cases shipped (2019) of the two brands worldwide amount to 23 million cases. In the wine industry, some brands include almost as many wine varietals and blends as Baskin-Robbins has ice cream flavors. Many of the larger wine producers develop or buy a brand around one varietal or blend, then add different varietals or blends to the brand. Vertical as well as horizontal consolidation across low (<\$10), mid (\$10-\$20), and high (>\$20) price tiers broadens a wine portfolio’s appeal in supermarket, wine shop, and restaurant market segments. Constellation Brands, a large wine producer as well as a beer producer, stacks the Prisoner Brand 2018 Red Blend (Petite Syrah, Charbono, Shiraz/Syrah, Cabernet Sauvignon (\$44)) atop its popular Meiomi Pinot Noir (\$17) and other Meiomi varietals. Their Woodbridge Brand (\$9) has succeeded bigtime in the bottom price tier.

In the low and mid price tiers, wines from major wine producers dominate sales. Just as craft beers have carved out niches in the beer industry, small producers of wines have prevailed against the tide of mass-produced wines. Judging from wine sales by brand and anecdotal evidence, many wine consumers consider wine an alcohol delivery medium: an acceptable price, a familiar taste, no surprises, and a mild buzz.

What’s wrong with having a goto wine and sticking with it? Nothing wrong, but we would go on to say that one may miss chances to find better wines for sipping and for food pairings. Finding wines from small producers and evaluating them requires more time than many of us have to spare. Further, many think that better wines have higher prices and have to age in the bottle for a time.

To make wine shopping easier, we’ll recommend several widely available wines with prices that you are likely paying now for mass market wines. These wines have distinctive features that you may (or may not) favor. Each has direct ties to a vineyard or small region, and each pairs well with typical foods in the vicinity of the vines that provide the grape juice in it. Each has a backstory of interest to people sharing it. All have prices under \$20 for a 750ml bottle and are ready to drink now. We are repeating some of our recommendations in earlier columns, reflecting our increasing appreciation for these wines. The only stake we have in this list is the risk of our usual sources of these wines running low on their stocks of our favorite wines:

2021 MAN Chenin Blanc (\$9) from the coastal region of the Western Cape in South Africa. After winemakers in California replaced old Chenin Blanc vines with Chardonnay, South Africa became an important source of this clean and refreshing white wine. Available at wine stores or on the web. Drink now.

2021 Château La Gravière Entre-Deux-Mers (under \$11) From Bordeaux France. A classic white Bordeaux blend. This wine has larger proportions of Sauvignon Blanc and Sémillon and a touch of Muscadelle. The Sémillon takes some of the edge off the Sauvignon. Complements vegetarian, shellfish, lean fish, poultry, and pork. Drink now. Available from Whole Foods.

2021 Yolumba Series Y Viognier from South Australia (\$12). Yalumba, the largest family-owned wine producer in Australia, made this style of Viognier before it became widely available in the USA. The wine has a fuller mouth feel than other, more acidic white wines such as Sauvignon Blanc, and it offers clean peach, pear, and citrus flavors. It pairs especially nicely with spicy dishes, root vegetables, tree fruits, poultry, and tart fruit pies.



2020 Lola Pinot Noir (less than \$20) from vineyards in Mendocino, Russian River Valley, and Monterey California. The winemaker, who grew up in Holmes Beach Florida, makes a wine that actually tastes like a Northern California Pinot Noir. It has berry and plum aromas and flavors at the start, followed by a slight clench of sour cherry on the insides of the cheeks. A light red wine by today’s standards, it invites sipping, yet fulfills its raison d’être when paired with grilled salmon or tuna tartare, poultry, pork, lamb, or game.

S. W. Hermansen has used his expertise in econometrics, data science and epidemiology to help develop research databases for the Pentagon, the National Institutes of Health, the Department of Agriculture, and Health Resources and Services. He has visited premier vineyards and taste wines from major appellations in California, Oregon, New York State, and internationally from Tuscany and the Piedmont in Italy, the Ribera del Duero in Spain, the Barossa Valley and McLaren Vale in Australia, and the Otago Valley in New Zealand. Currently he splits time between residences in Chevy Chase, Maryland and St. Armand’s Circle in Florida.

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

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Letters, from page 12

captures this info?
Debbie Murphy
Commissioner
Longboat Key

How to Ride

To: Longboat Key Commissioner Debbie Murphy
Thanks for the question. I believe that Manatee has a really good grasp of exactly how this system works. If I take my old county hat out of the box and put it on for a minute, in addition to feeling PTSD, I would guess that their angst is in giving up their service territory, especially when their system is free and Sarasota charges a small fee. Their position is likely hey, why is Sarasota getting to do this? Let Manatee provide the service and have Sarasota contribute to cover their residents.
While I'm not intimately familiar with either County's transit system, having operated two systems previously I would hazard to say that both could provide the service. Our goal regarding transit should be to have our residents, workers, and visitors move around the Town seamlessly as if it were in just one county. It's been on the table for discussion for something like five years. If that's accurate, it is an absurd amount of time to resolve something that is relatively simple. They know how to get this done, we just need to help facilitate the movement which I think we can do more behind the scenes.

They are both in budget development right now and it is a perfect time for them to come to a solution. It could be done as a pilot project for year to determine impacts, benefits, and costs and then revisited. Sometimes pilot projects are easier to agree to.

As far as the conversation, we remember our goal (seamless transit around the island) and invite them to be part of the solution. And then we work off camera to get it hammered out. My 2 cents.
Howard N. Tipton
Town Manager
Town of Longboat Key

How to Ride

To: Longboat Key Mayor Ken Schneider
Well, we need to define transfer. On demand will take you from LBK to a restaurant on Main Street. You can book on demand from the restaurant back to LBK. There would be a high probability that it would be a different driver/vehicle (which could be construed as a transfer from one car to another). The system is not generally designed to wait on someone for a round trip.
The big T for transfer on the map refers to the fixed route transfers. You could take an on demand trip from LBK to the transfer station and then catch a bus to other parts of the County. That would fit the more traditional definition of a transfer. Hope that helps. It is a good system.
Howard N. Tipton
Town Manager
Town of Longboat Key

Longboat Key News

Sarasota City News

PO Box 8001

Longboat Key, FL 34228

941-387-2200

www.lbknews.com

Steve Reid, Editor & Publisher

sreid@lbknews.com

Associate Publisher

Melissa Reid

Sales

Lillian Sands

Steve Reid

ads@lbknews.com

Graphic Production

Dottie Rutledge

Letters to the Editor

letters@lbknews.com

SunTrail funding for Trail

To: Longboat Key Commissioner Mike Haycock
Following up on our discussion Monday about Sun Trail funding. I spoke with FDEP and they said the process is to work with the MPO and with FDOT. Our District Rep. at FDOT is Tanya Merkle, who I think you know her. Let me know if TPL can help when you all are ready to apply.
Charles Hines
Longboat Key

Signs at restoration projects

To: Longboat Key Commission, Sarasota City Commission
If you've watched any groundbreaking ceremonies, you know that elected officials, whether at the local or state or federal level will gather in front of a sign that gives credit for the funding source(s) for the project. Well, that turns out to be the case with our ongoing projects that are funded by EPA.
Specifically, we received an email from EPA earlier this week that gave us language that was to be included during the construction phases of projects funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) program. You might remember that we have already received \$1.8 million for FY22 and FY23, and we are seeking an additional \$2.7 million for the next three years. With EPA approval of the Equity Plan (which is being

reviewed right now) there is NO local cash match requirement, which means that your local governments can spend funding elsewhere, on other priorities and projects. These projects are being coordinated with our local government partners, but the costs of the construction itself is 100% from EPA allocations thought the BIL program.
We have developed signs that will meet EPA's guidance, while also acknowledging the partners who supplied technical input, or worked on earlier phases, or who supplied the land. As such, the template below has spaces for FISH for the FISH Preserve Phase IV project (ongoing) as well as spaces for the City of Bradenton and Manatee County's logos for the GT Bray project, when it starts up.
The SBEP – more precisely, Megan - developed the example sign below, and we've got a bid to print them out for \$260. We'll save funds by using our partners to put them up on the sites of our projects.
Anyway, just to be up front and transparent about this topic, in case you see the signs.
Thanks, and have a great weekend. Get out on the water if you can, the water is gorgeous right now.
Dave Tomasko
Executive Director
Sarasota Bay Estuary Program

KeyCrossword

Who's What?

ACROSS

1 After-shower powder

5 Lord or lady

10 Vote in

15 Teen hangout

19 Aroma

20 Arabian ruler: var.

21 Scale sign

22 Potpourri

23 Loblolly ____

24 Source of troubles

26 Ustinov, in "Quo Vadis?"

27 Seafood choice

29 Take as one's own

30 Large-billed bird

32 Important folkways

34 Art supporter

36 Perched

37 Founded

40 Faucet

42 Fashionable fabric

44 Wooded tract

48 Escapes

50 Kind of cabin

52 Fast food furnishes

54 Soaks flax

55 Hgt.

56 Went by car

59 Talks on and on

61 Coal measure

62 Lavish affection upon

64 Livery worker

66 Vitamin A source

68 Courtroom machine

70 Quilting party

72 Swift and Orwell works

73 Infrequent

74 B'wy sign

76 Nursery napkin

78 Rocky peaks

79 Moment

82 Droop

84 Home builder

88 Desert herdsman

90 Canine's appendage

92 Final beginning

93 Silkworm

94 Seabirds

96 "A Night to Remember" subject

98 Cagers org.

99 Cleopatra's waterway

101 Serious

103 Playing marble

104 Abolish

106 Small land mass

108 Fight off

110 Camp accommodation

112 Activists

113 Tear

115 Beer choice

117 Lease a second time

119 Ocular sections

123 Political policies

125 Secluded

129 ____ vera

130 Corporant

133 Carbonated drink

134 Form of address

135 Ranee raiment

136 ____ else!: Mom's mandate

137 And others, shortly

138 Sound of exertion

139 Expletives

140 Former rulers

141 Exhausted

DOWN

1 Parts of separates

2 Excavator's entrance

3 Single

4 Shellacked: sl.

5 Candle

6 Inn in Istanbul

7 Letterman number?

8 Mother of Castor

9 Wear away

10 Slipped away, as time

11 Radio fan

12 Recede

13 Cut short

14 Assessments

15 Ironclad ship

16 Actor Baldwin

17 Pisa dough, once

18 Screwball

25 Highway

28 Computer component

31 Varnish ingredient

33 Sassafras drinks

35 Purple shade

37 Rosary ____

38 Apportion

39 Gold strike site

41 Redcaps

43 Starling relative: pl. var.

45 Church assessment

46 Irving or Oliver

47 Feudal field hands

49 Laundry additives

51 It's a good thing

53 SAC part

57 Kind of soldier

58 Tiny bit

60 Yucca look-alike

63 Related on mother's side

65 Beak

67 NASA weather forecasting system

69 Priestly garb

71 Gifted with visual memory

75 Clumsy one

77 Discuss at length

79 Ancient Celtic tribe

80 Nostril

81 Voice for Verdi

83 Obtained

85 Braz. neighbor

86 Fiery afterglow

87 Iranian cash

89 Rise up against

91 Edge

95 Covered with calyxes

97 Military student

100 Most otherworldly

102 Systems of government

105 Witnessed

107 Food container in England

109 Late-night name

111 Brat

114 Out-of-date

116 Changed the clock

118 Sly looks

119 Grating sound

120 Lamb

121 Rent

122 Party extra

124 Loans for college-goers: abbr.

126 Former photo section

127 Dash

128 Mrs. Rogers

131 Cubs stat

132 Call ____ day: retire

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