Longboat Rey Rews

January 6, 2023

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

InsideLook



Time to take the real plunge ...page 12



Longboat sells for \$3 million ...page 7



A grape for each buyer ...page 13



Animals and the beach don't mix ...page 10

Longboat fraud case ranks in top 2022 IRS investigations

DaCorta and his co-conspirators persuaded at least 700 victims to invest in OIG through promissory notes and other means, causing victims' losses exceeding \$80 million.

A fraud case involving a Sarasota man and Longboat-based Oasis International Group is among the IRS Criminal Investigation unit's top 10 most prominent and high-

profile investigations in 2022.

Michael J. DaCorta, 57, was sentenced in October to 23 years in federal prison for conspiracy to commit wire fraud and mail fraud,



money laundering, and filing a false income tax return. As part of his See LBK Case, page 3

keep coming to Downtown Construction of a new residential tower under

Ritz condos

the Ritz-Carlton flag could begin by the end of 2023 in the Quay Sarasota district.

The 20-story, 74-unit Ritz-Carlton Residences, Sarasota Bay would be built alongside the Ritz-Carlton, Sarasota tower that opened in 2021 and within the boundaries of the master-planned, multi-use district between U.S. 41 and the bayfront.

Developer Kolter Urban said completion of Ritz-Carlton Residences, Sarasota Bay is envisioned by early 2026. The developer paid \$19.3 million in 2018 for the 1-acre piece of land.

Condominium units will range from 3,500 square feet to just under 6,000 square feet with condominium units selling for between \$3.5 million and \$11.5 million.

In 2021, Kolter Urban completed the construction of The Ritz-Carlton Residences, Sarasota, a 73-unit, 18-story condominium located to the north of the Ritz-Carlton hotel and residential complex.

Kolter Hospitality in May reached See Condos, page 3

Beauty Rolls Over Us



Photo by Sheila from Facebook: FollowmetoLongboatKey

Hello 2023 and welcome to Longboat Key

Going into 2023 the island is hopping and busy. The season is upon us and it looks great! Even Southwest Airlines can't keep them away.

TRYLA LARSON Guest Writer

They say you have to learn from the past or else you are destined to repeat it in the future. But, is that a bad thing? Let's take a look and see,

In December 2021, the average days on market for a listing on Longboat Key was 24 days. The average sales price was \$1,102,426.00.

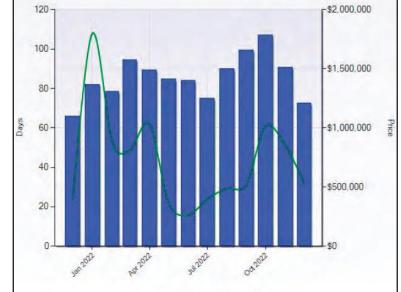
In December 2022, the average days on market was 32. The average sales price was \$1,212,154.00. It looks like things are taking a little longer to sell, but it was worth the wait because they were getting

a little more money. The month with the shortest days on market was June 2022, with an average of 16 days. The month with the longest days on market was January 2022,

with an average of 108 days. The month with the lowest average sales price was December 2021, with \$1,102,426.00. The month with the highest average sales price was October 2022, with \$1,787,864.00.

I find this statistic particularly interesting because this was the month immediately following Hurricane Ian. Also, if you notice on the chart, the average monthly sales price has dropped each month since the peak in

History shows that this continuous 3 month decline in average sales prices usually happens in September-October-November, with the exemption of 2020 which I will take liberties with and blame 2020's skewed

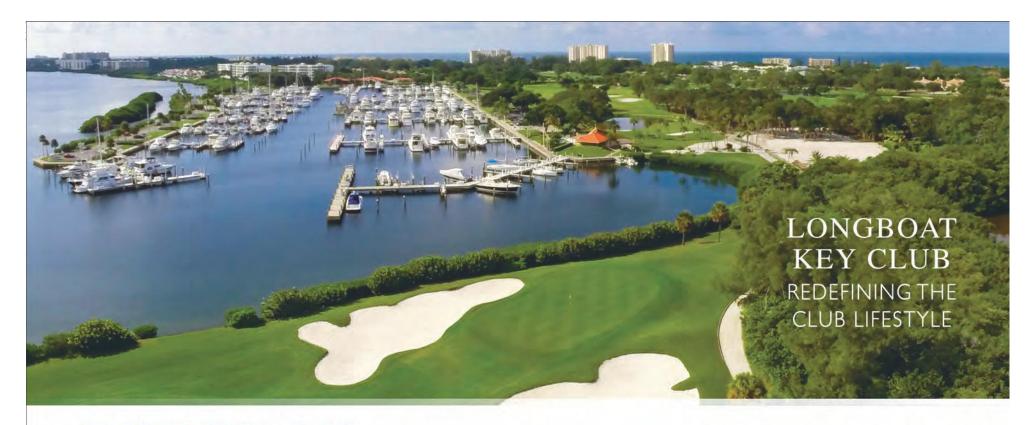


numbers on COVID.

Could it be possible that Hurricane Ian just pushed everything back a month? It is very possible and highly likely in my mind.

Days to Sell, Average Sale Price, Average

So, what should we expect in 2023?



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Sarasota works to expand outdoor dining

The City of Sarasota and local restaurants are hoping to make outdoor dining in parking spaces a fixture downtown.

During the pandemic, restaurants were able to apply for a permit to extend their dining area to the parking spaces outside of their buildings. This was made possible due to an emergency order allowing them to keep more distance between patrons.

That order was set to expire on Dec. 31—but was extended to March 31 to allow the City Attorney some time to see if it was legally possible. Many restaurant managers and owners are hoping the city makes the additional outdoor seating permanent as well.

Helping Veterans Grow in Paradise

Longboat Key Rotarian and Veterans Day Committee member Andy Sawyer presented Rotary's generous donation check to Anne Miller, Program Director at Operation EcoVets, at the Rotary Club's January 3rd meeting. Operation EcoVets' mission is to "enable personal, educational, and professional growth opportunities specifically tailored to our Veteran community through a focus on self-reliance, sustainability skills development, and social connections in a scenic, natural environment that fosters overall healing and wellness." The support from Rotary was made possible due to generous donations collected by Rotary from its members and from local residents in connection with the Club's 9th annual Veteran Day celebration this past fall. Donations totaling \$13,220 have been made by Rotary to 4 Veterans organizations this year.

DeSantis wants conservative overhaul at New College

Florida Governor Ron DeSantis on Friday overhauled Sarasota's 11-member New College board, bringing in six new members, including conservative activist Christopher Rufo and a dean from conservative Hillsdale College.

Red tide still lingers from Pinellas to Sarasota

Red Tide has remained in Southwest Florida. Medium levels of red tide have been discovered in Pinellas, Hillsborough, Manatee, and Sarasota Counties and at the mouth of Tampa Bay. As reported on the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's website, higher concentrations are being measured in Charlotte County. Lower levels are detected in Madeira Beach and Maximo Park, located in Pinellas County. Red tide has not been found in Lee County and Collier County. There are reports of fish kills likely caused by red tide from Pinellas County to Sarasota County. For more information, go to: www.myfwc.com.

New Town Manager

On January 30, Howard Tipton will report for duty as Longboat Key's new Town Manager. He has already met with all of the department directors and has been briefed on the major initiatives. Current Town Manager Tom Harmer will be working with him until February 6 to help make sure the transition is smooth.

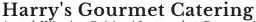
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New Condos, from page 1

an agreement to buy the Hyatt Regency and plans to build an exclusive Thompson-branded hotel on the site at 1000 Boulevard of the Arts.

The addition of Ritz-Carlton Residences, Sarasota Bay is another component of a planned suite of towers on a 14.7-acre property that had been dormant for nearly a decade.

Jacksonville-based GreenPointe Communities purchased the site at U.S. 41 and Fruitville in 2014. Later, the company announced plans to build a destination district block-by-block, creating a mixed-use hub.

Premier Sotheby's International Realty is handling the sales for the new building.

LBK Case, from page 1

sentence, the court also entered an order of forfeiture in the amount of \$2,817,876.16, a portion of the proceeds of the charged criminal conduct. A federal jury had found DaCorta guilty

According to testimony and evidence presented during the 13-day trial, from November 2011 through April 18, 2019, DaCorta ran an investment company named Oasis International Group, Ltd. ("OIG").

DaCorta and his co-conspirators persuaded at least 700 victims to invest in OIG through promissory notes and other means, causing victims' losses exceeding \$80 million. DaCorta, who had effectively been banned from conducting foreign exchange trading by agreement with the National Futures Association, induced victims to invest in OASIS by falsely representing to victim-investors that OASIS was reaping enormous profits by being a "market maker" and collecting "spread" on voluminous FOREX trades. DaCorta also pitched the opportunity as essentially risk free and Oasis as well-collateralized.

In reality, Oasis was not making markets and had no true revenue. The "spread" earnings were being paid on each trade by OASIS back to OASIS in order to create the illusion of revenue, which was published to investors on fictious account statements and an online portal. The OIG investor portal showed the "spread" credits but concealed catastrophic underlying trading losses.

DaCorta and his conspirators used the balance of the victim-investors' funds to make Ponzi-style payments to perpetuate the scheme and to fund lavish lifestyles. For example, the evidence showed that DaCorta used victim-investors' funds to purchase a Maserati and Range Rovers for his family members, a country club membership, multiple million-dollar homes in Florida, college tuition for family members, flights on private jets, and lavish trips to Europe and the Cayman Islands. DaCorta also under-reported his income on his 2017 federal income tax return, claiming a negative income and receiving a tax refund.

This case was investigated by the Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigation and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, with assistance from the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, the National Futures Association, the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority's Criminal Prosecution Assistance Group, and the Florida Office of Financial Regulation.

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Friday, January 6, 2023 The News Page 4

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.

Submission of St. Regis Plan Amendment to Add a Parking Structure

To: Longboat Key Commission

See below email from Allen- yesterday afternoon St. Regis submitted an application to add a parking structure on their northeast corner of their property where a surface parking area was previously approved. The staff will review the application and it will ultimately require hearings with the P&Z Board and Town Commission.

Thomas A. Harmer Town Manager Town of Longboat Key

Submission of St. Regis Plan Amendment to Add a Parking Structure

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Tom Harmer

Yesterday afternoon we received an application for the St. Regis project to add a new 3-level (2 stories above the ground floor) parking structure at the northeast corner of the property, where a surface parking area was previously approved (along GMD & in front of the hotel's ballroom/meeting room building—see rendering below, with arrow pointing to the location of the newly proposed parking structure).

The primary requests include:

Deleting 62 mechanical lift spaces and a 38-space surface parking lot

Adding a new 157 space parking garage

Deleting beach shelters, tiki hut

Moving patio heaters and fire lane further eastward

Amending Departures for Open Space Ratio, Living Space Ratio, and locations of patio heaters and fire lane

Adding new Departures for dimensions of spaces in the new parking structure, and the building separation requirements between the hotel podium and the new parking structure.

The requests will entail amendments to the projects PUD/ODP and Site Development Plan approvals, which will require public hearings with the P&Z Board and Town Commission.

Director Planning, Zoning & Building Department, Town of Longboat Key

Police Department Grant

To: Longboat Key Commission

As you are aware, the Town received a grant from the Barancik Foundation to fund initial State of Florida Accreditation of the Police Department.

Early in my discussions with the Foundation, Chief Cumming announced his retirement, and I put an emphasis on hiring a Chief that had documented Florida accreditation experience. Chief Turner had accreditation, and re-accreditation experience in his former positions, as well as being a past state certified Accreditation Manager and Accreditation Assessor.

Since Chief Turner's appointment, the department members have been working hard to put the foundation in place to begin the formal process of Florida Accreditation. That has included a complete update of all Police Department policies and procedures, a system that documents Officer's review of and compliance with these policies, a system to track required training, specific security modifications to address safety and security standards within the police depart-

ment, and implementing technology to monitor operational activities.

Yesterday was a milestone for the Department, as the official contract with the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation, Inc. was signed, starting the formal review for compliance of all required accreditation standards- see attached.

I know the Chief has a goal to earn the accreditation status in less than two years and believe that we are in a position to do so. It typically takes at least a year from this point so that the department can demonstrate a year of tracking and monitoring of all of the activities that are evaluated as part of the process.

Thanks to Chief Turner and his team for working hard over the past year or so to position the Town and the Police Department to formally move forward with the Law Enforcement Accreditation Process.

Special thanks to the Barancik Foundation for their support of this important effort that positions our Police Department for professional recognition and continuous improvement.

Tom Harmer Town Attorney

Longboat Key

Suncoast Waterkeeper Manatee Sampling Release Dec. 20

To: Sarasota Bay Estuary Program Director Dave Tomasko

All - you may recall, before Ian hit, we saw high enterococci concentrations in waters at the Town of Longboat Key Boat Ramp and Bay Front Park. We sent our samples to Jonah Ventures in mid-September to have them processed for DNA. The results showed evidence of human DNA being a major source of bacteria. The company owner said he rarely sees such high numbers. For the sake of this group, I will focus on the Town of Longboat Key results, but similar results were found in both areas. At the Town of Longboat Key, we sampled at the Town Boat Ramp, at the end of the Town Dock, and in the bay where the boats are moored. According to the lead scientist at Jonah Ventures, human DNA explains the high level of bacteria there. I have included the raw data but would be happy to supply the full report. Finally, when you look at the results in the human column, any number greater than 100 means that there is strong evidence supporting the conclusion that human-caused E-coli is present in the sample. Those E.coli numbers are extremely high as well. We look forward to discussing this more with those interested. We have recently sent in another round of samples and should get those results back soon. I would happily arrange a call with the data analyst and lead scientist at Jonah Ventures.

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Alex Caruso **Executive Director** Suncoast Waterkeeper

Suncoast Waterkeeper Manatee Sampling Release Dec. 20

To: Suncoast Waterkeeper Executive Director Alex Caruso

Looking at the spatial trends, it would appear that you have a land-based, vs. boat-based, source of the human-linked bacteria. Is that your general conclusion? That doesn't mean liveaboards are not a source, but perhaps not the primary source?

If so, what's going on in that area? I know that we have kids in diapers at some of our beaches (such as Palma Sola Causeway) as well as other sources, but right at the boat ramp? I would think that obvious sources to look into are septic tanks (if any in the area) or lift stations, or perhaps leaky sewer pipes? Worth the follow up, IMO.

Dave Tomasko

Executive Director, Sarasota Bay Estuary Program

Fire protection services

To: Longboat Key Commission

Great news on the latest evaluation of the Town's fire protection services. See attached letter from the Insurance Services Office (ISO). The ISO rates fire departments across the country. Their review looks at a number of criteria including, equipment, staffing, training documentation, water supply, and dispatch performance.

The ISO periodically updates their ratings and with this latest comprehensive review, the Town has continued to maintain its Class 2 status. The ISO rates fire departments on a scale of 1-10, with 1 being the highest available rating. For a coastal barrier island, a Class 2 rating is very high and can provide savings on private insurance rates for our residents.

Congrats to Chief Dezzi and the Fire Department for continuing to work hard to maintain this high level of fire protection status for our community.

Thomas A. Harmer

Town Manager

Town of Longboat Key

See Letters, page 5





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Editor Letters



Letters, from page 4

Fire protection services

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Tom Harmer Excellent! Thank you to Chief Dezzi and his very professional team. Penny Gold

Commissioner Longboat Key

Fire Department Insurance Services Office (ISO) Rating

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Tom Harmer Does this give our residents any opportunity for lower insurance rates?

BJ Bishop Commissioner Longboat Key

Fire Department Insurance Services Office (ISO) Rating

To: Longboat Key Commissioner BJ Bishop

It maintains our good rating so likely no change.

Tom Harmer

Town Manager

Longboat Key

RoadWatch Update for the Week of Sunday, January 1, 2023

To: Sarasota City Commission, Longboat Key Commission

US 41 at Gulfstream Avenue Roundabout Project, Sarasota: Construction project: Crews will work within the right-of-way, medians, driveways and throughout the project limits. Please use caution and watch for construction vehicles, dump trucks, semi-trucks and heavy equipment entering or exiting the work zone.

Activities Include:

Project work is suspended for the end of the year holidays, December 24th through January 2nd. Project staff will monitor the project, adjusting MOT and cleaning up as needed. Work under normal hours will resume Tuesday, January 3rd.

Installation of erosion control features for the new Phase 2B alignment.

Removal and disposal of temporary asphalt used in prior phases.

Grading for sidewalk on the east side of US 41 between Palm Avenue and Fruitville Road. Installation of concrete traffic separators on US 41 and Gulfstream Avenue at connections to the roundabout.

Removal of existing temporary signs and concrete barrier wall used in previous phases. Detours/Crossings:

Phase 2B configuration is in place. Motorists on approach yield to motorists within the round-

about. Vehicles within the roundabout have priority and right of way.

Palm Avenue, 1st Street, and 2nd Street are closed at the US 41 connection in both directions. Entering and exiting the downtown area via Cocoanut Avenue to Fruitville Road is recommended.

Sidewalk at the northwest corner of US 41 at Gulfstream Avenue is closed. Pedestrian paths are available via US 41 Multi-Use Recreational Trail (MURT) along Ritz Carlton Drive.

Sidewalk on the east side of US 41 between Gulfstream Avenue and Fruitville Road is closed for reconstruction work. Pedestrians should use Cocoanut Avenue for access to downtown and to the Main Street.

The east pedestrian crosswalk at Sunset Drive and Gulfstream Avenue is closed. The west pedestrian crosswalk is available to cross Gulfstream Avenue. Signage and pedestrian barricades are in place for guidance.

Marina Jacks north parking lot entrance/exit on Gulfstream Avenue is closed to vehicular traffic. Motorists may access the parking lot via Bayfront Drive at Main Street/Marina Plaza. No through traffic allowed through this area. Motorist may not exit the Marina Jacks parking lot via Bayfront Drive at Main Street/Marina Plaza. The south exit at Ringling Boulevard must be used to exit Marina Jacks.

Detours and lane closures will be in place during various phases of the project. During construction, the speed limit will be reduced to 25 mph on US 41 and Gulfstream Avenue.

We encourage motorists to allow extra time to travel, follow the roadway signage and messaging and avoid making unauthorized U-turns or changing lanes across solid lines between the lanes when traveling through the construction work zone.

Construction activities will take place weekdays and weekends, daytime and occasionally during nighttime hours. Expect noise from grinding asphalt, hammer drills, noise and vibration from construction equipment, backup alarms, vacuum trucks, pumps, and lighting.

Improvements being made as part of this project consist of replacing the existing signalized intersection on US 41 at Gulfstream Avenue with a roundabout, installation of HAWK pedestrian crossing signal system, raised pedestrian refuge islands, replacement of underground drainage structures, utilities, fiber optic, new LED streetlights, reconfiguration of stormwater retention ponds, sidewalks, and pedestrian walkways. Expected completion is spring 2023.

Alice Ramos

Community Outreach Manager Florida Department of Transportation

Traffic and roundabout

To: Longboat Key Commissioner Sherry Dominick

I am sure you have seen the traffic disaster over the last several days of trying to go from Longboat Key to downtown Sarasota!

It's only December 29 and the "season" has not even started and we are already at a standstill from the parking lot of Publix to the roundabout at Tamiami/Route 41!

See Letters, page 6

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1111 RITZ CARLTON DR., #1703 | SARASOTA

Captivating panorama of bay, island and Gulf vistas from every room, this expansive northwest-facing, 3BR/4BA Ritz-Carlton penthouse has been meticulously cared for and maintained by the original owners



830 TARAWITT DRIVE | LONGBOAT KEY

Just three lots to the ICW from this over 2,500 sf, coastal 2015 built home. Living area and kitchen open to the patio and contemporary pool. The privacy of the second level offers two guest bedrooms with full bath, plus an extra lounge with wet bar.



529 BAYVIEW DRIVE | LONGBOAT KEY

Contemporary canal-front home with private dock and quick access to the bay and Gulf of Mexico. Located on a quiet street designed for privacy, this 2,808 sf, 4BR/3BA home features an open floorplan with expansive living spaces, pool and a private rooftop deck



100 SANDS POINT RD., #208 | LONGBOAT KEY

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Michael Saunders & Company

Friday, January 6, 2023 The News Page 6

Editor Letters



Letters, from page 5

The Roundabout is not working and it's the worst traffic I have seen since we came here in 2014. The lights prior to the roundabout coming off the bridge negate the whole concept of the roundabout by creating massive waves of stop and go

I am not an engineer, so I don't have a solution, but somebody needs to figure out how to fix this fast or Sarasota and it's barrier islands are going to see falling real estate values and less tourists, as people discover that our paradise is just really a traffic nightmare- not to mention what happens if we need to evacuate keys in the case of an emergency. Thanks for listening and best wishes for a happy new year.

Alain Bankier Longboat Key

Traffic and roundabout

To: Alain Bankier

Happy New Year to you. I think we all agree that the problem of traffic converging from Longboat Key, St. Armands and Lido to go downtown seems worse, earlier in 'the season', than we have experienced in prior years. The lights, which are intended to permit traffic from Bird Key, Golden Gate Point and the Ritz area to merge into traffic, do seem ill timed and should be adjusted. The signage on the roadway near the roundabout is also poorly conceived and executed. Given the traffic backup, many drivers literally cannot see

the pavement road signs because other cars are sitting on top of them. I know that the town manager, Tom Harmer, and Mayor Schneier have been working with the Sarasota administration on traffic issues (including the roundabout, and traffic associated with the recent St. Armand's winter festival). I am copying them on your message.

Once newly arrived visitors 'get the hang' of the roundabout, traffic possibly may flow a bit better. However, the reality is that, during 'season', we simply have too many cars bound for downtown Sarasota before the dinner hour and people may need to time their travel to the downtown area. If one is leaving between 4:15-6:45, one risks encountering an unpleasant backup. I know that my husband, Craig and I leave at the latest possible moment when we go to the ballet, or opera or a show. We find that if we leave after 7 p.m. we do not run into traffic. This is not an ideal solution but is one that has worked relatively well for us personally.

Longer term, as we welcome more restaurants to Longboat, and enjoy the benefits of the St. Regis and Town Center, Longboat residents may have less incentive to go downtown for dining and entertainment. In the interim we need to continue to work collaboratively with Sarasota government to address our collective concerns.

Sherry Dominick Commissioner Longboat Key

Traffic and roundabout

To: Longboat Key Commissioner Sherry Dominick

Our experience has been that the week between Christmas and New Years is the worst week of the year, with every accommodation full of families. That is exacerbated this year by the roundabout opening late. Season won't be great, but it should improve.

Ken Schneier Mayor Longboat Key

Traffic and roundabout

To: Longboat Key Commissioner Sherry Dominick

Commissioner Dominick, thanks for copying me. The week between Christmas and New Years has historically been of our busiest traffic times. But, this week has been an especially bad week for traffic congestion. With the City of Sarasota/FDOT US41/Gulfstream roundabout newly opened up to traffic, the afternoon/evening St Armand's festival, and a peak travel week there is a lot going on off of Longboat Key.

The roundabout travel lanes are open but as you mentioned there are additional actions necessary to fully implement the new configuration.

We are in communication with the City and FDOT and sharing concerns about the congestion this week.

The FDOT has advised their consultants have been on site this week at the roundabout to monitor and tweak flows recognizing the project is still under construction. They also observed that some of the congestion this week was prior to traffic reaching the roundabout as they egress the barrier

Once we are past the City's St Armand's Festival and the roundabout project is complete it will be interesting to see how the traffic flows.

We are continuing to monitor and discuss with City and FDOT was to improve the conditions. As you mentioned, during season especially it is important to check in advance on travel conditions and try to plan around visits to the mainland.

Tom Harmer Town Manager Longboat Key

Traffic and roundabout

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Tom Harmer, Commissioner Sherry Dominick

Thanks Sherry and Tom for your thoughtful responses. The traffic on the last several evenings (and in general) are due to residents leaving the island to go downtown, trade people/ workers leaving the islands at the end of their workday and tourists leaving the beaches from Lido and Longboat Key, but also from Anna Maria to head back to the mainland.

The traffic starts on northern end of Longboat Key and by the time it gets to the Publix area mid key, it remains bumper to bumper around St. Armand's circle (and side streets) and then bumper to bumper all the way to the Roundabout.

I am curious to know where the FDOT consultants "observed that some of the congestion this week was prior to traffic reaching the roundabout as they egress the barrier island"? The traffic is bumper to bumper from Publix mid Longboat Key all the way to the roundabout.

I agree with all of your observations, but "congestion... prior to traffic reaching the roundabout as they egress the barrier islands" concept, sounds like Consultant CYA double

This is all about the Roundabout. Hopefully this will work its self out (or at least substantially reduce the congestion during peak periods) as we get to a total full implementation of the configuration and hopefully sooner rather than later.

Thanks for all your work and wishing all a Happy New Year!

Alain Bankier Longboat Key

Verizon coverage

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Tom Harmer

I drove the island today to the north end and into some of the neighborhoods using Verizon cell service with wifi turned off. I would say 90 percent of the time I had three to four

See Letters, page 8

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/TrylaBrownLarson

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Bird Key, Lido Key, Longboat Key latest sales

Address	Sq. Ft.	List Price	Bed/B	ath/	Half Bath	Days On Market	Sale Price
2333 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#1B2	2,961	\$2,975,000	2	2	1	2	\$2,975,000
1045 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#404	1,503	\$1,650,000	2	2	0	75	\$1,600,000
2003 HARBOUR LINKS DR Unit#2003	2,004	\$1,245,000	3	2	1	3	\$1,246,000
1211 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#205	1,598	\$1,033,000	2	2	0	0	\$1,033,000
2013 HARBOUR LINKS DR Unit#2013	2,369	\$995,000	2	2	1	6	\$1,000,000
2045 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#M1-413	1,265	\$815,000	2	2	0	7	\$815,000
3710 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#D16	554	\$179,900	2	1	0	43	\$170,000



2333 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#1B2



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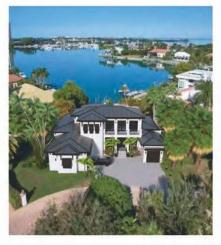
443F John Ringling Blvd | Sarasota, FL 34236



(6) COLDWELL BANKER

-- FEATURED LISTINGS --









BIRD KEY 314 BIRD KEY DRIVE | PENDING \$8,145,000









BIRD KEY 526 BIRD KEY DRIVE | ACTIVE LISTING \$2,895,000

Page 8 Friday, January 6, 2023 The News

EditorLetters



Letters, from page 6

bars; 20 percent I had two bars and 10 percent I had one bar. No zero bars. Where I had one bar (in Centre Shops; 6000 block of GMD), I stopped and made a call. Each was completed, none were dropped and service was perfect). I have one bar in some spots in Bay Isles with no problem in service.

Ken Schneier Mayor Longboat Key

Verizon coverage

To: Longboat Key Mayor Ken Schneier

Mayor, thanks for the feedback. I have talked with Verizon the past two days. They are not aware of any issues but I passed along resident comments and they are sharing with their coverage team. Will also share your experience.

Tom Harmer Town Manager Longboat Key

Verizon coverage

To: Longboat Key Commission

The Verizon pole program resolves one of the most difficult, serious and chronic problems we have faced in recent years on Longboat Key. Congratulations to everyone involved in this important effort. Please pass these sentiments on to your members and staffs along with a wish for a happy and prosperous New Year.

Ken Schneier Mayor Longboat Key

Verizon cell towers

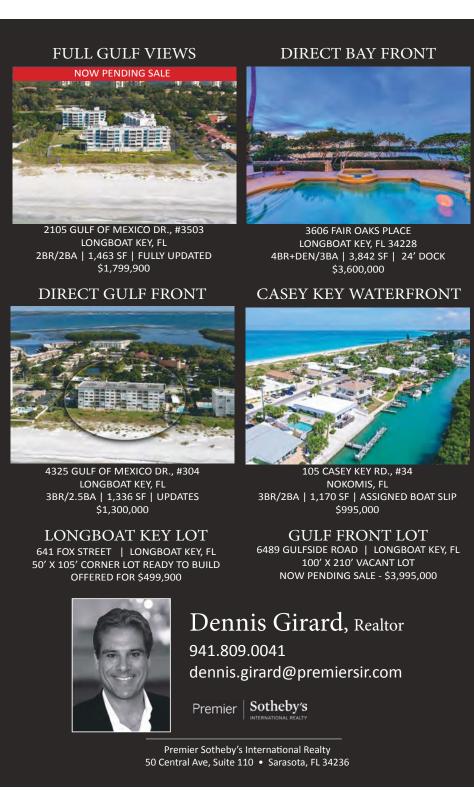
To: Longboat Key Commission

I do not see or hear any difference. The bars still alternate between one and two bars. Eddie suggested turning the Wi-Fi off, but it did not help in my case. To whom should I inform?

Yoram Ariely Sarasota

Verizon cell towers

To: Yoram Ariely



I think the best way to learn whether the new system is working properly or not would be for users to report their experiences, positive or negative. This should not only include "bars", but the ability to connect and hold calls, as well as the frequency of any dropped calls, and the location of those experiences. The Town Clerk and/or Town Manager would be a good collecting point for that information but I would be happy to be copied as well. Please remember that the new poles only serve Verizon customers, although we are working with AT&T to improve their service too.

Ken Schneier Mayor Longboat Key

Verizon cell towers

To: Longboat Key Mayor Ken Schneier

The reception by Mar Vista is phenomenal. Four straight bars. As soon as you walk away, the reception deteriorates. Once I reached my house, it was back to one bar. The tower is a very short tower; maybe this is the reason.

Yoram Ariely Longboat Key

Verizon cell towers

To: Yoram Ariely

This morning my Verizon iPhone bounces between two bars on LTE and three bars 5Guw. Depends on where I am in the house here at 7025 Longboat Dr. N. Before the 5G towers, we had a lot of calls dropping. Now that happens much less.

Eddie T. Abrams Longboat Key

Mobile smart phone reception and more

To: Longboat Key Mayor Ken Schneier

Phone "bars" are a relative indicator of signal strength. No dropped calls and solid Internet reception are the bottom line.

Folks should leave their WiFi on when traveling to allow for 'convergence' between the two signals.

Example: Driving the GMD with an ongoing conversation and reception via cell towers and small cells (illegal, but) then walking into the Longbeach Cafe and getting "handed off" to the Cafe's router via WiFi inside. That's an example of "convergence."

By the way, truth be known back in 2014 the Longboat Key Wireless Workgroup was

See Letters, page 9



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EditorLetters



Letters, from page 8

formed under the guise of finding solutions to improve Island-wide mobile cell phone service. But the LBK Wireless Workgroup's Mission Statement reads "to identify, research, and recommend unified island-wide solutions to the Town Commission in order to establish Longboat Key as a recognized leader in community telecommunications."

And the real intent clearly states: "Community telecommunications solutions include telephone, cell phone, HDTV, Internet, WiFi, and public safety." Since 2014 an Island-wide network of underground fiber optic conduit has been installed to advance all these opportunities. One of those opportunities may be at our doorstep in early 2023. Millimeter technology now exists to offer Island-wide wireless Internet speeds ten times or more faster than that of 5G.

That opportunity does exist but the right business plan has to make sense to our Town management and ultimately our Town Commissioners.

If Longboat Key owned that technology it could be offered to two of the largest cities in southwest Florida. I'm sure our St Regis complex to be would love to offer younger wealthy guests "the fastest Internet in the State of Florida." Over a year ago I had a conversation with the Sarasota EDC technologist who was very excited to know that true 5G speeds may soon be available much less than WiFi Internet speeds ten time faster. Sarasota Memorial Hospital's medical robotics could be advanced beyond anything available in the nation.

All this is achievable but, a municipal business plan must make sense. Early 2023 will tell. Ed Krepela

Longboat Key

Stormwater management

To: Sarasota City Senior Planner Brianna Dobbs

Stormwater management in our neighborhood is a problem, especially for property owners along Brywill Circle. This topic was brought up during the "neighborhood discussion" on the subject of Marlin Conservation Square, held November 29, 2022.

I wanted to share additional evidence of the rainfall runoff issues that we experience along Brywill Circle. The following photos were taken on July 27, 2021 at approximately 6:45 a.m. The area flooding you see in the photos is typical for all Brywill properties that back Eastchester and Marlin Roads.

Looking at historical weather data, the overnight rainfall was less than 3" occurring between midnight and 6 a.m. Below you will find the weather summary for that day:

The following short video and photos were taken approximately 6:45 AM on 7/27/21. Again, this rain run off experience is typical for property owners on Brywill Circle during our rainy season.

The use of Marlin Conservation Square as a rainwater runoff catch basin to better serve our stormwater management is imperative. Property owners along Brywill Circle need relief from rainfall runoff flooding.

Please include this information in the edoc file for review as we move forward with further discussion on the subject of Marlin Conservation Square parcel.

Please let me know if you have any trouble opening the video, or any of the pictures because they are important in this review process.

Denise Scheineson

Sarasota

Request information on right of way vacation rules

To: Sarasota City Senior Planner Brianna Dobbs

I left a message, would like a call back please. What can be done to prevent the vacation of city right of ways where the property has been in public use and the neighborhood would like it to remain so.

Jesse White

CEO/Founder, Sarasota Architectural Salvage

President, IDS Sarasota Chapter

Request information on right of way vacation rules

To: Jesse White

Information related to community workshop requirements may be found here.

Attached is the process for street vacations and row vacations.

Brianna Dobbs

Senior Planner

City of Sarasota

Request information on right of way vacation rules

To: Sarasota City Senior Planner Briana Dobbs

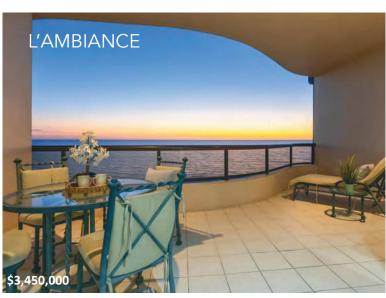
I have received a notice of a community workshop to discuss vacation of the right of way adjacent to 4815 and 4907 Eastchester Drive.

In the letter it states that the City of Sarasota has provide a written "No objection" letter.

As you are aware, because I spoke with you prior to the issuance of this community workshop notice. I oppose the vacation of this street. This is not a "jungle patch" as misinformation in the letter states, but a former city street that was converted to a groundwater recharge zone with funding from the Southwest Florida Water Management District and with assistance from the City of Sarasota.

Historically, this space was a Road. When I moved here in 1998, the property was over-

See Letters, page 14



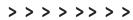
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Compass Florida LLC 1575 Main Street, Sarasota, FL, 34236 Page 10 Friday, January 6, 2023 The News

OnPatrol



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

Dec. 29 Fire assist

9:06 p.m.

Officer Tillman responded to the 2100 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive for an elevator rescue. Officer Tillman and the Fire Department assisted until a police presence was not needed. Upon arrival, it was determined the elevator to be unoccupied. Case clear.

Dec. 30 Citizen dispute

11:06 a.m.

Officer Ferrigine responded to Ranger Lane for a neighbor dispute over tree branches. Upon arrival, Officer Ferrigine met with the caller and the other party. They both came to an agreement on the tree branches on each other's properties. Case clear, no law enforcement needed.

Dec. 31 Noise

1:07 a.m.

Officer Miklos, Sgt. Puccio and Officer Martinson were dispatched to Harbourside Drive in reference to a noise complaint from a loud party reported by a courtesy driver for the Longboat Key Club. Upon arrival, officers observed approximately thirty subjects inside the yacht. Sgt. Puccio advised everyone that the party was over and all the subjects left without incident. Officers spoke to the caller who advised she invited a few friends over. The caller advised that someone posted her address about party on a social media platform and a large uninvited crowd arrived. The caller said she was attempting to get everyone to leave when officers arrived. The crowd left without incident and were cooperative. Nothing further to report. Case clear.

Citizen assist

11:08 p.m.

Officer Martinson responded to Winding Oaks for a citizen assist. Upon arrival, Officer Martinson met with the homeowner who stated an underground irrigation pipe burst and water was flooding the yard. However, before Officer Martinson arrived the water had stopped and it was no longer flooding into the yard. The homeowner stated they would contact the homeowners association in the morning. Case clear.

Jan. 1 Citizen assist

1:09 a.m.

Officer Miklos was dispatched to the 5400 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive in reference to a stream of water spraying across Gulf of Mexico Drive by a caller who did not wish to meet with police. Upon arrival, Officer Miklos observed a stream of water coming from an irrigation line missing the sprinkler head on the east side of the street near the sidewalk. Officer Miklos contacted someone at Public Works Department and advised him of the situation. The Public Works employee advised he would make note of the sprinkler and have it looked at it at a later time. Additionally, prior to contacting the employee the sprinkler turned off and was no longer spraying onto Gulf of Mexico Drive.

Fire assist

1:19 a.m

Officer Miklos responded to the 4400 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive in reference to a dumpster fire. Upon arrival, Longboat Key Fire Department arrived on scene, extinguished the fire and did not require police assistance. Nothing further to report. Case clear.

Fireworks

11:21 p.m

Officer Martinson was dispatched to Broadway on a call of fireworks. Upon arrival, Officer Martinson did not hear or see any fireworks in the area. However, Officer Martinson did speak



to a group of citizens riding in a golf cart who stated they were at the North Shore Beach Access when they saw fireworks being shot off across the bridge at Bradenton Beach. Case clear.

Jan. 2

Abandoned boat

6:00 p.m.

Officer Connors was dispatched to the restaurant for a report of a boat that was left tied to the dock overnight. Upon arrival, Officer Connors spoke to the manager who advised that the boat had been docked overnight for approximately 24 hours where it is posted, "No overnight docking." Officer Connors was able to locate the owner who resides in

the vicinity of the restaurant and advised them of the complaint. The owner was unaware and would remove the vessel immediately. Case clear.

Dog on the beach

1:33 p.m.

Officer Connors while on marine patrol responded to Greer Island and observed a man exiting his boat and attempting to bring his dog to shore. Officer Connors advised the man of the Longboat Key ordinance pertaining to dogs on the beach. The man was unaware and returned to his boat without incident. Case clear.

Noise

8:18 p.m.

Officer Smith was dispatched to Linley Street for a noise complaint. The complainant stated there was a loud generator running on a boat. The boat was located about 100 feet off the Linley Street Boat Ramp. Upon arrival, Officer Smith could hear the generator running and was able to identify the boat. Officer Smith flashed his flashlight at the boat several times and an unidentified person shut down the generator. Officer Smith took two written statements from the complainants. Both stated it was an ongoing problem with the loud generator. Officer Smith also determined that the generator was loud enough to be a violation of the Town's noise ordinance. Officer Smith placed the written statements into evidence at the police station. Marine Officer Connors was notified about the noise violation coming from the boat. Case clear.

Jan. 3 Suspicious vehicle

11:20 p.m.

Officer Ferrigine observed a vehicle parked in the parking lot after hours with the driver asleep at the wheel with the vehicle turned off. The driver advised he was just taking a break there and fell asleep. The driver was advised he can't park here after 11 p.m. The driver appeared to be fine and left the area. Case clear.

Jan. 4 Citizen assist

11:00 a.m.

Officer Miklos was dispatched to Firehouse Court in reference to a woman needing help turning off the water. Upon arrival, Officer Miklos came into contact with the complainant who advised her toilet would not stop running and started to flood her bathroom. Officer Miklos was able to turn the water valve off for the complainant and she said she would call a plumber to come look at the toilet. Nothing further, case clear.

Found propert

6:11 p.m.

Officer Miklos spoke with a complainant who said a set of keys were turned in to her for a vehicle. The keys were found by the playground at Bayfront Park. The owner of the keys contacted the police department and they were returned to the owner. Case clear.





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Friday, January 6, 2023 The News Page 12

Editorial Opinion

Looking back and ahead as we plunge into 2023

We also witnessed Wall Street groupthink in assuring Main Street that inflation was "transitory."

GREGORY RUSOVICH Guest Writer Rusovich@lbknews.com

The year 2022 was a mixed bag. The pandemic's wane, continued historic human prosperity and progress, and an end to the Democrats' national one-party rule were all positive develop-

ments. But expansion of the bloody war waged by Putin's Russia in Ukraine, ongoing global Chinese hegemony, America's cultural and political struggle combined with spikes in inflation and violent crime, and the invasion at our southern border offset much of the good news. As a result, the new year offers both promise and peril.

Reflecting on those uncertain spring and summer months of 2020 when a deadly virus somehow leaked from a Wuhan lab to plague the world with deaths, lockdowns and fear, we can take great solace in the diminution of Covid's mortality rates and spread. Success in taming the virus and getting back to our daily lives was a wonderful relief. We also learned important lessons for any future major virus outbreak.



RUSOVICH

We learned we should not shut down school or limit scientific debate or the political class to use an epidemic for manipulative political purposes. What we should do is establish private-public partnerships to launch medical counterattacks quickly and effectively (think Operation Warp Speed). And encourage use of beneficial vaccines, particularly for the most vulnerable populations. As we share sorrow with those who lost loved ones,

we invoke gratitude for Covid's decline and hope that the lessons learned from this painful pandemic will safeguard us in the future.

While it is easy to become absorbed in gloom-and-doom chatter, we should regularly step back and take notice of the tremendous human progress achieved during the past century. As more countries began adopting freer markets, advancing the rule of law, and accessing global trade in the 20th and 21st centuries, overall prosperity and innovation have flourished. Marian Tupy and Ronald Bailey summarize this progress in their top-selling book, "Ten Global Trends Every Smart Person Should Know." They write that "the vast majority of our ancestors lived and died in humanity's natural state of disease-ridden abject poverty and pervasive ignorance." The world's population living in extreme poverty, hunger and undernourishment has decreased dramatically during the last century. Concomitantly, food consumption has increased significantly. The correlation between global prosperity and freedom is clear. The world is best served by unleashing freedom to trade, invest, profit, innovate and speak.

On the home front, no national red wave appeared in the mid-term elections. Poor candidate quality, the salience of the Roe vs. Wade decision to pro-choice voters, and inability to embrace post-pandemic voting procedures quelled a Republican wave. Interestingly, the Republican Party still received more votes nationally than the Democratic Party. Winning the national vote provided the Republicans enough margin to eke out control of the House, resulting in a divided government. No longer can President Biden be deluded by calls to "Go Big," and the Republican House will be a deterrent to the progressive desire to march the nation

We also witnessed Wall Street groupthink in assuring Main Street that inflation was "transitory." As the government spent taxpayer money more loosely than would a drunken sailor,

inflation soared. Simply put, too much money chasing too few goods escalates prices, and a decade of quantitative easing combined with profligate fiscal spending led to the highest inflation since 1981. Workers were the real losers as inflation grew faster than wages.

Last year was also a tragic one for many in the U.S. as violent crime continued to rise. Major cities across the U.S. experienced high levels of homicides and violent crime, and several also endured general lawlessness as stores and shops were pilfered. Criminals must face consequences, and lax bail laws, progressive prosecutors and a shortage of law enforcement officers have led to a more dangerous nation.

The culture war remained in full swing as progressives attempted to identify everyone as a pronoun, the professoriate instilled intolerance and socialist rubbish into young minds, and equity replaced equality as the cause celebre. At some point, common sense must prevail.

Globally, Putin's bloody attack on Ukraine reminds us that violent tyranny did not end in the 20th century. Evil leaders still exist, and America and many other nations have been wise to provide weapons and support to the brave Ukrainians. This united effort has stalled Putin's designs and demonstrated significant Russian military weakness. China continued its growing appetite for regional and global domination. Its persistent threat to Taiwan; usurpation of any independence for Hong Kong; alliances with Russia, North Korea, Iran, Venezuela and Cuba; and aggressive espionage efforts against America and her allies demonstrate a clear and present

And so on to 2023 and a few recommended resolutions:

- President Biden resolves to institute border security.
- The civilized world resolves to oppose Russian and Chinese hegemony.
- Countries across the world resolve to embrace freer markets, the rule of law and open trade.
- University faculty and administrators resolve to champion free speech.
- The political class resolves to be actual good stewards of taxpayer monies.
- Prosecutors resolve to hold criminals accountable.

And we all resolve to be hopeful always. Happy New Year!

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WineTimes



Varietal Tiers by Price Levels

Wine producers use tiering of brands to help consumers understand the relation of price to quality and to promote brand loyalty.

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

Small scale wine producers predominate in European wine regions. Italy leads the world in wine production by volume, has innumerable wine producers, and grows about 500 different varieties of wine grapes. France has numerous small estates producing wine in Alsace, Bordeaux, and Burgundy. Spain has by one estimate 4,600 wineries spread over the largest area of wine grape producing fincas (estates) in the world. Small, independent wine producers set prices for each of the varieties and vintages they bottle.

Wine producers in California, Oregon, and Washington account for around 95 percent of wine production in the US. Small producers have become increasingly integrated into corporations that own many wine brands. These large corporations follow marketing strategies that wine consumers need to understand.

An interesting branding strategy, called "tiering", separates offerings of one variety of wine into "good", "better", and "best" tiers (for example), with different price levels for each tier. This strategy seems very familiar when one looks back at automobile brands sold during the 1960's and to a great extent extending to the present: the Ford Motor Company's standard Ford sedan, its better detailed Mercury sedan (last produced in 2011), and its luxury Lincoln sedan. (We omit the forgettable 1958-59 Edsel.) Sedan buyers at the time recognized the look of each brand and understood the ordering of price levels. Fine wine producers in California are using much the same brand tiering strategies to differentiate bottles of a varietal wine by price level.

The Etude brand originated in the Carneros area of Napa Valley and the Etude Pinot Noir from Carneros vineyards. A major producer and seller of many brands of wine in California, Australia, and elsewhere, Treasury Wine Estates, bought the Etude winery after its founder and winemaker, Tony Soter, sold it in 2001 to Beringer Blass. Reviews of a lower tier Pinot Noir, Lyric by Etude from the Santa Rita Hills in the Central Coast of California, date back to 2012. It sells at prices between \$18 and \$25, depending on seller and vintage. The Etude brand of Pinot Noir from Carneros vineyards has a higher price tag, rarely below \$40 and ranging upward in the \$90's. The luxury Heirloom brand from select vineyards sell at the \$100 price level and above. Wine club buyers and collectors buy most of the small supplies of these wines. The Lyric, Etude, and Etude Heirloom tiers appeal to different segments of Pinot Noir buyers with different budget constraints.

Copper Cane Wine and Provisions, led by Joe Wagner, son of Caymus founder Chuck Wagner, offers the Belle Glos Pinot Noir from the Santa Lucia Highlands of California as a luxury brand in the moderate \$35-\$55 price level. Copper Cane's Meiomi Pinot Noir brand had established a niche in a lower price level tier (\$18 - \$22) until 2015, when winemaker Joe Wagner sold the Meiomi brand name to Constellation Brands for \$315 million. The younger Wagner has since replaced Meiomi in the Copper Cane line-up with Böen, a new mid tier brand at the \$16-\$30 price level. The Böen Tri-Appellation sources grapes from three areas in California, as did Meiomi. Böen also offers at higher prices Pinot Noir with different colored labels from the Russian River Valley, the Santa Maria Highlands, Santa Barbera, and the Santa Maria Valley. Copper Cane has also added a lower tier brand, Elouan (\$17-\$25), using grapes from three areas in Oregon famed for Pinot Noir vineyards: Umpqua, Willamette, and Rogue.

Wine producers use tiering of brands to help consumers understand the relation of price to quality and to promote brand loyalty. The Etude Group has begun sourcing Pinot Noir grapes from outside the pricy Napa Carneros vineyards, in this case from the less well known Santa Rita Hills in the Central Coast. The Lyric by Etude brand separates the Santa Rita Pinot Noir from the more prestigious Etude Carneros Pinot Noir, reaching a new and larger market segment of buyers unwilling to pay Etude prices. Copper Cane has also drawn on Pinot Noir grape sources outside California by sourcing Oregon grapes. To avoid confusing buyers, Copper Cane introduced the Elouan brand to distinguish Pinot Noir made with Oregon grapes from Pinot Noir sold under the established Belle Glos label. Moving Böen and Elouan vineyards farther north to the Russian River Valley and Oregon respectively also hedges bets against climate changes.

Wine buyers find tiering of brands by cost level beneficial to the extent that wine producers maintain consistent quality standards per tier. Blind brand loyalty, however convenient, risks





blurring important differences in region, vintage, and winemaking techniques. Buyers have to trust a brand's winemaker to maintain consistent quality by selecting quality grapes. Problem is that wine brand buyers have very little information about the options that a winemaker may have in a given year and how the winemaker makes decisions. In the case of Meiomi Pinot Noir, the original winemaker moved on in 2015. Despite that, and amid much grumbling among the pre-2015 Meiomi fanbase, relentless promotion and price discounting have pushed Meiomi Pinot Noir close to the top of the Pinot Noir sales charts. Could the consistently sweet and smooth taste of the Meiomi Pinot Noir from one vintage to the next be due to an secret additive such as Mega Purple or the like, or other winemaker magic tricks? Stay tuned. In a future Wine Times column we'll explore what winemakers can do to doctor their wines and why each vintage of wine needs to have a full-disclosure tech sheet.

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 Otego 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

grown with exotic invasive plants growing over pavement. The property is platted as a dead end street on public

I'm looking for the paperwork, but in approximately 2005, I spearheaded a grant and restoration effort to convert the property into the wildlife corridor and groundwater recharge zone that it is now. A sign exists on the site with its designation "Marlin Conservation Square" and this is part of the IBSSA Neighborhood map of green spaces. The funding was granted in public trust that the space would remain in public control, with the effect of groundwater recharge.

Both adjacent property owners were aware of this historical use as a public space prior to their purchase of their adjacent property.

I am outraged that the City will issue a "No objection" letter before seeking public input and before understanding the history of the property.

This property should not be allowed to be converted to private ownership, it is a breach of contract with IBSSA, SWFWMD, and the neighbors who enjoy this pocket park.

Attached is a IBSSA newsletter in which the Marlin Conservation Square is clearly marked.

Jesse White Sarasota

Request information on right of way vacation rules

To: Sarasota City Senior Planner Briana Dobbs

I was wondering if you had any more information about the process for the IBSSA or any group of City residents to ask the City to dedicate the public ROW known as Marlin Conservation Square into an official and permanent public space for conservation, native plant demonstration, ground water infiltration and storm water management. We would like to make a formal request to Planning and/or the City Commission ASAP.

The brief history of this space, for Commissioners to catch up on the conversation, is that there is a Right of way (ROW) between two properties on Eastchester Drive at Marlin, that was converted in 2000 from a dead end City street, to a conservation area. The conversion was funded by the SWFWMD and in-kind contributions by the City of Sarasota Public Works, under the leadership of Duane Mountain, and IBSSA neighbors. It was dedicated with a sign calling it "The Marlin Conservation Square" noting that it is a dead end extension of Marlin Drive. It has been continuously maintained by the IBSSA as a conservation area, native plant demonstration, and ground water infiltration/stormwater management zone since then, and has been listed continuously as a public green space by the IBSSA in its newsletter and other documents.

Two adjacent property owners have held a public meeting to propose that the space be vacated and added to their properties. Aside from the applicants, the at least 6 adjacent and nearby neighbors are against the proposal, and approximately 16 neighbors showed up to the public meeting to

Longboat Key Rews Sarasota City News

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LBK Market, from page 1

Unless we have another extraordinary circumstance, I think the aspirational pie in the sky Real Estate sales prices that we saw in the recent past will be no more. Even though I do think it will remain a seller's market on Longboat Key, I think it will be a more balanced market.

I have heard people wonder aloud if there may be some buyer's remorse and sales from homeowners who bought places on Longboat Key during COVID. I personally have not seen nor heard of anyone regretting buying on Longboat Key. Nor have I heard anyone complain about the price they paid.

My feeling is that people who bought here during COVID didn't do it because of COVID. I believe that these buyers were people who already wanted to be here on this beautiful island paradise. COVID may have just expedited their plans a bit.

I do think that we will get some new residents who would have normally gone further South for the winter but can't because of Hurricane Ian. I am not sure if they will purchase right away or not. Maybe they will rent first and buy later? I don't think just because they can't go to their usual location further South that they will just stay up North and endure a harsh winter. I think this will be one component that will increase our rentals this year.

I am not an attorney, nor do I play one on television. However, I have heard rumblings of new condo laws coming down this pipe. Will this mean increased condo association fees? Will this mean special assessments? Will this mean more condo listings from people who can't afford or don't want to

deal with the increases? Only time will tell my friends.

What I can say for sure and without doubt is that going into 2023 the island is hopping and busy. The season is upon us and it looks great! Even Southwest Airlines can't keep them

I am feeling more gratitude in the island air this season. People are grateful they can spend time with their families, that they have a beautiful place to come to and that the damage Ian caused on Longboat Key was minimal if you look at the big picture.

I think people are more appreciative of their good health and are all around just happier. I have said it before and I will say it again. What is there not to love about being on Longboat Key?

Here you have your own little piece of paradise. Nice weather, beautiful sunsets, sand between our toes, and some of the best seafood I have eaten. Happy New Year my friends and welcome 2023. Let's make it a great year!

All numbers and stats are provided by Steller MLS. All statements and predictions are Tryla's personal thoughts and feelings based on her experience as a Realtor, a former Director of Economic Development, years of demographic studies, and as a resident of Longboat Key. They are not necessarily the thoughts and feelings of Michael Saunders & Company or The Longboat

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Africans

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another day 14 Sport fish

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REAL ESTATE BY A REAL EXPERT

OVER \$97 MILLION SOLD IN 2022 • #8 REALTOR IN SARASOTA/MANATEE COUNTY



JUST LISTED . COREY'S LANDING 3447 BYRON LANE • LONGBOAT KEY, FL • \$1,249,000

Style, spaciousness, splendid views and superb appointments come together spectacularly in the best location in Corey's Landing for this 3BR/2.5BA, 2,227+/- sq.-ft. attached villa, perfectly set on a corner space to maximize a serene panorama of the meticulous golf course and its tranquil lake.



ST. ARMANDS 140 S. BLVD. OF THE PRESIDENTS • SARASOTA, FL • \$2,499,947

Spacious 3BR/2BA residence on a fully fenced corner lot offering high impact windows, new metal roof (2020), saltwater pool, gas cooktop and fireplace, automatic louver Pergola, and updated kitchen and master bath. Travertine pool deck, Hardi board masonry siding new in 2020.



SEASCAPE 5135 GULF OF MEXICO DR., #202 • LONGBOAT KEY, FL • \$1,299,999

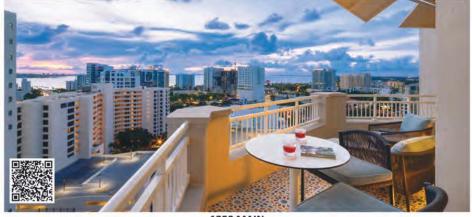
Spacious 3BR/2BA residence located in a boutique, direct Gulf-front community of only 8 units. An abundance of windows invites the tropical backdrop of the Gulf of Mexico inside to complement the neutral tones. Includes 2 highly coveted covered parking spaces.



THE SANCTUARY

535 SANCTUARY DR., #A603 • LONGBOAT KEY, FL • \$3,195,000

This immaculate residence was painstakingly renovated from top to bottom, offering city, golf course and Gulf of Mexico views. Upgrades are evident throughout this 2BR+Den/2.5BA home, including Chef's kitchen, and replacement of all sliders and windows with high-impact glass.



1350 MAIN

1350 MAIN ST., PENTHOUSE 1704 • SARASOTA, FL • \$7,500,000

THE ONE - A freshly redesigned entertainers penthouse located high above the city of Sarasota. Encompassing 3,208 sq. ft., the penthouse offers jet liner views of the city, Sarasota Bay and the Gulf of Mexico. Completely remodeled by one of the region's finest builders, guided by the owner's distinctive vision of bringing a modern Beverly Hills level of interior detailing.



THE SANCTUARY 545 SANCTUARY DR., #B506 • LONGBOAT KEY, FL • \$2,495,000

Bright, spacious, and beautifully kept 3BR/2.5BA residence with panoramic views of the city skyline, Sarasota bay and the Links golf course from a large, open terrace. Popular Brittany floor plan, further enhanced with the opening up of the kitchen for a seamless flow through dining and living areas.



UNDER CONSTRUCTION

2945 PYRULA DRIVE • LONGBOAT KEY, FL • \$3,345,000

Exceptional quality, untouched refinement, 2-story, 5BR/5BA, 3,815 sq. ft. residence. Features abound, including a separate in-law suite and large 3-car garage. Expansive outdoor area with heated pool and



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