



Longboat Key News

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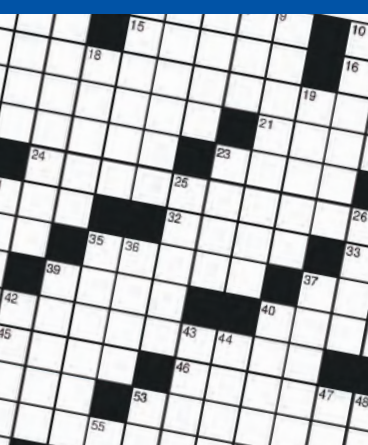
InsideLook



How far can you go at the net?
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Private vs Public: Not All Streets Equal When it Comes to Debris

“We pay taxes too. Whatever agreements you made or whatever happens with FEMA really is irrelevant unless you’re going to lower our taxes for the lower services we’ve received. That goes for anyone who lives on a private road.”

STEVE REID
Editor & Publisher
sreid@lbknews.com

Some Longboat Key residents who live on private roads want more representation for their taxation when it comes to debris removal.

At last week’s Longboat Key Town Commission meeting, some property owners expressed frustration that the debris on private roads will not be removed at least according to the Town’s current reading of the rules.

According to the town, state law and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) guidelines are clear that the town will only be reimbursed for costs of debris removal on public streets and roadways, but not on any private roads.

“I see the private golf courses are piling up all their debris on Gulf of Mexico Drive. I’m assuming the town’s going to pick that up. I’m assuming that’s because the private golf course pays taxes. We pay taxes too. Whatever agreements you made or whatever happens with FEMA really is irrelevant unless you’re going to lower our taxes for the lower services we’ve received. That goes for anyone who lives on a private road,” said resident Christopher Lauren.

Lauren continued in saying that its simply not fair that you don’t receive a service that your neighbor gets but you have to pay at the same rate.

“I’m just telling you the perspective of a person that lives on a private road. It’s very distasteful; it’s an added stress to an already stressful situation,” said Lauren.

Mayor Ken Schneier expressed empathy: “Let me tell you, I feel your pain. I live in Bay Isles and there are 1,600 units in Bay Isles and they’re all on private roads and we’re not entitled to any pickup of debris.”

Schneier then said that the Town was “probably going to see if we could work something out to change that for all of us.”

Part of the conundrum is the sheer cost to remove debris said Public Works Director and recently-minted Assistant Town Manager Isaac Brownman.

The storms, Hurricanes Helene and Milton, have left in their wake an estimated 50,000 cubic yards of debris. Brownman did say that the Town is clearing some private roads where it has deemed the roadway unsafe for emergency vehicles.

Brownman said the good news is the State of Florida has indicated it will ensure that all the debris is removed from Gulf of Mexico Drive and reimburse for more than just a couple of sweeps of the island.

“The issue with the scavengers is they’re getting a little rambunctious. Instead of just taking the garbage or just the appliances, we’re now actually getting burglaries and people going into private property, and this is very hard to control.”

Scavenger island...

The resident on the private roadway intimated that those on private roads could simply hire contractors to pick their debris up and dump it on the highway. Lauren said at the meeting that this kind of dumping is happening in the evening when there’s less police enforcement and they’re taking dump trucks and backing right up to Gulf of Mexico Drive.

See Debris, page 2

Beer Can Island: where swimming, boating, drinking and relaxation collide

Some ingredients simply don’t mix into a successful cocktail. Nowhere is this truer than on the very northern tip of Longboat Key on the spit of sand that sprawls under Longboat Pass Bridge known as Beer Can Island.

STEVE REID
Editor & Publisher
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The beautiful and pictorial location has been the scene of partying boaters, swimmers next to strong currents, manatees and sea grass in the lagoon nearby, and a small residential enclave that is particularly impacted by all the activity.

Long time real estate broker Michael Saunders owns a family home and compound at Land’s End on Longboat’s northern tip and a small dock that juts out toward Beer Can Island. Saunders told the Town Commission last week that it should consider extending the existing swim-only zone to protect the shoreline that extends on Beer Can Island from Longboat Pass Bridge and curls toward her dock and the Greer Island inlet.

“It’s a small move that would make life better for everyone; for the people who live on Greer Bay as well as the manatees that breed there,” said Saunders.

Saunders opened her remarks by saying she felt a little ridiculous talking about recreating after the hurricanes, but the item was on the agenda. She said the problem with boaters congregating on the east side of Longboat Pass Bridge is that they tend to get closer and closer and eventually invade the swim area. She said that the boaters continue to block the channel so that people can’t get into the bay and Greer Island. She also said that boaters rev their engines and tear up the sea grass when they leave the beach.

“The manatees breed in Greer Bay and it’s kind of a private place. The



older people who come often drink, bring their dogs and jump off the bridge. And their dogs run loose. She added that her family could call the police every time, but they know the police have better things to do so “we only call when it gets really outrageous.”

Town staff in a presentation made the same day as Saunders’ remarks, said that the current arrangement has been effective in creating a protected boundary and that there have been no arrests or incidents or upticks in police activity. The town also explained that extending a swim zone closer to Longboat Pass Bridge to keep boaters away could prove a difficult argument since the Coast Guard and Manatee County originally did not want a swim zone in the vicinity due to the strong currents emanating from the pass and under the bridge. So the idea of extending the zone closer to the bridge would be a counter-intuitive reach.

Saunders suggested that the lifestyle of people recreating with kayaks and walking and bathing while protecting the environment was a direction worth pursuing. Town staff will continue monitoring the situation.

Debris, from page 1

“It’s going to be a real issue; it’s going to be a health issue soon; it’s going to be a rodent issue and an animal issue for the whole island and for Bay Isles as well as us,” said Lauren.

Mayor Schneier then made it clear that it is illegal for anyone to move debris onto Gulf of Mexico Drive, or any road abutting Gulf of Mexico Drive.

“You’ll be ordered to return it to where it (the debris) came from and fined and maybe worse than that...” said Schneier.

Commissioner BJ Bishop said she had been chatting with Longboat Police Chief George Turner about the exact issues as well as vagrants and scavengers. She said that the Town has received the assistance of 50 additional police officers from Miami Lakes, Jacksonville, Apopka and other municipalities.

“These officers are patrolling as much if not more at night than during the day because one of the issues we’ve had is a robbery on our street, and then there was a robbery in the Village, and it’s been difficult because we can’t have a cop on every street 24/7,” said Bishop.

Next, Police Chief George Turner came to the podium and spoke of the role the additional officers are playing.

“We’ve given them a mission to keep the scavengers out and to keep illegal dumping off the island. It’s a felony to illegally dump anywhere on Longboat,” said Turner.

Turner added that the debris removal is adding to traffic because Gulf of Mexico Drive is often closed in one of its lanes but that patience is necessary.

One of the commissioners asked Turner what was the issue of scavenging. She said she had seen people pick up things like scrap metal but wondered what the issue was.

“The issue with the scavengers is they’re getting a little rambunctious. Instead of just taking the garbage or just the appliances, it’s become more of a problem and we’re now actually getting burglaries and people going to the pile on the road, and the onto private property, and this is very hard to control,” said Turner.

The Town has a goal of removing all debris from the island through its contractors within 65 days. The Town is also going to attempt to receive a commitment from FEMA to help offset private roadways or to find a manner in which the cost can be reimbursed.

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Friends and Neighbors,

This past week's storm was devastating, and its effects will be felt throughout our community for a long time. In the last few days, we've heard from many friends and past clients who have been seriously affected and are uncertain about their immediate next steps.

Historically, our Seaward Companies have focused primarily on new construction—both residential and commercial—as well as consulting services. However, in light of the many inquiries we've received, we are now prepared to extend our services to those in our community who have been most impacted by the storm. We are ready to meet with property owners to discuss the best options moving forward.

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- **Sale of your Property**

For owners who desire to sell their property at this time and forego a construction project, we may be able to assist by purchasing your property. Alternatively, we can also connect you with one of our island team members from our real estate division at The DiPinto Group at Coldwell Banker to accommodate your real estate needs.

We at Seaward Companies are happy to meet with you to discuss all options that you may be considering at this time. We understand over the past two weeks that these storms have affected everyone differently and there is no “one size fits all” solution. What we can do now, is provide you with as much information as possible regarding your property options, from local and trusted professionals in our marketplace. With this important information you will be in the position to make the best decision for you and your family moving forward.

Best regards,



Patrick DiPinto

Please contact us to schedule a consultation:
patrick@dipintocompanies.com and matthew@seawarddevelopment.com



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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.

I applaude you...

To: Longboat Key Town Staff
First, I want to applaud all of you for your unwavering efforts to keep our community informed about all the developments of the recent hurricanes and the steps that have been taken to return LBK to some level of normalcy. You have all gone ‘above and beyond’ to ensure that we are all safe and you have done everything to remediate the damage left by the storms.
Second, I apologize for the selfish, narrow-minded perspectives that some of our residents have shown. Please know that their ungrateful, narcissistic attitudes are not representative of most of us in Longboat Key. Thank you for all that you have done and continue to do for the Longboat Key community!
Nancy Rozance
Longboat Key

Roadways

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton
In the wake of ongoing debris cleanup efforts, we want to clarify a few important points to ensure our community understands the Town’s approach to addressing both public and private roadways.
The Town shares the community’s goal of expediting debris cleanup to achieve a swift recovery.
FEMA will reimburse the Town 100% for debris removal on public roads. However, FEMA does not specifically authorize debris removal on private roads.
For safety reasons, the Town has authorized debris removal on several private roads that are impassable for emergency vehicles and or garbage trucks. The Town believes that this definition will be considered favorably for reimbursement by FEMA. There are other private roads that have debris but do not rise to this same level of life safety consideration.
No local tax dollars have been spent on debris removal that the Town does not anticipate being fully reimbursed for. Thus, the notion that “I pay taxes, so the Town should clean my private road like public ones” is not an accurate reflection of the facts.
The Town is not using local tax dollars for clearing public or the few constrained private roads.
The suggestion that the Town should use local tax dollars to clear private road debris when none are being used on any other roads in the community appears to pose a fairness question for local taxpayers.
The Town has partnered with several additional patrol agencies, which will remain on the island through November 8th to assist with traffic control and prevent illegal debris dumping. Please be aware that traffic delays will continue as debris removal efforts progress.
Tina Adams
Fire Administration Manager/PIO
Longboat Key Fire Rescue Department

Sage Condominiums

To: Longboat Key Planning and Zoning Director Allen Parsons
Thank you for the clarification.
Debra Williams
Commissioner
Town of Longboat Key

Sage Condominiums

To: Longboat Key Commissioner Debra Williams
Thanks for the question. The Sage development was approved as a Site Development Plan that retained two of the former tourism/bungalow structures. The beach structures that were retained were considered nonconforming. With regard to the recent hurricanes, they are subject to the same FEMA flood requirements associated with substantial damage or improvements (i.e. the FEMA 50% rule). Like with all structures in the Town, we are obligated to make sure that when damage or improvements exceed that 50% threshold that structures are brought into compliance with flood prevention regulations.
Allen Parsons
Planning and Zoning Director
Town of Longboat Key

Sage Condominiums

To: Longboat Key Planning and Zoning Director Allen Parsons
The Site Development Plan Order, 2020-04 (filed2/25/2021), states that the development must be in compliance with FEMA standards. Changes to the NFIP CRS effective 1/12/2021 required us to eliminate the building height elevation exemption for the mobile homes so we can comply with the new CRS standards and receive a 20% flood discount. In the case of Sage, the town approved a new dwelling unit at ground level. What are the FEMA standards for this, and what impact, if any, does approving dwelling units at ground level have on the town’s NFIP CRS discount?
Debra Williams
Commissioner
Town of Longboat Key

Sage Condominiums

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton
So, this issue is going to come up in at least five other properties that suffered extreme damage in the storms. If the Sage cottage was allowed, I am sure all the properties that can, will try and do that again. The wisdom of having at grade 50-year-old cottages on the beach I thought was ridiculous before and I believe that is even more ridiculous now.
BJ Bishop
Commissioner
Town of Longboat Key

Sage Condominiums

To: Longboat Key Commission
Commissioner Bishop brought up under comments at yesterday’s meeting the site plan exemption approval at Sage Condos. Allen has provided a summary of what occurred here and it seems like a pretty unique situation. Please let me know if you’d like to discuss further.
Howard N. Tipton
Town Manager
Town of Longboat Key

Site Plan Exemption Approval: Sage Condominiums

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton
Providing background on a Site Plan Exemption (SPE) approval that was provided to the Sage condominium project. The Site Plan Exemption provisions (Sec. 158.026) allow for a limited range of minor changes to Site Development Plans, to be approved administratively. The SPE (attached) for the Sage Condominium project was to revise the usage of an approved structure (a former tourism/bungalow structure that was retained as part of the Site Development Plan approval) to change from a storage building to a residential dwelling (see red clouded structure on the attached Site Plan sheet).
This change was allowable per Sec. 158.026(6) because no changes were proposed to the structure on the Site Development Plan and because the proposed residential use of that structure is a permitted use within the site’s T-6 zoning district. What’s relatively unique is that the Sage Condominium project was approved for 16 dwelling units (Site Development Plan Order attached). Based on the property’s size (3.16 acres) & zoning district density (T-6 = 6 DUs/ac), the total allowed density was 18 dwelling units. Very few projects are likely not to utilize all of their allowable density. No other site plan changes were proposed & the site plan included more parking spaces than are required by Code (30 spaces required; 39 provided).
Staff treats all applicants equally. Site Plan Exemption requests that meet Town Code requirements and are not otherwise prohibited by Town Code or the Town’s Comprehensive Plan are approved administratively as a matter of course.
Allen Parsons
Director Planning, Zoning & Building Department
Town of Longboat Key

See Letters, page 6

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Editor Letters

Letters, from page 4

St Regis beach activity

To: Longboat Key Planning and Zoning Director Allen Parsons
 I've been asked about construction activity and sand replacement happening beachside at the St. Regis. Can you please clarify what's happening with the construction and sand replacement? There's a lot of confusion regarding gulf front properties placing sand back on the beach.
 Debra Williams
 Commissioner
 Town of Longboat Key

St Regis beach activity

To: Longboat Key Commissioner Debra Williams
 I'm looping Charlie Mopps into this conversation as he has been in contact with St. Regis.
 Howard N. Tipton
 Town Manager
 Town of Longboat Key

St Regis beach activity

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton
 Ma'am, I was out there with Dr. Al last week. They are actually sifting the sand (with the proper equipment) that was on their property, to remove the debris and placing it back in the berm/dune gulf side of their property. We have recommended to other citizens and property owners/managers to do the same.
 Charles Mopps
 Program Manager/Assistant Public Works Director
 Town of Longboat Key

St. Regis beach activity

To: Longboat Key Assistant Public Works Director Charlie Mopps
 Thank you for the quick response, this clarifies the sand issue.
 Debra Williams
 Commissioner
 Town of Longboat Key

Project Update - Cortez Bridge Utility Relocation

To: Longboat Key Commissioner BJ Bishop

Thank you Commissioner. We are checking on the details of this project.
 Howard N. Tipton
 Town Manager
 Town of Longboat Key

Project Update - Cortez Bridge Utility Relocation

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton
 Tip - can we encourage them to delay a few months? Recovery is hard enough without another road block.
 BJ Bishop
 Commissioner
 Town of Longboat Key

Debris pickup

To: Bonita Wilson
 Please send me the contact info for your HOA President or whomever is heading your clean up operations in Spanish Main so I can use your community as an example in seeking debris reimbursement from FEMA. Thanks.
 Ken Schneier
 Mayor
 Town of Longboat Key

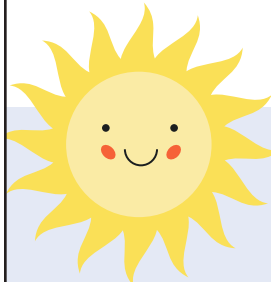
Debris

To: Longboat Key Commission
 Why can't debris be picked up on private roads or at least allowed to be sent to GMD. Are the people on GMD the only ones paying taxes for services? The debris on roads off the GMD has been accumulating and creating health and safety hazards to the residents of these communities. Playing favorites to the wealthy and business property owners on GMD is shameful during a natural disaster like this. So many have lost so much and now the added insult of the town managers being there only for a small segment of the population.
 I will try to find someone to pay to haul away my debris. This should be deducted from my tax payments to LBK. And I will lobby my friends and neighbors to remember at the next election who failed the residents of LBK.
 Bonita Wilson
 Longboat Key

Debris

To: Bonita Wilson
 I understand your frustration. We are trying to find a way to deal with private streets.

See Letters, page 8



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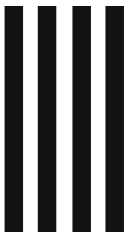
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Editor Letters



Letters, from page 6

Spanish Main is a particular challenge because the trucks will not fit on the substandard roads. Please feel free to call the town manager 941-316-1999 and he can give you more info. I have lost my home in the storm and most of our possessions so I am overloaded right now.
BJ Bishop
Commissioner
Town of Longboat Key

Debris

To: Bonita Wilson
I understand your concern completely. This year, the federal government (FEMA) is taking the position so far that towns like Longboat Key may not arrange for debris pick up from private roads and seek reimbursement for the expense. This applies to all private roads, including the 1600 residences in Bay Isles, where I live. The Town and Commissioners are working on every approach at the State and federal level to try to arrange for reimbursement to private road developments for costs incurred from the storm clean up.
If possible, finding a contractor for your HOA or otherwise for your neighborhood might be less expensive and more attractive to the contractor selected than making arrangements for your own home alone. Watch the Town alerts for more information on this issue.
Ken Schneier
Mayor
Town of Longboat Key

Little Ringling Bridge update

To: Longboat Key Commission
Isaac is providing a follow-up to the question regarding the status of the work on Little Ringling Bridge.
Howard N. Tipton
Town Manager
Town of Longboat Key

Little Ringling Bridge update

To: Longboat Key Town Commission
Regarding an update question asked at the Town Commission meeting yesterday, I spoke to the City of Sarasota Engineer, Nik Patel. He indicated that the work on the Little Ringling Bridge approach is now complete as of last Friday October 18th. What had happened is that the bridge approach was undermined and eroded, and that was the repair work that was

conducted. The bridge itself (both directions) held up very well and are in good condition.
Isaac Brownman
Director Public Works
Town of Longboat Key

Hurricanes

To: Longboat Key Commissioner BJ Bishop
I am sorry for your loss and we certainly plan on surviving here. It is certainly an exercise in privation. It is the worst that we have seen.
Tom Mayers
Longboat Key

Hurricanes

To: Tom Mayer
Me as well. Our house did not survive Helene and I have been chain sawing since we got back after Milton. Your property is such an important part of LBK's history. Take care of yourself as you recover from these two hurricanes.
BJ Bishop
Commissioner
Town of Longboat Key

Hurricanes

To: Longboat Key Commission
I have been on full clean up mode for almost a month.
Thank you for your help on this issue for what you do for the Town.
Tom Mayers
Longboat Key

Debris Collection: Quick Update

To: Longboat Key Commission
I'm sharing this update on debris collection for two reasons. First, we are seeing what a fully ramped up collection effort looks like and it is great to see.
Second, collecting the debris along GMD will impact traffic. That's just a fact as the contractors need to work safely which requires frequent flagged stops to allow the trucks to leave and come in. We are working on some messaging around this so that people can plan accordingly.
If we want the island picked up, it is going to take some traffic inconvenience to get it done.

See Letters, page 12



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The Water Club on the South end of Longboat Key is a rare jewel in condominium living. Almost new 2,585 sq. ft. under air, features a garden, and partial Gulf views. Southern exposure w/walls of glass, 10 ft. ceilings, wood flooring, extended 1,000 sq. ft. terraces. The Water Club is exceptionally well-run w/strong reserve fund, a magnificent clubhouse, an Olympic-sized pool, tennis, and 2 pets under 35 lbs. welcome.

WaterClub105.com



2251 Gulf of Mexico Drive #204 - \$7,999,000

This epic Gulf-front corner residence, which feels like a home on the beach, offers 3 bedrooms plus an office (or 4 bedrooms) and 3.5 bathrooms in a lavish 4,032 sq. ft. space. Gourmet Miele kitchen with large walk-in pantry. 3,400 sq. ft. terrace featuring a 40-foot private infinity pool, fire pit, and summer kitchen, with private stairs leading straight to the beach, Garage suitable for 3 to 5 cars with an electric charging station. Wellness center with state-of-the-art fitness equipment. 1/2-mile walking path, Historic Villa am Mar with social room, guest suite, dining room.

2251GulfofMexicodr.2seeit.com



415 L'Ambiance Drive #F608- \$6,900,000-Contract available for assignment:

Experience luxury living at its finest with this stunning Royal floorplan within L'Ambiance at Longboat Key Club: Turnkey furnished residence, thoughtfully curated, only a few items excluded. This exquisite residence features three bedrooms, office or bonus room, and three beautifully appointed bathrooms. Private elevator, soaring 10-foot ceilings, living and dining area adorned with stunning herringbone-patterned wood flooring. The residence has been fully renovated to the highest standards by Mark Sultana of DSDG, featuring premium Thermador appliances and new windows and doors. State-of-the-art fitness center, an inviting outdoor area with an Olympic-sized pool that overlooks the Gulf with direct access to the beach. L'Ambiance on Longboat Key is not just a residence; it's an exclusive lifestyle waiting for discerning buyers seeking the pinnacle of luxury living



415 L'Ambiance Drive #A401 -\$5,840,000

Experience luxury at L'Ambiance with this Southwest corner residence featuring a spacious wraparound terrace and stunning sunsets. Enjoy private elevator access opening directly into your own beautiful foyer, a custom-designed interior with windows, kitchen, and baths. The Royal floorplan offers three bedrooms, all ens powder room, and a bonus room. Residents benefit from concierge service, a 24-hour guard gate, an Olympic-sized pool, two tennis courts, a fitness center, game rooms, a library, a wine room, and guest suites. Small pet welcome, and one underground parking spot is included. L'Ambiance on Longboat Key is not just a residence; it's an exclusive lifestyle waiting for discerning buyers seeking the pinnacle of luxury living

lambianceA401.com



65 Lighthouse Point - \$8,150,000

A gated enclave of 16 luxury homes on the southern tip of Longboat Key, luxury waterfront architectural. Modern 4 bed + den/office + bonus area, 4.5 bath, 4,941 sq ft. Stunning living room with fireplace, gourmet kitchen, and spacious family area opening to a pool with water views. 3-car garage with ample storage and a private 40' dock on a wide protected basis with direct Gulf Access.

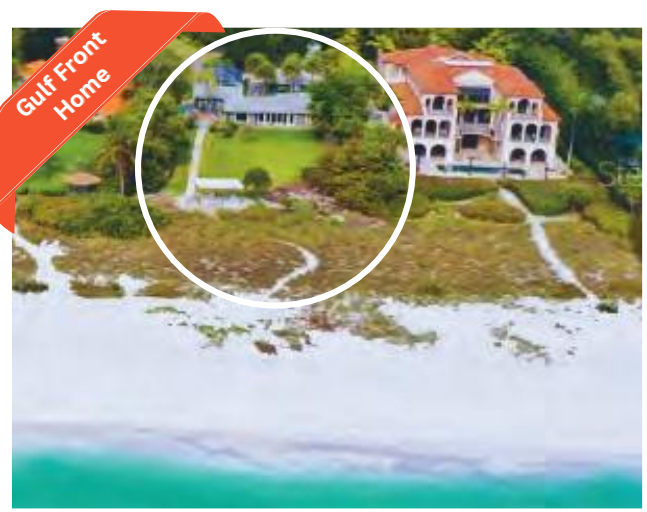
www.65Lighthouse.com



21 & 25 Lands End Lane-\$16,000,000

This prime homesite (10 minutes to downtown) offers unparalleled vistas of the glistening waters, downtown Sarasota, and Bird Key and Lido Key from its expansive 120-foot frontage of private beach, bay, and pass frontage. This unique offering combines two properties into one expansive family compound featuring breathtaking waterfront views, deepwater boat dock on Big Pass, and 2 protected boat slips on Bayou Louise.. Almost ¾ acres and prime location, it represents a rare blend of sophistication and coastal living in paradise.

21LandsEndLane.com



5941 Gulf of Mexico Drive -\$9,500,000

This charming single-story beachfront home offers an incredible opportunity for those seeking a slice of paradise. Sold as-is, the property is situated on a generous lot, making it ideal for a family compound or a personal retreat. Imagine waking up to breathtaking views of the Gulf of Mexico. With ample space for outdoor gatherings, this property is perfect for families looking to create lasting memories by the beach. Whether you're looking to renovate, build your dream home, or simply enjoy the existing structure, the potential here is limitless.

OnPatrol

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

Oct. 18 Missing furniture

9:34 a.m.
Officer Martinson was dispatched to Spanish Drive North on a call of a Citizen Assist. Upon arrival, Officer Martinson met with the complainant outside in front of the residence. The complainant stated he was a friend of the homeowner and was there on his behalf to file a theft report because the homeowner was out of town. The complainant informed the officer that a mattress, a dresser, and two end tables had been stolen from the property. The complainant stated he had helped the homeowner move all the property from the house outside on Sunday and today he noticed the items missing. The complainant showed Officer Martinson a small sign that was taped to a bag stating the pile of items under the carport where not trash and were not to be removed. However, the sign to not remove property was very small and could have been easily missed. Officer Martinson observed other property with greater value still left around outside such as golf clubs, power tools, patio furniture along with televisions, and a gun with boxes of ammunition left inside. Officer Martinson then spoke to the complainant over the cell phone. After speaking with the homeowner, he said he believes the mattress, dresser and end tables were probably taken in haste and there was no criminal intent to steal his property. The homeowner said that the total loss was \$1,000. Case clear.

Dogs

11:35 a.m.
Officer Maple was dispatched to the 4100 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive for an animal problem call. The call was in reference to a blue SUV parked in the community parking lot next to the tennis courts with two small dogs inside and car not running. Call was dispatched by Longboat Key Fire Department front desk dispatch. Upon his arrival, Officer Maple met with the complainant who was sitting inside her blue BMW SUV with the engine running and two dogs inside. The complainant stated she lived in the complex and was awaiting a friend's arrival. She said she had been in the car the entire time and had been turning the engine off and on to run the air conditioning. Case clear.

Boat

2:06 p.m.
Officer Maple was dispatched to St. Jude's for a citizen's assist call. The call was in reference to a 26 foot boat that had washed up on his property after a recent hurricane. Upon his arrival, Officer Maple spoke to the complainant via his cell phone who said the boat had washed up recently and would like it removed. Officer Maple spoke to the car owner who stated he was aware of the status of his boat and has been working with Sea Tow for the last three days in order to develop a plan to have it removed. The owner will have boat removed as soon as possible. Case clear.

Oct. 19 Save Our Seabirds

3:58 p.m.
Officer Maple was dispatched to the 2500 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive for report of an injured bird on the beach. Upon arrival, Officer Maple spoke with the complainant who stated there was an injured bird on the beach in the vicinity of Islands West Condominium. Prior to contacting the complainant, Officer Maple spoke with the employee at Save Our Seabirds who stated they were unable to respond due to lack of personnel. Officer Maple informed the complainant that they could take the bird to Save Our Seabirds but at this time, no other options exist. The complainant stated they would see if they could get other assistance. Case clear.

Driver's license

8:42 p.m.
Officer Miklos while on patrol traveling southbound on Gulf of Mexico Drive, observed



a vehicle traveling northbound with a license plate light that was inoperable. Officer Miklos turned his patrol vehicle into the northbound lane and confirmed the license plate light was extinguished by turning off his headlights. At this time, Officer Miklos conducted a traffic stop and met with the driver and explained the reason for the traffic stop. The driver and Officer Miklos had to use a translator on the phone to communicate due to a language barrier. The driver did not have any form of identification and later advised he had a Dominican Republic Driver's License despite being a full-time resident in the state of Florida. Officer Miklos issued the driver a criminal citation for operating a vehicle with no driver's license with a Manatee County Court date at 9 a.m. Additionally, the driver was issued warning for the extinguished license plate light and for not having any form of ID on his persons. The driver acknowledged the court date via signature and thumb print on the court copy of the citation. The driver parked his vehicle until his brother could arrive to drive the vehicle.

Oct. 20 Citizen assist

2:02 p.m.
Officer Maple was dispatched to Old Compass Road for a homeowner stuck in a glass shower and unable to unlock the door. Longboat Key Fire Department truck 91 arrived on scene and freed the trapped homeowner. No police assistance was required. Case clear.

Dog

7:50 p.m.
Officer Martinson responded to the 3700 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive on a call of a civil disturbance. Upon arrival, Officer Martinson was met outside in front of the complex by the complainant. The complainant stated he was the HOA President and that the woman renting had guests staying with a dog. The complainant said that dogs were not allowed on the property. The complainant stated when he confronted the renter about the dog, the renter began to yell at him and use foul language. The renter demanded that he kick everyone out of the house and off the property. Officer Martinson explained to the renter that if the renter was breaking HOA rules that is a civil issue and Officer Martinson would not be evicting anyone from the property. The renter was not happy with the Officer's response and said he would be in contact with the property owner to have him evict the tenant and her guests. Officer Martinson then spoke with the renter and one of her guests who stated that she had lived at the complex for over two years and a couple of months ago moved into the unit. The renter stated she knows that dogs are technically against the HOA rules but she spoke with the owner and he is aware of the dog staying there. The renter stated her guests are friends who are Longboat Key residents and they are staying with her because they lost their homes during the hurricanes. Officer Martinson then spoke with the owner of the dog who said the dog is a service dog. The man said his home was destroyed and the renter was nice enough to let them stay with her for the time being. Officer Martinson was then provided a service animal card. Case clear.

Oct. 21 Citizen assist

9:00 a.m.
Officer Troyer responded to the 2800 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive on a report of a citizen assist. The complainant called and reported his neighbor was threatening him over paint in the roadway. Upon arrival, Officer Troyer met with the complainant and he reported that yesterday he observed paint put out to the side of the roadway which was in front of his neighbor's residence. This morning, the complainant observed the paint was moved and was in front of his apartment complex. The complainant asked the workers, whom he observed in front of the neighbor's residence about the paint, and if the paint was hardened. The complainant did not want the apartment complex to get in trouble for the paint. When the complainant did this, the neighbor confronted the complainant and began yelling at him. Officer Troyer spoke with the complainant about future interactions with the neighbor and to leave when the neighbors acts out toward the complainant. The complainant was understanding and said he did not want any more interactions with the neighbor. Officer Troyer arrived at the neighbor's residence to speak with him. The neighbor didn't answer the door despite ringing the doorbell and knocking on the door multiple times. Based upon his investigation, Officer Troyer did not hear or observe any criminal actions which took place from the incident. The incident appeared to be a civil dispute between the two. Case clear.

Oct. 22 Debris

2:01 p.m.
Officer Troyer was dispatched along with Sgt. Montfort to the 5800 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive for a possible adult man illegally dumping. Sgt. Montfort arrived and made contact with the man who was operating a truck and dump trailer attempting to dump storm debris on the right-of-way for removal. The man made contact with his supervisor who provided Sgt. Montfort a copy of the contract for work being done there, in essence allowing the company to deposit storm debris. A NCIC/FCIC check was completed which revealed the man possessed a warrant for a conditional release violation issued in Charlotte County. Sgt. Montfort detained him and contacted Charlotte County. Officer Troyer arrived on scene and confirmed the warrant and the man was subsequently taken into custody. The man was placed in the rear of his patrol vehicle and transported to Manatee County Jail without incident. The man was left in the care of police staff. Case clear.

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Bird Key, Lido Key, Longboat Key latest sales

Address	Sq. Ft.	List Price	Bed/Bath/Half Bath			Days On Market	Sale Price
473 PARTRIDGE CIR	3,226	\$4,175,000	4	3	1	0	\$4,175,000
1561 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#404	4,967	\$9,500,000	3	4	1	0	\$10,484,539
1581 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#606	2,347	\$5,085,000	2	2	1	0	\$5,085,000
1591 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#312	2,154	\$2,854,100	2	2	1	0	\$2,854,100
535 SANCTUARY DR Unit#C507	2,580	\$2,795,000	3	2	1	52	\$2,593,500
1591 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#415	1,556	\$2,145,000	1	2	0	0	\$2,145,000
3060 GRAND BAY BLVD Unit#152	2,250	\$1,395,000	3	3	1	240	\$1,200,000
3235 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#A405	1,260	\$1,195,000	2	2	0	176	\$1,100,000
3010 GRAND BAY BLVD Unit#422	2,143	\$1,145,000	2	3	1	259	\$1,000,000
1000 LONGBOAT CLUB RD Unit#403	1,409	\$845,000	2	2	0	153	\$740,000
600 SUTTON PL Unit#303B	992	\$625,000	2	2	0	11	\$600,000
4540 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#201	1,561	\$525,000	2	2	0	406	\$485,000



1561 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#404



JEFF
RHINELANDER

941-685-3590

Jeff@jeffrhineland.com



COURTNEY
TARANTINO

941-893-7203

courtney.tarantino@floridamoves.com

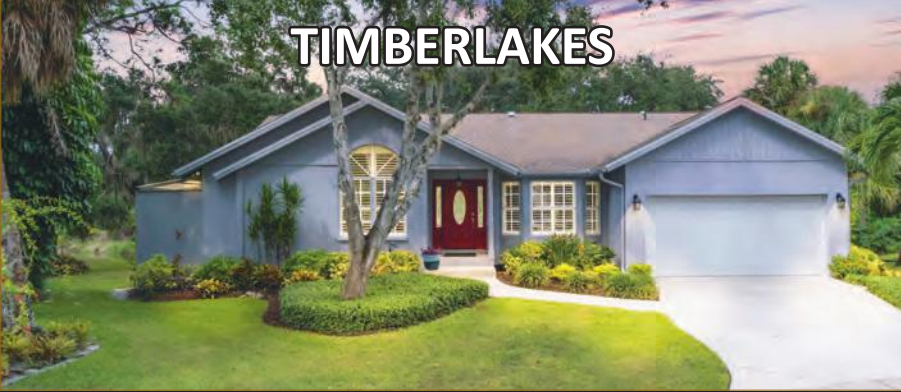


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BIRD KEY

410 MEADOW LARK DRIVE, SARASOTA • \$3,895,000
4BR/2.5BA • 3,257 SF



TIMBERLAKES

4583 TRAILS DRIVE , SARASOTA • \$668,000
3BR+DEN/2BA • 2,092 SF



BIRD KEY

NEW CONSTRUCTION

453 E. ROYAL FLAMINGO DRIVE, SARASOTA • \$8,495,000
NEW CONSTRUCTION • 5BR/6BA • 4,500 SF



DOWNTOWN SARASOTA

KANAYA • 505 S. ORANGE AVE. #401, SARASOTA • \$2,215,000
3BR/3.5BA END UNIT • 3,003 SF

Editor Letters

Letters, from page 8

Short term pain for long term gain.
Howard N. Tipton
Town Manager
Town of Longboat Key

Debris Collection: Quick Update

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton and Chief Paul Dezzi
Just a quick update: Now that we have our new debris collection rates that match FDOTs, and our contractors are settling in to Helene / Milton clean up, we are seeing even more of a good ramp up of equipment and production:
As an example, yesterday, between the Town's two (2) contractors, DRC Emergency Services and Ceres Environmental, there were 19 trucks on the island with 59 loads being moved out of neighborhood areas with a total of 2,323 CY of material. This is significantly more equipment and cubic yardage than was even collected the day before (1,600 CY the day before).
A good amount of that is being moved to the on-island two (2) acre site, but the reduction and removal process from there is also in progress.
Isaac Brownman
Director Public Works
Town of Longboat Key

FEMA Connect

To: Senior Advisor, White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs Sophia Sokolowski
Thanks, Sophia, for your continued interest in our recovery on Longboat Key and your introduction to Kristin. While I am the mayor of Longboat, the specific matter I raised at last week's meeting and with you relates to private neighborhoods on Longboat and other areas. I live in Bay Isles on Longboat, a master association with well over 1000 residences in 17

sub-associations. After past storms, debris from our (private) roads and others was picked up by FEMA-authorized contractors arranged by our Town. This year, we are advised that that arrangement is not available and that each association must compete with municipalities to hire contractors to clear our debris at inflated prices. Our small neighborhood in Bay Isles with only 37 homes will be charged \$18,000 just to pick up vegetative debris once (excluding large trees), but we have no choice.
My hope is that FEMA or another agency will at least provide an opportunity for reimbursement of these expenses. We pay the same taxes as everyone else in the community and storm debris removal is something we have learned to rely on. I know that we have included a provision in our agreement with the debris removal contractor that requires them to provide information that may be requested to obtain reimbursement.
Thanks so much for your continued support of our Town and our neighbors after these two big hits.
Ken Schneider
Mayor
Town of Longboat Key

FEMA Connect

To: Longboat Key Mayor Ken Schneider
Thank you for the call yesterday. I am writing to connect you to Kristin Buda, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs at FEMA, to help get your debris questions sorted – thank you both!
Sophia Sokolowski
Senior Advisor, White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs

Debris Collection: Quick Update

To: Longboat Key Commission
I'm sharing this update on debris collection for two reasons. First, we are seeing what a fully ramped up collection effort

looks like and it is great to see.
Second, collecting the debris along GMD will impact traffic. That's just a fact as the contractors need to work safely which requires frequent flagged stops to allow the trucks to leave and come in. We are working on some messaging around this so that people can plan accordingly. If we want the island picked up, it is going to take some traffic inconvenience to get it done. Short term pain for long term gain.
Howard N. Tipton
Town Manager
Town of Longboat Key

Debris Collection: Quick Update

To: Longboat Key Fire Chief Paul Dezzi
Just a quick update: Now that we have our new debris collection rates that match FDOTs, and our contractors are settling into Helene / Milton clean up, we are seeing even more of a good ramp up of equipment and production:
As an example, yesterday, between the Town's two (2) contractors, DRC Emergency Services and Ceres Environmental, there were 19 trucks on the island with 59 loads being moved out of neighborhood areas with a total of 2,323 CY of material. This is significantly more equipment and cubic yardage than was even collected the day before (1,600 CY the day before).
A good amount of that is being moved to the on-island two (2) acre site, but the reduction and removal process from there is also in progress.
Isaac Brownman
Director Public Works
Town of Longboat Key

Zoning Board of Adjustment

To: Longboat Key Town Commission
I am forwarding to you an email (below) that I received today from ZBA Chair Gaelle Barthold regarding her resignation from the board. While every board resignation is a great loss, it is important to note that Gaelle has served on the Town's ZBA board for over 12+ years. Her background as a retired appellate lawyer has been extremely helpful over the years on the ZBA board as she always ensured in every quasi-judicial hearing that the record was robust with findings of fact and conclusions of law to support the ZBA's ultimate decision. Her leadership and thoroughness will be missed. Gaelle's contact information is provided below should any of you wish to reach out to her individually.
Due to the vacancy, the Town Commission will need to consider an appointment to the ZBA board in the near future. Please let me know if you have any questions regarding this notification.
Maggie D. Mooney
Town Attorney
Town of Longboat Key

Longboat Key Zoning Board of Adjustment

To: Longboat Key Town Attorney Maggie Mooney
I write to you in your capacity as Town Attorney for the Town of Longboat Key. I am copying members of Town staff with whom I have worked closely for a number of years.
It is with deep sadness and intense regret that I hereby tender my resignation as Member and Chair of the Longboat Key Zoning Board of Adjustment. I do so in accordance with the governing principles of law as you have explained them to me.
As we discussed, on or about September 26 Helene flooded my single story, early 1960s, house with approximately 3 feet of water. This was my second significant flood event in 13 months. After the 2023 Idalia flood, I remediated and rebuilt my house at some expense. This process took about 4 months during which time I moved (with dutiful cat Gigi) from one place to another. Neither Gigi nor I are prepared to do any of this again.
The one bright spot on the horizon is that I recently bought a condo in Sarasota which I had not intended to permanently reside in until some very substantial period of time in the future. (I settled on August 29. Talk about timing). Hence, unlike many who suffered, I do have a place to live.
While I will remain a Longboat Key property owner until such time as I sell the property, you have advised me that I am no longer eligible to serve the Town since it is not my intention to return as a resident. This resignation is submitted in accordance with that advice.
It has been a pleasure and honor to serve the town. My ties to the island go back to the early 1960s when my parents bought my now flooded house. If it is possible and appropriate I should like to attend the next scheduled ZBA meeting just to say a proper "goodbye."

See Letters, page 13

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Editor Letters



Letters, from page 8

Gale Barthold
Longboat Key

Longboat Key Zoning Board of Adjustment

To: Longboat Key Commissioner Debra Williams
Thank you Debra. It has been an honor and pleasure to serve. I will miss it and LBK. Keep up the good work on the commission.
Gale Barthold
Longboat Key

Longboat Key Zoning Board of Adjustment

To: Gale Barthold
I'm sorry to hear that you're resigning from the Longboat Key ZBA, and even sorrier to hear about all that you (and so many others) have had to endure with all of the recent storms. Thank you for your many years of service to the town. I wish you and Gigi all the best in your new home.
Debra Williams
Commissioner
Town of Longboat Key

Longboat Key Zoning Board of Adjustment

To: Gale Barthold
Maggie included your letter with her note. I'll be out of a job soon too with term limits approaching.
Ken Schneier
Mayor
Town of Longboat Key

Longboat Key Zoning Board of Adjustment

To: Longboat Key Mayor Ken Schneier
Many thanks Ken. It really breaks my heart to leave the island and the ZBA. I have really enjoyed my years of service.
It is hard to break the LBK ties. Besides ZBA, I am also leaving the board at the Paradise Center. But my board work at FST will continue. So I will hope to see you there if not elsewhere.
Gale Barthold
Longboat Key

Longboat Key Zoning Board of Adjustment

To: Gale Barthold
I just saw Maggie's message. I am so sorry you will be leaving the ZBA and the Town and even sorrier about the circumstances. Your steady hand on that Board has been recognized, if not sufficiently acknowledged. Thank you for your expertise and your 12 years of service. I am happy that you will be remaining in the area and hope to see you again, possibly at FST performances.
Ken Schneier
Mayor
Town of Longboat Key

Legislative Conference

To: Longboat Key Commission
The past few months, as you well know, have been challenging for our cities, residents, staff, loss of homes, loss of life, loss of power, loss of many things we do every day.
I have spoken to Trish Shinkle, Longboat Key Town Clerk, whose office has hosted MSLC operations for approximately 9-1/2 years. For those who are not aware – I am planning on retiring early next year. We agreed that making a change now to bring on a new Administrative Coordinator may not be advantageous for a seamless transfer of duties. I have coordinated MSLC for the 9-1/2 years it has been based in Town of Longboat Key.
Instead of burdening the Board with having to have interviews and make choices to select a new Coordinator right away, I have offered to stay on until at least the Board meeting on

January 9, 2025 and follow-up afterwards. Trish stated she would be in favor of that especially with the storm issues facing so many.
If the majority of the Board is not in favor of this process, will go another route. This will eliminate having to do the transitional process next month and give the Board more time to make a decision on bringing in a new Administrative Coordinator.
As a reminder – the next meeting of MSLC is November 7, 2024, 9:30 a.m., Town of Longboat Key Commission Chambers. When you have a moment, please reply with your comments.
Gail Loeffler
Administrative Coordinator
Manasota League of Cities, Inc.

Legislative Conference

To: Gail Loeffler
Thank you for this - I am so overloaded I could not imagine coping with your departure.
BJ Bishop
Commissioner
Town of Longboat Key

Legislative Conference

To: Longboat Key Commissioner BJ Bishop
Thank you for your kind words. I heard your home had damage after the second storm. My leaving in November would require interviews and training that will likely take some time. I have enjoyed working with the people at FLC and league members. Will stay on until things settle down. Wishing you all the best in recovery for your home and to get back to normal. See you at the November meeting.
Gail Loeffler
Longboat Key

Legislative Conference

To: Gail Loeffler
Thanks so much. The house has to come down. All of our furniture and many personal belongings are gone, but so many wonderful people from the Town helped us pack up before the second storm we saved a lot.
There is so much on the FLC calendar I have FLC committees in early November. The NLC Conference the second week of November and the first week of December FLC Legislative Conference. So hiring, training and my personal life made it feel impossible. See you soon.
BJ Bishop
Commissioner, Town of Longboat Key

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BreakPoints

How far should you go at the net?

If I am playing at the net how far can I go? Can I swing over the net with the racquet if I do not touch the net? When does reaching over the net result in a loss of point? Who makes that call?

JACKIE BOHANNON
Guest Columnist
tennis@lbknews.com

How far you can go, and how far you should go are two different questions. Technically, you can stand all the way up to the net as long as you do not touch it. If any part of your body, your clothing, your shoe, or your racquet touches the net while the ball is in play you automatically lose the point. You can not reach over the net to hit the ball, unless the ball has first bounced on your side of the net, and then because of heavy backspin or wind it goes to the other side of the net without you touching the ball. This is the only instance when you are allowed to reach over the net and hit the ball, but again you can not touch the net. If you touch the net you lose the point.



BOHANNON

Generally, you should play half way up in the service box, but your positioning should constantly be changing as the point develops. For example, you should stand at the service line when your partner is receiving, and then once their return passes the opposing net player then you should move in closer to the net. (half way in your service box). If your opponent is in trouble and stretching for the ball I generally suggest closing in to the front ¼ of the service box.

I believe players have an easier time moving up to the ball than moving back. If you are too close to the net it can cause multiple problems. You have less reaction time to volley. While in theory it is easier to volley when you are closer to the net, if your volleys are weaker and or your opponent can hit the ball hard it is a bad idea to be on top of the net. Secondly, when you are too close to the net you can't poach as much because you have less time to react and you cannot cover as much court. If you play too close to the net it is going to force your partner to cover more court. Playing too close to the net leaves you susceptible to the lob. Finally, playing too close to the net can also get you hurt. If your partner hits a weak shot you could get pegged by your opponent's ball because you won't have the time to defend yourself. Therefore, I usually train my players to close in when they see their opponent is in trouble. If they see a weaker shot they should move up and attack not wait for the ball to come to them.

- I always say the net player has 3 basic goals:
1. Don't let the ball bounce
 2. Catch the ball above the height of the net (don't let it drop below the net)
 3. Follow the ball (For example when the baseline player is hitting you should cover the alley a bit more, and if the opposing net player is hitting you should cover the middle more.)

In conclusion, let's talk about technicalities. You can not reach over the net to hit the ball on a volley. You have to wait until the ball passes the net to hit it. You can hit the volley and then follow through over the net as long as you do not touch the net. If you hit the ball out of the air on their side of the net you lose the point. This rule is similar to the same concept of calling a double bounce. The opponent can not call a double bounce on you, and they can not say you hit the ball on the other side of the net. You have to play with good sportsmanship, and make these calls yourself. Tennis is a game built on trust and giving your opponent the benefit of the doubt, so in these instances you have to assume your opponent has made the shot unless they stop the point and call these errors on themselves.

Jackie Bohannon is the Director of Tennis at the Bird Key Yacht Club.

Serve Jackie your best question!



Long-time tennis pro and recently-named America's Top Coach Jackie Bohannon will answer any question on tennis. Please email question you have on strategy, technique, mental game, fitness, equipment, etc., to: tennis@lbknews.com

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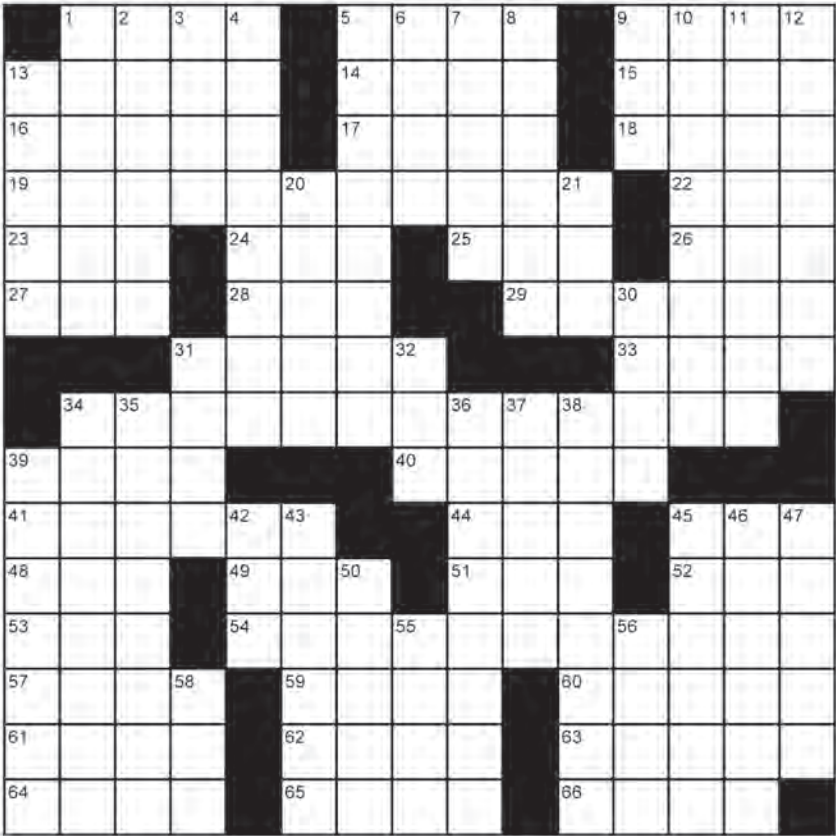
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KeyCrossword

Academy Award Loser Jonah Kagan

ACROSS

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



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57. It's parallel to the radius
59. Eastern princess
60. Greeting from lolcats or the main character of 12-Down
61. Type of beer served at the Ratty
62. Famous mother of eight
63. VapoRub maker
64. Maternal "Twilight" character
65. Bio. and geo., e.g.
66. Those, in Toledo

DOWN

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

6. Count ___ (2004 Jim Carrey role)
7. Travel papers
8. They might get broken by a good juke
9. Direction from Bos. to Prov.
10. Recent remake of an 80's TV show
11. One who might sing "La Bamba"
12. Hilariously bad movie whose main characters can be found at the start of 19-, 34-, and 54-Across
13. Come clean
20. Bolt on a track?
21. Hot dog ___ stick
30. Monastery titles
31. Korean leader Syngman ___
32. Orch. section

34. Cult following of Insane Clown Posse
35. "I want to eat that!"
36. "I share your feeling!"
37. Savoriness
38. "Well done with that tricky action!"
39. "That did not work!"
42. ___-Mart
43. Smug looks
45. Recently closed Wednesday night spot
46. Kicks the bucket
47. Latin dog
50. Newton or Asimov
55. Not into
56. Frat letters
58. Gobbled

Longboat Key News Sarasota City News

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