



Longboat Key News

January 12, 2024

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InsideLook



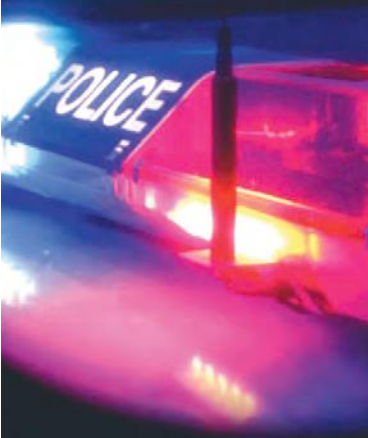
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Longboat hits
\$10.495 million
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Gunwale on
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Recycling an
act of kindness
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Great White Penny Pings

Penny, a 10-foot tagged research shark, pinged off Sarasota's coast near the edge of the West Florida Escarpment, a 560-mile-long cliff in the Gulf of Mexico where the depth plunges from to nearly two miles. The escarpment is about 200 miles off the coast.

See Penny, page 2



Can You Name the Top-10 Football Wines?

While beer continues to rule as the football beverage, our research has found a couple of highly rated football wines from underrated wine growing regions on the West Coast.



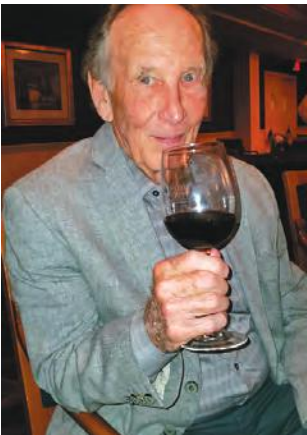
S.W. and Rich Hermansen
Guest Writers
wine@lbknews.com

If asked to name the top 10 American football wines, we'd ask whether the person asking the question is joking. We would be hard pressed to name one, much less ten, "Football Wines".

In North America, the football beverage is beer. Not that having a cold beer during a cool to cold day in the fall and winter football season seems a great idea. At a baseball game during the summer, sure. At a Packers' game in Green Bay during January, where a beverage cooler keeps beer from freezing solid, no way....

So why has beer become by far the favorite beverage of American football fans? The sport derived from English football, which evolved into what Europeans call football and Americans call soccer, and from rugby, a variant of football that originated at the Rugby School in Warwickshire, England during the early 19th Century.

Football in Great Britain (the soccer variant), and its extensions into Germany, Scandinavia, Eastern



Europe, and Ireland, followed the British tradition of beer and pub food before, during, and after games. Rugby naturally followed along. The spread of football and rugby from the British Isles and Europe to South and Central America, Mexico, Africa, Central and South Asia, Africa, Australia, and New Zealand carried with it the central role of beer as the favorite drink of fans.

American football, also called gridiron football, emerged in the USA during the last quarter of the 19th century, Walter Camp at Yale University spearheaded changes in the rules of rugby that led to what we know now as American football. Camp's vision of the game eliminated much of the free flow of play and the creativity of individual players, replacing quick transitions after stoppages of play with longer pauses during games that gave a lead player (the quarterback) and coaches time to call scripted plays. He replaced the kick or throw in to restart play and the rough and tumble rugby scrum with the line of scrimmage.

The rules he devised gave control of the restart of play to one team, the snap of the ball by hand to a player on the team restarting play, and the yardage that the team controlling the ball would need to gain in a certain number of restarts (downs) to retain possession.

Camp's vision of American football regimented American football on a gridiron with short intervals of action and much more time planning and organizing. A Wall Street Journal article by David Biderman

See Football, page 12

NewsWorthy

Mote VP Kevin Cooper launches bid for SMH Board

Sarasota Memorial Hospital is one of about 200 hospitals nationwide run by a publicly elected board.

Kevin Cooper, Vice President of Communications and Strategic Initiatives for Mote Marine Laboratory and a retired Army Sergeant, is running for the Sarasota Memorial Hospital Board, Seat 2.

Cooper is an executive committee member of the Lakewood Ranch Business Alliance Board of Directors and previously served as President and CEO of the Greater Sarasota Chamber of Commerce. He also previously chaired the Sarasota County Planning Commission.

At least four hospital board seats will be up for a vote this year in Sarasota County. Cooper officially launched his bid Thursday.

Cooper has lived in Sarasota County since 2008. Prior to that, he served as a Specialist in the Ohio Army National Guard, during which time he was deployed to Al-Taqaddum Air Base in Iraq's Anbar province, which was later recognized as the most dangerous place on planet earth at that time in 2004.

He served as a convoy security operator during that Operation Iraqi Freedom mission, supporting U.S. Marines and other forces during conflicts in Fallujah. He received a battlefield promotion to Sergeant and received multiple

See SMH Board, page 2

City hosts Florida Highwaymen Exhibit

City of Sarasota Public Art Manager Mary Davis Wallace, Florida Highwaymen art collector Roger Lightle and his team installed over 20 Highwaymen paintings in the City Hall atrium last week. The collection is the third installment in Sarasota's Cultural Heritage Exhibit, which aims to celebrate the community's rich history of art and culture.

Backstories accompany the paintings — stories that illuminate the Black painters' struggles to earn a living in the 1950s and 60s during racial segregation. Step into City Hall and you'll see the vibrant landscape Blue Backwater, created by Mary Ann Carroll, the sole female artist of the 26 Highwaymen. When she couldn't afford to pay her modest utility bill in Ft. Pierce, Florida in the '60s, the utility company accepted the painting in lieu of payment.

Penny, from page 1

Research organization OCEARCH placed a tag on white shark Penny’s dorsal fin last April during an expedition off North Carolina. The satellite tag transmits a ping with location information when it breaks the water’s surface.

This is Penny’s first journey to Florida since she was tagged. Once, Penny traveled north to Nova Scotia before migrating south in late October.

Penny measured 10 feet 3 inches and weighs about 500 pounds.

The shark has traveled 4,806 miles since tagged – from North Carolina north to Nova Scotia, then south for the winter in the Gulf of Mexico.



SMH Board, from page 1

awards, including the Army Commendation Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal and the Joint Meritorious Unit Award.

Cooper has also been an avid volunteer in Sarasota County, including prior service to the Suncoast Partnership to End Homelessness and the Sarasota County Affordable Housing Advisory Committee. He currently serves on the Hope City Church Dream Team, hosting weekly services and assisting with security.

Cooper earned his bachelor’s degree at Kent State University and his Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree from Florida State University.

Cooper is running to replace Tramm Hudson, whose term expires this year.

If elected, Cooper will join a slate of three controversial board members elected in 2022 who were described as the “Health Freedom Slate” because they were skeptical of the hospitals’ handling of the COVID-19 pandemic and overall hospital management, as well as the COVID-19 vaccines.

Sarasota Memorial Hospital is one of about 200 hospitals nationwide run by a publicly elected board. Elections for board member seats are partisan. Cooper is a Republican and is, so far, the only candidate filed for the at large Seat 2.

If elected, Cooper will join a slate of three controversial board members elected in 2022 who were described as the “Health Freedom Slate” because they were skeptical of the hospitals’ handling of the COVID-19 pandemic and overall hospital management, as well as the COVID-19 vaccines.



Penny, from page 1

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\$ 15,000,000

Modern marvel overlooking New Pass in Lido Shores! Step into this tropical escape through the hidden courtyard that connects the three-bedroom main home to the secluded, two-bedroom guest house with an expansive sundeck, 60-foot wet-edge lap pool lined with royal palms and unique fire bowls, as the perfect introduction to a contemporary masterpiece.



Boasting all the amenities required for luxury living, this SMART home's inspired style highlights spectacular water views that stretch out to the Gulf of Mexico from just about every room of the nearly 6,600 square-foot interior. Stacked glass sliders create a seamless transition to outdoor living, opening to the glass-railling terrace, summer kitchen, built-in grill, and spiral staircase that leads down to the waterside hot tub. Boaters will appreciate the deep-water dock with multiple lifts.

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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.

Lane Closure on John Ringling & Ken Thompson Parkway

To: Longboat Key Commission

This is a Road closure notice for the City of Sarasota. Utility Construction Services LLC will be closing the Southbound Lane of John Ringling Parkway in order to replace power poles for Storm Hardening. Work is to take place from January 15th, 2024 through February 5th, 2024. Work will take place at night from 7 p.m. to 12 p.m. Traffic will be diverted via flaggers onto the Northbound Lane for the duration of the closure.

Once work is complete on John Ringling Parkway, FP&L will conduct further storm hardening measures on Ken Thompson Parkway. The Westbound lane will be closed from February 5th, 2024 through February 19th, 2024, and will also take place at night to reduce traffic impacts. Traffic will be diverted via flaggers onto the Eastbound for the duration of the closure.

For details, please visit the City of Sarasota road closure GIS at <https://sarasota.maps.arcgis.com/apps/TimeAware/index.html?appid=72b1531477c2493eaabe85a29f372d0d>. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please direct them to the City of Sarasota Public Works, Engineering Division at ROWerosion@sarasotafl.gov.

Wesley Stuckey
Engineering Technician
City of Sarasota

Lane Closure on John Ringling & Ken Thompson Parkway

To: Rachel Kravitz

You guys have probably all seen this by now, but just in case...

I believe that when they talk about the westbound lane of Ken Thompson Pkwy, that they are actually referring to what Google Maps says is the westbound lane of John Ringling Pkwy and the southbound lane of N Blvd of Presidents--both in the Lido Shores neighborhood in between Longboat Key and St. Armands--where the unfinished work on November 30 caused that terrible traffic backup.

Chris Goglia, President
St. Armands Residents Association
Sarasota

Lane Closure on John Ringling & Ken Thompson Parkway

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton

If true, this is disturbing news as it would reduce John Ringling to one lane for all transit between Longboat and St. Armands/Downtown during dinnertime for an entire month during the busiest time of year. It's also not encouraging

Howard: If true, this is disturbing news as it would reduce John Ringling to one lane for all transit between Longboat and St. Armands/Downtown during dinnertime for an entire month during the busiest time of year. It's also not encouraging that the City may be mis-identifying the affected street for half the project. We were caught in a road closure of 41 south from Van Wezel to Fruitville last night, but at least it didn't start until 9 pm. Worth a conversation with Nik Patel?

Ken Schneiier
Mayor
Town of Longboat Key

Class Action Lawsuit

To: Longboat Key Town Commission

Yesterday, I received an email that was sent to all Florida City Attorneys from a local government law firm that is soliciting municipal clients for a lawsuit to declare the new law that requires municipal officials to file a Form 6 disclosure [pursuant to section 112.144(1)(d), Florida Statutes] unconstitutional and invalid. If successful, the proposed lawsuit would seek to enjoin enforcement of the law.

The law firm that is advancing this proposal would: (1) require the adoption of a resolution in a form similar to the one attached, (2) seek a \$10,000 flat fee payment from each municipal client for the litigation services, and (3) require waivers of conflicts of interest associated with the law firm's representation of multiple municipal clients in this action.

Tip and I have discussed this proposal and the Town's potential participation in litigation; while intriguing, neither of us recommend that the Town participate. One of several reasons is due to the fact that the Town Commission is moving forward later this month (on 1/22/24)

with an appointment to the 1 Commission seat vacancy that occurred due to the Form 6 requirement.

Despite our recommendation, Tip and I agreed that forwarding this communication and initiative to the Town Commission for information purposes was important. At this time, I have not heard whether other surrounding cities in our region are considering participating in this action. If any of you want to discuss this proposal and our recommendation, please feel free to reach out directly to either Tip or me.

Maggie D. Mooney
Town Attorney
Longboat Key

Manatee County Update

To: Longboat Key Commission

Manatee County Commissioner Van Ostenbridge called to share several things including that both the Transit agreement with Sarasota County and the Whitney Plaza agreement with the School Board passed on the consent agenda. I did share our deep appreciation for his leadership on both of these matters.

As mentioned at the meeting yesterday, Sarasota County has indicated with their Commission's approval tomorrow that they should be ready to roll out the island wide service on January 29th and the Town will help get that word out. The north island group and the Town will work with the School Board's Dr. Gansemer on soliciting citizen input in building the learning programs for the community center. If the weather holds off from doing its worst, this will have been a really good day for Longboat Key.

Howard N. Tipton
Town Manager
Town of Longboat Key

Storm update

To: Longboat Key Police Chief George Turner

As of right, the heaviest of the rain appears to have passed. We have no reported flooding of streets in the south end and in the north end, Broadway is passable with all side streets covered with rain but still passable. Most side streets in other areas contain large puddles but still passable as of now.

According to the latest forecast, the rain will continue over the next few hours along with the high tide around 2100 hours. I will ask Sgt. Smith to send an update when he completes his assessment during his tour of duty.

Sergeant Thomas A. Puccio #0922
Police Department
Town of Longboat Key

Storm update

To: Longboat Key Commission

The worst of the wind and rain is past us and really no damage noted. Police Department, Fire, and Admin have driven the island and we had some small wash over on Gulfside and the Village, Sleepy Lagoon has some water but not bad. Water in the bay is high but as of now it is not pushing into the streets (like Buttonwood). High tide is in about 4 hours. Fingers crossed for a noneventful evening.

Howard N. Tipton
Town Manager
Town of Longboat Key

Tourists and traffic

To: Longboat Key Town Commission

When COVID happened, and people were forced to "shelter at home", I became a participant on the website "NextDoor". I looked upon it as a social setting where neighbors and friends could gather still, as if in someone's virtual kitchen. I imagined coffee and muffins being served, while everyone took part in a lively engaging conversation about our neighborhood.

COVID, for the most part, has passed. However, many of us still meet online. We recommend restaurants, stores, local handymen. We warn about coyote sightings.

One topic that frequently comes up: The tourists visiting our beaches and all the traffic

See Letters, page 6

Growing in Jesus' Name



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569 BAYVIEW DRIVE | LONGBOAT KEY


100 ft. x 100 ft. canal front homesite in Sleepy Lagoon. Great location – perfect balance between beach/ICW. Updated seawall and 10,000 lb. lift. Topographical survey and geo-technical engineering reports available.




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\$4,495,000



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Located in a Gulf to Bay community, this spacious 2BR/2BA villa offers all the charm of a single-family home with the ease of condominium living. Glass sliders lead to the enclosed lanai, a serene retreat offering picturesque views.



648 BAYVIEW DRIVE | LONGBOAT KEY

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

EditorLetters



Letters, from page 4

challenges they bring.

Born and raised here, having enjoyed our soft white sandy beaches, our warm clear blue water - like no other beach in the world. And I've visited quite a few: the Mediterranean, the South China Sea, the Pacific... Our local beaches offer a luxury that really doesn't exist anywhere else. Not even around Florida.

When I read NextDoor neighbors complaining about all the tourists I tend to mildly chastise them. I write: Aren't "we" the problem? Haven't "we" made Anna Maria and Bradenton Beach just so darn charming? And then we go and post photos of its fun & beauty online for everyone to see? Why are you so surprised our local islands have become a #1 tourist destination?

Without exaggeration, 100 percent of those who participate on NextDoor hate the proposed government traffic solution of building a single large parking garage on the island. They believe it will be ugly. I tend to agree.

I may have mentioned this before, but I've worked for the largest architecture, builder/development, design, film and media companies in the world. I also taught at Parsons School of Design, considered one of the finest architecture/environmental design schools in the world.

If I may suggest an image of what I believe everyone is imagining this parking garage will look like, it could be this: I think everyone will agree, to build something like this out on our beaches would be a truly ugly thing to do.

Something that could destroy forever all the charm, the human scale, the nature, the appeal of our islands that have taken generations of families to create. I don't think even ol' Salty Sol Fleischman could have imagined what his Anna Maria neighborhood was going to one day become.

Something as big and ugly as what's depicted in this illustration may even wreck the local real estate market, putting a lot of people, both home owners and realtors, at financial risk.

Before something like this actually gets built, perhaps we should take a step back and try to imagine an alternative solution. Let's first consider the challenges of building a single tall parking garage anywhere on the island.

One initial challenge that I see right away is how this island stretches really far, from the tip of Anna Maria to Coquina. It is a long island. To build a single parking garage anywhere on this island would really only cater to a very tiny area, as I illustrate with the following maps:

With "X" marking the spot where a single tall garage building might be built, and the circle around each "X" being the only area that will be positively affected by such a structure. In

sum: A single parking garage, no matter how big and tall, will only aid a very small area. It will not positively affect the rest of the island.

Building a single tall parking garage is not the solution. It will very likely be a very ugly design that will adversely affect the local area - especially the real estate market. It will not solve the parking challenges for most of the island. Possible 95 percent of the island will not receive any benefit whatsoever.

What if, instead, an alternative parking solution was considered, such as:

Why not acquire several small properties located throughout the island. And 'not' build a single tall huge structure, but instead erect a few small 2-3 story charmingly designed parking garages - 'peppered' around the island. Design these much smaller parking garages so that their facades, their exteriors, 'blend in' with the immediate local architecture. Each being different from the other.

Perhaps the following images of already existing uniquely designed smaller parking garages may convey what I mean:

By building 'mini' garages that will be located in various locations through out the island this will provide more parking spaces in more areas that will be closer to more public beaches. The following map with various "X" locations suggest how this might take place:

Much more so than building one single possibly very ugly tall building.

This idea can be taken even further - by doing something that would place our local area even more on the map in an extremely positive way.

Each smaller parking garage could monitor how many cars are parked inside. As well, how many remaining spaces are available. This information could be made available on an APP that everyone can download. Visitors searching for a public parking space near to their favorite beach could immediately see, on this APP, which mini parking garage they could drive to and, at present, find a vacant space. With a sufficiently sophisticated APP, the vacant space could even be reserved. A convenient, easy solution for our island parking - all in a nice handheld design.

What I am offering is just one alternative idea, to a proposal presently being forwarded by our local government that has, as far as I can observe, zero support from the local community because of its potential ugly and destructive presence.

Perhaps a workshop can take place where other alternative solutions can be imagined. From my own personal experience, urban and neighborhood design is the result of years of real training and extensive planning. Imagine, for example, someone performing surgery on your young

See Letters, page 7



\$2,500,000

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Editor Letters

Letters, from page 6

child. Someone who has never been to medical school. Someone who has zero experience as a doctor or a surgeon. Imagine hiring someone to make out your will - and they've never been to law school. Your child would die. You could lose everything you've ever owned. That is often the result of what is called "plop architecture". People with zero training in urban or architectural design "plopping" buildings down any ol' place, making big decisions about placing big buildings anywhere they choose, without a true understanding of design.

Whatever is finally built, it will be there forever. Leaving a lasting impression upon those who will be forced to live with it. Including their disappointment if not their eternal resentment towards the individual and government body that "plopped" it down next to them.

So, in sum, will the island parking solution be a good one, a solution that everyone likes? A solution that really works? Or not.

Hans Carl Clausen
Longboat Key

Village street drainage issue

To: Longboat Key Public Works Director Isaac Brownman

We had a hard rain this morning for about an hour 1.4 inches on a .95 tide. The stress flooded pretty badly in that short period of time. I'm thinking the drainage we have isn't enough considering the forecast of wetter weather with Climate Change. You are probably aware but wanted to share this with you.

Rusty Chinnis
Longboat Key

Homestead rate on Longboat Key

To: Longboat Key Commission

Just so we're all on the same page, wanted you to know that Commissioner Bishop has made calls to our two representatives on the ways and means committee (vice-chair Buchanan and Robinson) and I have sent an email to both sharing our concerns. It doesn't hurt to also reach out if you'd like, but didn't want you to think that this was ignored.

FYI, our homestead rate on LBK (thank you Sue) is:
Manatee has 1735 out of 4584 properties = 37.8%
Sarasota has 2062 out of 6374 properties = 32.3%
Totals 3,797 out of 10,958 = 34.6% combined
Howard N. Tipton
Town Manager
Town of Longboat Key

Gas Operated Landscape Machinery Noise Nuisances

To: Longboat Key Mayor Ken Schneider

Shannon and I want to add our voices to the list of others frustrated about the Mondays through Fridays high decibel noise nuisance generated by gas mowers, leaf blowers and hedge trimmers.

We all are so blessed to live on peaceful LBK with allot of beautiful open space and pristine landscaping. We also want to acknowledge the great and hard working landscape service small businesses that do such a good job of keeping Longboat neighborhoods so well manicured, hard work!

The "straw" for us, in this regard, is that we just got back to Town from the West Coast, me with a bad cold/flu and jet lagged, unable to sleep well. Promptly January 2, 8AM leaf blower wake up call and every day this week. We all are surrounded by the high frequency noise Monday through Friday.

It also awakens us to the sensitivity of the fact that we have many older, and infirm folks who live on Longboat who need their sleep. That is why they live here to achieve some Peace after years of toil.

Most homes now have thick hurricane safety glass that dampens outside noise but still doesn't really help and this time of year many like to crack the windows open for fresh air. The variant modulation of the high frequency noise, the rev up, rev down, rev up, rev down etc. is an extremely loud obnoxious noise nuisance impossible to escape. The machines also have no mufflers to dampen exhaust noise. Mowers are better but gas powered leaf blowers and hedge trimmer noise is out of control in our neighborhoods five days a week.


Five years ago we purchased an EGO rechargeable battery operated, relatively light weight, leave blower that works great and is dramatically quieter than the large gas powered machines.

See Letters, page 8



Cindy Fischer


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2 Baths
1,186 Sq. Ft.





680 BROADWAY STREET

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7030 POINSETTA AVENUE

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6960 POINSETTA AVENUE

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5131 JUNGLE PLUM ROAD

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6957 LONGBOAT DRIVE

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Editor Letters

Letters, from page 6

The technology has significantly improved since then.

We understand this is a complex and sensitive ordinance and business impact issue.

Our ask is to have Town staff:

— Do global research on 2024 higher tech, quieter industrial landscape equipment opportunities for transition.

— Recommend a transition schedule and process, in consultation with landscape service companies, in reducing the machinery noise nuisance with attendant ordinance revision recommendations.

— Suggest business tax credits or other to assist businesses in converting to quieter equipment or other transition incentives over a reasonable period of time.

— In the mean time, could various neighborhoods have a schedule to allow landscape gas powered equipment operation thus reducing the numbers of days per week an individual neighborhood would have to suffer the noise? Even one less day, per neighborhood, per week would give some relief.

This is 2024 and landscapers are using highly out dated noisy gas motors strapped to their backs in 90 degree, high humidity weather half the year. This would increase their landscape business productivity and reduce their expenses over time.

Some HOA's may need to make adjustments to their Covenant Declarations

to limit the number of days per week landscape machinery may be used, if the Town can't come up with a transition plan to higher tech, quieter landscape equipment.

Thank You for your consideration and as always for your able service to our beautiful community.

Bob and Shannon Gault
Longboat Key

Gas Operated Landscape Machinery Noise Nuisances

To: Bob and Shannon Gault

Thank you for your comprehensive discussion of the gas

blower issue with recommended solutions. This is a priority environmental issue for Longboat that we are currently grappling with. The key for transition to electric equipment is the willingness/ability of landscapers to make the upgrade, which in turn involves whether other communities are requiring that switch. Your suggestion of limiting the days on which gas blowers can be used is novel and interesting as well, as is the question of what HOA's with covenants can do on their own. Clearly, a town-wide solution would be best.

I have copied Howard, Allen and Carolyn (coordinating our environmental efforts) on your note. Please watch this space.

Ken Schneier
Mayor
Town of Longboat Key

Request to consider revision to Broadway Roundabout

To: Longboat Key Town Clerk Trish Shinkle

I am requesting that this letter be forwarded to the Town commissioners and FDOT so that they are aware of the concern that the center turn lane going west off GMD will disappear if the current Roundabout design is installed, thereby guaranteeing, in my opinion as a 46 year visitor to Longbeach, longer waits for all vehicles needing to turn west, (left) at the Broadway intersection, particularly from mid-afternoon to early evening each day during season. I am requesting that the design of the Broadway roundabout be reconsidered given the potential disruption it will cause for the north end when options exist to avoid making conditions worse for both traffic and pedestrian safety.

After a lot of discussion I've had since May with our Longbeach condominium and in November, with the Longboat DPW, real estate brokers, and Eddie Abrams of the north side coalition, there is a solution that wouldn't cost us the ability to turn left on Broadway, and, would provide safer passage for pedestrians who have deserved better sight lines for decades.

The DPW representative suggested the possibility of a one lane road going north to the left (west) of GMD to Broadway. It currently exists and is used for beach parking and Police observation. The new lane might start after the last private driveway west off GMD, adjacent to where the liquor store is and well short of the intersection at Broadway.

For the pedestrians, I recommend an underground crosswalk like the one south of the Bay Isles road intersection at mid-key. Nothing could be safer than that. Both of these suggestions would add to the cost of the Broadway redesign but I urge the city and FDOT not to go cheap when safety and traffic snarl are at risk of being significantly worse.

The city/county/FDOT have announced intent to build multiple center left turn lanes for the south end of the key so that the property owners across from the golf course, east off GMD, don't have to sit in standstill traffic anymore while waiting to get home. Letting these vehicles Turn left earlier is appropriately considered to be a traffic improvement.

We on the north end of the key, will then become the ones to have to sit in standstill traffic potentially every afternoon for five to six months of the year while we are blocked off from making the left hand turn we can make now.

How much is the city spending to afford the South end this improvement while we will incur a worse traffic situation? Will the city spend for the south end, and go cheap for the north end?

Based on what I've read in the numerous newspaper articles on the Broadway roundabout and the village residents problems with restaurant traffic, the roundabout was chosen so that the Broadway street owners wouldn't have to install speed bumps (see former newspaper article entitled "Whoa...."). Two options exist to increase pedestrian safety, the underground crosswalk, or, a traffic light at the intersection, not the roundabout. How much slower can GMD traffic go below the current 35mph, or the Broadway limit of 20 mph?

I may be one sided in my thinking, but I shouldn't have to arrange my time at my condo to always be home before

See Letters, page 11

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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
620 YARDARM LN	7,278	\$10,495,000	5	5	2	1	\$10,495,000
541 HARBOR POINT RD	5,114	\$7,950,000	5	6	1	10	\$7,712,750
1600 HARBOR SOUND DR	3,934	\$2,900,000	3	3	0	10	\$2,400,000
2055 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#G2-201	1,094	\$475,000	1	1	1	30	\$400,000
425 MCKINLEY DR	2,440	\$2,750,000	4	4	0	0	\$2,750,000
101 BENJAMIN FRANKLIN DR Unit#26	1,275	\$1,300,000	2	2	0	90	\$1,100,000



620 YARDARM LN



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Jeff@jeffrhinelander.com

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OnPatrol

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

Jan. 5 Construction crew dispute

11:03 a.m.
Officer Swinford was dispatched to St. Judes Drive in reference to a dispute involving a construction crew. Officer Swinford arrived on scene and observed a crew operating a construction equipment to remove a large hot tub from behind a residence. The construction equipment was blocking the roadway not allowing traffic to pass through. The complainants stated they were blocked in and were unable to get by the construction equipment. Officer Swinford spoke with the construction crew and they quickly finished up, moving their equipment. The traffic was able to flow normally, the issue was resolved. Case clear.



advised she was curious to see the waves. It was there that she discovered an Amazon Kindle device in the sand which she then turned in. She signed the property receipt and exited the police department. Officer Zunz put the Kingle into a locker for safe keeping. Case clear.

Jan. 10 Trespass

12:00 p.m.
Officer Connors spoke with the president of the Sands Point Association in regard to the mullet fisherman using seine nets on and around the private marina docks. The president was unsure if netting was legal but was more concerned with a fisherman tending the nets from the private dock which is clearly posted “No Trespassing, Private Property.” The president advised that he received the information second hand via cell phone video. Officer Connors informed the president that the netting of fish was legal and as far as the trespassing after posted on the dock, that was illegal. Officer Connors advised the president to contact the Longboat Key Police at the time of the incident in the future rather than a few days later. Officer Connors will attempt to contact the owner of the vessel and advise him of the complaint and inform him that the dock is private. Officer Connors spoke to the registered owner of the boat via telephone and he advised him of the complaint and the video of fisherman jumping from his vessel to the dock. The owner advised that he was fishing with seine nets on above date and a fisherman had jumped from his boat onto the dock to scout for fish. The owner advised that the fisherman had been on the dock for no more than a minute and was unaware that the dock was private. The owner is now aware of the complaint and was advised that he will no longer fish in the area. Case clear.

Civil disturbance

4:46 p.m.
Officer Ramsaier responded to Marbury Lane for a call of civil disturbance. The complainant stated a delivery truck attempted to use her driveway to back up and turn around. The complainant stated that she had an argument with one of the crew members regarding not using her driveway. No threats were made and no injuries observed or occurred. The officer spoke to both parties and guided delivery truck off Marbury Lane. Case clear.

Jan. 6 Property damage

11:26 a.m.
Officer Ramsaier responded to the 5300 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive for a report of property damage to a vehicle. Upon arrival, Officer Ramsaier was met by the complainant who stated she discovered water trickling inside her car from the moonroof onto the center console and when she began driving, water pooled towards pillar of the driver side causing more water to spill. The complainant stated the car is a rental and was advised by the rental car agency that she should get a police report prior to bringing car in for exchange. Case clear.

Stolen bicycle

11:40 a.m.
Officer Ramsaier responded to the 5700 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive for a stolen bicycle. Upon arrival, Officer Ramsaier was met by the complainant who stated his bike was missing. While speaking with the complainant, a woman returned the bike to its former location. The woman said she observed the bike in the lot yesterday and due to the impending storm, moved the bike to the storage location. The woman said she advised the management office. Case clear.

Jan. 8 Suspicious circumstance

4:19 a.m.
Officer Ferrigine while on patrol at Firehouse Road, noticed a man jump out of the bushes. Officer Ferrigine spoke to the man who said he was on the phone with his brother because he is a truck driver over nights. The man also said he likes coming to the beach at night. Case clear.

Suspicious person

4:40 p.m.
Officer Martinson was dispatched to Penfield Street on a call of a suspicious person. Upon arrival, Officer Martinson observed two men parked at the end of the road. One of the men was standing on the rocks at the end of the road playing an acoustic guitar while his friend was filming him on his cell phone. The man stated they were making a music video and stopped there to film because it had a great view of the bay. Officer Martinson advised the men that someone had called 911 and Officer Martinson was not sure if they were on public or private property. The men apologized and said they would leave and go to the beach to finish filming their video. Case clear.

Jan. 9 Found property

2:01 p.m.
Officer Zunz reported to the front desk at the police department for a report of found property. Officer Zunz asked the woman what she was doing outside during the storm and she

TOWN OF LONGBOAT KEY NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING & HEARING ORDINANCE 2024-04 JANUARY 16, 2024 – 9:15 AM

Please take notice that a public meeting and hearing of the Town of Longboat Key’s Planning and Zoning Board will be held to consider proposed modifications to Title 15, Land Development Code, Chapter 151, Shoreline Construction, of the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Longboat Key, as more particularly set forth in Ordinance 2024-04:

ORDINANCE 2024-04
AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF LONGBOAT KEY, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE TOWN OF LONGBOAT KEY CODE OF ORDINANCES TO AMEND CHAPTER 151, SHORELINE CONSTRUCTION; SECTION 151.03, PERMIT REQUIRED, APPLICATION; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The public hearing before the Planning and Zoning Board on proposed Ordinance 2024-04 will be held on **January 16, 2024, at 9:15 a.m.**, or as soon thereafter as may be heard, in the Town Commission Chambers at Town Hall, 501 Bay Isles Road, Longboat Key, Florida.

All interested persons may appear and be heard with respect to proposed Ordinance 2024-04. Copies of Ordinance 2024-04 and related material associated with the amendment may be viewed at the Planning, Zoning & Building Department, 501 Bay Isles Road, between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. weekdays prior to the hearing. Questions may be directed to the Planning, Zoning & Building Department at 316-1966. The proposed amendment will affect property within the corporate boundaries of the Town of Longboat Key as shown on the map appearing at the bottom of this advertisement.

No verbatim record by a certified court reporter is made of these proceedings. Accordingly, any person who may seek to appeal any decision involving the matters noticed herein will be responsible for making a verbatim record of the testimony and evidence at these proceedings upon which any appeal is to be based (see Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes). In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 286.26, Florida Statutes, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the Town Clerk’s office at 941-316-1999 seventy-two (72) hours in advance of this proceeding. If you are hearing impaired, please call 941-316-8719.

David Green, Chair
Planning and Zoning Board
Published: 01/12/2024



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Editor Letters

Letters, from page 8

those leaving the beach, and the restaurant traffic begins to ramp up, at 2pm each day. All because some people either don't want the economical speed bumps that would solve the problem on Broadway, or they're driving skills have become so poor that they want to lessen everybody's else's enjoyment in order to creep out onto the highway.

The city/county and FDOT know how much center turn lanes mean to alleviating traffic snarl, that is why they are building them for the long suffering south end property owners. I am hoping to let the city/county and FDOT know that we don't want worse traffic and safety issues when they have the options to avoid creating them.

David Baughman
Longboat Key

Ringling/Pine Roundabout

To: Sarasota City Manager Marlon Brown

Below is the response from the staff regarding why a direct thru lane to the post office is not proposed which was asked by Commissioner Trice.

“To: Sarasota Public Works Director Doug Jeffcoat

We have reviewed the request for a direct entry to the post office from the roundabout. After careful consideration, we would like to explain why it is not recommended to implement such a direct entry at this location.

Connecting a driveway directly to the roundabout can pose safety hazards. The current layout is specifically designed to reduce the number of conflict points and ensure a well-defined flow of traffic, thereby enhancing the safety of all road users. If we introduce an access point to the post office parking lot directly from the roundabout, it would create new conflict areas, increasing the risk of accidents involving drivers, bicyclists, and pedestrians.

Furthermore, we need to consider the impact on traffic flow. Adding a driveway in this location would complicate the roundabout, negatively impacting traffic circulation. Vehicles would need to slow down to enter the post office, which would reduce the capacity of the roundabout, leading to congestion and decreased efficiency in the overall transportation network.

To maintain the benefits of the modern roundabout, we recommend keeping the current design without introducing any additional access points. This approach aligns with established principles for optimizing traffic flow, minimizing conflict points, and ensuring the safety of all road users. Please let me know if you'd like anything further.

Camden”
Douglas Jeffcoat
Public Works Director
City of Sarasota

Ringling/Pine Roundabout

To: Sarasota City Manager Marlon Brown

Thank you for explanation. As a frequent user of this post

office, I have encountered many instances of the traffic lane adjacent to the building being blocked as we wait for parked cars to back out. (It is a nightmare during the holiday season.) Many of us use the lane close to Ringling for quick in and out, and to get out of the line of traffic if it is backed up. The planned design makes this impossible. Once you've made the turn, you're committed. I envision post office traffic backing up into the roundabout at peak mailing times.

If you didn't monitor traffic patterns at the post office last month, I recommend doing so next December and consider providing alternate routes to the post office and/or working with the post office to have an additional entrance.

Debbie Trice
Commissioner
City of Sarasota

Ringling/Pine Roundabout

To: Sarasota City Manager Marlon Brown

Another thought, as difficult as it is getting USPS to make any changes, it might be better to get them to install an additional drive-through mailbox in a less congested location.

Debbie Trice
Commissioner
City of Sarasota

Ringling/Pine Roundabout

To: Sarasota City Commissioner Debbie Trice

Great idea Commissioner Trice!

Marlon Brown
City Manager
City of Sarasota

Utility poles

To: Sarasota City Commission

Hello, I am a citizen of Sarasota and would like someone to look into double and triple poles on our street and back yards. I call FPL and Comcast and keep getting a run around. In our neighborhood we all have poles in our back yards with nothing working on them. Electric and cable have gone to underground and telephone does not work and are just on the poles. We keep getting the run around from these companies as to when they will get pulled. They mostly blame each other. I have been calling FPL for 13 years since I moved here. I have been paying taxes for almost 30 years to Sarasota. I talked to someone from the city and not only was she rude to me she tells me we have no control over utilities in Sarasota. I guess if you can't do anything I go to my state representatives. Thank you for your help.

Dennis Gallant
Sarasota

Longboat Key News

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WineTimes

Football, from page 1

estimates that in an average NFL game, actual playing time amounts to eleven minutes compared to sixty-seven minutes of players standing around and eighteen minutes of replays. This distribution of work time comes closer to what you might expect to see in the headquarters of a corporation than on a playing field.

Head coaches, the CEO's on the playing field, control the actions of the team to the extent possible through wild gesticulations on the sideline, messengers, or electronic communications. The coach's assistant, the quarterback, relays messages to the team and, if plans don't pan out, makes decisions on the field.

A TV broadcast of an NFL game has time to air about a hundred commercials. Camp's improvements of rugby set the stage for the commercial successes of American football. He did not realize what he was doing for the NFL, because he died in 1925. Nonetheless, the NFL recognized his contributions and inducted him posthumously in 1951 as a coach into their Hall of Fame.

While beer continues to rule as the football beverage, our research has found a couple of highly rated football wines. These wines come from underrated wine growing regions on the West Coast.

The 2018 Charles Woodson's Intercept Red Blend (\$18) from Zinfandel and Petite Syrah/Verdot grapes grown in the Paso Robles region of California, not far from Oakland where Woodson had a Hall of Fame career after winning the Heisman Trophy as a junior defensive back at Michigan (the first and only defensive back to win the Heisman). His hot and juicy red blend (ABV 16.2%!) will make a great drink to the National Championship for the Wolverines and prepare you for the coming month of playoffs and the Super Bowl.

Another NFL luminary, Drew Bledsoe, played quarterback for the New England Patriots and the Dallas Cowboys before doubling back to Wala Wala, Washington, where he played

football in high school. There he and his wife Maura joined forces with winemaker Josh McDaniels to develop vineyards and a winery. Their 2018 Doubleback Cabernet Sauvignon (\$147) has earned high praise. It follows a sequence of vintages of the wine that Robert Parker rated 99 points at one time and Wine Spectator has selected among the top 100 wines for the year. The brand has helped elevate wines from the Washington State to the top tier of American wines. A good choice for a celebration of a victory in the playoffs for a favorite team.

We will have more to say about Super Bowl beer and food. Almost a month away, the NFL playoffs will dominate the sport scene until the Super Bowl. Except for the Australian Tennis Open.... We recommend craft beer, infused spirits, and whole-cluster wines as antidotes.

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

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

TOWN OF LONGBOAT KEY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING & HEARING
ORDINANCE 2024-02
JANUARY 16, 2024 – 9:15 AM

Please take notice that a public meeting and hearing of the Town of Longboat Key's Planning and Zoning Board will be held to consider proposed modifications to Title 15, Land Development Code, Chapter 160, Comprehensive Plan, of the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Longboat Key, as more particularly set forth in Ordinance 2024-02:

ORDINANCE 2024-02
AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF LONGBOAT KEY, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE 2022 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF THE TOWN OF LONGBOAT KEY, PURSUANT TO SECTION 163.3184, FLORIDA STATUTES; AMENDING, DELETING, REPLACING, AND ADDING OBJECTIVES, POLICIES, AND STRATEGIES PROVIDED FOR WITHIN THE GOVERNANCE ELEMENT; THE HOUSING ELEMENT AND THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS ELEMENT; PROVIDING FOR COMPLIANCE WITH THE COMMUNITY PLANNING ACT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HERewith; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The public hearing before the Planning and Zoning Board on proposed Ordinance 2024-02 will be held on **January 16, 2024, at 9:15 a.m.**, or as soon thereafter as may be heard, in the Town Commission Chambers at Town Hall, 501 Bay Isles Road, Longboat Key, Florida.

All interested persons may appear and be heard with respect to proposed Ordinance 2024-02. Copies of Ordinance 2024-02 and related material associated with the amendment may be viewed at the Planning, Zoning & Building Department, 501 Bay Isles Road, between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. weekdays prior to the hearing. Questions may be directed to the Planning, Zoning & Building Department at 316-1966. The proposed amendment will affect property within the corporate boundaries of the Town of Longboat Key as shown on the map appearing at the bottom of this advertisement.

No verbatim record by a certified court reporter is made of these proceedings. Accordingly, any person who may seek to appeal any decision involving the matters noticed herein will be responsible for making a verbatim record of the testimony and evidence at these proceedings upon which any appeal is to be based (see Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes). In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 286.26, Florida Statutes, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the Town Clerk's office at 941-316-1999 seventy-two (72) hours in advance of this proceeding. If you are hearing impaired, please call 941-316-8719.

David Green, Chair
Planning and Zoning Board
Published: 01/12/2024

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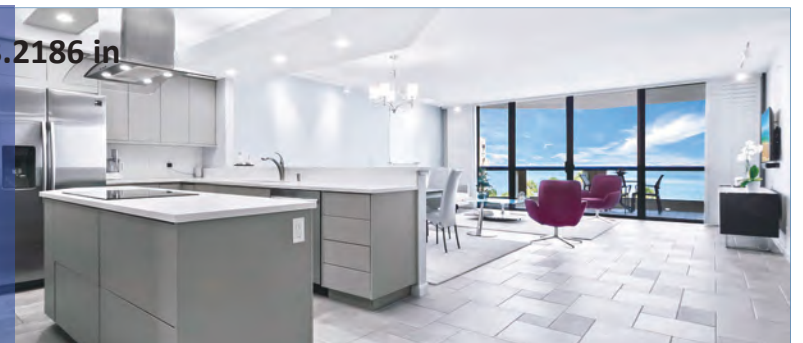
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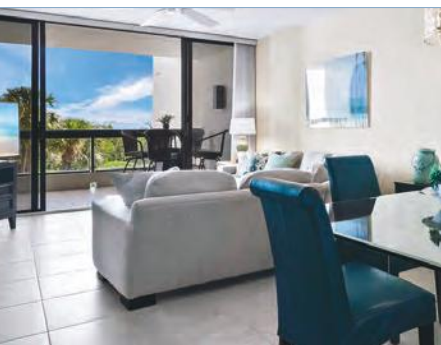
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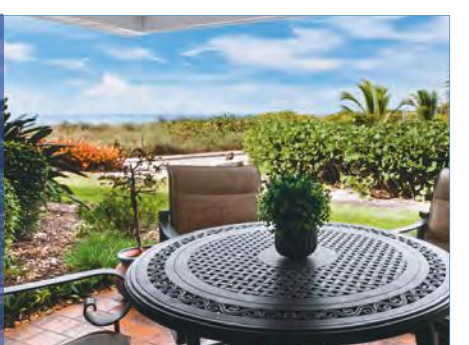
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