




# Longboat Key News

October 18, 2024


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**InsideLook**




**LBK condo hits \$10.87 million ...page 11**



**It is best not to call a Cab ...page 6**



**Keep track of the aftermath ...page 4**



**Case of the missing watch ...page 10**

## Residents eager to rebuild, remain in island paradise

*“When I first came back into my place, I just got emotional because I was so overwhelmed. But then after a while of cleaning up, I realized, ‘No, look at this. This is paradise here,’”*

**APRIL ISAACS**  
Guest Writer  
[www.newsreports.com](http://www.newsreports.com)

The Seabaugh family was in the dark, literally and figuratively, when Hurricane Milton hit. The strong winds knocked out power and Wi-Fi, making it impos-

sible for them to check on their property through their home’s security cameras. For nearly two days, as the entrances to their community remained closed after the storm, they wondered if their beloved home of eight years was still standing or washed away to the sea.

“We didn’t know what we were going to come back to,” Scott Seabaugh said. The Seabaughs had already dealt with serious damage. When Hurricane Helene hit, their home was flooded with an estimated 3 feet of water.


**See Rebuild, page 2**

## Sailing Squadron looks to community for support

*The program suffered damage from Hurricanes Helene and Milton.*

Right now, they remain closed as they continue cleaning up after the storms, which caused hundreds of thousands of dollars in damage. Hurricane Helene brought upwards of four feet of flooding while Milton’s strong winds damaged docks, buildings and sent boats toppling. The program has been a vital part of Sarasota’s community, a non-profit that’s been around for 40 years in Sarasota County. The Sarasota Youth Sailing program is based out of the not-for-profit, Sarasota Sailing Squadron. “Our docks we didn’t have insurance, so it’s a huge big loss for us. A lot of boats were damaged,” said Eduardo Sylvestre, the general manager of Sarasota Sailing Squadron. A newly built wave fence and dock will cost hundreds of thousands of dollars to replace. As large debris is picked up by staff, members will soon come together to clean up what they can. For the Sailing Squadron and the Youth Sailing Program, they are hopeful the community will help support them. They are proving their force is more powerful than Hurricanes Helene and Milton.

### Emerging Refreshed



## Mote begins introduction of rescued manatee and resident manatee Buffett

*Mote has continued to strongly believe that it is in the best interest of its resident manatee born at Miami Seaquarium, named Buffett, to have manatee companionship, and Mote is pleased that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS), Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), and the Manatee Rescue and Rehabilitation Partnership (MRP) agree and USFWS has since approved the introduction of a rescued manatee with Buffett at Mote.*

While Buffett’s best interests have been a focal point for USFWS, FWC and Mote, the decision to introduce another manatee to Buffett has to also be in the best interest of the companion animal, and we’re pleased that all involved agencies and organizations agree this introduction is what is in the best interest for both manatees. For the health and safety of the animals, and in accordance with Mote’s strict animal introductions protocol, the manatees’ habitat is temporarily closed to guests while the introduction takes place. Since USFWS, FWC, and MRP determined, and Mote agrees, that it is in Buffett’s best interest to remain in human care at Mote with a companion animal, all involved organizations started to work collaboratively to take the necessary steps to find Buffett a compatible companion, while ensuring the introduction is in the best interest of both animals. The process of finding a suitable companion manatee in managed care is complex and involves many partners and factors, including manatee gender, age, size, as well as medical and behavioral history, and ensuring the introduction is what is best for the companion animal, not just Buffett. Separation plans, if needed In preparation for the manatee introduction, Mote has created plans and procedures that have been reviewed and approved by USFWS and partner organizations, to ensure the manatees’ habitat is best equipped with the necessary separation abilities. These abilities include extra separation gates in the main manatee habitat and having a functioning medical pool that is physically separate from the main manatee habitat, should the manatees be deemed incompatible and need to remain separate. Mote’s veterinary, hospital and animal care team has prepared thorough introduction plans to minimize the risks of introducing large male manatees as much as we possibly can.

## FDOT/Town of Longboat Key Issue Warning on Illegal Dumping of Debris

The Florida Department of Transportation and the Town of Longboat Key are reminding residents of proper procedures for debris disposal along state roads and warning against illegal dumping practices. Debris Pickup on State Roads: Residents are advised that debris from private properties should be properly separated into two distinct piles:

- **Vegetation:** This includes tree limbs, branches, and other organic materials.
- **Building Materials:** Construction debris such as wood, drywall, and general trash.

Proper Placement: Debris should be placed by the right-of-way for pickup, but residents must ensure that the debris does not block or cover sidewalks.



Rebuild, from page 1

They managed to tear out damaged walls, flooring, kitchen cabinets, and furniture just as Milton, a threatened “one in a 100-year storm,” bore down on Florida. “And then it’s like, oh my gosh, we could lose the property again,” Seabaugh said. The state’s barrier islands, of which Longboat Key is a part, normally avoid the worst of hurricanes.

Not this time. Forecasts predicted a 10-15-foot storm surge, prompting a mandatory evacuation order. Residents like the Seabaughs, who sheltered with their daughter in Venice during the storm, feared the worst.

The Seabaughs finally got their answer on Friday morning when the bridges to Longboat Key opened to the public: their home was still standing. “We got very lucky here,” Seabaugh said. “So clearly, we didn’t get the kind of surge that they were anticipating and just came back to two beautiful cottages.”

Underneath the storm debris littering the streets and trees ripped from their roots, the beauty of Longboat Key is obvious.

Residents described the community as kind, tight-knit, and worth the gamble of future storms. It’s why Sharon Austin moved from Chicago to her two-bedroom home feet from the water earlier this year. She closed on her home on May 1.

“I’m done raising my kids. They’re both in college. And this was gonna be my little paradise,” Austin said.

“It still will be.”

Austin’s home sustained some wind damage from Milton, but it was the unexpected destruction brought by Helene, her very first hurricane, that left her home essentially unlivable. “It was like a little tsunami just came flooding in, and that’s where all this damage is from,” she said, pointing to her torn-up walls and floors. She fled to a nearby hotel during Milton’s approach.

“I’m definitely gonna stay and rebuild,” Austin said.

**Rebuilding after hurricanes**

“There’s nothing like Longboat Key.”

The friendly residents and tight-knit community play a significant role in their determination to stay.

“When I first came back into my place, I just got emotional because I was so overwhelmed. But then after a while of cleaning up, I realized, ‘No, look at this. This is paradise here,’” Austin

said.

“This made it through two hurricanes. The foundation is still standing. I most definitely will stay and rebuild.

And most of the owners feel the same way.”

Scott Seabaugh is motivated to keep his home for the future, not just for himself but for his daughter and her eventual children. When he and his wife first bought the property in 2016, they were visited by family members of the original builder of the home, an emotional experience that underscored the meaningful memories associated with the place. “We’re fortunate to eventually have grandchildren,” he said, gesturing to his daughter, Sydney Rendel.

“I want my kids and their kids to be able to enjoy it. Hopefully, God willing, that it’s still here.”

Seabaugh said he and his wife are realistic about the challenges. It will probably be another three months before they can move back into their cottage after fixing Helene’s and Milton’s damage.

They’ve submitted insurance claims to make repairs but wonder what might happen if their home is completely wiped out in a future storm. “As much as you want to stick to that idea [of staying here], financially, there’s some point in time where you have to say, uncle. Where I just can’t afford it,” he said.

Because of that, Rendel and her husband are already saving up and making plans to own the home one day. Austin is planning for the future too. After her experience, she aims to better prepare herself and her home with hurricane-proof materials for future storms.

“It’s a stressful and emotionally exhausting experience,” she said, “But this was, what, a 1-in-100-year storm. So I guess I got another 100 years. I’ll be dead by then,” she added, laughing.

Despite the serious threats posed by storms and climate change, Austin believes the risk of staying in Longboat Key remains worth it. “I could go back to Chicago, where I grew up,” she said. “Then I’ve got snowstorms.

So yeah, pick your vice.”



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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](mailto:patrick@dipintocompanies.com) and [matthew@seawarddevelopment.com](mailto: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](mailto: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.

## Hurricanes

To: Longboat Key Town Commission

We have had severe damage from the past two hurricanes and are busy recovering from the problems created. My suggestion is that the Town of LBK make the land to the East of the bridge a no motorboat zone. This would be easier for the public to understand and easier for the police to enforce. The swim area is good as it is if they just add one buoy to the South that used to be there. I am not aware of anyone asking to extend the swim area to the North-only the no motorboat area. Unfortunately we lost some land due to erosion from the storms and the Greer Beach area moved another 50 feet towards our property. I believe that Kevin Van Ostenbridge was a problem to proper public planning process. Please understand that we appreciate your help but we are at a disadvantage with the storm damage here.

Tom Mayers  
Longboat Key

## Hurricanes

To: Longboat Key Commissioner BJ Bishop

Thank you for highlighting the issue of debris removal and FEMA reimbursement. Our office is aware of this problem and its impacts to our community. I'd like to loop you in with my colleague Reed Powell in our office, who oversees FEMA issues for the Congressman and can certainly discuss more of his work, including previous legislation on debris removal. Reed is copied here.

I'd also like to share a recent post Congressman Steube made on social media amplifying resources available to Longboat Key residents: <https://x.com/repgregsteube/status/1846926988784611362?s=42>

And thank you for thinking of my family — they experienced only minor damage and are all safe. We pray for a swift recovery for all impacted by these storms.

We stand ready to work with all partners to ensure a steadfast and strong recovery for all impacted by these storms. And as always, please let us know if the town may encounter any issues with the federal response.

Sami Araboghli  
Military Legislative Assistant  
Office of Congressman Greg Steube

## Help

To: Military Legislative Assistant Sami Araboghli

We need Greg's help in getting a FEMA declaration for all roads to be cleared by town of debris with reimbursement from FEMA. This is a health, welfare an safety issue. We have a number of private streets in LBK littered with hurricane debris that we will not be reimbursed by FEMA if we clear them. Thanks for your help. Call me if you need any more info.

BJ Bishop  
Commissioner  
Town of Longboat Key

## Help

To: Longboat Key Commissioner BJ Bishop

I appreciate your office reaching out to us on this. As you said FEMA does not cover debris removal for private property. There are rare situations where it has occurred, but I am not personally familiar with them and conversations I have had with FEMA on this have not given

our office much insight.

To Sami's point, Congressman Steube introduced the Clean Up DEBRIS Act that our office directly worked with Sarasota County on, to better help with this and stop FEMA's arbitrary definitions that hinder debris removal. That bill isn't the end all be all, but our office is committed to federal solutions to address this.

To your request, my understanding is under extremely limited circumstances FEMA, working with local/state governments can identify extremely specific areas to remove this debris clean up. For something like this, our office can request expedited consideration and express support for what a county or municipality requests to FEMA. I would need to work with our district director Erica Gregory, who is cc-ed, on some of it, but then happy to work on our end to support these requests. But the immediate first step would be requests for specific areas to be made to FEMA by the municipality or county. Once that's made, please let us know, or if it has been made already, we can go from there.

Reed Powell  
Senior Policy Advisor  
Congressman W. Gregory Steube

## Help

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Sami Araboghli  
Military Legislative Assistant  
Office of Congressman Greg Steube

## Visit Sarasota County

To: Longboat Key Commission, Sarasota City Commission

Apologies for my delay in sharing August numbers. We have been busy here at Visit Sarasota County working with our industry partners to stay on top of accommodation availability and maintaining updated status on conditions due to Hurricane Helene and Hurricane Milton. I'm inspired by this community and how resilient our tourism and area businesses are.

Here are the numbers comparing August 2024 to August 2023.

- Visitors were 124,000 compared to 127,610 in 2023.
- Visitor direct expenditures were \$89,007,300 compared to \$88,487,300 in 2023.
- Lodging occupancy was 52.8% compared to 58.8% in 2023.
- Lodging average room rate was \$228.17 compared to \$220.43 in 2023

There were 222,600 room nights sold compared to 246,800 in 2023.

Almost two-thirds of the year-to-date decline in visitors is due to reductions from Florida and the Southeast, with Florida alone contributing 40% to the overall drop. In contrast, visitation to Sarasota from the Northeast and Midwest remains relatively stable, accounting for less than 10% of the total decrease.

We have begun a #SupportThe941 campaign to inspire those already here in Sarasota County to support (and share information about!) local businesses they enjoy. If you are open and in a place to welcome the public, VSC invites you to publish your events, deals, and offerings for free on our website by visiting [www.visitsarasota.com/submit-an-event](http://www.visitsarasota.com/submit-an-event). VSC will promote your happenings and reshare content that uses #SupportThe941 across its social channels, so be sure to include this hashtag in your own posts and push your visitors to do the same. We'll amplify your good word!

As always, if there is anything we here at Visit Sarasota County can do for you, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Erin Duggan  
President & CEO  
Visit Sarasota County

## Red Tide

To: Longboat Key Commission, Sarasota City Commission

Well, I wish this wasn't the case, but there is a very large bloom of Karenia brevis off our coast right now. For those unfamiliar with the topic, K. brevis is the organism that gives rise to red tide. And right now, there is a bloom that appears to be in excess of 1,000 square miles,

**See Letters, page 8**

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# Why we (almost) never buy Cabernet

*Our decisions to forego Cabernet Sauvignon in favor of other wines actually has less to do with impatience than a quality-price trade-off.*

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

We belong to the ABC (Anything But Cabernet) club. Much of what we know about Cabernet Sauvignon, the grape varietal, comes from the kindness of friends who have lavished on us gifts of wine from the Bordeaux region of France, the Napa Valley of California, or the Andes. Our everyday selections rarely include wines that feature “Cabernet Sauvignon” on the label. By tradition, premier vineyards in Bordeaux do not list varietals blended in a vintage, assuming that anyone who will pay the price already knows that the Left Bank vineyards have a high proportion of Cabernet Sauvignon in each vintage. Those in the know expect to cellar these wines for at least five years to allow the tannins (acidic tastes akin to strong tea left in a cup overnight) to soften and mellow. Up front they pay a high price (greater than \$50 for a 750ml bottle) and wait five years to serve it. Forget that. We don’t have that much patience.



Our decisions to forego Cabernet Sauvignon in favor of other wines actually has less to do with impatience than a quality-price trade-off. A Bordeaux Right Bank wine reaches the ready-to-drink stage faster than one heavier in Sauvignon Cabernet. The good wines feature Merlot and mature within a couple of years or so. (The great Merlot cost out-of-sight prices [e.g., Petrus Pomerol at \$3,700] and thus fall off the scale of any quality-price trade-off.) It’s when we look at the quality and prices of highly rated wines that we see the premium one pays for Cabernet Sauvignon.

As a test we have scraped the Wine Spectator’s Top 100 wine list off their web site. The list includes a verbose description of each wine including the varietal, or varietals in a blend, the rating, and the price. The ratings tend to be subjective but adequate for comparisons with price.

This visual of the rating Score (0 – 100) vs. Price shows that the quality rating Score increases only modestly with Price in the group of wines featuring Cabernet Sauvignon (CS red line), while the Score increases dramatically with Price in the group of other varietals (OT blue line). Much better bang for the buck ....

So what red wines have more favorable quality-price trade-offs? Perhaps the wines with names that fewer people know how to pronounce.... Those directly comparable in quality to Cabernet Sauvignon include Barolo (Nebbiolo grape varietal) from the Piedmont of Italy; Pinot Noir from Burgundy in France, Oregon, California, and the Otago Valley of New Zealand; Syrah and Grenache from the Rhone Valley of France; Tempranillo and Garnacha (AKA Grenache) from Spain; Sangiovese from Tuscany in Italy; Malbec from Cahors in France and Argentina; and, Shiraz (AKA Syrah) from Australia. These recommendations will help guide your transition to an ABC wine buyer:

Nebbiolo	Paola Sordo	Barolo	Piedmont, Italy	2015 \$38
Pinot Noir	Talbott	Pinot Noir	Monterey, CA	2018 \$20
	Kali Hart			
Syrah/Grenache	Colombier	Rhone blend	Rhone Valley, France	2012 \$22
	Vacqueyras			
Tempranillo	Alidis	Tempranillo	Ribera del Duero, Spain	2010 \$45
Sangiovese	Poggio Dell'Aquila	Brunello di Montalcino	Tuscany, Italy	2015 \$25
Malbec	Mascota Unanime	Malbec	Mendoza, Argentina	2017 \$22
Shiraz	Yalumba	Shiraz	Barossa Valley, Australia	2018 \$23

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

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

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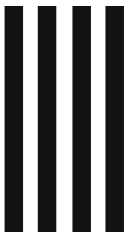
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# Editor Letters



**Letters, from page 4**

mostly centered off the mouth of Tampa Bay, but extending from north of Tarpon Springs down to Big Pass and New Pass. The two attached files are satellite imagery captured by the European Organisation for the Exploration of Meteorological Satellites, which were processed by NOAA’s National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science - <https://coastalscience.noaa.gov/science-areas/habs/hab-forecasts/gulf-of-mexico/florida-satellite-imagery/>

Satellites fly over Southwest Florida on a regular basis, and images are “processed” by looking at specific wavelengths of light. For this tool, researchers in Ireland documented the abundance of a harmful algal bloom in northwestern European coastal waters caused by a species within the same genus (Karenia) as causes our red tides. There are no sampling data to confirm the presence of red tide in these images, but in past years, this image processing algorithm has been highly accurate.

Comparing the two images, it seems that there has been a fairly recent and substantial increase in the size of this red tide bloom. By visiting the site linked above, there are tools that can be used to determine the shape of various signatures. Looking at the areas of the highest concentrations, it appears that the most intense area of this bloom is well over 1,000 square miles in size.

As we’ve said for several years now, while it’s true that humans don’t “cause” red tide, we can cause it to be worse. And while yes, it did rain a lot during the combination of August’s Hurricane Debby, September’s Hurricane Helene, and October’s Hurricane Milton, it should be remembered that it rained an awful lot on watersheds that are not natural – at all. Our best and most recent pollutant loading models suggest that under “average” conditions, the nitrogen loads coming off of our watershed are about two to four times as high as they were when Florida was mostly undeveloped. So why would we be surprised to find that the rains, and wind damage, and storm surge of these most recent storms might load the eastern Gulf of Mexico with lots more nitrogen than otherwise would be the case?

Tomorrow, staff from SBEP are going out onto Sarasota Bay to sample for the state of Florida’s “official” fecal indicator bacteria. We are also going to be sampling for a very nasty type of bacteria, Vibrio vulnificus. In addition, we will be sampling for the red tide organism, K. brevis. All of these samples will be processed – at no charge to us – by our colleagues with the University of Florida. Our efforts are coordinated with those of staff from the Tampa Bay Estuary Program, the Coastal and Heartland National Estuary Program, and the Southwest Florida Water Management District.

We’re not sure what we’re going to find tomorrow, but it might not be good – at all. There might be some good news, in that the University of South Florida’s Ocean Circulation Model – which is used to predict red tide movements – expects that the red tide will mostly stay off-shore, in response to winds out of the East to Northeast.

Fingers crossed – but be prepared for bad news, but maybe not as bad as it could be.  
Dave Tomasko

Executive Director  
Sarasota Bay Estuary Program

**Red tide**

To: Sarasota Bay Estuary Program Executive Director Dave Tomasko  
So appreciate the work you and your team continue to do. Could you do a brief outline of your important info? I have an uninhabitable home and can’t absorb too much plus would love to share it with our community.  
BJ Bishop  
Commissioner  
Town of Longboat Key

**Cleanup**

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton  
Tip, just a note to say thank you and job well done to the Waste Management crews working on the south end of the island picking up yard waste debris. They are loading a lot more than just normal Wednesday yard waste.  
Gary Coffin  
Commissioner  
Town of Longboat Key

**Agenda items**

To: Longboat Key Commission  
I hope this email finds you well.  
The last time we met was April 26th. The July 26th meeting was cancelled, but we provided all the agenda materials via email. Due to some scheduling issues, we had to move the October 25th meeting to November 8th, but now we do not have a quorum for this date.  
I would like to reschedule for Friday, November 22 at 1pm. This is the week before Thanksgiving week.  
Please let me know if you will be able to attend this meeting.  
Susan Smith  
Finance Director  
Town of Longboat Key

**Agenda items**

To: Town of Longboat Key Finance Director Susan Smith

**See Letters, page 12**



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3500 Bayou Louise Lane - Siesta Key- \$10,500,000 Partially Furnished

Located on the sought-after northern tip of Siesta Key, this exceptional gated estate offers unrivaled forever vistas of the Gulf of Mexico, the city, moonrise-sunrise, and sunsets. This home boasts 5 bedrooms and 5.5 bathrooms, sprawling across 6,300 sq. ft. under air. This residence exemplifies luxury at its finest. Featuring a grand 40x20 pool and spa, an elevator, complemented by a 24K boat lift with a 12x20 platform for kayaks or jet skis, perfect for the boating enthusiast. The main level showcases an exquisite primary suite with sweeping panoramic water views, a warm wood-paneled office with a fireplace, a great room with a fireplace, a Clive Christian-inspired kitchen, and a guest bedroom. The 2nd level has 3 bedrooms ensuite—additionally, 4-car garage, a gym and game room. The owner can enjoy access to a beach just steps away, ensuring the ultimate in coastal living.

[3500BayouLouise.com](https://www.3500BayouLouise.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. Revel in your own 3,400 sq. ft. terrace featuring an infinity pool, fire pit, and summer kitchen, with private stairs leading straight to the beach. With a gourmet kitchen, social room, guest suite, fitness center, and a stunning 5-car garage, Aria delivers unparalleled luxury and on-site management.

[2251GulfofMexicodr.2seeit.com](https://www.2251GulfofMexicodr.2seeit.com)



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, a custom-designed interior with new windows, kitchen, and baths. The Royal floorplan offers three bedrooms, all ensuite, a 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 pets are welcome, and one underground parking spot is included.

Bonus: We have residence F608 available for assignment.

[lambianceA401.com](https://www.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 basin with direct Gulf access.

[www.65Lighthouse.com](https://www.65Lighthouse.com)

1241 Gulf of Mexico Drive #105 - \$2,575,000-Furnished

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](https://www.WaterClub105.com)

408 Jackson Drive-\$2,888,000

Spacious 3-bedroom-plus-den/3-bath home, with an optional 4th bedroom, features a private pool, lush garden, and contemporary updates. Highlights include a modern kitchen, vaulted ceilings, and a versatile family room. A separate casita adds extra comfort. Enjoy elegant outdoor spaces and a prime location near St. Armands Circle.

[408JacsonDr.2seeit.com](https://www.408JacsonDr.2seeit.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.

## Oct. 11 Citizen assist

1:45 p.m.  
Officer Mathis was dispatched to Mistletoe Lane in reference to a snake inside the residence. Upon his arrival, Officer Mathis made contact with the homeowner who explained that a snake was in the lanai and she wanted the Police to remove it. Sgt. Montfort and Officer Mathis entered the lanai and located the snake inside the table cover. The snake was removed without incident and released outside. Case clear.

## Kayak

5:41 p.m.  
Officer Troyer responded to Dream Island Road on the report of suspicious activity. An anonymous reporting party flagged Officer Troyer down while on routine patrol. The reporting party informed the officer that he observed two men and a woman on Dream Island Road stealing kayaks. Upon arrival, Officer Troyer observed the reported people along Dream Island Road. Officer Troyer spoke with the people and all informed that they were not stealing kayaks, however, they did find an abandoned kayak along Dream Island Road which had been abandoned since Hurricane Helene. Officer Troyer informed them it was not wise to take the kayak, but if they gave the kayak a few more days of being abandoned, the kayak could be considered abandoned. The individuals all understood and left the kayak behind. Case clear.

## Oct. 12 Generator

2:19 a.m.  
Officer Ramsaier was dispatched to Ed Lee Lane for a wire down. Upon arrival, Officer Ramsaier was directed to the rear of the address where he was met by the homeowner who said he was having a mechanical problem with his generator. The generator was having a mechanical malfunction which was causing loud noises. The homeowner advised to keep the generator off and call the gas company. Case clear.

## Driver’s license

10:19 a.m.  
Officer Troyer while on patrol in the area of Bay Isles Parkway observed a white Hyndai which was in the intersection without stopping. At the time, the traffic stop light was inoperable due to a recent power outage from hurricane Milton. Officer Troyer conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle in the 2500 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive. Officer Troyer also observed the license plate was unreadable due to a dark tinted license plate cover which obscured the license plate numbers. Officer Troyer spoke with the driver who presented her driver’s license. She informed Officer Troyer that she didn’t have a physical copy of her driver’s license due to recently paying off her unpaid citations and not receiving her new license. Officer Troyer was able to confirm her identity through the database which showed a photo. Officer Troyer spoke with the woman again and she reported she knew her license was suspended, however she thought her license was reinstated due to paying the traffic fines. Officer Troyer informed her she could not drive anymore. The vehicle was turned over to the registered owner of the vehicle who was also a passenger. Officer Troyer issued the driver a traffic citations.

## Electricity

11:45 p.m.  
Officer Miklos while on patrol, observed a power line arcing near the 3300 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive. Officer Miklos advised Sarasota Sheriff’s Office Dispatch to alert the Fire Department and FPL. The Fire Department advised it was a fuse and FPL would be enroute to handle the low wire and arcing power line. Case clear.

## Oct. 13

Citizen assist



9:31 a.m.  
Officer Mathis was flagged down by a motorist who advised that his home was flooded during the last few hurricanes and he would like help securing his shotgun from inside the residence. Officer Mathis entered the residence with him to clear and secure the shotgun for him. The man advised that he was afraid to clear the weapon due to it being submerged in the flood waters. Officer Mathis was able to locate and safely unload the weapon for him. Case clear.

## Truck

11:21 p.m.  
Officer Miklos while on patrol in the 5900 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive, observed a white Ford flatbed truck turn into the driveway. Officer Miklos drove past the driveway and turned around down the street. Officer Miklos observed several unknown subjects in the distance walking with flashlights. Officer Miklos advised Sarasota Sheriff’s Office dispatch of the suspicious incident and Officer Miklos made contact with four men. The men advised they were hired to restore the residence and were trying to get their truck unstuck from the deep mud. Officer Miklos contacted the number provided and the homeowner confirmed the business name and that he hired them to perform restoration work. Officer Miklos advised the four men that everything was okay and confirmed the homeowner was okay with them trying to get their vehicle out. Case clear.

## Oct. 14 Propane

11:26 a.m.  
Officer Martinson was dispatched to the Longboat Key Police Station on a call of a civil disturbance. Upon arrival, Officer Martinson met with the complainant inside the front lobby. The complainant said that around mid September he had ordered approximately \$800 worth of propane to deliver to his home located at Emerald Harbor Drive. The complainant said that the propane has yet to be delivered and that he needs it to run his generator because he does not have any power. The complainant said he ordered from the same company before and has an account with the business and has had his propane filled by them in the past. Officer Martinson advised him that the situation between him and the propane company is a civil matter and not theft. Officer Martinson also reminded the complainant that the area had just gone through two major hurricanes and that the business might be having trouble fulfilling orders and behind schedule. He was advised that he could call back the business to request the order be canceled and for his money returned or could sue them in civil court. Case clear.

## Vessel

2:44 p.m.  
Officer Maple was dispatched to Harbour Drive for a lost/found property involving a boat that had washed up on shore. Upon his arrival, Officer Maple and Sgt. Montfort met with the complainant who stated a boat was ashed up behind the residence. The vessel was washed ashore from recent hurricanes. The vessel was originally docked at Marina Bay at Bay Isles. Officer Maple met with the personnel at the marina who said they were aware of the vessel and its current location and plans were being started to remove the vessel from land. Case cleared.

## Watches

2:41 p.m.  
Officer Mathis was dispatched to Buttonwood Drive in reference to items that had been removed from the curb of the residence. Upon his arrival, Officer Mathis met with the complainant who explained that items were taken that were placed by the curb in the debris piles. The complainant explained that he’s missing a plastic tub that contained two gold pocket watches and belonged to relatives that are family heirlooms. At the time of this report, the man could not provide a better description with serial numbers or exact description of the missing watches. Officer Mathis provided the man with a case number for lost or misplaced items and the email so he could send pictures or a better description of the watches after speaking with his wife or other family members. Case clear.

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# KeyRealEstate

## Bird Key, Lido Key, Longboat Key latest sales

Address	Sq. Ft.	List Price	Bed/Bath/Half Bath			Days On Market	Sale Price
1591 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#209	5,320	\$10,870,000	4	5	1	0	\$10,870,000
1591 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#618	5,320	\$8,588,000	4	5	1	0	\$8,588,000
1561 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#303	4,187	\$8,495,000	3	3	1	0	\$8,495,000
1581 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#508	4,017	\$8,295,000	4	4	1	0	\$8,295,000
1561 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#304	4,967	\$8,200,000	3	4	1	0	\$8,200,000
1581 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#405	4,017	\$7,995,000	4	4	1	0	\$7,995,000
1591 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#614	2,249	\$4,859,000	2	2	1	0	\$4,859,000
1581 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#607	1,721	\$2,655,500	1	1	1	0	\$2,655,500
1591 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#315	1,556	\$2,490,000	1	1	1	0	\$2,490,000
1591 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#316	1,556	\$2,450,000	1	2	0	0	\$2,450,000
4401 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#707	1,314	\$1,425,000	2	2	0	137	\$1,250,000



1591 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit 209



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\$668,000



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BIRD KEY

453 E. ROYAL FLAMINGO DRIVE, SARASOTA  
NEW CONSTRUCTION • \$8,495,000



5BR/6BA • 4,500 SF





# Editor Letters

Letters, from page 8

Works for me, thanks.  
Sarah Karon  
Commissioner  
Town of Longboat Key

Nonconforming Density  
Redevelopment Options in Town Code

To: Longboat Key Commissioner Debra Williams  
Thanks Debra. 13 properties have applied for & received a Certificate of Built Conditions. Those properties include:

1. Portobello Condominiums (both A-3235 GMD and B-3240 GMD)
2. Longboat Arms Condominiums
3. Longboat Harbour Condominiums
4. White Sands
5. Spanish Main Yacht Club
6. Beachwalk
7. Club Longboat
8. Longbeach Condominium
9. Longboat Beachcomber
10. Sands Point
11. Seaplace
12. Whitney Beach Condominiums
13. Privateer South

Allen Parsons  
Planning and Zoning Director  
Town of Longboat Key

Nonconforming Density  
Redevelopment Options in Town Code

To: Longboat Key Planning and Zoning Director Allen Parsons  
I remember at the time discussing properties filing “as built” documentation to make a potential redevelopment go more

smoothly. Do you have an idea how many properties did file?  
Debra Williams  
Commissioner  
Town of Longboat Key

Nonconforming Density  
Redevelopment Options in Town Code

To: Longboat Key Commission  
Following-up on last Monday’s Commission request to provide some background on the Town’s nonconforming density (i.e. more dwelling units per acre on a piece of property than the current Zoning district would otherwise allow for) redevelopment framework. Attached are materials from the 1st Reading of the ordinance (2018-20) that adopted the options available. There’s a lot here & we understand that your priorities are elsewhere. As discussed, this will be brought to an upcoming Commission Workshop for an overview of the current options.

The very short version is that there are 3 redevelopment options for nonconforming density properties:

Option 1- Allows for redevelopment of legally nonconforming density and structures, in exactly the same size/height/dimensions as currently exist on a property (i.e. you can build back what you previously had). Allowances for building elevations to comply with FEMA flood requirements are included.

Option 2- Allows for redevelopment of legally nonconforming density properties, in the circumstance where all applicable Zoning District standards (other than density) can be met.

Option 3- Allows for redevelopment of legally nonconforming density properties utilizing a “Floating Zone District” called the CORD (Conformance Overlay Redevelopment District). This option allows for applicants to request modifications from underlying zoning district standards, in situations where all of the underlying zoning district standards cannot be met, and provides for the subject property’s density to become

conforming with the Zoning Code and Comprehensive Plan.  
FYI- Following Helene & Milton, we’ve received inquiries about these redevelopment options on a number of different properties.  
Allen Parsons  
Director Planning, Zoning & Building Department  
Town of Longboat Key

Hurricane update

To: Longboat Key Commission, Sarasota City Commission  
Please forgive any typos or misspellings in this Director’s Note, but I’m working from home today, waiting for the AC repair person to either give me good news that they can fix my system, or bad news that I need a new compressor - which got blown off its stand after Milton. While I have power, there’s no internet, so this email is via my cell phone.

So...to update you a bit. Yesterday, Ryan and I had a virtual meeting with Dr. Christine Angelini, Director of UF’s Center for Coastal Solutions. There is a new faculty member at UF who specializes in pathogen studies, and UF has graciously offered to analyze any samples (up to about a dozen) that we can collect. They would run the Class 3 Marine waters indicator of enterococci bacteria, and also Vibrio vulnificus, which is a nasty bacteria that was found in Lee County after Ian, and which has a 20% mortality rate. As we’ve indicated before, until you hear otherwise, it is not a good idea to recreate or come into contact with our bay’s water, especially along our shorelines and in our tributaries. As permitted by available resources, a sub-set of collected samples will be used for microbial source tracking, to determine if bacteria are from, for example, sewage overflows, decomposing plant matter, or some combination of the two.

Also, SBEP is working with the folks at the Cortez Village Historical Society to help with cleanup efforts this Friday. Our staff will all be there, so let Megan or Christine know if you want to help, or if you know of other neighborhoods or locations where a concerted cleanup effort can be of assistance and help meet EPA’s goal of creating “trash-free waters.”

Ryan and Heather are moving forward with our ongoing restoration projects at City Island, Longboat Key’s Bayfront Park, and at Dr Martin Luther King Jr Memorial Park. Ryan is also visiting recently completed projects at GT Bray and FISH Preserve, to see how they fared after the combined effects of Debby, Helene and Milton.

We have weeks to months of hard work ahead of us, and the SBEP is working to find ways to help speed up the recovery of our bay and our communities.

Dave Tomasko  
Executive Director  
Sarasota Bay Estuary Program

Post-storm activities

To: Longboat Key Commission, Sarasota City Commission  
Our entire staff here hope that you and your families and colleagues have come through Milton okay. None of the

See Letters, page 13

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# Editor Letters



## Letters, from page 8

SBEP staff have power at their houses – which is not surprising, as, for example, more than 80% of Manatee County is without power this morning, according to the Bradenton Herald. My house didn’t flood, but m AC unit was blown off its stand. If you’ve ever tried to move one, you’ll know that a home AC condenser is not exactly lightweight. Oh well, the roof is intact, at least, and flood waters stayed out of our house.

While the obvious focus the next few days is to protect human lives, and to get the debris cleared out and the power back on, I don’t want the SBEP to sit around working remotely on reports and such as if nothing has happened here. Instead, we’ve been in more or less constant contact the last two days talking about how to respond to what we just came through. I’ve also been in contact with Dr. Christine Angelini, who is the Director of the UF Center for Coastal Studies, and Dr. Mark Rains, who was appointed to the position of the state’s Chief Science Officer by Governor DeSantis.

Our general thoughts are that we should respond in terms of short-term, medium-term, and long-term strategies. We don’t have all of this worked out, but here are some general thoughts on how we might proceed.

Short term  
We will be working with our partners to find out how to help with clean up efforts. This will be developed by Megan and supported by Christine, mostly. We have a wide social media footprint, and we can work with partners to help coordinate cleanup efforts, whether along the shoreline or in the watershed. Yes, wherever in the watershed. Because events like this show us that trash and debris in the watershed can enter the bay. Lots to do, no doubt, and we will focus our efforts on helping our community respond to this.

Also, Dr. Christine Angelini and I have been in communication to set up a monitoring effort that will be coordinated with our local governments, the CHNEP and others to monitor the health risks of various waterways and tributaries. Between ourselves, SWFWMD (maybe), UF and the folks at Suncoast WaterKeepers, we should be able to have good guidance on the relative health risks of encountering our bay’s water and our waterways.

Medium-term  
Our new scientist, Dr. Ryan Gandy, will work with our TAC to determine what sort of data gaps that need to be addressed both before Milton hit us, and afterwards. Ryan will work to gain a scientific consensus for how to document what happened to our bay, while at the same time working to try and identify any critical data gaps that the TAC feels need to be addressed for us to provide scientifically sound guidance on bay management. Ryan is the new guy in our office, but he has already hit the ground running.

Also, Ryan and Heather will coordinate to find out how our recent restoration projects have fared with the storm. Perhaps there are things that need to be done to fix them, or perhaps they’ve come through as great examples of how a more natural shoreline can be resilient to storm events. Whatever we find out, Ryan and Heather will have their work cut out for them.

Longer-term  
On this topic, I’ve had lengthy conversations with Dr. Rains, the state’s Chief Science Officer, over the past two days. The topic of our discussions? How to discuss the impacts of Debby and Helene and Milton in terms of Florida’s increasing risk from climate change. I believe that we have earned your trust on how we talk about water pollution issues and nitrogen. If so, I hope that you will trust us to be similarly scientifically grounded and unbiased when we discuss the issue of a warming planet and carbon emissions. Our weather is changing – that is not just my opinion, it’s supported by multiple lines of evidence, and it is the view of the State of Florida’s Chief Science Officer as well. We will not be telling people what to do about carbon emissions, just like we didn’t tell people what they had to do about nitrogen loads. But we do want folks to realize what the implications are of various strategies, moving forward. The years of 2018 to 2019 were a turning point of sorts that got our community to sit up and pay attention to issues of water quality and how to best respond in terms of nitrogen loads. Hopefully, the year 2024 can be the year when we determined that we didn’t want to just live with the implications of climate change without doing more about it.

The SBEP is not a regulatory agency, and we do not go around getting people overly excited by overstating the implications of various events. Hurricane Milton did not destroy our bay, our entire watershed, or our economy. But it definitely and adversely impacted the bay, our neighborhoods and will be a big hit to our economy, especially on our barrier island. Milton, in combination with Debby and Helene, is a look into what the future could be, if we don’t get our act together and deal with climate change in a manner similar to the great progress we’ve made with water quality issues.

Stay safe and let us know what you’d like us to do, if anything, on any of the proposed short-, medium- and long-term issues outlined above.

Dave Tomasko  
Executive Director  
Sarasota Bay Estuary Program

## Hurricane Milton

To: Longboat Key Commission  
The preliminary numbers from PZB for damages to residential structures (not vegetation) by Hurricane Milton stand at \$11.2 million. These numbers will be refined and the damage assessment should be complete tomorrow. As a reminder, Helene caused an estimated \$175 million.

Howard N. Tipton  
Town Manager  
Town of Longboat Key

## FPL

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton  
FPL continues working on major issues with subaqueous power connections to the island. FPL has on-island emergency crews (Wilco and others) as well as barge/boat crews working to locate, assess, diagnose, and repair. So, active work on the electrical system for the island continues. Mid key continues to experience some power outages.

Water and wastewater holding. There is an in-line booster repair for tomorrow that will help with adding pressure. Still under a boil water notice.

I’ll share any preliminary damage assessments from Milton that I receive (hopefully by COB). It will be a much smaller number for Milton than Helene which affected 20% of

residential properties (2,000) with an estimated damage cost of \$175 million (no including beaches).

Town has waived building permit fees through end of January for Helene and we will likely add some time for Milton.

We do have comfort stations at north fire (bathrooms, showers, laundry). Bottled water at Town Hall. Debris contractors are fully mobilized as of Wednesday. This will be a several months long process. We will have FEMA back out to look at the beaches again after Milton. Town Hall offices are open.

Howard N. Tipton  
Town Manager  
Town of Longboat Key

## Phone Interview

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton  
I agreed to do this at 5:35. Please let me know if there’s anything new you’d like out there before then.  
Ken Schneier  
Mayor  
Town of Longboat Key

## Phone Interview

To: Longboat Key Mayor Ken Schneier  
Hello Mayor, I work for WWSB ABC 7 in Sarasota. We wanted to know if we could get a live phoner interview with you during our 5:30 p.m. newscast? It would focus on the recovery on Longboat Key. Let me know if that would be possible.  
Scott Draper  
Reporter  
WWSB ABC 7

To: Longboat Key Mayor Ken Schneier  
I work for WWSB ABC 7 in Sarasota.  
We wanted to know if we could get a live phoner interview with you during our 5:30pm newscast? It would focus on the recovery on Longboat Key. Let me know if that would be possible.  
Scott Draper  
Reporter  
WWSB ABC 7

## Hurricane

To: Longboat Key Commissioner BJ Bishop  
I own a unit in The Tides of Longboat. Unfortunately, my cameras never came back on-line after the last storm; and they are both inside the unit. It is hard to tell what is going on, on Longboat as an absentee owner. My father also has a unit  
I own a unit in The Tides of Longboat. Unfortunately, my cameras never came back on-line after the last storm; and they are both inside the unit.  
It is hard to tell what is going on, on Longboat as an absentee owner. My father also has a unit in the Key Club complex and is trying to plan his fall return to Longboat.

For what I perceive as a modest investment, I think that the Town of Longboat Key should consider investing in a few cameras mounted outside to show Gulf of Mexico Drive, the Gulf shore and the Intercoastal waterway. It would give homeowners the chance to see what is going on, on Longboat. We could see the weather. We could see the storm surge. Everything we hear about the storm is second hand. There is little real video coverage of storm on Longboat. It would be inexpensive to simply have the cameras viewable from the Town’s website. Obviously, it would be ideal if they were connected to backup generators used by the Town, or have some battery backup. While the cameras would go down if there was a long power outage, it would provide both the absentee owners and the evacuated owners some connection to the key.

Mark S. Frankel  
Couzens, Lansky, Fealk, Ellis, Roeder & Lazar, PC  
Attorney, Counselor and Certified Mediator

## Hurricane

To: Attorney Mark Frankel  
Many neighborhoods have done that. We have catastrophic damage and cameras that were up didn’t survive Helene. The St. Armands cameras were gone 10 minutes into Milton. Will look at this down the road,  
BJ Bishop  
Commissioner  
Town of Longboat Key

## Hurricane

To: Longboat Key Commissioner BJ Bishop  
Thanks. The updates are appreciated. I was just suggesting that going forward, having the Town host several camaras showing different sections of the island would be helpful.  
Mark S. Frankel  
Couzens, Lansky, Fealk, Ellis, Roeder & Lazar, PC  
Attorney, Counselor and Certified Mediator

## Non-Conforming Density

To: Longboat Key Commission  
Following-up on last Monday’s Commission request to provide some background on the Town’s nonconforming density (i.e. more dwelling units per acre on a piece of property than the current Zoning district would otherwise allow for) redevelopment framework. Attached are materials from the 1st Reading of the ordinance (2018-20) that adopted the options available. There’s a lot here & we understand that your priorities are elsewhere. As discussed, this will be brought to an upcoming Commission Workshop for an overview of the current options.



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# Editor Letters

## Letters, from page 13

The very short version is that there are 3 redevelopment options for nonconforming density properties:

Option 1- Allows for redevelopment of legally nonconforming density and structures, in exactly the same size/height/dimensions as currently exist on a property (i.e. you can build back what you previously had). Allowances for building elevations to comply with FEMA flood requirements are included.

Option 2- Allows for redevelopment of legally nonconforming density properties, in the circumstance where all applicable Zoning District standards (other than density) can be met.

Option 3- Allows for redevelopment of legally nonconforming density properties utilizing a “Floating Zone District” called the CORD (Conformance Overlay Redevelopment District). This option allows for applicants to request modifications from underlying zoning district standards, in situations where all of the underlying zoning district standards cannot be met, and provides for the subject property’s density to become conforming with the Zoning Code and Comprehensive Plan.

FYI- Following Helene & Milton, we’ve received inquiries about these redevelopment options on a number of different properties.

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

## Amazing Job

To: Sarasota Deputy City Manager Pat Robinson  
Pat - you are doing such an incredible job. Thank you for all your amazing effort for all of us.  
BJ Bishop  
Commissioner  
Town of Longboat Key

## Amazing job

To: Longboat Key Commissioner BJ Bishop  
Thanks BJ. It’s a team effort. Hopefully we will be back online to supplement your water needs this afternoon. We repressurized our islands this morning, I notified Dezzi, and our utilities director will be reaching out to your staff to facilitate!  
Patrick Robinson  
Deputy City Manager & Public Safety Administrator  
City of Sarasota

## FPL

To: Longboat Key Mayor Ken Schneier  
Had a chance to do walk the damage assessment with Michelle (Building Inspector) this morning. As you might expect, there was indeed damage from Milton but even more so from Helene. That was the last part of the island to inspect and I should have a preliminary damage cost estimate number from Allen by tomorrow. I will say that Michelle and I spoke to a number of residents who were tired bordering on exhausted but otherwise in reasonably good spirits.  
The bigger news is that FPL had a setback overnight and we were back to about 50% power as of this morning. There are several subaqueous power lines that feed power under Sarasota bay to LBK. One of them is having major issues which is not good news. FPL is working on possible solutions, but we have not been advised of any decisions or possible progress. The FPL city stat portal is not reflecting accurate information and so we are reliant on individual conversations for updates. North Fire, PD, and PW are still on generator.

Water is back on at a lower pressure. As reported yesterday, the water and wastewater system is ready to go to full pressure once we get enough lift stations online with power. Our goal is to keep the water on if at all possible and we will be bringing in vehicles to truck out the wastewater if necessary should lift stations get overwhelmed. We are working to staff that water function so that even if the power comes on later tonight we can push up the pressure. Just keep in mind our team working out here also had damage at their homes and have been working tirelessly to get LBK up and running so staffing it isn’t as easy as under normal circumstances.

The bathrooms and shower facilities at north fire station are functional. Salvation Army food truck showed up unannounced and we have placed them at Bayfront Park. They will be here at different locations in town for a couple of hours each day for the next two weeks. We will provide power updates as we get them.  
Howard Tipton  
Town Manager

Town of Longboat Key

## FEMA

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton  
Penny and I were on the Zoom meeting at 4 p.m. Tuesday October 8. The focus of this weekly meeting was hurricanes and FEMA.

Tom Perez opened the meeting with some basic information. There is adequate funding for emergency relief for Helene and Milton. 100% of the Town’s costs for response and recovery will be covered by federal funds - did not tell us what time frame those funds will come back to us, but they will.

If you have any questions as an individual or an elected official call the FEMA Hotline 800-621-3362 or go to Disasterassistance@FEMA.Gov -(Penny - did I get this right)?

Paul Judson Deputy Administrator for FEMA then took over the call. To date, \$285 million has gone to individual survivors of Helene (Dave and I have received two emergency checks into Dave’s account already - we filed electronically the day after Helene).

One of their priorities is assisting municipalities with debris cleanup, survivor teams on the ground to assist victims of the hurricanes. They encourage everyone to apply for FEMA assistance to see if they qualify. They also work with localities to reimburse for road repair/replacement including bridges that may be damaged.

FEMA money is not available for private commercial property debris removal unless it is creating a health, welfare or safety issue for the community. This is because commercial operations have insurance for debris removal. Government entities cannot enter private property without permission, hence the complication.

Justin Knight - also a FEMA staffer focused on Hurricane Milton. He emphasized what we already know, this will be a catastrophic event. All people Must leave the barrier islands. Those who don’t will die. The misinformation campaign is creating issues for FEMA staffers who have been on the ground for Helene. It must stop. It is creating chaos and distrust of all who are trying to help communities recover.

The Mayor of Treasure Island FL asked about reimbursement for debris removal of commercial properties. Officials of FEMA reiterated that insurance for those commercial properties must be used for those efforts.

Questions were raised about those who have lost their only residence. Will FEMA trailers be brought in? FEMA stated there is no timeline for trailers and they attempt to utilize other measures including hotels, other temporary housing, repair and replace as quickly as possible.

FEMA also does not reimburse for debris removal for HOAs, businesses.

FEMA urged us to get as much information on FEMA assistance to citizens as quickly as possible. It is not possible to get funds to people to evacuate - if they need help up front there are volunteer agencies in different communities as well as the shelters which are opened on the mainland (doubt this impacts our residents). That is all I can remember, but Penny may have more to add.

BJ Bishop  
Commissioner  
Town of Longboat Key

## Water Service on the Barrier Islands

To: Sarasota City Commission  
Our Utility Teams were able to restore water and sewer service to the barrier islands this morning. We will be working with Longboat Key to assist them with their utility needs as soon as we can ensure the utility activation on the islands is stable and we don’t have any major issues.

Pat Robinson  
Deputy City Manager  
City of Sarasota

## IGA Presence for Hurricane Milton

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton  
Please allow me to reintroduce myself. I am Kimber Kipp, FEMA Intergovernmental Affairs Specialist and will serve as your local point of contact for FEMA recovery efforts in Sarasota County for all three hurricanes - Milton, Helene and Debby. Please utilize me as your one-stop for the FEMA information to assist you and your staff with your inquiries, issues, questions, or concerns.

As your Intergovernmental Affairs liaison, I will continue to provide you with information on FEMA programs, including Individual Assistance, Public Assistance, Hazard Mitigation,

and the National Flood Insurance Program. Additionally, our office will provide you with updates on the status of the recovery through News Releases, Fact Sheets and Public Information.

We realize this is a very challenging time for the citizens of Sarasota County and our goal is to provide you with any and all information that will help you help your constituents. Please do not hesitate to call me at 202-704-4019 at any time should you need my assistance.

I look forward to meeting and working with you! I’ll be following up with you this week to request a few moments of your time to speak, as we typically do with local officials.

Please feel free to email or call me should you have any questions or concerns.

Kimber Kipp  
External Affairs Intergovernmental Affairs Specialist  
Office of External Affairs | IMC

## October 18 City Commission Meeting/ Vacation of Mango Ave

To: Sarasota City Commission  
When speaking with the applicant’s counsel this morning about the email below addressing tomorrow’s agenda Item X.1 (Application to vacate Mango Avenue), I was advised that in order to keep the discussion focused on the merits of the application to vacate the subject right-of-way and to avoid the possibility of getting sidetracked by procedural/notice issues, that the Applicant prefers that the public hearing be continued. After speaking with Ms. Griggs, I advised the applicant that this item could be re-scheduled for the regular City Commission meeting of November 18, 2024. I anticipate that this announcement will be made at the commencement of tomorrow’s meeting as a change to the order of the day. Continuance will enable us to announce the new date for the public hearing at tomorrow’s meeting and will also allow for re-advertisement of the public hearing for November 18.

Robert M. Fournier  
City Attorney  
City of Sarasota

## October 18 City Commission Meeting/ Vacation of Mango Ave

To: Sarasota City Commission  
It is my understanding that the meeting originally scheduled for October 7th has been rescheduled for this Friday, October 18th. While the City can certainly reschedule its meetings, public hearing items require additional and specific notice to parties who may be affected. We write on behalf of our client, Brendarose Investments, LLC, d/b/a D&D Seamless Gutters, to object to the lack of notice with regard to Item X.1., the vacation of a portion of Mango Avenue.

Section IV-202(c) of the City Code requires mailed notice be provided to property owners within 500 feet of property proposed for vacation at least 15 days prior to the public hearing. No such notice was provided for this item to be heard on October 18th. Our client is an abutting owner to the proposed vacation, and had we not been informed by a neighboring owner, we would have been completely unaware that this item had been scheduled to be heard on Friday.

As you can imagine, given the nature of our client’s business, they have been focused on responding to the needs of the community, and we have not yet spoken since the storm. At this point it is unclear whether our client or our firm would be able to attend the meeting on Friday. As such, we would ask that this matter be removed from Friday’s agenda and rescheduled for a date when proper notice can be provided to all affected parties.

Scott E. Rudacille  
Sarasota

## Post-Milton request from local business re Overtown Square

To: Sarasota City Manager Marlon Brown  
Definition Fit on 5th St lost their roof. Exploring options to continue operating until repairs made. Wondered if they can do personal training sessions in Overtown Square.

I mentioned to them that I thought there would be a limit on the number of people to qualify for private use of a public park. 6 maximum, perhaps?

Also mentioned they would need to stay out of the way of crews replanting trees, etc. Who should they speak to for permission?

Debbie Trice  
Commissioner  
City of Sarasota



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