

Longboat Rev Rews

July 28, 2023

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InsideLook Mote's manatee died after assault injuries says report

The death of Hugh, the 38-year-old male manatee that died at Mote Marine Laboratory last April, could have been prevented according to necropsy report findings.

The death of Hugh, the 38-year-old male manatee that died at Mote Marine Laboratory last April, could have been prevented according to necropsy report findings published by the United States states. Department of Agriculture.

Spreading wings in Sarasota *...page* 7

Hugh died from a 14.5-centimeter rip in his colon and injuries caused by a sexual encounter with a larger male Manatee named "Buffett" according to the report.

"The facility (Mote) failed to handle Hugh expeditiously and as carefully as possible to prevent trauma and physical harm, resulting in the death of the animal," the report

Mote reported last April that Hugh had "passed away unexpectedly" at age 38, but there were no details then of the death resulting from an injury due to the sexual encounter.

See Injury, page 2

St.Armands rental house shooting prompts investigation

Lido Key and surrounding residents were shocked to learn of a shooting that took place last week at a vacation rental home near the intersection of Jackson Drive and South Washington Drive just off St. Armands Circle.

The shooting took place at about 1 a.m. on Monday, July 24, during See Shooting, page 2

Window to the sea comes to life

It is designed to provide guests an expansive view into the 400,000-gallon Gulf of Mexico habitat, which will feature various coral reef formations, sharks, rays, sea turtles, tarpon, snook, red drum, snapper, parrotfish, butterflyfish, and many other species.

Longboat sand tops \$3.1 million ...*page 9*



FREE

Eat healthy, yet not bland ...page 13



That man is going to jump! ...page 10

Mote Marine Laboratory & Aquarium announced a milestone. A major component in the construction of its new Science Education Aquarium an acrylic window — was installed into the new aquarium's largest exhibit, the Gulf of Mexico habitat.

The acrylic window installed last week measures 26' L x 17' H x 11" W and weighs 27,900 pounds. It is designed to provide guests an expansive view into the 400,000-gallon Gulf of Mexico habitat, which will feature various coral reef formations, sharks, rays, sea turtles, tarpon, snook, red drum, snapper, parrotfish, butterflyfish, and many other species. It will also open up into a new large multi-purpose room that will host a vast array of educational and community programs.

This highly-anticipated exhibit will also house a second large acrylic win-

dow, which measures 26'L x 11' H x 9" H, and weighs 22,200 pounds. This second acrylic piece, scheduled for installation later this week, will provide another vantage point into the world of Mote's world=class research.

Construction update

In July 2022, the Board of Sarasota County Commissioners unanimously approved the transfer of land for Mote SEA from the County to Mote, and construction permits were approved in August. Vertical construction began in September, when site workers began placing 346 auger, cast-inplace pilings 80 feet deep into the ground. This tremendous effort required a towering crane, 145 tons of steel rebar and 312 truckloads of concrete. Concrete has been poured for the second and third floors.

Injury, from page 1

Last week, on July 25, Mote elaborated on Facebook:

"On the day of Hugh's passing, Hugh and Buffett engaged in natural, yet increased, mating behavior observed and documented in manatees both in managed care and in the wild."

"...Hugh and Buffett were both observed initiating and mutually seeking interactions from each other throughout the day, and there were no obvious signs of discomfort or distress such as listing, crunching, or active avoidance that would have triggered a need for intervention,"

Mote added that its care team decided not to separate Hugh and Buffett because "separation has previously caused undue anxiety and negative effects in both manatees."

Soon after the day of sexual encounter, on April 29, a change in Hugh's behavior was noticed and he soon "became unresponsive in his habitat," and died that day.

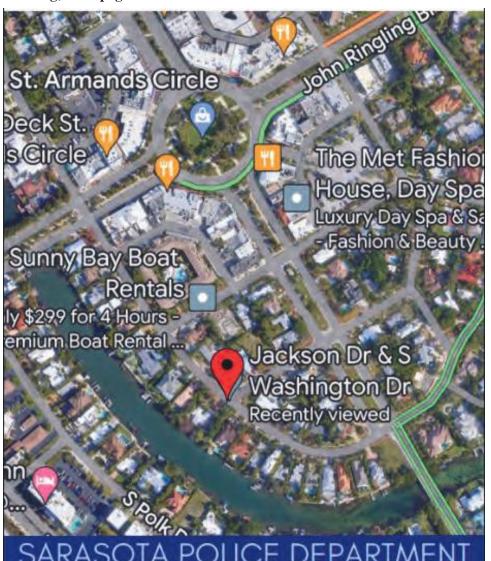
Hugh was born at the Miami Seaquarium and came to Mote in 1996 along with Buffett, who shared a tank. Hugh and Buffett participated in research projects.



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Shooting, from page 1



what neighbors describe as a party at the home of the shooting.

The violence ended with two adult victims taken to the hospital with minor injuries.

According to Sarasota City Police, the shooting is still under investigation. It has been learned that surveillance cameras captured cars rapidly exiting the scene.

Anyone with information can call the Sarasota Police Department's Criminal Investigations Division at 941-263-6070 or leave an anonymous tip with Crime Stoppers at 941-366-TIPS or online at www.sarasotacrimestoppers.com.



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LIDO KEY • 159 TAFT DR., #206 \$2,699,000 Just listed- This coastal contemporary home offers attractive one-levelliving, an abundance of natural sunlight and boasts a full array of developer upgrades. Desirable end unit with 3 BR/ 3 BA. Only 18 unique owners, perfectly situated between Sarasota Bay and the Gulf of Mexico.

I am looking for properties on Longboat and Lido for my buyers.

If you are thinking about making a move, let's chat. **NEW CONSTRUCTION TO BE BUILT**



WEST OF TRAIL - HIGHLY DESIRABLE LOCATION \$8,299,000 Waterfront location, this custom home is situated on a quiet cul-de-sac steps to Siesta Key. Offering nearly 5,000 AC/SF, with an open concept floor plan, highly desirable finishes and touches, and 4-car garage, you will be impressed. Work with builder direct to create your dream home.



LONGBOAT KEY • 6489 GULFSIDE DRIVE \$16,900,000 Fabulous Gulf front lot offering nearly 100 ft. of sandy beach, this gorgeous DSDG Architect designed home is a rare find. Boasting almost 6,000 AC/SF, this spectacular home is custom built with the finest details throughout. Architect designed landscaped exterior and 4-car garage.



SIESTA KEY • HIGEL AVE. \$16,995,000 Currently under construction and scheduled to be ready Fall 2023, this breathtaking 8,964 AC/SF residence is one of a kind, designed by DSDG. Gulf front property on one acre and offers a 2,000 SF roof terrace. Separate guest house and 8-car garage. No expense spared on this remarkable home.





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EditorLetters

Longboat Key News and Sarasota City News encourages Letters to the Editor on timely issues. Please email to: letters@lbknews.com or mail to PO Box 8001, Longboat Key, FL 34228. We also print letters sent to Town Hall that address Longboat Key issues. We reserve the right to edit.

Manatee County - Whitney Plaza

To: Longboat Key Commission

The County Commission approved this morning, as part of the consent agenda, the item that directed staff to negotiate an interlocal agreement with the School Board for the operation (and funding of the operation) of a community center at Whitney Plaza. The Mayor, Commissioner Murphy, and I were in attendance.

As I've shared previously, we've communicated with the new Manatee School Superintendent and have just set a meeting with him and several of his staff for August 4th to discuss this opportunity and to explore what role the Town can play in helping the School Board develop a community center vision that will find success on Longboat Key.

I'll provide an update after the meeting on the 4th as to what the next steps might be.

Howard N. Tipton

Town Manager

Town of Longboat Key

Manatee County - Whitney Plaza

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton

Welcome back Tip, hope your Vacay was memorable, in a good way, will it be necessary for other commissioners to attend on the 4th?

Gary Coffin

Commissioner

Town of Longboat Key

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Manatee County Whitney Plaza

To: Longboat Key Commissioner Gary Coffin

Thanks Gary. Great time off! I think this first meeting will be at the staff level and we'll figure out where we need to go from there. I am sure that the new Superintendent is 99% focused on getting the schools opened up in a few weeks and my primary hope is that he will assign the project to a key staff member that we can begin working with (along with a Manatee County representative).

Howard N. Tipton Town Manager

Town of Longboat Key

Microforest

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton

Thank you for providing the article on Microforests. I asked our Public Works staff for input on space that they may know of that would be available for such a project.

While there was no immediate location determined to be appropriate, we will add this idea to the list of ideas we are collecting and creating for when we have conversations with the consultant we've hired to assist us with our environmental matrix. We will be considering and focusing on projects which will have the greatest and most positive impact on the environment.

- Carolyn Brown
- Support Services Director
- Town of Longboat Key

Microforest

To: Longboat Key Commissioner BJ Bishop

Thanks for sharing the micro forest article. We'll keep it on our list of possible initiatives as we develop our plans.

- Howard N. Tipton
- Town Manager
- Town of Longboat Key

Gulfstream Roundabout Landscaping Gets Underway

To: Longboat Key Commission

A brief reminder, following the completion of the US 41 and Gulfstream Roundabout construction earlier this month, FDOT's landscaping contractor will now begin the final landscap-

See Letters, page 6







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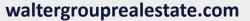
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793 JUNGLE QUEEN WAY | LONGBOAT KEY Two-story custom-built, canal-front 4BR/3BA featuring a private rooftop deck. Spacious open floorplan with 22' soaring ceilings. French doors lead to an expansive back porch and screened patio with a pool and spa.

1211 GULF OF MEXICO DR., #601 | LONGBOAT KEY Stunning views of the Gulf of Mexico and Sarasota Bay in this 6th-floor condominium in Promenade. The desirable end unit features 2 bedrooms plus a den, all with full baths, abundant floor-to-ceiling windows and glass sliders to 2 balconies.



830 TARAWITT DRIVE | LONGBOAT KEY

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

BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME 524 HALYARD LANE | LONGBOAT KEY

Country Club Shores - WATERFRONT 100 ft. x 100 ft. buildable lot. Includes 2BR/2BA/1,668 SF home. Perfect location for new construction on 80 ft. wide deep water canal. Close access to Country Club Shores' beach access and the Longboat Key Club. Less than three miles to Saint Armand's Circle. Highly desirable location on north side of 80 ft. canal for southern exposure on pool and outdoor entertaining space. Seller commissioned design of 4,344 SF contemporary home and considers property as lot value. Plans available. Renderings reflect one possible build option; new home not included in the listing.



EditorLetters

Letters, from page 4

ing and irrigation. Always a pleasure to see the continued beautification of our city.

The team will strive to minimize interruptions so lane closures will be limited to overnight hours. Noise and light from landscaping equipment is possible and do be alert for workers in the area. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to call. My contact information is below.

Barbara Catlin

Community Outreach Manager Florida Department of Transportation Sarasota | Manatee Operations Center

Cancellation of Investment Advisory/Finance Committee

To: Longboat Key Commissioner Penny Gold

The July 28 Investment Advisory/Finance Committee is cancelled due to lack of quorum. Just passing along the materials for your information. Attached are the minutes from our April meeting, the June quarterly report from Chandler Asset Management and our June Quarterly Financial Update. Our next meeting is scheduled for October 27 at 1 p.m.

Let me know if you have any questions. Susan Smith

Finance Director

Town of Longboat Key

Citizen Tax Oversight Committee

To: Longboat Key Commissioner Debbie Trice

Two seats on the Citizen Tax Oversight Committee for the Local Option Sales Tax are designated for appointment by you as one of the At-Large Commissioners. One seat was occupied by Mr. Jose Fernandez (appointed by your predecessor in 2019, term expired December 2022) and another seat is currently occupied by Mr. Jerry Wells (appointed by your predecessor in 2022, term expiring in December 2024). I have attached information regarding the Committee and current membership for your review.

We need you to make one appointment at this time to fill the seat formerly occupied by Mr. Fernandez or re-appoint Mr. Fernandez if you wish and he is willing. You may make the appointments simply by letting us know the name and contact information of your appointee. The appointments do not have to be made at a City Commission meeting. We do not take applications for this board, this is a Commissioner appointment. The appointments will be effective immediately with a term expiring December 2025. Please do not hesitate to give myself of Shayla a call if you have any questions.

Lori Rivers Deputy City Clerk City of Sarasota

Police Department Complaint

To: Sarasota City Commission

I've been trying to get in contact with city officials but have been told you all have a busy schedule and unable to come into the office. Unfortunately, I've had to launch a complaint against Det. Steven Fergus for him allegedly having a personal relationship with an ex-girl-friend who is seeking a fallacious harassment case against me. The normal process is to launch a complaint with internal affairs which I have to no avail.

The only other option now is for me to take legal actions. I've been advised I have a strong case and that the city will likely settle. My goal isn't to make money or embarrass the city I much rather you guys handle this internally. If this is something that is able to be done, please email me a written response preferably from the mayor of the action(s) the city plans to take to investigate such allegations. I will not take any legal actions if the city shows good will and completes an honest thorough investigation into the police department.

This morning I've been in contact with a well-known reverend who's fought for civil rights across this country and been involved in some of the biggest protests fighting for everyone's right to be treated fairly. This man who many of you probably know has offered his services as well.

I'm a Vice President for a private equity firm not some criminal or someone who has a bone to pick with law enforcement. I've never been arrested a day in my life nor had a pair of handcuffs put on me. I refuse to be treated like a criminal and continue to take disrespect from Sarasota Police Department.

about turning that green lawn into a formal soccer field? Or is this a situation of miscommunication through lack of interaction with the residents?

Kelly Franklin

Sarasota

Wrong water feature

To: Kelly Franklin

Apologies, but a long while ago I had another constituent ask about the fountain I referenced that is to be in that space which is in the masterplan. I thought you too were referencing that fountain, but that other water feature is a good point. I hope to get an update on that as well as I have included Mr. Brown and Mr. Fogle on this email.

Jen Ahearn-Koch

City Commissioner

City of Sarasota

U.S. Chess Federation Tournament

To: Sarasota City Manager Marlon Brown

Per our discussion, I wanted to introduce you to Nicholas Lewis and Bob Bernstein. They run the Manasota Chess Center and wanted to discuss the prospects of using a city venue, such as the municipal auditorium, for a highly coveted tournament sanctioned by the U.S. Chess Federation. Could we all set up a time to discuss? Please advise and thank you.

Erik Arroyo

City Commissioner

City of Sarasota

U.S. Chess Federation Tournament

To: Sarasota City Commissioner Erik Arroyo

Jennifer and her team will take the lead to discuss with the principals about the tournament. Thanks for the intro and I will keep you updated.

Marlon Brown

- City Manager
- City of Sarasota

U.S. Chess Federation Tournament

To: Sarasota City Commissioner Erik Arroyo and Sarasota City Manager Marlon Brown Jim has reached out to Mr. Lewis and Mr. Bernstein to set-up some time to talk about the chess tournament.

Jennifer Jorgensen Governmental Relations Manager City of Sarasota

Introducing colonies of butterflies to the City of Sarasota

To: Sarasota City Manager Marlon Brown Could you provide me with an update? Are there plans to discuss this?

Susan Morris Sarasota

Introducing colonies of butterflies to the City of Sarasota

To: Susan Morris

I apologize but there are no plans to discuss this.

Marlon Brown

City Manager City of Sarasota

Introducing colonies of butterflies to the City of Sarasota

To: Longboat Key Commissioner Jen Ahearn-Koch

Do you know if this was approved by anyone at the City? If so, could you put me in touch with that person?

I have very mixed feelings on this and would like additional information on how it came about.

I'm a butterfly nerd (President of Sarasota County Butterfly Club, IABES, IBBA, NABA, Lepidopterist Society, etc.) So I know a little about butterflies.

Once again the goal is for my complaint to be taking seriously and not just shrugged off because the department could care less. Thank you all and I hope to hear back soon. Anthony Clark

Sarasota

Wrong water feature

To: Sarasota City Manager Marlon Brown

I meant the water features by the Payne Park Cafe and the playground (the entry fountain that is now just rocks and the waterfall by the cafe).

Mr. Brown just mentioned a soccer field? The pickup players share the lawn with lawn frisbee now, and that's just fine with everyone, and how it has been for years. Is someone talking This is a butterfly that has a great comeback story. I often talk about it in my butterfly presentations. I also have brought Atlas to these presentations to show participants. However, I have always made sure that if I released any, I released either a male or a female.

Intentionally starting colonies of butterflies that were not previously in Sarasota could have some unintended consequences. This was an east coast Florida butterfly. Only due to human relocation are they now on the west coast.

I'm curious as to the rationale for creating colonies of a butterfly that was not native to Sarasota.

They could have one day organically made their way to the west coast and then north, but that isn't the case here. We know what has happened with fish, birds, and other insects that See Letters, page 7



EditorLetters

Letters, from page 6

were accidentally or intentionally introduced into nonnative environments.

Anyway, I'd like to get some more info so that I can form an educated opinion. Did this individual discuss this and get city approval?

Susan Morris

Sarasota

Introducing colonies of butterflies to the City of Sarasota

To: Susan Morris

This is the first I hear of this, but I was away for a bit. I have copied the City Manager on this email as he may have more information.

Jen Ahearn-Koch

City Commissioner

City of Sarasota

Introducing colonies of butterflies to the City of Sarasota

To: Sarasota City Commissioner Jen Ahearn-Koch

I have no information on this and would not even know where to begin. Sorry.

Marlon Brown

City Manager

City of Sarasota

Introducing colonies of butterflies to the City of Sarasota

To: Sarasota City Manager Marlon Brown

With the growing number of colonies and the increased size, this will be a topic of discussion among an increasing number of residents. I think it would be a good idea to have a discussion about it. How does the city feel about an individual taking it upon himself, since it appears no city approval was sought, to introduce a new species of insect to the area? There are pros and cons, this shouldn't be one individual's decision. I believe you should have been consulted. Now that you are aware, please discuss this.

I'd be happy to provide information on this if needed. Susan Morris Sarasota

ourasota

Cooling tower Noise

To: Thomas Frey

Our building official, Larry Murphy, is out of town until Monday. I know he was working on this issue, but I was asked to reach out to the owner of US Garage, Andrew Marcus. I spoke to Andrew Marcus Tues March 8th, and has hired Aqua Services to replace the temperature sensor and valve. They will be installing those parts as soon as they are received. Mr. Marcus said the parts were anticipated to come in this week. Please let me know if you need anything else.

Michael Taylor

Deputy Building Official, City of Sarasota

Cooling tower Noise

To: Sarasota City Firefighter Mat Taylor

Thank you for the update. While hopefully this will help, it doesn't change the fact that once again we've had to endure elevated noise levels for weeks and we know it won't be the last time as every year something breaks with this cooling tower.

I strongly suggest that alternative means of noise reduction are pursued to put this issue to rest once and for all – I've been suggesting the installation of a sound barrier for years and would like to emphasize that once again see https://kineticsnoise.com/industrial/case/evapora-tive cooling towers sound control.html

Thomas Frey

Sarasota

Cooling tower Noise

To: Sarasota City Fire Department Mat Taylor

It is extremely disappointing that I must follow up yet again since over a month has passed

that the cooling tower started to make excessive noise again. It has been running non-stop 24x7 with noise levels exceeding 65dbA measured at my bedroom window disturbing all residents living adjacent to it. I've also checked how far the cooling tower can be heard in the neighborhood and it can easily be heard 300ft+ from the source, certainly exceeding any plain audibility noise limitations that might be applied.

Any venues playing amplified sound at 3am would certainly be fined, yet a 21-year-old cooling tower is allowed to rattle on. When will this be resolved?

Thomas Frey

Sarasota

Cooling tower Noise

To: Thomas Frey

Good morning. I have personally reached out to Aqua Plumbing and Air. The parts have been ordered but there is a three week delay in receiving the parts. Aqua is going to attempt to see what can be done in the interim to tune the system to lower the noise weather permitting but no later than noon tomorrow. They will call me to further advise. I apologize for the late response but was awaiting Aqua's information. Thank you.

Marlon Brown City Manager

City of Sarasota

Cooling tower Noise

To: Sarasota City Manager Marlon Brown

Mr. Brown, thank you for the initiative. It looks like Aqua Plumbing did make adjustments to the cooling tower yesterday. It is now much quieter and I measured it at ~58dbA, down from ~67dbA previously. After weeks of disturbance this is much needed and long overdue relief.

Thomas Frey Sarasota

See Letters, page 11

LONGBOAT KEY TENNIS CENTER Join the fun!

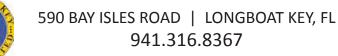
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KeyRealEstate

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3408 FAIR OAKS LN	4,510	\$2,000,000	5	5	0	35	\$1,900,000
435 L AMBIANCE DR Unit#L207	2,525	\$2,600,000	3	3	0	50	\$2,400,000
1241 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#607	2,965	\$3,545,000	3	4	0	84	\$3,150,000



1241 GULF OF MEXICO DR Unit#607



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WATER CLUB 1241 GULF OF MEXICO DR., #808 ACTIVE LISTING \$3,395,000

LAKEWOOD RANCH 5527 PALMER CIRCLE, #206 ACTIVE LISTING \$485,000



410 MEADOWLARK DRIVE

PENDING \$3,795,000



BIRD KEY 526 BIRD KEY DRIVE SOLD \$2,225,000



BIRD KEY 449 E ROYAL FLAMINGO DRIVE SOLD \$5,600,000

Send us your reaction: letters@lbknews.com

OnPatrol

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

July 21 Agency assistance

2:58 p.m.

Officer Connors responded to the John Ringling Causeway for an agency assistance call. Sarasota Police dispatch reported a suicidal man on top of the Ringling Bridge attempting to jump. Dispatch advised that the man was on or near the railing on the eastbound lane. Officer Connors advised dispatch from the area of North Gulfstream Avenue that was seconds away in tow, with the marine truck and police vessel Yellowfin. As Officer Connors approached the crest of the Ringling Bridge, and observed the man on the outside of the railing, holding onto the railing with one hand and holding/waving a cell phone in the other. There was a woman in close proximity who appeared to be frantic and yelling at the man. As Officer Connors exited the marine truck and advised dispatch that the man



was hanging over the railing and appeared as if he was going to jump. Officer Connors ran across both lanes of traffic and the center barrier and yelled in the direction of the man. The woman yelled toward the officer, "Help he is going to jump." Officer Connors yelled towards the man again asking him to come back onto the sidewalk, and talk about what is going on. The man was yelling over the officer's commands, screaming profanities and acting irrationally. He appeared to be unstable and not in the right state of mind. Officer Connors asked him again to come on the sidewalk in which he did, and started walking east over the bridge away from the officer. Officer Connors yelled at the man to stop, in which he turned toward the officer and put his hands up. Officer Connors advised him to get on his knees and he complied. Officer Connors advised the man that he was going to be handcuffed for his safety. He was handcuffed without incident and detained until Sarasota Police arrived on scene. The man who was extremely disheveled, sweating profusely, said that he was just released from being in prison for six years, didn't want to live and was trying to see his child. He advised that he didn't want to go back to jail. At that point, Sarasota Police arrived and took over. The man was transported to Sarasota Memorial for evaluation. Case clear.

July 22 Abandoned car

9:44 a.m.

Officer Butler responded to Longboat Drive South to assist Palmetto Police Department. A vehicle was left in a parking lot unattended. Officer Butler made contact with the owner of the vehicle who stated she knows the vehicle is in Palmetto and has been having car trouble with it. Case clear.

Traffic hazard

10:10 a.m.

Officer Butler while on patrol came upon a vehicle in the roadway partially obstructing traffic and the bike lane. Officer butler made contact with the driver who said she ran out of gas. Officer Butler advised the driver to place the vehicle in neutral and he pushed the car off the roadway. The owner said her husband went to get gas for her and she did not need additional assistance. The car was placed in the shade out of direct sunlight. Case clear.



Alcohol 11:37 a.m.

Officer Ferrigine while on patrol observed a woman on the beach with an open can of alcohol. Officer Ferrigine made contact with the woman and issued her one civil citation and advised her that there were no alcoholic beverages allowed on the beach.

Boating

4:28 p.m.

Officer Connors while on marine patrol, was dispatched to Sarasota Bay, north of Bowles Creek for a report of a pontoon vessel in distress taking on water with 12 passengers on board. Upon arrival, it was determined that the vessel was not taking on water but the boat's engine was disabled. The captain advised that the boat was a rental out of Bowles Creek and they have been disabled for approximately two hours. Due

to the extreme heat and shortage of water on board. Officer Connors assisted the children and elderly parties on board the police vessel, transported them back to Bowles Creek, while the captain and a crew member stayed on the pontoon boat to await assistance. Case clear.

July 23 Suspicious vehicle

12:02 a.m.

Sgt. Montfort while on routine patrol, observed a vehicle parked in front of Ace Hardware. Sgt. Montfort exited his patrol vehicle and observed the vehicle was unoccupied. Sgt. Montfort conducted an exterior check of the business and all appeared secure. Sgt. Montfort further checked Bayfront Park with negative results for any subjects. Case clear.

Lost property

4:20 p.m.

Officer Butler responded to North Shore Road reported she was on the beach at North Shore Road when she left her cellular device by her beach chair and walked to the water. When she returned she went to look at a home on North Shore Road and realized it was missing. She returned to the beach area where she packed up her things and could not find her cellular device. Case clear.

Boating

8:58 p.m.

Officer Martinez was dispatched to the Whitney Beach Access in regards to a report of a boat in distress. Officer Martinez was advised by dispatch complainant stated, 'Boat Flashing Lights/ Appears in Distress.' Upon arrival on scene, Officer Martinez observed the reported flashing white light out in Gulf of Mexico. Officer Martinez was advised by the Fire Department, the light reported was a buoy. Case clear.

July 24 Citizen a

Citizen assist

9:00 a.m.

Officer Martinson was dispatched to the Sands Point Road on a call of an abandoned vehicle. Upon arrival, Officer Martinson met with the complainant at the front lobby of the resort. The complainant stated there was a boat on a trailer parked in their private parking lot since the 4th of July weekend. The complainant stated he did no t know who the boat belonged to but wanted to make sure it was not a property owner or guest before he had it towed. Officer Martinson gave the complainant the owner's names and he was going to check to see if they were staying at the resort. Case clear.

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July 25 Citizen assist

8:42 a.m.

Officer Miklos was dispatched to the 6200 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive in reference to illegally parked vehicles in the parking lot of the church. Upon arrival, Officer Miklos came into contact with the complainant who advised that multiple contractors from the construction site have been parking in their parking lot during the day. The complainant was advised that the church could tow the unauthorized vehicles due to the parking lot being owned by the church. The complainant requested Officer Miklos speak with the project manager at the construction site to confirm if it's one of their contractors. Officer Miklos came into contact with the assistant project manager. The project manager and Officer Miklos returned to the truck and came into contact with the owner of the truck, who stated he was picking up tools from the job site and was about to leave. The man was advised of the church's request to move his vehicle. Officer Miklos returned to speak with the complainant about the truck and was advised the church has been putting flyers on the construction vehicles warning about the possibility of being towed. The truck left without incident. Case clear.

Ads that work... ads@Lbknews.com or 941.387.2200

Editor Letters

Letters, from page 7 Cooling tower Noise

To: Sarasota City Manager Marlon Brown

The cooling tower has been getting worse again and I just measured it ${\rm \sim}70{\rm dbA}-{\rm please}$ advise

Thomas Frey

Sarasota

Cooling tower Noise

To: Sarasota City Manager Marlon Brown

Can I have an update on what the plans are for revisions to the noise ordinance?

It's been 5 months since it was discussed in a city commission meeting and Mr. Fournier indicated previously in emails that he suggests to adopt the same night-time noise limit of 65dbA for a continuous source that currently exists for an amplified source.

Mr Murphy emailed me that he measured the noise level from the street level 1 ½ weeks ago and it may have been a cooler that day when he measured (and from the street level is a lot less loud than from my bedroom) but today and from my bedroom last night I'm again measuring 67-70dbA.

Thomas Frey Sarasota

Cooling tower Noise

To: Thomas Frey

City Attorney Fournier is copied to provide a response on the plans for the noise ordinance. Thank you.

Marlon Brown City Manager

City of Sarasota

Cooling tower Noise

To: Sarasota City Manager Marlon Brown

With regard to the proposed changes to the sound ordinance, my intention at this time is to propose deletion of the exemption in Section 20-7(3). However, I do not yet know with certainty the maximum decibel level that will be proposed for sound from air conditioners. Because this type of sound does not receive First Amendment protection (unlike music, which does), it is not out of the question to provide that sound generated by an AC unit is unlawful within specified nighttime hours if it would disturb a reasonable person of ordinary sensibilities.

Robert M. Fournier City Attorney City of Sarasota

Cooling tower Noise

To: Sarasota City Attorney Robert Fournier

Has there been any update to this year long issue?

We are again dealing with noise issues from this cooling tower – it's hovering right around 75dba measured from my bedroom balcony.

Please see that this is addressed. Thomas Frey Sarasota

Cooling tower Noise

To: Thomas Frey

Mr. Marcus has let us know that they are scheduled to install new bearings this Friday. We believe that should help with the noise.

Lucia Panica

Development Services Director

City of Sarasota

Cooling tower Noise

To: Sarasota City Development Services Director Lucia Panica

Appreciate the response but we're dealing with this issue every year.

Every year this tower has a defect of some kind that requires repairs – these repairs take weeks until they materialize and meanwhile residents suffer.

Mr. Marcus has the option to turn off the tower or reduce output until its repaired but it's running full blast as of this moment and has been for 3 weeks and will until it's repaired ... until it breaks down again. This is the second time this tower requires a repair this year alone.

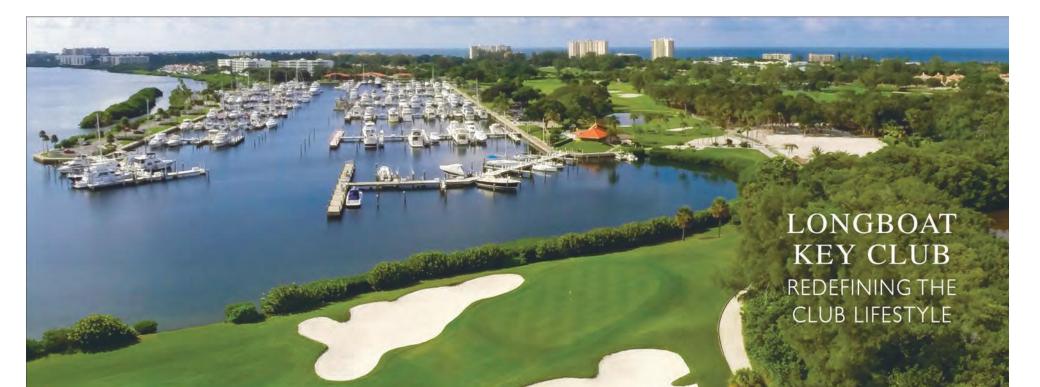
There have been numerous complaints in regards to this tower going back 6 years, every year this issue is reoccurring, every year residents have to endure this.

Mr. Marcus could have long procured a more modern tower or install noise abatement walls or find other means of noise reduction.

Thomas Frey

Sarasota

See Letters, page 12



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The News

Editor Letters

Letters, from page 11

Cooling tower Noise

To: Sarasota City Commissioner Ahearn-Koch and Vice Mayor Liz Alpert

I wanted to forward this thread to you as it is my understanding the noise ordinance will be back on the agenda sometime soon as last year unfortunately no decisions were made, and it was just punted down the road.

You've previously witnessed the disruptive noise generated by the frequently defect cooling tower of the US Garage building and I'd like to inform you that unfortunately that continues to be a reoccurring issue. Today, they finally repaired the tower but only after it was producing excessive noise for over a month. It is upsetting to many residents adjacent to this tower that we need to endure this for weeks at a times multiple times a year until a repair is performed.

I'm hoping for your support in changes to the noise ordinance as suggested by Mr Fournier below and the adoption of reasonable decibel limits.

Thomas Frey Sarasota

Cooling tower Noise

To: Thomas Frey

Thank you for your email as I was not aware that this was an issue, again. I have copied the City Manager and City Attorney on this email, as I am curious about this situation being a code violation as is, if the noise is consistently over 75 decibels?

Jen Ahearn-Koch City Commissioner At-Large City of Sarasota

Cooling tower Noise

To: Sarasota City Attorney Robert Founier

The problem has been the presence of Section 20-7(3) among the exceptions to the application of the sound ordinance. That section exempts from the scope of the ordinance "Air conditioners when functioning in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications and with all manufacturers' mufflers and sound reduction equipment in use and in proper operating condition."

Robert M. Fournier City Attorney City of Sarasota

To: Cooling Tower Noise

I was only trying to explain, generally speaking, how a unit might exceed 75 decibels but might still be in compliance and that this exemption can complicate enforcement efforts. I didn't mean it as a specific reference to the specific unit you have been concerned about, which I agree seems like it couldn't be functioning in accordance with manufacturer's specifications, etc.

Robert M. Fournier City Attorney City of Sarasota

Urgent Appeal to Address Vacation Rentals in Residential Communities

To: Sarasota City Manager City of Sarasota

On behalf of my family, I humbly present this communication, seeking redress for a matter of great importance that plagues our communities - the proliferation of vacation rentals within residential zones. The issue at hand gravely impacts our quality of life and merits immediate attention from the authorities.

In the year 2007, our family made a significant investment in acquiring our residence within the serene confines of a residential neighborhood. At the time of purchase, we could not have foreseen the lamentable circumstances that would unfold years later. Unfortunately, in 2022, the tranquil sanctuary of our home was intruded upon by the establishment of a vacation rental behind our property, transforming our once peaceful abode into an inhospitable and stressful environment.

The repercussions of this vacation rental has manifested in an unending stream of disorderly nd uncivilized tourists, exhibiting the most egregious anti-social behavior. Enclosed herein are links to two video recordings that vividly illustrate the distressing ordeals that our family has endured over the past year due to the uncontrolled and disruptive conduct of these transient occupants Regrettably, our plight has necessitated recourse to law enforcement authorities on multiple occasions, totaling four to five instances within a period of only one year, in response to the flagrant misconduct exhibited by the occupants of the aforementioned vacation rental.

Throughout our tenure in this residence, we have never before found it necessary to involve the police in addressing disruptive behavior from neighboring households.

Attempts at amicably resolving the matter through direct engagement with the vacation rental's homeowner have proven futile. Multiple conversations and text messages with the homeowner and in-person visits to the property were made to implore the guests to exercise restraint in their activities. Regrettably, our entreaties have been met with dismissive responses from the homeowner, asserting that they are not bound by any constraints because of the noise ordinance (between 7am-11pm) and that they are entitled to raucous behavior within the premises, regardless of the impact on their neighbors.

This situation has further escalated, as the homeowner, in a written communication to me, openly threatened retaliation should we assert our civil rights by contacting the authorities again. She said in a text message, and I quote," I don't appreciate you calling the cops...if you call the police again, I will take action ... " Such threats effectively impede our fundamental right to peace and tranquility within our own home. We have the constitutional right to peace and quiet.

Moreover, it has come to our knowledge that the deleterious effects of vacation rentals are not confined to our household alone. A sound byte from one such unruly incident from the vacation rental behind our home was shared with a hundred of our neighbors and has elicited widespread acknowledgment in the community of the negative consequences engendered by vacation rentals within our community. The pervasive sentiment among residents is a yearning for a return to the amicable and neighborly environment we once enjoyed, fostering a sense of unity and community that has since been disrupted by these vacation rentals.

In light of the prevailing circumstances, I earnestly implore this esteemed commission to undertake legislative measures to curtail the proliferation of these residential vacation rentals within residential zones. The advantages of such establishments appear limited, accruing primarily to the profit-seeking few, while the adverse effects ripple throughout the very fabric of our cherished neighborhoods.

We beseech your esteemed commission to take earnest consideration and view the linked videos as evidence, allowing yourselves to empathize with the cacophony and disruption that plagues our daily lives. Accordingly, we respectfully request that you take decisive action to amend any ordinances that permit vacation rentals within residential communities.

To restore the sanctity of our homes and foster a renewed sense of community, we advocate for the implementation of a minimum term requirement of six months for any vacation rental endeavor. Such a restriction would strike a balance between the interests of potential tourists and the preservation of residential serenity here.

In conclusion, we express our sincere gratitude for your time and consideration in addressing this pressing matter. We remain hopeful that this appeal receives the utmost attention from your esteemed commission, with a view towards safeguarding the rights and welfare of the residents instead of the tourists.

Thank you for your earnest attention to this vital concern.

Jill Dallmann

Sarasota

Urgent Concerns Regarding Lease Non-Renewal at Hunters Glen Apartments

To: Sarasota City Commissioner Liz Alpert

I hope this email finds you well. My name is Jessica Rivera, and I am a resident at Hunters Glen Apartments in Florida. I am writing to seek your advice and guidance on a matter that has recently affected my living situation.

Over the past year, my family and I have been model tenants at Hunters Glen. We have consistently paid our rent on time, maintained our apartment in good condition, and always fostered a positive relationship with the staff. However, to our surprise, we received a nonrenewal letter from the apartment complex management.

When we approached the office manager, Andrea, to inquire about the reason for this non-renewal, she stated that the decision was made based on an assumption that we were not planning to renew due to our perceived mistreatment of the staff. This statement shocked us, as we have never encountered any issues or received complaints against us during our tenancy.

Despite our efforts to understand the situation better, neither Andrea nor any other staff members were able to provide concrete incidents or complaints that might have led to such an assumption. The decision to non-renew our lease seems to be final and non-negotiable, leaving us with no recourse.

We understand that Florida law allows landlords to non-renew a lease without providing a ason, but this situation is financially unsound and creates a significant hardship for us to have to move solely based on someone's subjective opinion. We believe that such decisions should be made based on objective factors, especially when it directly impacts the lives of tenants who have been responsible and respectful. Given your experience and expertise in family law, we are reaching out to you for guidance on how we can approach this situation and advocate for fair treatment. We are unsure of the steps to take and would greatly appreciate any advice you can offer. Thank you for taking the time to read this email, and we hope to hear from you soon. Jessica Rivera Sarasota

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Urgent Concerns Regarding Lease Non-Renewal at Hunters **Glen Apartments**

To: Jessica Rivera

You should contact an attorney that specializes in landlord/tenant law to see what, if any, recourse you have. I am not able to provide legal advice to you.

Liz Alpert Vice Mayor City of Sarasota

3-D Modeling...highlighted transcript of Budget Workshop

To: Sarasota City Commission

Suggesting you take a look at the attached transcript from the 7/25/22 budget workshop related to 3-D modeling....almost a year ago to-the-day.

See Letters, page 14

WineTimes

The Mediterranean Diet

Better to enjoy smaller quantities of memorable tastes than larger quantities of bland foods.

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

The Harvard University T. H. Chan School of Public Health has put a review of the Mediterranean Diet on its website. Concerning risk of death by stroke, it observes:

"The PREDIMED study, a primary prevention trial including thousands of people with diabetes or other risk factors for heart disease found that a Mediterranean diet supplemented with extra virgin olive oil or nuts and without any fat and calorie restrictions reduced the rates of death from stroke by roughly 30%. ... Most dietary fats were healthy fats, such as those from fatty fish, olive oil, and nuts, but total fat intake was generous at 39-42% of total daily calories, much higher than the 20-35% fat guideline as stated by the Institute of Medicine...Risk of type 2 diabetes was also reduced in the PREDIMED trial."

The findings about deaths from stroke also extend to cardiovascular disease deaths in general and to cancer deaths. Lower risks of heart disease and cancer due to adherence to the Mediterranean Diet in the USA resemble lower risks of these deadly conditions in Mediterranean countries.

The Mediterranean Diet merely shifts the bulk of food consumption from red meat, starchy carbohydrates such as white potatoes and rice, foods sweetened by adding sugars, and fried foods to green, yellow, and red vegetables, whole grain breads and cereals, fresh fruit, fish, nuts, and healthier fats such as olive oil, avocados, soy, and corn. The study also reports what one would expect to find in the diet of people in France, Spain, Italy, Greece, and Portugal: generous servings of red wine.

In the USA, high proportions of calories from beef, pork, hamburgers, fried chicken, French fries, sweet soft drinks, pizza, ice cream, butter, and other dairy products show up as less healthy alternatives to the Mediterranean Diet. The NCI AARP Diet and Health Study, a very large prospective study that we helped conduct from 1995 to 2022, has found that diets heavy in processed meats and meat products increase the risk of cancers.

During recent years, heart disease and cancer figure into close to half of all deaths in the USA. Healthier diets would reduce risks of premature deaths substantially. The National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, the National Cancer Institute, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the British National Health Service, the American Heart Association, and the American Cancer Society all recommend a Mediterranean Diet combined with exercise as a pathway to better health.

Despite the consensus of health experts on the benefits of a Mediterranean Diet, many households continue to favor unhealthy diets. Nutritionists know that people resist changing to healthy diets. After years of consuming excessive quantities of high sugar drinks, snack chips and crackers, desserts, fried fast foods, and pizzas, enchiladas, and casseroles covered with cheese, a plate of fish, brown rice, yams, greens, and an apple or peach doesn't taste the same. Making the Mediterranean Diet taste good remains a major challenge.

To learn more about alternatives to the heavyweight American diet, we turned to Amy at the Ancient Olive store on St. Armands Circle. She identified premium olive oils, aged balsamic vinegars, and wines as substitutes for less healthy American standards. Many Mediterranean restaurants serve olive oil in shallow dishes as substitutes for butter. French bread or crostini dipped in olive oil, perhaps with a dash of balsamic vinegar, serves as a tasty and healthier substitute for rolls and butter.

In vinaigrette salad dressings, infused olive oils and seasoned balsamic vinegars enhance leafy greens, ripe tomatoes, fresh and blanched vegetables, nuts, and slices of fruits such as cranberries or strawberries. Adding a splash of a wine that pairs well with the salad, say an acidic New Zealand Sauvignon Blanc or Sancerre, melds the flavors of the salad and the wine. Tuna in a niçoise salad, or white anchovies with white beans, comes alive with a light red wine such as a Pinot Noir or a young Tuscan Brunello di Montalcino in the vinaigrette and in the glass.

Olive oil, balsamic vinegar, and light red wine combine in a marinade to add savory flavors to mushrooms, salmon, and root vegetables. Add shallots, herbs, and mustard to taste.

For a substitute for a party tray of crackers, cheese, and processed meats, try serving enade



with whole grain toasts or crackers. Small dishes of hummus and of baba ghanoush will complement the tart tastes of olives, capers, parsley, and garlic in the tapenade.

A successful shift to a Mediterranean Diet often begins with gradual shifts from butter and margarine to olive oil, from red and processed meats to grilled or sauteed vegetables, from French fries to carrot sticks, and from ice cream to pieces of dark chocolate. The Mediterranean Diet generally costs more per quantity than the standard American diet, but the intense flavors of some of the healthier foods may encourage reductions in quantities consumed and encourage weight loss. Better to enjoy smaller quantities of memorable tastes than larger quantities of bland foods.

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

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





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Letters, from page 12

There was widespread support for moving 3-D modeling forward amongst the commission....and, Mr. Cover indicates 3-D modeling would be helpful as "we move forward with some of our zoning initiates" having three-dimensional graphics.

My observations and suggestions for tomorrow's workshop: - obtain an update on the status of 3-D efforts of the past

year from staff - discuss and confirm what priority staff and the commis-

sion wish to assign to a 3-D modeling effort in FY24 and bevond

- understand what funding is currently proposed in the FY24 budget

- ensure it is clear what department has the lead responsibility for 3-D modeling

- consider making 3-D modeling a separate line item in the budget so it has visibility.

I have written Ms. Strickland suggesting 3-D modeling be treated as a separate, line item in the budget. Thanks for considering.

David Lough

Sarasota

3-D Modeling...highlighted transcript of Budget Workshop

To: David Lough

I have copied the City Manager on this email to respond to these concerns.

Jen Ahearn-Koch

City Commissioner

City of Sarasota

Litter Downtown

To: Sarasota City Commissioner Jen Ahearn-Koch

Thanks for getting back to me, I know you are very busy. Almost everyday there is litter on Lemon from The Gator Club towards Thorpe. We at the Mark are also very concerned about broken glass in and around the alley near Lemon behind Gator and The Mark. Many of us use the alley when walking our pets to get to Lemon. Most have resorted to just carrying our dogs.

The Mark maintenance crew eventually cleans the mess (why us?).

I consider this my home and I'm getting tired of living in filth.

Once again thanks for everything you do for the city. Harvey S Mishner

CityPAC

Sarasota

Litter Downtown

To: Harvey Mishner

Apologies for the delayed response. Where exactly is this? Is it all of the alley?

Jen Ahearn-Koch

City Commissioner

City of Sarasota

Litter Downtown

To: Sarasota City Commissioner Jen Ahearn-Koch

Longboat Key Rews Sarasota City News

I'm sorry to keep bugging you about this but the trash and broken glass keeps getting worse (Unfortunately my photographic skills are lacking as it's much worse than these photos indicate).

Can anything be done to prevent the garbage not only in the alley but also along the west side of Lemon? Thanks again for everything you do for us downtown residents.

Harvey S Mishner

CityPAC

Sarasota

Base and bonus density for purposes of Live Local

To: Sarasota City Commission

Greetings commissioners who voted in favor of last fall's comp plan changes.

If I am interpreting Mr. Fournier's response to Commissioner Trice's question correctly:

it sounds like the best way forward to prevent the Live Local act from destroying neighborhoods outside of the downtown area with unsupportable density or overpowering height might be to remove the comp. plan density bonuses entirely.

Since Live Local seems intended to supersede local planning and control for affordable housing, why not allow it to - but on the basis of the current built environment and our city plan.

What I am suggesting is let Live Local handle the affordability bonus density with its 40% formula based on the existing "base" density of each zone, and let the appropriate mass, height, setback, and parking needs of a given site determine how much housing, in terms of units, can be built there.

That is how a form-based code is supposed to work inherently. And when it does work, everyone has certainty about what can be built where, avoiding lengthy and costly legal and civic battles.

I am not sure if comp plan changes can be opened for reconsideration or if a whole new comp. plan change process is required to unwind bonus density, but you didn't know Live Local was coming when you adopted those affordability seeking density changes last fall, and the change in circumstances seems to invite a revisit. Thank you for considering this suggestion.

Kelly Franklin CityPAC Sarasota

EV Charging Stations + HVAC

To: Sarasota City Commissioner Jen Ahearn-Koch

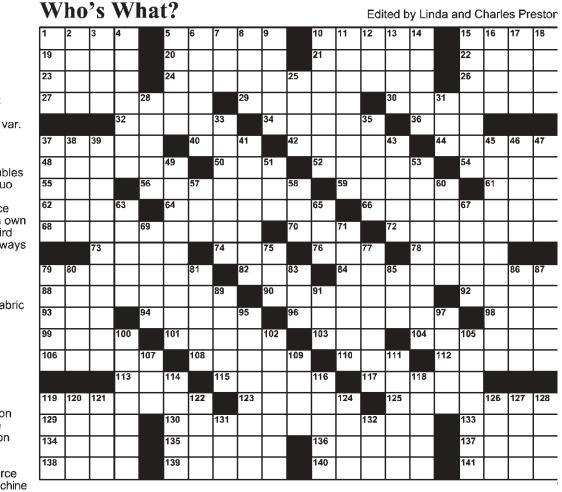
Hope all is well with you and sorry I haven't been in touch in a while. Our company has been undergoing some changes in FL and we are now solely focused on EV Charging and HVAC services in this State. We are very price competitive on the EV Charging side and we currently maintain over 4,000 heating and cooling systems in Florida on an ongoing basis.

Is this something that we can help with, or is there someone in the Facilities Department I should contact?

Kavita Bhatt

Account Executive - Florida ABM | Technical Solutions





ACROSS

- 1 After-shower
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- 10 Vote in 15 Teen hangout
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upon 64 Livery worker

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