



Longboat Key News

November 7, 2025

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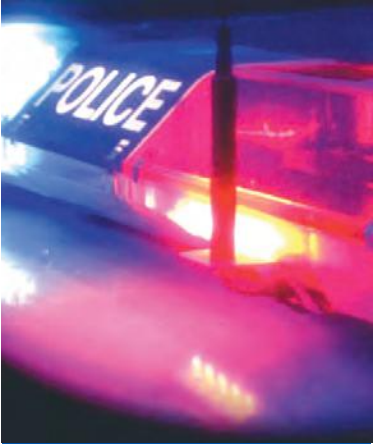
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Sarasota Seeks \$82 Million in Federal Aid to Shore Up Coastline After Storm Trauma

"The infrastructure projects are subject to a lot of competition, and I think, for us, if someone were to ask what's most important, you'd pretty much have to say St. Armands." – Sarasota City Manager Dave Bullock

STEVE REID
Editor & Publisher
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In a determined effort to fortify its vulnerable coastline against the rising threat of sea-level rise and increasingly intense storms, the City of Sarasota has formally requested \$82 million in federal funds for a suite of critical stormwater and resiliency projects.

The push for funding follows the historic flooding that ravaged the region during the 2024 storm season, leaving key areas like St. Armands Key inundated.

Mayor Liz Alpert, backed by a unanimous 5-0 City Commission vote on Monday, November 3, outlined the

See Flood Money, page 4

New City Leadership Takes the Helm Amid Challenges

The City of Sarasota has ushered in a new era of leadership, with newly-selected Mayor Debbie Trice and Vice Mayor Kathy Kelley Ohlrich poised to address several pressing issues facing the city, most notably the urgent need for affordable and attainable housing and the future of key cultural infrastructure.

The City Commission unanimously selected At-Large Commissioner Trice and District 3 Commissioner Ohlrich to lead the body for the next year during a special statutory meeting on Friday afternoon.

Mayor Trice: Focusing on Housing and Community

Mayor Trice, who previously served as Vice Mayor, brings a professional background that includes marketing and management at IBM and launching entrepreneurial

See leadership, page 2

School Board Votes to Transform Campuses, Shielding Them from Charter Takeovers

The district's rapid, aggressive strategy, led by Superintendent Terry Connor, is designed to maximize utilization across its campuses

Under the pressure of an imminent deadline from Florida's newly expanded "Schools of Hope" law, the Sarasota County School Board voted unanimously 5-0 on Friday to approve a sweeping, high-stakes plan to eliminate underutilized classroom space and prevent state-designated charter operators from claiming public facilities.

The district's rapid, aggressive strategy, led by Superintendent Terry Connor, is designed to maximize utilization across its campuses—a move officials believe is the only viable defense against a law

See Schools, page 9

All Aces at Bird Key Yacht Club



The tennis fun was spirited and competitive last Friday afternoon at the Bird Key Yacht Club as members were treated to an exhibition match between club pro Ivan Yatsuk, above, and Jake Van Emburgh. Yatsuk narrowly won with a serve that regularly reaches 130 mph. The fun was put together by Club Tennis Director Jackie Bohannon who has been busy keeping all of the tennis activities and events and competition going as the yacht club undertakes a complete reconstruction of the facility.

City Backs Study for Underground Power Lines on Barrier Islands

The 5-0 vote authorizes city staff to delve into the specifics of the project, including potential costs, timelines, legal and regulatory issues

The Sarasota City Commission has taken a critical step toward enhancing the resilience of its barrier islands, voting unanimously on October 21 to approve a feasibility study regarding the undergrounding of power and telecom lines on St. Armands and Lido Keys. This action follows significant flooding

and extended power outages during last year's storms.

The 5-0 vote authorizes city staff to delve into the specifics of the project, including potential costs, timelines, legal and regulatory issues, and the impact on residential and commercial property owners. A final decision on whether

to proceed with the actual project will only be made after the study is completed.

The initiative has strong backing from local community groups.

The St. Armands Residents Association recently conducted an annual survey in which 87% of all

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Leadership, from page 1

ventures, which she states prompts a fiscally-responsible approach to government. She has been a strong community advocate, including serving as President of the Rosemary District Association (RDA).

A central theme of her time in office has been the necessity of providing housing for the city’s low- and moderate-income residents and longtime retirees. She has consistently emphasized this as a critical issue affecting everyone—from working families needing homes to business owners needing to fill job openings.

Mayor Trice has also stressed the importance of strengthening neighborhood-level “community” and ensuring the city government listens to “the people,” not “special interests,” with goals to implement a successful housing program and establish working partnerships with not-for-profit groups. She has also indicated a desire to improve communication and get more information out to the public.

Vice Mayor Ohlrich: Addressing Cultural and Financial Planning

Vice Mayor Ohlrich, representing District 3, is a retired speech-language pathologist, staff development trainer, and assessment coordinator. She has a deep history of community involvement, including service as an Ohio council person where she chaired the committee that wrote that community’s comprehensive plan, and six years on the Sarasota Planning Board.

A major, ongoing financial issue Vice Mayor Ohlrich has been involved with is the Sarasota Performing Arts Center (SPAC) project and its proposed Tax Increment Financing (TIF) district. She has emphasized the need for comprehensive data and reports, such as the one from the Purple Ribbon Committee, before making final decisions, stressing the project’s financial burden on the community.

Her statements indicate caution regarding the TIF district, specifically questioning how funds would be shared between the SPAC and The Bay park, and how the loss of ad valorem taxes for other city services like infrastructure and roads will be addressed. She has stated she would not expect taxpayers to be burdened with additional taxes to fund capital expenses within the TIF. She is also seeking information on the future use and funding of the Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall, which is linked to the SPAC’s development.

Current Key Commission Actions

The new leadership will immediately be dealing with issues such as the Marian Anderson brownfield site redevelopment in Newtown. The Commission recently granted unanimous future land use approval for an investor group to transform the nearly 14-acre city-owned parcel into a job-creating commercial site, potentially including a health care clinic, medical offices, and light industrial uses. This project requires significant environmental remediation before development can proceed.

The City Commission’s next regular meeting is scheduled for 9 a.m. on Monday, Nov. 17, at City Hall.

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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.

To: Longboat Key Mayor Ken Schneier

First, thank you for your dedication to our community. Now, as I drive around the Sarasota area I am pleasantly surprised by how many Goodwill locations I see. That's great.

But I've also quickly come to realize just how large, loud and borderline garish their building signage is. That's bad. Their location is part of the new center that is void of trees or any structure blocking its view from the road. It's wide open.

I understand the need to grab a driver's attention on busy 301. But here on GMD, we will pass their building once, at 45 mph, and won't forget it. I hope LBK is doing something to keep their signage at a minimum to preserve the beauty of our island.

Jed Petrick
Longboat Key

St Regis Arch

To: Longboat Key Commission
I hope like hell you are not going to allow the St Regis to keep their arch over our beautiful Gulf. While it is wonderful that they rebuilt the pier, I hope it does not give them any right to do whatever they please. The arch is not in keeping with the character of the pier, metal and mirrors on wood and rope is beyond tacky. Please make them move it! Thank you for your consideration!

Suzanne Snyder
Longboat Key

St Regis arch

To: Longboat Key Commission
I was pleased to read in the newspaper that you, the Town Commission, voted down St. Regis's request to change code to accommodate their recently added sign on the groin. It is unsightly and not in keeping with the quiet elegance of LBK.
When election time comes around I'll remember that Sarah Karon and Penny Gold have a different vision for the future of our Key.
Lise Bernhard
Longboat Key

Response requested - FLC Legislative Committee appointment

To: Tommy Cardinal
President Holly Smith has appointed me to the Florida League of Cities Legislative Committee. BJ Bishop
Commissioner
Town of Longboat Key

Response requested - FLC Legislative Committee appointment

To: Florida League of Cities Legislative Administrative Supervisor Mary Edenfield
Please thank Holly for me and I will be at the December meeting.
BJ Bishop
Commissioner
Town of Longboat Key

Response request - FLC Legislative Committee appointment

To: Longboat Key Commissioner BJ Bishop
Florida League of Cities (FLC) President Holly D. Smith has appointed you to serve on the 2025 FLC Legislative Committee as representative for the Federal Action Strike Team (FAST). Attached is your appointment letter containing important information about this year's committee. I have also attached the committee roster. The Legislative Committee will meet on Friday, December 5, 2025, from 11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. EST. This meeting is in conjunction with the FLC Legislative Conference held on December 4-5, 2025, at the Renaissance Orlando at SeaWorld. The meeting packet will be emailed to you two weeks before the meeting.
Please respond to this email to confirm whether you will be able to attend the Legislative Committee meeting on December 5. Let me know if you have any questions.
Mary Edenfield
Legislative Administrative Supervisor
Florida League of Cities, Inc.

St Regis Groin Sign

To: Longboat Key Commission
I was unaware that this week you would be discussing the Groin Sign at The St Regis or I would have been there to personally address you. I apologize for not being there.
I think there was a horrible misunderstanding of how this matter was handled and how we got to where we are today. I've been in business for 30 years and have always played by the rules throughout my career.
I personally will be at the commission on Monday at 1:00 PM to address this matter and hopefully add clarity to how we got here and seek resolution. I hope your listen with open minds as we have been a good community partner and I think a huge benefit for Longboat Key. We have not caused any traffic issues, provided several new dining and drinking venues, we have raised property values, hugely increased the property tax revenue, provided meaningful employment opportunities and gained a great reputation throughout the country. We delivered on our promise and are committed to being a solid part of the community and a team player.
I look forward to seeing you.
Chuck Whittall
Unicorp Companies
Orlando

Tracking our bay's health - what about bacteria

To: Longboat Key Commission, Sarasota City Commission
As you know, the health of our bay has shown multiple signs of improvement recently. For
See Letters, page 6

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Flood Money, from page 1

comprehensive funding request in a letter to the Sarasota County Commission. The city is aiming for a substantial portion of the \$211 million in federal hurricane recovery dollars that Sarasota County is set to disburse through its Resilient SRQ Program.

A Race to shore-up St. Armands Key

The centerpiece of the city’s request is the \$25 million St. Armands Resiliency & Flood Mitigation Project, deemed the most critical infrastructure priority.

St. Armands Key, a low-lying, bowl-shaped barrier island, is home to the vital commercial hub featuring more than 140 storefronts and restaurants that support approximately 1,100 jobs and generate \$135 million in annual sales.

The island’s current stormwater system, which relies on pump stations due to its natural, flood-prone topography, has proven dangerously inadequate.

The pump stations were “overwhelmed and/or not fully operational” during severe flooding in both 2023 and 2024.

Moreover, the Key serves as the sole mainland connection for SR 789, a crucial evacuation route handling 32,000 vehicles daily.

Increasing nuisance tides and a 2024 “king tide” event that followed Hurricane Debby’s 3-foot surge have already forced the closure of the circle 6-8 times annually, flooding roughly 120 businesses and residences.

Interim City Manager Dave Bullock emphasized the urgency of the situation on Monday. “This is not the first nor last time St. Armands will flood. There is an elevation issue,” Mr. Bullock stated. He later added, “The infrastructure projects are subject to a lot of competition, and I think, for us, if someone were to ask what’s most important, you’d pretty much have to say St. Armands.”

The Resilience Imperative

Hydrologic modeling paints a stark picture: the existing pumps provide a less than 5-year level of service, a figure projected to drop to less than a 2-year level by 2035 due to projected sea-level rise.

The proposed \$25 million project—a joint effort with the Town of Longboat Key and Sarasota County—is designed to drastically overhaul the island’s defenses. Key adaptation measures include:

- Pump-station retrofits with generators.
- Installation of tide-check valves.
- Construction of underground storage vaults.
- Use of permeable pavement and bioswales.
- Deployment of flood barriers.

These measures are intended to restore a 100-year flood protection level of service, eliminate structural flooding and roadway closures, and maintain access to the critical evacuation route even during 3-foot surges. The project is also expected to significantly reduce environmental damage by removing approximately 1,400 pounds of nitrogen per year before discharge into Sarasota Bay.

Mr. Bullock noted that addressing stormwater will be a “central component” of the city’s long-term “visioning” for the future of St. Armands.

The Looming Deadline

The County Commission will hold its deciding meeting on which projects receive the competitive Resilient SRQ funding on Tuesday, December 16th, 2025 at the Robert L. Anderson Administration Center in Venice.

Given the intense competition for the limited federal dollars, the City of Sarasota is urging residents and stakeholders to express their support for the St. Armands project to the County Commissioners ahead of the December vote.

Contact Your County Commissioners...

The Sarasota County Commission will decide on funding for the St. Armands Resiliency & Flood Mitigation Project on Tuesday, December 16th, 2025. Residents and stakeholders are urged to contact Commissioners to express their opinion on the \$25 million request.

Individual Commissioner Contacts

District	Commissioner	Email Address
District 1	Mike Moran	mmoran@scgov.net
District 2	Mark Smith	mhsmith@scgov.net
District 3	Neil Rainford	nrainford@scgov.net
District 4	Joe Neunder	jneunder@scgov.net
District 5	Ron Cutsinger	rcutsinger@scgov.net

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KeyNature

The magic of walking Longboat’s north end

MICHAEL GIVANT
Contributing Columnist
news@lbknews.com

There’s a stretch of LBK beach that I call Whit-Can, which connects Whitney Beach to Beer Can Island. This is what it looked and felt like on three different mornings.

Early morning

The sun hidden by clouds has been up for 20 minutes when my wife and I step onto the cool, firm sand of Whitney Beach. The tide is high and despite the 58-degree morning it feels warmer. The din of the lapping waves is soothing.

Above the Gulf water a sooty laughing gull chases an orange-billed royal tern but breaks off the chase when the tern keeps heading out to sea. The laughter may have taken umbrage at the royal tern invading its territory.

Down the beach is a large flock of mixed gulls, terns and various shorebirds. A sandwich tern, identifiable by the yellow tip of its black bill, lifts up a wing, moving the joint away from its body to preen itself. As we walk slowly and quietly among the flock, which isn’t disturbed by us, a ring-billed gull stands close, allowing me to look directly into its yellow eye. There’s something special about looking into the eye of a wild bird.



Northern Gannets are spectacular divers, plunging into the ocean at high speed.



Like other egrets, the snowy egret was once killed for its plumes. Its population was seriously damaged in the 1800’s. It has made a recovery.

Nearby a tiny brown backed sandpiper gets a white morsel in its bill and quickly does a running take-off over the water. Two lithe snowy egrets are walking the water’s edge plying for fish. Snowy egrets are 24-inch herons, nicknamed “golden slippers” because they have black legs and bright yellow feet that are used to stir up fish. A third snowy with a high crest, looking as if it’s in breeding plumage, flies in. The new arrival quickly chases the others away. They stay together further down the beach. The chaser looks like a “madman” as it walks away quickly. Another territorial dispute settled.

Mid-morning

Mid-morning, a few days later, birds are feeding. There are some hungry herons in a lagoon on Beer Can Island. Standing in the water is a great blue heron whose head is tilted down toward the water with its neck crooked, patiently waiting. It

can strike a fish with its javelin bill in a millisecond. Beyond it is a Louisiana heron. The bird’s gray sides, wine-colored breast and white belly, topped by a dashing streak of yellow on its long neck, make a smart looking pattern. The bird thrusts its bill swiftly and neatly into the water, coming up with a wriggling silver fish that it quickly swallows.

A herring gull is pulling on a large fish, having eaten away its middle. The lifeless head and yellow green tail flop as the gull throws its catch onto the wet sand. The gull puts the fish into its wide-open bill, attempting to swallow the whole thing. The gull’s mouth doesn’t seem big enough but the fish disappears. The fish’s colorful tail however is sticking out of the side of the gull’s bill. Now what? Within seconds the tail too has disappeared into the belly of the bird. It then twice dips its bill in the water to rinse it. The large and ungainly herring gull may not get style points for the way it eats but it gets them for cleanliness.

Northern gannets are winter visitors to Florida seen flying offshore. On Whitney beach there is a dark immature gannet coming closer to shore. Before, there were almost a dozen out where the curve of the sea meets the pale sky. Coming closer this one spells mystical power. Flying fast, it shows sharply bent wings, almost too long for its body, a tubular tail and a downward turned head, which scans the water below for fish. The bird looks more like an aircraft than a living body covered by feathers. It’s a moment to contemplate the mystery and majesty of birds.

Impending rain

A solid dark cloud on the horizon stretches as far as the eye can see, confirming the forecast for rain. There’s only a lone gull on the beach. Birds seem to know when it’s going to rain. On Beer Can Island, black skimmers fill a large portion of the sky. In bright sun their black backs, sharply bent back wings and white bellies would be dazzling. This gray morning they look dreary.

Like a rollercoaster, they fly down toward the water and rise again, doing this several times. They seem to fly to music only they can hear and human ears cannot. Two, trying to catch up to the main body, beat the air hurriedly with their long tapered wings. The skimmers can only be going to the point on the beach where they rest with other gulls and terns. But why are they going there now when it’s going to rain? I thought birds always seemed to know something about the weather. It turns out they do, as only some light drops fall.

I take off my windbreaker and walk back to where I get off the beach. The long dark curve of the ocean bends gently south to Sarasota and north to Tampa. A lone dolphin raises its dark gray body partially out of the water. Tall islands of slightly bent grass suggest they’ve endured the elements out here. This is my kind of morning; one to be out experiencing a cloud formation or feeling the wind and sun or some passing raindrops on my face. It’s a morning made to walk Whit-Can beach.

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Editor Letters



Letters, from page 3

example, the amount of nitrogen in the water has declined enough that it has brought about a substantial decrease in the amount of floating microscopic algae in the bay. We have also seen, where we have the data, a commensurate and considerable decline in the amount of drift macroalgae. Related to those findings, the amount of seagrass in the bay recently increased by 19%, an improvement of nearly 2,000 acres, likely capable of supporting more than 70 million fish. Reduced loads of the most important forms of nitrogen are responsible for this good news. Our cleaner bay should be less likely to be a location where red tides can explode based on local nutrient enrichment, as seems to have happened in 2018.

But that news, good as it is, reflects the nutrient-related aspects of the bay’s health. What about the fish populations? The clams and oysters? The dolphins and manatees? How are they doing? Well, we don’t have solid information – yet. But the SBEP’s Technical Advisory Committee is likely to want to look into this in more detail in the near future. Those “higher level” indicators are important to monitor. We didn’t ignore those data gaps over the last few years; we simply prioritized attention on nutrients and water quality. Now that we have a firmer grip on nutrients and water quality, we need to find out if our recent nutrient management actions have brought about the system response we were anticipating, in terms of benefits to wildlife.

There’s a third aspect related to the bay’s health that needs to be considered – the levels of bacteria found in some locations at some times. As you know, we’ve been discussing the topic of bacteria, health standards, and results from our work (as well as that of others) for several years now, as summarized here:

- August 2022 - Director’s Note: Wastewater overflows – Sarasota Bay Estuary Program
- October 2022 - Director’s Note: Initial findings, post-Ian – Sarasota Bay Estuary Program
- December 2022 - Hurricane Ian’s Impact on Sarasota Bay
- July 2024 - Director’s Note: Palma Sola Bay – how’s it doing lately? – Sarasota Bay Estuary Program
- August 2024 - Director’s Note: Latest on water quality post-Debby – Sarasota Bay Estuary Program
- September 2024 - Director’s Note: Bacteria levels – 4 weeks after Debby – Sarasota Bay Estuary Program
- October 2024 - Director’s Note: Is it safe to go into the water? – Sarasota Bay Estuary Program
- August 2025 - Director’s Note: Bacteria Source Identification Efforts – Sarasota Bay Estuary Program
- September 2025 - Director’s Note: Potential sources of bacteria along Palma Sola Bay – Sarasota Bay Estuary Program

As you can see, we’ve discussed this topic a number of times with our Policy Board and local stakeholders. But why don’t we have a course of action to “do something” about our bacteria

issue? In part because we don’t know where the bacteria are coming from, which means we don’t know how to control all the sources. But also, because if you don’t know the source(s) of bacteria, you don’t really know enough about the implications of any findings. For example, when she was younger, would I have let my daughter turn over the material in a compost heap? I would, and she has. Would I let her muck out a horse stall? I would, but I seriously doubt that she would have enjoyed it. Would I let her clean out porta-potties after a music festival? No way. Those examples are overly-simplistic, but those are all activities that would bring her into contact with bacteria – but they’d come from very different sources, with different implications.

The SBEP is not a regulatory agency. While we did the work that developed our Numeric Nutrient Concentration (NNC) criteria, those criteria were not “official” until they were reviewed and adopted by FDER, with concurrence from EPA. For bacteria, the guidance we have comes from the Florida Department of Health (FDOH), which collects data at designated bathing beaches, and FDER, which tracks water quality criteria for the open waters of the bay.

In Palma Sola Bay, the north side of the causeway is the site of several horse ride vendors, who take people out into the bay. Some of those horses defecate on the beach, some in the water. It is entirely reasonable to assume that horses are at least one source of bacteria in that location. Over the past few months, SBEP has worked to collect data, supplemented by data provided by Suncoast Water Keepers, to try and determine just how big a source of those bacteria the horses are. Such approaches – a quantifiable assessment – have been successfully completed in other areas. The overall goal was to have particular sources put into a percentage basis by having both a “numerator” and a “denominator”. In this case, it was intended for the bacteria due to horses to be the numerator, and the total amount of “fecal” bacteria to be the denominator.

So, after collecting data at two to four locations, on nine separate days (including four events when the ride operators had voluntarily left the causeway), testing for four different indicators (90 data points in all), what did we find?

Well, there is good news and bad news. The good news is that none of the results found evidence of a “hit” from humans as a source of bacteria in Palma Sola Bay for the months of August to October. Social media is rife with folks blaming bacteria levels on local governments because “that’s where they dump their sewage,” or “they dump their sewage at night in that spot,” or something like that. Well, we’ve not found that to be the case. That certainly doesn’t mean that sewage overflows are not a big deal – they are. But it does mean that high levels of fecal indicator bacteria do not necessarily mean that an inadequate sewage system or failed septic tank systems are at fault.

Well, what about the horses there? What we can clearly state is that we did indeed pick up evidence of horses as a source of at least some of the bacteria. What we cannot say is how important a source they were. Why? Because whether the overall bacteria levels were very low

See Letters, page 11

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MATTHEW EDLUND, MD
ContributingColumnist
news@lbknews.com

When you eat is as important as what. The conclusion, “When you eat could be as important as what you eat,” is virtually the same sentence I wrote 10 years ago. The article is from a recent edition of The Economist, with its excellent science section, entitled, “Does light make you fat?” The real question—what took you so long to figure this out?



MATTHEW EDLUND

Past is prologue

Fritz Halberg gave the same meal to American military recruits—one meal at different times of day. The soldiers who ate the 2000-calorie repast in the morning lost weight; those who had it for lunch showed no weight change; those who ate it for supper gained weight. The date of the study—1972.

It’s also been known for decades that shift workers gain more weight than non-shift workers. They have far more GI complaints, as well.

Animal studies produce the same results. Mice who were kept in dim light during their night, when they were normally active, gained 5 percent more weight than those living through the normal light-dark cycle. Much of the weight they gained appeared when they ate during the daytime, when they would normally sleep.

Night-eating humans also gain a lot of weight. And they develop higher lipid and sugar levels than when eating during the day.

So why are these elements of human design so hard for people to grasp?

Body clocks, human design

In 1959 Fritz Halberg gave poison to a group of animals. Virtually all of them died. He then gave the same amount of poison to the same type of animal, but 12 hours later on the clock than the first group. All survived.

Chronobiology—time’s effect on biology—has been established for more than 50 years. Yet people still can’t seem to understand that they change, powerfully but predictably, throughout the day. The problem may be the Machine Model of health and disease.

The Machine Model

You pick up the standard line early in your school years—the body is a very complicated machine, but it’s a machine. It stays the same through the magical process of homeostasis—getting all the parts to work well together in physiologic harmony. When everything is oiled and well greased, it all goes down well—and you’re well. A part breaks down, and you get sick.

What’s wrong with the model? Pretty much everything. First, most of you gets replaced in hours to weeks. The system is remaking and recreating itself all the time, quickly and differently.

Second, you are different from minute to minute. The 24-hour day-night cycle is a design element of pretty much all terrestrial life, and you do things differently on the hour. That’s why sports records are set in the early evening, when your body is more powerful and accurate.



Third, you constantly learn. Your system is not only changing, but also changing with age, with environment and with everything to which your body has responded. That learning can and eventually does radically change your body’s rebuild.

So you’re never the same from day to day. Your brain is different. Your gut is different. Your skin is different. Even your memories are different.

Yet this level and pace of change may be so overwhelming that it’s not dealt with at all—we refuse to see it. That is why teenagers think they don’t need to sleep. Why CEOs proudly announce how little they rest. Why work becomes a 24-7 fest—why should 4 a.m. be different from 4 p.m.?

Because it is. Humans are designed for different activities at different times of day. Like eating more in the morning, when your baseline insulin levels are higher and you

metabolize food more effectively, and less at night, when you will gain more weight, have higher lipid levels and not sleep as well.

It’s not homeostasis that matters, but how you grow yourself and change, how effective your rebuild is; that’s what helps determine whether you get fatter or thinner, smaller or smarter. And much of that rebuild is under your control.

But first you have to recognize that rebuilding, reengineering and reinventing is what you and your body do superlatively well. Timing it right makes it work.



Top-Ranked for a Reason

Perched on the eighth floor of Lido Beach Resort, Drift ranks #1 among 900 Sarasota restaurants on TripAdvisor for its unrivaled views and unforgettable flavors.

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Sherry ‘Nef’ Price is a USPTR certified professional. She played at IMG and Division 1 College. Call Payne Park Tennis center at 941-263-6641 to schedule. Payne Park Tennis Center, 2050 Adams Lane, Downtown Sarasota, 34237



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941-587-1700

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941-376-6411

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Longboat Key Towers



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Promenade704.com

1211 Gulf of Mexico Dr
#105 - \$899,000
Promenade105.com

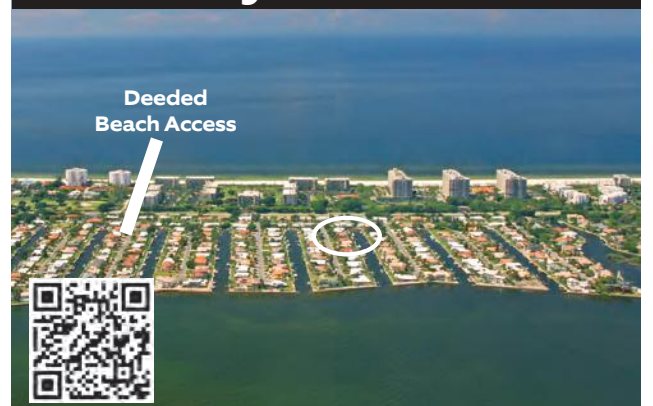
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350 Gulf of Mexico Drive
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Tangerine126.com

350 Gulf of Mexico Drive
#211 - \$938,500
Tangerine211.com

Country Club Shores



521 Wedge Lane
\$1,880,000
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Schools, from page 1

that allows charter groups to occupy any school with “underused” space, regardless of its academic performance.

Looming Threat and an Urgency to Act

The catalyst for the vote is a new provision that allows certain charter organizations to request co-location in any public school with empty seats. Notices of intent from six state-designated “hope operators” are expected to begin arriving as early as November 11th, triggering a short window for the district to object. Premature notices have already been received from Miami-based Mater Academy, targeting schools like Emma E. Booker Elementary, Brookside Middle, and Oak Park. Board member Tom Edwards made it clear that the vote was a reluctant necessity imposed by the state legislature.

“It is because of Schools for Hope, and it is because of this express timeline,” Edwards stated. “And I’ll point out to you that I would never approve this kind of conversation without a substantially more robust budget.”

A Multibillion-Dollar Overhaul: Cost Questions Persist

Superintendent Connor has staked the plan’s financial justification on its ability to recapture student enrollment—and the associated state funding—that is currently leaking to charter schools.

“If we were to recapture, let’s say, 90 to 100% of those that typically would have left fifth grade to go to a 6th grade charter, they stay with us; that would actually equate to more revenue than the planned expense on these instructional units,” Connor asserted.

- The defensive measures include:
- Expanding four elementary schools (Alta Vista, Brentwood, Gulf Gate, and Wilkinson) into K-8 campuses. The K-8 model is intended to retain students through middle school.
 - Re-imagining Brookside Middle as the Gulf Coast Academy of Innovation & Technology.
 - Demolishing two aging buildings at Alta Vista Elementary and Fruitville Elementary.

Connor defended the demolitions, citing state requirements and fiscal prudence. Speaking of the Alta Vista building, he noted: “It’s very, very old. It has outlived its usefulness, and it makes more sense for us to actually demo that building than it does to invest money into repairing and renovating that building. The same goes for there is a building five at Fruitville.”

However, Edwards raised multiple warnings about the lack of a detailed financial blueprint.

Neighborhoods and Community Impact

The plan, which aims to reduce the district’s 5,600 “under-utilized seats” by over 3,000, was broadly supported by community members who criticized the charter law as a “hostile takeover.”

However, resident Elizabeth Hall raised pointed concerns about the effect of the K-8 expansion on local communities.

With the unanimous vote, Sarasota County is now on a fast track to fundamentally alter its educational footprint, hoping to prevent a financial drain under a law that requires districts to provide maintenance, utilities, and even food service to co-located charter schools at no cost to the operator.

Underground, from page 1

respondents indicated they think the city should proceed. Among those who primarily reside and vote in Sarasota, support was even higher at 93%.

“We think this is an important step in making the city’s barrier islands more resilient,” said St. Armands Residents Association President Goglia, noting that two of the association’s directors spoke in support at the recent commission meeting. “Longboat Key had already buried its utilities and only had minimal issues during last year’s storm surge. It’s safer and faster for utility companies to fix issues because they don’t need bucket trucks.”

The push for enhanced resiliency comes after years of hurricane-related outages and follows the example of the nearby Town of Longboat Key, which recently completed its own extensive project to bury all power lines after nearly a decade, at a cost of approximately \$43 million. Property owners there are paying an average of \$4,200 in assessments over 30 years.

To fund a potential project in Sarasota, the city is considering creating special taxing districts on Lido and St. Armands Key, which would require property owners to fund the investment through assessments.

Dennis Bischoff, a Lido Shores resident speaking on behalf of his neighborhood, highlighted the urgency for the vulnerable barrier islands. “The key word here is resiliency,” Bischoff said. “Lido Shores, Lido Key, St. Armands are on a fragile barrier island and far more subject to Mother Nature, and to have power lines underground is obvious and should be a priority for the homeowners, businesses, for the City of Sarasota and Florida Power and Light.”

Bischoff pointed out FPL data suggesting underground lines perform up to 14 times better than overhead lines during major storms, reducing repair time and long-term costs. He noted strong support from his community, with 97% of a majority of surveyed households voting in favor.

Carl Shoffstall, President of the Lido Key Residents Association, also voiced support for the project in a letter to the City. The board of the association unanimously agreed to ask the city to proceed with the plan, to be paid for by property owners in the neighborhoods. An email survey of their members showed that 93% of respondents supported the project.

Shoffstall’s letter read, “Our board discussed and reviewed the experiences of other barrier islands that are FPL customers and are optimistic that this project will significantly improve safety, resiliency and aesthetics on Lido, but also recognize that the project must extend through St. Armand’s to have the maximum effect for us.” The survey also provided insight into preferred payment methods, with 59% of respondents favoring an ad valorem tax and 71% opting to spread payments over 20 years.

The commission’s vote authorizes staff to hire a consultant to develop a preliminary cost estimate. Because the project requires coordination with several utilities, staff estimate it could take between four and seven years to complete.

Sarasota’s proposed voluntary effort is separate from Florida Power & Light’s (FPL) statewide Storm Secure Underground Program, which is funded by a surcharge on all customer bills. FPL is currently in the process of undergrounding 10 miles of overhead lines in several existing neighborhoods within the City of Sarasota under that separate program. The utility has also requested a record base rate increase from the state that could add up to an additional \$18 per month to customer bills.



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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. 30
Assist agency

7:49 p.m.

Officer Pescuma was dispatched to the 2100 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive in reference to an agency assist for a possible bonfire on the beach. Upon arrival, Longboat Key Fire Department determined that the fire observed was from tiki torches. Case clear.



the front driver seat. Officer Martinson knocked on the window and he woke up. Officer Mrtinson advised the man that the park was closed and he can't sleep in his vehicle. The man apologized and left without incident. Officer Martinson ran both the man and his vehicle through NCIC/FCIC and they came back clear of any wants or warrants. Case clear.

Citizen assist

9:28 p.m.

Officer Miklos and Sgt. Puccio were dispatched to Harbor Sound Drive in reference to a citizens assist report. Sarasota Sheriff's Office Dispatch advised that the caller requested officers check all the doors to her residence due to construction workers gaining access to

Oct. 31
Property damage

1:30 p.m.

Officer Maple and Officer Nazareno were dispatched to Exeter Drive for a property damage call. The call was in reference to a Gold Mercedes Benz convertible that had backed into a palm tree on the property of Longboat Harbour. Upon arrival, Officer Maple met with a witness who was passing by the scene and said he came across an accident but did not observe anything. Officer Pescuma ran the license plate and tracked down the address of the driver who lived in one of the apartments. Officer Pescuma made contact with the driver who stated he was attempting to move his vehicle after it had sat for three months. The driver stated when he put the car in reverse the car surge despite him having the brake applied with a significant amount of force. The vehicle reversed approximately 100 feet across the parking lot and came to rest against a small palm tree with the impact area being the left driver's side rear bumper. Significant damage was observed to the rear bumper. The left rear wheel was also buried in the rock bed but there were no other vehicles stuck or any personal injuries. The driver said he didn't sustain any injuries and turned down the offer of EMS. The driver had been in touch with the property management and was just awaiting word from his insurance as to what course of action to take. The vehicle was not blocking traffic and was left in the position of impact. Damage was contained to private property and appears to be only civil in nature. Nothing further to report. Case clear.

Nov. 1 Trespassing

2:02 p.m.

Sgt. Smith while on patrol made contact with a man who was seated in a dark gray Toyota Tacoma in the parking lot of the vacation rental property. The man said he had stayed at this location previously and believed his wife had made new reservations for the same unit. After checking his confirmation, the man realized that the reservation was actually for the Inn and apologized for the misunderstanding. The property owner was notified of the circumstances and was satisfied with the explanation and declined to pursue trespass warnings or further action. The man departed the property without incident. Case clear.

Property

3:44 p.m.

Sgt. Smith arrived at Longboat Club Road and made contact with a driver of a U-Haul truck with an Arizona license plate. Investigation determined that the driver attempted to enter the covered entryway of the Key Club Spa and struck the overhead awning with the top of the vehicle. Minor structural damage was observed to the overhang, no injuries were reported. On scene security personnel, were notified of the findings and documented the incident for property management. No signs of impairment were noted and no criminal violations were observed. The incident was determined to be accidental in nature and closed as a property damage report. Information was completed and the parties exchanged information. Case clear.

Nov. 2
Vehicle

3:55 a.m.

Officer Martinson while on patrol observed a gray Honda SUV parked at Overlook Park after hours. When Officer Martinson approached the vehicle, he observed a man sleeping in

Nov. 3
Found property

3:00 p.m.

Officer Pescuma was dispatched to the 5400 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive in reference to the caller wanting to make a report of lost property. Upon arriving on scene at the police parking lot, Officer Pescuma met with the caller who stated he arrived to Longboat Key on Nov. 1 and is staying at the Zota Resort. Then on Nov. 1, the caller stated he went to the ice cream shop for a milkshake and paid with a credit card and tipped with cash. The caller claims to have last seen his wallet and then went back to his hotel. The caller attempted to retrace his steps with negative results. The caller described the wallet as a black leather tri-fold with the following contents: \$50 U.S. currency, Visa credit card, American Express card, Medtronic cards, photo. The caller will continue to search his hotel room and will advise if he locates his wallet. In the mean time, he is cancelling his credit cards and the officer will notify him if a wallet is turned in. Case clear.

Nov. 4 Incident

6:46 p.m.

Officer Pescuma was dispatched to the area of Yawl Lane in reference to a possible burglary in progress. The caller said that he observed what appeared to be a flashlight in home across the canal from his residence. The caller lives on Cutter Lane and believes the residence address is on Yawl Lane where the alleged burglary was taking place. The caller did not wish to meet. Upon arriving on scene, Officer Ericsson and Officer Pescuma observed a red Toyota pickup and a man in the driveway later identified. Officer Pescuma advised the man their reason for being there and requested to know if he was required to be at the residence. The man stated he is a handyman for the homeowner. Officer Pescuma made contact with the man who is currently out of state and verified that the man had permission to be at the residence. No crime was committed and the call was reclassified as a suspicious incident. Case clear.

Noise

7:19 p.m.

Officer Ericsson was dispatched to Chipping Lane on a noise disturbance. Upon arrival, Officer Ericsson observed a concrete truck and individuals loading concrete into a mobile buggy. Officer Ericsson contacted the supervisor and advised him of the town noise ordinance, more specifically, the days and times construction noise is prohibited. The supervisor immediately apologized stated he was not aware of the ordinance and shut down the job. Within a matter of minutes, the workers loaded up the equipment and cleared the scene. Case clear.

Nov. 5
Vehicle

8:16 a.m.

Sgt. Smith was dispatched to the Boathouse on Longboat in reference to a disturbance. The caller reported that the driver was operating his vehicle in a reckless manner, spinning tires in crushed shell and appearing to intentionally cause damage to the caller's vehicle. Upon arrival, no visible damage was found to any vehicles. Contact was made with the building owner and association president. The building owner said that due to the driver's actions and recent behavior, the driver is no longer welcome on the property out of concern he may cause harm to others. Contact was made with the driver who was informed he is trespassing from the property at the request of the owner. During the conversation, the driver claimed that the caller had committed an assault against him and later provided a video of the incident. The video depicts the driver running toward the caller while yelling at him. The driver stated he wished to pursue charges. He was advised to return to the location to complete a sworn written statement; however, during the call, a female voice instructed the driver to hang up and the line was disconnected. Based on the statements and evidence, the alleged assault was determined to be unfounded. The video shows the driver as the primary aggressor and his behavior toward the caller appears to stem from frustration over losing work accounts which he blamed on the caller. The building owner confirmed that the caller is authorized to be on the property and serves as the night security and fire watch employee. Case clear.

The advertisement for LBK Liqueurs features a central graphic of a pink flamingo standing on its left leg, with its right leg tucked up. The text "LBK" is in a large, black, serif font, and "Liqueurs" is in a black, cursive script font. To the right of the flamingo, the phone number "941.953.1835" is displayed in a black, sans-serif font. Below this, the text "The Island's largest selection of Beer, Wine & Spirits" and "Come check out our competitive prices!" is centered. Further down, "Discounts on cases of wine | Special orders welcome" is centered. Below that, "Locally owned & operated" is centered. At the bottom, the address "Whitney Beach Plaza" and "6854 Gulf of Mexico Drive | Longboat Key, FL" is centered. On the left and right sides of the bottom section, there are illustrations of three colorful liquor bottles (yellow, teal, and pink) in each corner.

Editor Letters



Letters, from page 6

(i.e., August 5th, September 16th, September 29th, October 14th, October 21st), extremely high (August 26th), or in between the two extremes, we almost always did not find horses to be a substantial enough contributor to the overall bacteria levels to be able to be quantified. Or we couldn't detect them at all. On August 26th, for example, we had very high levels of enterococci bacteria in Palma Sola Bay after a big rain event. For that day's samples, we had a detectable and quantifiable hit for an overall indicator of "fecal sources" based on a more specific marker than enterococci bacteria (*Bacteroides* GenBac3). But at the same time, the number of bacteria that could be reasonably associated with horses as a source was in the category of "detected, not quantifiable". Which means, we had "hits" for horses, but not at high enough levels to determine if they were a major or a minor source. We did find a quantifiable number of bacteria from horses one time, but it was during a period when the overall levels of bacteria met Class 3 marine waters criteria, and when the overall level of fecal-specific sources was at non-detectable levels. Hard to interpret those results, frankly.

It's important to keep in mind that none of the State of Florida's three "fecal indicator bacteria" (fecal coliform bacteria, *E. coli*, and enterococci) are specific to humans, mammals, or even animals as a source. You could have high levels of enterococci because of leaky septic tanks and sewage spills. But you could also have elevated levels of enterococci bacteria from raccoons or decomposing seaweed.

You know what source we did find, at levels high enough to be quantified, more times than any other? Birds. But what are you going to do with that information? As one of our staff put it, "They were here first." And they're right.

Wanna know why our Ecosystem Health Report Card doesn't include bacteria? This is why. We don't know what levels are "background", which could be used to represent values from natural sources. I've seen horses poop in Palma Sola Bay – as have others. That's not good, and the vendors need to stay on top of that. But I've also seen a picture of "horse poop" in the bay that appears to be from manatees, not horses. And I've seen plenty of birds pooping as they take off from the beach. Humans and horses are not the only animals that defecate in our local waters. As anyone who's ever owned an aquarium knows, fish poop as well. Does fish poop test positive for enterococci? We don't know. And when even decomposing vegetation could be a source of bacteria, that further adds to a very complicated topic.

The SBEP's stakeholders may decide that this topic requires more study and that the SBEP should take the lead on such an effort. But I caution that this is a regional and state-wide issue, with implications for all those local governments struggling to respond to findings of being "out of compliance" with established criteria for bacteria. SBEP has done a lot to help advance these discussions, but in my opinion, formulating a more holistic approach to this topic requires the participation of FDEP, FDOH, EPA, and others. SBEP could devote its entire budget for science-based projects towards this topic, and we'd not likely be much farther along than we are right now, in terms of guidance.

As we've stated numerous times, it is not a good idea to swim anywhere in the bay after heavy

rainfall and documented wastewater overflow events. But should you be scared to wade into the water to load your boat onto a trailer at a local ramp where sloughed-off seagrass blades and seaweed have accumulated, and where various shorebirds are poking around looking for something to eat in the wrack line? That's not a worry that I have.

Dave Tomasko
Executive Director
Sarasota Bay Estuary Program

Senate Bill 180

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton

The attached proposed amendments to SB 180 seem to dramatically and positively limit the application of that law. I think it satisfies the concerns we had about enacting our changes to the canal docking and boating ordinance and to the freeboard requirements (as opposed to options) following FEMA's reduction of the flood plain level. But I think it would be prudent, and a good test, for Maggie and Allen to review the proposed amendment to be sure it would permit those actions by Longboat. Thanks.

Ken Schneier
Mayor
Town of Longboat Key

Senate Bill 180

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton

At the request of a fellow Commissioner, I am sharing the attached proposed amendment to Senate Bill 180. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Savannah Cobb
Assistant to Town Manager
Town of Longboat Key

Town of Longboat Key -Upcoming Events

To: Longboat Key Commission

The Town Manager's Monthly Brief is hot off the press! If you haven't had a chance to check out what's happening this month, now's your chance. Our Communications Team would like to remind the community about our Veterans Day & 70th Anniversary Celebration happening this Saturday. The event will take place at the Town Center Green from 4-6 pm. Attached, you'll find the program for the event. Come out and enjoy a fantastic lineup of speakers, followed by mingling with our sponsors, vendors, and other community members while you enjoy light refreshments, drinks, and jazz music by Michael J Ross & Company.

Additionally, our Fire Department wants to share some exciting news. This Thursday, from

See Letters, page 12

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Editor Letters



Letters, from page 11

10-11 am at Town Hall, there will be a presentation about Longboat Links. The Longboat Key Fire Rescue Department has teamed up with Youthful Aging Home Care to provide any necessary assistance that our residents may need. We hope you can join us and learn more about this wonderful program.

We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events. If you have any questions or need further information, feel free to reach out to me or any of our town staff.

Tina Adams
Fire Administration & Communications Manager
Town of Longboat Key

Friday’s 1 p.m. meeting with County Commission

To: Longboat Key Mayor Ken Schneier
My suggestion would be to have one or two representatives speak under public comment. The bigger show of support will be needed when the County Commission is actually deliberating the allocations.

Howard N. Tipton
Town Manager
Town of Longboat Key

Friday’s 1 p.m. meeting with County Commission

To: Chris Goglia
I am forwarding this to my Town email, as I must, and would like Howard’s input on your question about Friday. You should know that our Commission yesterday unanimously agreed to support your Resiliency Project and to deliver a formal

Chris: I am forwarding this to my Town email, as I must, and would like Howard’s input on your question about Friday. You should know that our Commission yesterday unanimously agreed to support your Resiliency Project and to deliver a formal note to that effect to the Sarasota County Commission at Friday’s meeting.

Ken Schneier
Mayor
Town of Longboat Key

Friday’s 1 p.m. meeting with County Commission

To: Longboat Key Mayor Ken Schneier and Town Manager Howard Tipton
Do you think it would be a good idea for me, and perhaps also a representative of the St. Armands Circle (Merchants) Association, to come to your Friday 1pm meeting with the County Commission, and speak during the Public Comment section about the importance of the St. Armands Resiliency & Flood Mitigation Project? Heck, I could probably round up more people than that.

Chris Goglia
President
St. Armands Residents Association

November 2025 Town Manager Brief

To: Longboat Key residents
The November Town Manager Brief is out! Here are the latest updates from the Town:
Veterans Day & 70th Anniversary Celebration: Saturday, Nov. 8, 4 p.m. at Town Center Green. Speakers, refreshments, music, and community mingling.
Citizens Academy – 5 Spots Left: Wednesdays, Jan. 14 – Feb. 25, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.; graduation on Mar. 2 at 11 a.m.. Learn how local government works.
AI Phone System Pilot: Starts Nov. 10. Call 941-316-1966 for 24/7 AI assistance; staff available during business hours.
Light Up Longboat: Holiday celebration with tree lighting, live entertainment, festive treats, and community fun.
Utilities Undergrounding Project: New backlit street signs installed; light poles coming soon along east side of Gulf of Mexico Drive.
Gulf of Mexico Drive Turn Lane Project: Night work Nov. 4-7, 9 p.m. – 6 a.m. Substantial completion Nov. 7; final landscaping completed by Nov. 31.
Please see the attached Brief for the full update.
Savannah Cobb
Executive Assistant to Town Manager
Town of Longboat Key

Town of Longboat Key Town Commission Meeting: SR 789 “Gulf of Mexico Drive”

To: Longboat Key Assistant Town Manager Isaac Brownman
All good news. Thanks, Isaac.
Ken Schneier
Mayor
Town of Longboat Key

Town of Longboat Key Town Commission Meeting: SR 789 “Gulf of Mexico Drive”

To: Longboat Key Commission
As you will note below, the FDOT contractor is scheduled to have the “Gulf of Mexico Drive” signs reinstalled tomorrow November 4, 2025. FDOT plans to send the Town confirmation once the work is complete.
Additionally, FDOT is taking active steps to upgrade and install new vehicle detection technology at our two traffic signalized intersections (Longboat Club Road and Bay Isles Parkway).

The original detection systems were damaged during last year’s storms; this proposed radar technology is anticipated to function better than the previous system. That update is below as well.

Isaac Brownman
Assistant Town Manager
Town of Longboat Key

Town of Longboat Key Town Commission Meeting: SR 789 “Gulf of Mexico Drive”

To: Longboat Key Assistant Town Manager Isaac Brownman
Our contractor confirmed they can have the signs re-installed tomorrow. We will provide photos once complete. @Isaac Brownman An update on your signal detection request from our previous phone call: We are waiting on quotes from Wavetronix and

Our contractor confirmed they can have the signs re-installed tomorrow. We will provide photos once complete.

An update on your signal detection request from our previous phone call:
We are waiting on quotes from Wavetronix and Transcore (our contractor). We will be upgrading the detection to a more appropriate radar-based detection due to the proximity to the beach which will provide longevity and ease of maintenance. Right now, the equipment vendor has approximately a 6-week lead time. We are hopeful that we can have the detection installed and functioning before the start of the peak-peak season in January.

Steven Davis
District Traffic Operations Engineer
Florida Department of Transportation District 1

November Bay Bulletin

To: Longboat Key Commissioner Gary Coffin
Thank you, Gary! Your kind words are much appreciated.
Megan Barry
Public Outreach Manager
Sarasota Bay Estuary Program

November Bay Bulletin

To: Sarasota Bay Estuary Program Public Outreach Manager Megan Barry
And to you, Megan, also a happy Halloween. And what a beautiful night it was for. The Bay Bulletin looks wonderful. And the photo session went picture perfect. It must be mentioned, that The mayor, the town Commission and all of our staff are very appreciative and honored to work with you and your organization. Everyone loves working with a positive results winner, and you guys are it. I’ll see you oat the next meeting. If I can be any assistance with anything please let me know.
Gary Coffin
Commissioner
Town of Longboat Key

November Bay Bulletin

To: Longboat Key Commissioner Gary Coffin
Happy Friday and happy Halloween! Below is the November Sarasota Bay Bulletin, which includes program updates from October leading into November. Please let us know if you have any questions. On a separate but related note, we are immensely appreciative of the TLBK Commission, Mayor, and staff for their participation in our ribbon-cutting ceremony. I hope you agree that it went well!

Administration

SBEP is in the process of hiring a Staff Scientist. It is anticipated that the new staff member will begin in January 2026.
SBEP’s Fiscal Year 2025 (Oct 2024 – September 2025) data is in:
Over 14,500 lbs. of trash were removed at cleanup events
30 public events, presentations, and appearances
80 media mentions
640 students engaged in bay-related education and field trips
2,500 people engaged
2,100 volunteer hours leveraged
20 acres of land enhanced through targeted removal of exotic plant species
1,913 acres of seagrass gained since 2022, providing habitat for more than 70 million fish
2,000 feet of urban shoreline slated for restoration or bay-friendly retrofits
4,000 native plants installed

Habitat Restoration

The storm-damaged City Island Boardwalk restoration is complete. A ribbon-cutting event will be held in January or February 2026.
A contractor has been selected for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Park. Construction is slated for the first quarter of 2026.

Outreach & Communications

A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held on Wednesday, October 29, at Bayfront Park to celebrate the new living seawall. Approximately 50 people attended the event. SBEP thanks TLBK and their staff for the success of the project and event.
SBEP Citizens Advisory Committee and TLBK Green Team members are assisting with monitoring the ecological progression of the seawall.
SBEP will be hosting an event at the Bishop Museum of Science and Nature on Tuesday,

See Letters, page 13

Send us your best thoughts...
letters@lbknews.com

November 18, at 6:30 PM. The event will feature a short film and presentations on manatees and seagrass.

The Sarasota Bay Water Quality Protection Plan (WQPP) was approved by the SBEP Policy Board on September 12, 2025. The WQPP will track projects by local governments to prevent pollutant load increases over the next 30 years. The plan was developed and reviewed by the Water Quality Consortium, which includes representatives from several local and state agencies. It is available for viewing on SBEP's website.

Megan Barry
Public Outreach Manager
Sarasota Bay Estuary Program

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton

Item 6A has been updated to accurately reflect the correct District Seats scheduled for election in 2026. The previous version of the Ordinance (Section 5) incorrectly listed District 5 and one At-Large seat. This has now been corrected.

I sincerely apologize for the oversight and appreciate your understanding. Measures will be in place to ensure this does not occur again. We look forward to seeing you at today's 1 p.m. meeting.

Stephanie Garcia
Town Clerk II
Town of Longboat Key

To: Longboat Key Commission

The Finance Department has further analyzed the year-end transfers related to Resolution 2025-30, agenda item 6B for Monday's Commission meeting. The amounts for Fire, Police, and Contingency adjustments have changed due to additional FY25 invoices being received for both Fire and Police. The net effect of these additional expenses has increased the Fire Department's negative balance and decreased the Police Department's positive remaining amount for FY25, therefore, causing a decrease in available budget in the Police Department and an increase to the amount needed from the Contingency budget. Please see the most up-to-date Memorandum and Resolution for this agenda item, attached. I apologize for the inconvenience this may cause. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Stephanie Garcia
Town Clerk II
Town of Longboat Key

To: Sarasota City Manager Dave Bullock

I thought this sharable article in the NYTimes was very effective in conveying NYC's vulnerability to sea level rise, storm surge, localized flooding from rainfall and tidal flooding. It also graphically explained many of the options available to address these issues.

I'm sharing it as a possible model for how Sarasota might present our city's watershed and climate adaptation reports in an easy-to-understand format. This would be quite useful if we need public action and/or support for our plans (I imagine that Miles could create an excellent video along these lines).

Debbie Trice
Commissioner
City of Sarasota

To: Sarasota City Clerk Shayla Griggs

Please remove Item XII. 4 from agenda on request of the Mayor. The Players have asked for more time to review the request. Thank you.

Dave Bullock
Interim City Manager
City of Sarasota

To: Sarasota City Manager Dave Bullock

I have spoken to the Players and have now received a formal request to remove this item from the November 3rd, 2025 Commission agenda, in order that they be allowed more time to respond to the topic.

We understand the value of the Player's taking the time needed to fully evaluate all the options and issues, so the Commission can have all possible information. Accordingly, we will postpone this issue being brought before the Historic Preservation Board until after such time as the Commission has met to deliberate on this issue.

If you would be so kind as to confirm when the item has been removed from the Agenda I will then inform all the expected attendees of the schedule change.

Susan Dodd
Historic Preservation Senior Planner

To: Sarasota City Manager Dave Bullock

I will reach out to the Players CEO immediately, and respond back with an update as soon as possible.

To: Sarasota City Planning Director Steve Cover

Michael Shelton contacted the mayor. Please find out where they are with this. If they have had a change and need more time from their leadership, we can pull it. But find out what's up

Dave Bullock
Interim City Manager
City of Sarasota

To: Sarasota City Manager Dave Bullock

I'm not sure why they're doing this. They are well aware of what's being considered. Susan and Wayne have been talking with them constantly about this. We even went on a tour of the auditorium to go over their plans for the space.

Steve Cover
Planning Director
City of Sarasota

To: Sarasota City Planning Director Steve Cover

Someone from the Players asked the mayor to have the item pulled because they have not had time to respond to the issue. I thought they were involved in the discussion? What's going on?

Dave Bullock
City Manager
City of Sarasota

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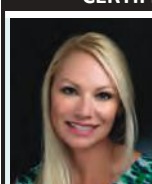
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BreakPoints

When it comes to calls, stay on your side

When Shapovalov disagreed with the out call he can ask the umpire to check the mark, but he is not allowed to cross the net.

JACKIE BOHANNON
Guest Columnist
tennis@lbknews.com

I was watching a match with Shapovalov and he crossed the net to look at a mark and the umpire gave him a point penalty. Why?

Some of the most basic rules in tennis revolve around sportsmanship and the understanding that each player is responsible for what happens on their side of the net only. When Shapovalov disagreed with the out call he can ask the umpire to check the mark, but he is not allowed to cross the net.



BOHANNON

In the case of professional tennis the umpire is responsible for making or overruling calls and ultimately has the final decision of which ball mark is accurate. In recreational tennis you can ask your opponent if they are sure if you disagree with a call, however, they are not required to show you a ball mark. At the end of the day each player is responsible for playing with good sportsmanship and making their calls. Stay on your side of the court.

I was playing a doubles match when the server hit a serve that hit me (the receiver's partner). I was nowhere near the service box so their serve was clearly out but they were adamant that it was their point. Who was right?

When the server hit the ball and it hit you (the receiver's partner) you lose the point. The server was correct they did in fact win the point. Why? In tennis you can't call the ball out until it bounces. If it had bounced out then hit you then it would be a fault, but when it hit you out of the air it is their point. This usually happens when a server mishits their serve but I've seen servers do this on purpose. Obviously this is bad sportsmanship and I do not recommend this as a strategy but there are players who do this. Always be aware and if a ball is going out make sure it doesn't touch you.



Serve Jackie your best question!



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

KeyCrossword

Hands and Feet

Edited by Linda and Charles Preston

ACROSS

- 1 Stinger
- 5 Certain South Africans
- 10 Put away for another day
- 14 Sport fish
- 18 Legal rights gr.
- 19 Hydrophyte-like organisms
- 20 Substitute for cocoa
- 22 Westerns writer Wister
- 23 Sign from Siskel
- 25 1936 Rodgers and Hart hit
- 27 Home wreckers
- 28 Cookware glass
- 30 Pitchman's partner
- 31 Genesis site
- 32 Williams or Crawford
- 33 King of the range
- 34 View from Vesuvius
- 37 Itchy canine concern
- 38 Patterned upholstery fabrics
- 41 Debbie or Gracie
- 42 Skaneateles and Seneca
- 44 Short snort
- 46 Nelson's "On the Again"
- 47 Ray, of "Battle Cry"
- 48 Supplicant's sign-off
- 49 Hoodwink
- 50 Coquettish
- 51 Penurious
- 55 Felicitous
- 56 Branch
- 58 Chad and Rob
- 59 Recalcitrant
- 60 Warner who played Chan
- 61 LEM part
- 62 Robed in purple
- 63 Stir up
- 64 Street of Blues
- 65 Used as insulation
- 68 Ancestral image
- 69 Moochers
- 71 On a roll
- 72 Cheeky chatter
- 73 Undaunted
- 74 Excessively suave
- 75 "___ No Angels": Bogart film
- 76 Intuition
- 77 Oasis of the Golden State
- 81 Be generous
- 82 Without zeal
- 84 Hepburn's "___ Holiday"
- 85 Clemens pitch

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- 86 Actors Griffith or Kaufman

87 Elect members summarily

88 IOU

89 Thanks, in Thiers

91 Disney dog

92 Companion at sea

96 Like a fat cat

98 Not comforted

100 Man or Wight

101 Swipe

102 Scandinavian

103 Author/humorist Lardner

104 Carriage

105 Elwes or Grant

106 Fred, of "Hunter"

107 Uncomplicated
- 6 Of a bygone era

7 Selves

8 Immature

9 Aware of

10 Harridan

11 Dred Scott

12 African antelope

13 Court

14 Themes

15 MP's problem

16 ___ over: pass out

17 Off opposites

21 Kalahari desert nomads

24 First State senator Joseph

26 Cassowary kin

29 "Picnic" playwright

32 Creek craft

33 Encrusted

34 Sleep starter

35 Stand-offish

36 Flirt, in a way

37 Center

38 Fonteyn and Markova

39 No genius he

40 Toy terrier type
- 42 Outpouring

43 Subsequent

45 Sail in a tacking pattern

47 By oneself

49 Forced labor camp

51 Deep rift

52 See 96 Across

53 Ancient district on the Aegean

54 Super Bowl MVP Lynn

55 Nigerian capital

57 Pivots around

59 Black or blue fruit

61 Hits terra firma

62 Film units

63 Rake over the coals

64 Temperate

65 Make parallel

66 "Casablanca" actor Peter

67 Take the tiller

68 Child's abbreviation

69 Little Miss Flinders

70 1939s Mr. Chips, Robert

73 Villains
- 75 James who played Truman

77 Make a collar

78 Without shame

79 Cheer

80 Capture and confine

81 Mistakes

83 Conference

85 Mouse

87 Lucid

88 Opted for

89 Interlock

90 Jazz great Fitzgerald

91 Petition

92 Use a crystal ball

93 Inter ___

94 Sawbucks

95 Irritable

96 Its cap. is Madison

97 List's last, briefly

99 Ibsen's homeland: abbr.

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