



# Longboat Key News

August 25, 2023

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**InsideLook**



*Walking boosts bio intelligence ...page 12*



*The magic of the morning beach ...page 7*



*Forecasting the harvest is tricky ...page 13*



*Constructing a noise violation ...page 10*

## Mote scientist highlights decline of Goliath grouper

*Almost reaching extinction in the 1980s as a result of overfishing, state and federal agencies prohibited commercial and recreational harvest of the species in an effort to rebuild the population.*



According to newly published data in the international, peer-reviewed scientific journal *Fishes*, Goliath grouper, an ecologically vital species, have experienced population declines since 2013. This study, led by Mote Marine Laboratory & Aquarium Fisheries Habitat Ecology and Acoustics Research Program Manager Dr. James Locascio, conducted at six different spawning aggregation sites off Jupiter, FL indicate that Goliath grouper abundance had declined at

all but one of six sites between 2013 and 2022. “The Atlantic Goliath grouper is currently categorized as ‘vulnerable’ on the International Union for the Conservation of Nature. It is a long-lived species native to Florida and is an essential species for the maintenance of a balanced ecosystem. We do not want the population of this species to decline,” said Dr. Locascio. Having almost reached extinction in the 1980s as a result of overfish-

ing, state and federal agencies prohibited commercial and recreational harvest of the species in an effort to protect and rebuild the population. In March of 2023, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) approved a limited recreational harvest of 200 Goliath grouper a year in state waters which began in the Spring of 2023. “Mote scientists conduct today’s research for tomorrow’s ocean **See Grouper, page 14**

## Sarasota named among best places to retire in the U.S.

The Sunshine State was well represented on HGTV’s “The 30 Best Places to Retire in the U.S.” Four Florida cities -- Tallahassee, Boca Raton, Sarasota, and Naples -- made the list.

*The ranking factored in affordability, healthcare, weather, taxes, transportation, and overall satisfaction.*

Here are the highlights of the Florida cities that were selected: Tallahassee has a Third Act program, creating an opportunity for those 50 and older to lend their

expertise to entrepreneurs’ startup businesses. Boca Raton “attracts seniors seeking a mix of golf courses, muse-

ums, soft sand beaches, parks, top healthcare and upscale shopping.” Sarasota has a “notable arts **See Sarasota, page 14**



## Manatee County moves to end local wetland protection

Manatee County commissioners are stripping local wetland protections. The decision followed on the urging of a private sector land use consultant, Daniel DeLisi, who served as an expert witness on behalf of a Carlos Beruff company in a court case challenging the county’s wetlands protection policies. The vote transmits plans to make the change to state agencies. A final vote will be scheduled later this year

## SMH makes Forbes list of best employers

*Sarasota ranks No. 4, sharing the top five with NASA, Google, Microsoft and Costco.*

Sarasota County’s largest employer, Sarasota Memorial Health Care System, has been named in Forbes’ fifth annual list of Best-in-State Employers. Forbes evaluated more than 2 million recommendations from employees working at large companies in all 50 states and Washington, D.C. Of 1,392 Best-in-State Employers, 90 companies in Florida made the list. Of those, SMH ranks No. 4, sharing the top five with NASA, Google, Microsoft and Costco.

To determine the best employers, Forbes and Statista used surveys from 70,000 workers at companies with at least 500 employees. The workers were asked to rate their employer overall and in categories such as work environment, gender pay equity, opportunities for career advancement, pride in the company’s services and more. “Our extraordinary leaders and staff, and longstanding public mission, truly set us apart,” said Sarasota Memorial Health Care System President and CEO David Verinder said. “Sarasota Memorial has cared for this community for nearly a century.” With nearly 10,000 employees, SMH sees more than 1 million patient visits each year at its 901-bed hospital in Sarasota, 110-bed hospital in Venice and network of outpatient and urgent care centers and medical practices



### Sarasota music store to close after half century

One of Sarasota’s longest-operating music stores, Fogt’s Gulf Coast Music Center, better known as Fogt’s Music, has announced its plan to close after 50 years of business in the area. A Facebook post said the store would “selling the balance of our inventory at greatly discounted prices” during hours Tuesday through Friday from noon to 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Gwen Fogt will be celebrated and honored for the store’s success and business in the community at a closing party on Sept. 10. The party will be held at the store at 4209 S. Tamiami Trail in Sarasota from 2 p.m. until 6 p.m.

### Frontier Airlines unveils new nonstop destination from SRQ

Those looking to travel to Cleveland will have the option as nonstop flights from Sarasota Bradenton International Airport begin Dec. 21. The flights from Sarasota to Cleveland will be offered daily and start at \$39.

### Contributions to public art fund will double

The Sarasota City Commission voted last week in principal to double the contribution to the art fund by developers. Currently, any new development in the city costing \$1 million or more requires a contribution of 0.5% of the construction cost. To sustain and grow the city’s public art collection, the City is looking at doubling the fee to 1%. Developers have the option of providing their own approved public art instead of paying into the fund. The fee does not apply to affordable housing. The city’s public art fund has a balance of about \$150,000.

### Sarasota emergency management chief stepping down

After more than 40 years in public service, 18 of those with Sarasota County, Emergency Management Chief Ed McCrane is stepping down from his post, it was announced Tuesday. McCrane was appointed to the post in October 2005, when Sarasota County’s Emergency Operations Center was activated for Hurricane Wilma. Since then, McCrane has worked to coordinate improvements across the division, and brought on several new staff members in the last few years to build the Emergency Management team that lead the county through Hurricane Ian. “It is an honor to have worked with Ed during his time at Sarasota County,” said Emergency Services Director Rich Collins. “He has great passion in educating the residents and visitors of Sarasota County regarding disaster preparedness. The outreach he has done leaves a legacy here and has helped our community be better prepared. We look forward to a continued partnership with him in his future endeavors and wish him all the best,” During his time with Sarasota County, McCrane served as Incident Manager or part of the Unified Command team for eight tropical storms, three major hurricanes, the H1N1 (Swine Flu) pandemic, Deep Water Horizon Oil Spill, the 2016 Siesta Key tornado and the COVID-19 pandemic. He also supported disaster recovery efforts of counties throughout the state, most recently in Lee County after Hurricane Ian where he coordinated with local governments and support organizations. McCrane previously served as the West Florida Region 4 Coordinator for the Florida Division of Emergency Management and the Central Florida Military Support to Civil Authorities Coordinator for the Department of Military Affairs, Florida National Guard where he was awarded the Florida Distinguished Service Medal. He proudly served his country in the U.S. Army and is a retired Master Sergeant. During the search for the next chief, Emergency Services Director Rich Collins, Scott Montgomery and Emergency Operations Manager EJ Landrith will ensure the continuity of operations. For more information about Sarasota County Emergency Management, please visit scgov.net/beprepared or dial 311.

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**LIDO KEY • 159 TAFT DR., #206** **\$2,450,000**  
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**WEST OF TRAIL - HIGHLY DESIRABLE LOCATION** **\$8,995,000**  
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GULF FRONT NEW CONSTRUCTION



**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.

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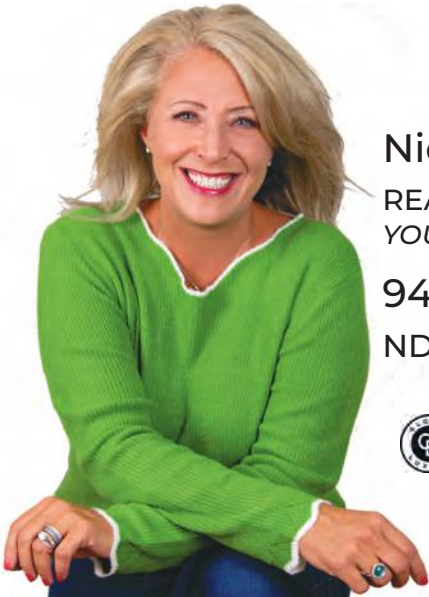
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# EditorLetters

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

## EPA Approval of the Equity Plan

To: Longboat Key Commission, Sarasota City Commission

The first email I opened this morning was from EPA Headquarters in DC. And let’s just say I’m ready to switch out my coffee for a glass of champagne right now.

EPA has determined that the Equity Plan we produced, which the Policy Board approved at our last meeting, met their requirements. This is really good news, because with an approved Equity Plan, funds available via the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) do NOT require a local cash match. This means that the SBEP can move forward with our ongoing and planned habitat restoration projects without having to ask our local government partners to come up with funds to match these efforts.

The timing is perfect, because one of the items at our upcoming Policy Board meeting is the approval of the projects we’re proposing to be included in the BIL workplan for FY24 to FY26. We’ve worked with our local government partners to identify projects that are spread geographically across our bay, so that the SBEP can take the lead on design, permitting and construction. Those projects (proposed by our local government partners) have already been reviewed by the CAC and the TAC, and the consensus from both committees is to move forward with the eight projects, with a combined cost of just over \$2.7 million.

Speaking directly, I know that not everyone is a fan of the term “equity.” EPA’s guidance specifically precludes race or ethnicity as factors, but instead focuses on census tract level information related to income levels, unemployment rates, etc. Our approach also includes susceptibility to inundation from storm surge as well as the proximity of Title 1 schools, to increase the likelihood that kids from poorer neighborhoods would be able to access these sites for field trips, etc. I come from a blue-collar family background of coal miners, steel workers and farmers – neither of my parents went to college, and so exposing kids from poorer communities so that the next generation of kids might be able to see themselves as environmental scientists or restoration specialists – that’s a primary focus of our Equity Plan. And EPA concurred!

Anyway, good news – and a heads up that we’re going to be bringing the BIL workplan for the next three years to you at our next meeting.

David Tomasko  
Executive Director  
Sarasota Bay Estuary Program

## Question about setback regulations

To: Longboat Key Director of Planning, Zoning and Building Department

Hope all is well with you. I had a quick clarifying question before I dive into one of my articles. Regarding the Manatee County news about wetland protection, how does that work from the town’s level? From my understanding, (if the change at the county level goes through)

the setback of 50 feet would be removed and go to the state’s requirement of 15 feet. But I was wondering if town code would supersede that? I hope that all made sense. Any background information you could provide would be greatly appreciated. Looking forward to hearing from you.

Carter Weinhofer  
Longboat Key

## Media Contact: Question about setback regulations

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton

The changes to Manatee Co’s requirements will not have a regulatory impact on the Town. The Town is subject to its own Comprehensive Plan policies and land development regulations.

With regard to the Town’s policies and regulations, there aren’t specific setback requirements from wetlands. There are a number of Town Comprehensive Plan policies that call for development to be directed away from wetlands. The Town has ‘clustering’ provisions that allow for development to have modifications to other standards, such as lot sizes or building coverage in order to keep development away from wetlands.

The Town’s open space standards (typically requiring 50 percent of developments/properties to be maintained as open space for residential development) provide a great deal of flexibility and incentives for properties to avoid developing close to wetland features.

All proposed development is required to identify any wetlands on the subject property as part of an application’s review process. And during development, properties with wetlands that could be affected by construction activities are required to provide measures to mitigate any potential impacts. Hope that’s helpful. Let me know if you have any further questions.

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

## Ed McCrane

To: Longboat Key Fire Chief Paul Dezzi

Where is Ed McCrane going? I was surprised to see he is leaving SRQ County.

BJ Bishop  
Commissioner  
Town of Longboat Key

## Ed McCrane

To: Longboat Key Commissioner BJ Bishop

Ed shared that he was offered a job in the private sector that will allow him to work primarily from home. He is looking forward to a new chapter. Ed will be missed.

Paul B. Dezzi  
Fire Chief  
Town of Longboat Key

## Ed McCrane

To: Longboat Key Fire Chief Paul Dezzi

Always enjoyed him. He did a great job.

BJ Bishop  
Commissioner  
Town of Longboat Key

## Joint Meeting with Manatee County


To: Longboat Key Commission

In trying to reschedule our postponed joint meeting, Manatee County shared that October 31st in the afternoon was an available time. It appears that it is a date that works for a super majority of the Town Commission as well and so we are confirming that the 31st works and will begin coordinating that agenda with County staff.

With this meeting it appears that October, with only one regular Town Commission meeting scheduled, is quickly becoming the joint meeting month as in addition to Manatee, we also have joint meetings with the City of Sarasota on October 9th and Sarasota County on


See Letters, page 6

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**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.



# EditorLetters

## Letters, from page 4

October 11th.  
Please let me know if you have any questions.  
Howard Tipton  
Town Manager  
Town of Longboat Key

## Joint Meeting with Manatee County

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton  
All good. What time on Oct. 31?  
Ken Schneider  
Mayor  
Town of Longboat Key

## Joint Meeting with Manatee County

To: Longboat Key Mayor Ken Schneider  
Still waiting to confirm whether it is 1 p.m. or 1:30 pm.  
Howard N. Tipton  
Town Manager  
Town of Longboat Key

## Updated LBK North agenda

To: LBK North Board members  
Debbie Murphy (and possibly Tip) will cover town updates  
(Greer dredging, under-grounding)

Terri and Paul will touch on wetland buffer / mangroves during green team update  
Confirmed with Eddie - MPO is on summer break and no updates on traffic  
Added Community emergency prep agenda item - Jeff (or Terri) to cover  
Have a catch all for anything else that comes up that anyone on the line wants to cover (water taxi, etc).  
Paul - a lot of topics for 60 min - so you will once again have to keep us moving  
Pat - please send agenda out to the Reps  
Maureen Merrigan  
Longboat Key

## Updated LBK North agenda

To: Maureen Merrigan  
I hope you all will look at Manatee County’s attack on wetlands protection. Rusty provided great comments at their meeting. Damage to the Bay could be significant.  
BJ Bishop  
Commissioner  
Town of Longboat Key

## Video-added stills

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton  
I added several new stills to break up the talking head as you requested Tip. The photos are scarce in relation to what they

were explaining but I found the closest ones I could find. But all in all, the info was great.  
Barry G. Gaines  
Information Technology Specialist  
Town of Longboat Key

## Video-added stills

To: Longboat Key Commission  
This month’s video focusing on how the Town’s personnel prepare and respond to a storm event. Appreciate everyone’s help and expertise in getting this out.  
Lastly, you’ll notice that we have behind Paul, Isaac, and George the Town’s new backdrop screen that we’ll use for media/video briefings. This portable prop can be utilized in a number of different settings and is a part of our branding effort.  
Howard N. Tipton  
Town Manager  
Town of Longboat Key

## Reporting on Manatee County Public Meeting on Comprehensive Plan review/revision

To: Longboat Key Commission  
I’m reporting on the outcome of the recent “informational” Public Meeting r/t Manatee County’s Comprehensive Land Use Plan, which I previewed last week.  
The Comp Plan, as it is called, has not been reviewed for many years, and this revision is intended to last until 2045! I attended the meeting at the Downtown Bradenton Public Library, where fifteen people showed up, with about another 15 on Zoom.  
The good news: A token opportunity was afforded for public input, in the form of placing little stickers on a map.  
The bad news: None of that will make any difference in the end.  
Dr. Jim Whitman  
Longboat Key

## Reporting on Manatee County Public Meeting on Comprehensive Plan review/revision

To: Longboat Key Commission  
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With this meeting it appears that October, with only one regular Town Commission meeting scheduled, is quickly becoming the joint meeting month as in addition to Manatee, we also have joint meetings with the City of Sarasota on October 9th and Sarasota County on October 11th.  
Please let me know if you have any questions.  
Howard N. Tipton  
Town Manager  
Town of Longboat Key

## Parklets in Paris

To: Sarasota City Manager Marlon Brown  
As I mentioned in our one-on-one, Paris residents are also both supportive of and opposed to making the Pandemic-era expansion of outdoor dining permanent. Unlike Sarasota, the Paris government requires the cafes to be dismantled every evening at 8 PM for the benefit of nearby residents. (Note that the residents most inconvenienced don’t have air-conditioning and have to accept street noises with cooling breezes through open windows.)  
Debbie Trice  
City Commissioner  
City of Sarasota

## Payne Park - Water Feature

To: Sarasota City Manager Marlon Brown  
Utilities recently spent over \$20,000 (and lots of staff time) to redo the water feature at Payne Park only to have it basically destroyed in less than a week. Please see the link below for photos. The rocks you see in the pond were installed with mortar – so whoever did it had to work at it.  
Try this link, [https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1dU1ZKK0n\\_EOQVw01YXntI5hblJq5Jfj5?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1dU1ZKK0n_EOQVw01YXntI5hblJq5Jfj5?usp=sharing), and download the photos you want. We are pricing out repairs but we are a bit skeptical about spending more money. Will keep you posted.

ISLAND PARADISE!

525 CHANNEL LANE  
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This ranch home is an island paradise on Longboat Key. The cypress wood walls give it that beachy feel. The attached carport provides covered parking and the oversized screened lanai off of the living room allows you to have that indoor-outdoor living style. The separate dining room could also be an office or bonus room. Both bathrooms have been updated. Stainless steel appliances adorn the light and airy kitchen. Newer roof, electric panel, and HVAC. Separate laundry room with plenty of storage. The lot could be big enough for a pool in the large side yard, or expand the footprint of the house. This home includes a composite wood boat dock that is shared with 3 other homes, giving you fishing and boating access. Call now to make this gorgeous island home your very own piece of paradise!

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See Letters, page 11



# Cloudy morning on the beach

*It’s all part of the magic on Longboat Key beaches.*

MICHAEL GIVANT  
Contributing Writer  
givant@lbknews.com

Cloudy mornings on LBK beaches have a pleasing two-fold effect. They allow me to see birds without the glare of water and sand that is found on bright sunny days. They also turn the landscape into a theatrical stage setting, thereby creating mood.

Beer Can Island has numerous bare ash-colored trees, some of which are standing, while others lie fallen with their huge root systems exposed. The trees lend a hint of mystery to the landscape.

An osprey is on a leaning tree at the end of a broken vertical branch with a large sheepshead porgy dangling from its left claw. The fish’s mouth is partially open and light gray spiny scales protrude from its back like spikes. I can see both eyes of the fish atop its head, which weren’t vigilant enough. The “fish-hawk” is facing the water looking intently, with its tail partially fanned. Why isn’t the fierce-looking raptor eating its catch? Is it waiting for its mate?

Wanting a better look, I sit on a fallen tree off to the side. However the osprey moves its head around nervously. Not wanting to scare it off, I walk out in front where it can keep an eye on me.

A young boy approaches the tree twirling something and the osprey hefts the fish, flapping its wings and makes loud high sounds. A man with a camera approaches. Ospreys don’t like people getting close. It looks directly at me with those intense yellow eyes on either side of its dark hooked bill. How long will it stay?

The osprey starts flapping wildly as the man gets too close. Holding the fish in its right claw the raptor lifts off the branch. It’s flapping hard but seems to be suspended in mid air by the fish’s weight. However the osprey turns toward some Australian pine trees, goes around them and vanishes.

Further out on Beer Can, a pale sun is reflecting off two patches of grass. Between them is a great blue heron that is either resting or in a semi-trance. From the rear its head has a black breeding plume waving in the breeze. The neck is the color of sandstone and its gray back appears smooth as suede. Gray feathers hang over the bird’s back like a frilly wrap. The bird faces straight ahead, as I pass to its side, but keeps a wary yellow eye on me.

On Whitney Beach the tide has left a steep ledge in the sand. Some clumps of seaweed lay scattered on it, but I don’t notice until a large section of the weed seemingly gets up and starts to move! It’s an oystercatcher, a large bird with a black head and dark back that has been resting. Another, near it, also gets up but a third further away apparently sees no need. Did I miss them in the mood created by this cloudy morning?

The next morning, also partly cloudy, a ruddy turnstone is carrying a shell, which it puts on the sand. Then the bird stabs repeatedly taking out the meat faster than I can see. Willets, large non-descript sandpipers and lean as greyhounds, are feeding in the shallow water. At first there are only four, then there are eight and finally there are 12. Sanderlings, smaller chunky sandpipers, race after the waves sticking their bills into the soaked sands in search of aquatic invertebrates.

My wife sees a bottle-nosed dolphin very close to shore. Seconds later it partially surfaces. Very close, indeed. There’s a flat, calm area of water. It’s the “footprint” of where the dolphin has been. It surfaces again showing a fin, goes under, starts coming back and then moves further out.

We start walking, following the dolphin on a raised surface



Great Blue Heron, Beer Can Island, Longboat Key, FL



Oystercatchers, Whitney Beach, Longboat Key, FL



Ruddy Turnstone, Whitney Beach, Longboat Key, FL



Brown Pelican, Whitney Beach, Longboat Key, FL

of sand that I call a “whale’s back,” because it reminds me of one just rising out of the water. I’m not watching out for the “peeps” and some terns in my path scatter. Sorry guys. At one point we get a view of the dolphin traveling almost straight ahead. It’s like a scene from the 1956 movie “Moby Dick” starring Gregory Peck. With the sun momentarily out, a multitude of gulls and terns are circling over the water — just like the movie! Where are the actors?

The willets are calling and flying. They are flying a lot this winter. I’m getting used to their high, loud calls in flight. When the willet flies it shows a dazzling, white and black wing pattern that belies its drabness. A few facing me start to rotate their wings like propellers with a moving white spot. Then I see their whole wings, like a whole propeller blade rotating. Several fly low over the water. One dips down, its back facing me and moves toward shore. At the same instant another in a seemingly synchronized move goes out to sea. These swift, agile fliers are offering an education in their flight.

Coming back it has clouded up and the pale aqua gulf is almost indistinguishable from the clouded-over horizon. Against a swath of pebbly clouds 20-plus brown pelicans are plunge-diving. Some go almost simultaneously into the water, four at a time leaving tall splashes. These huge birds with a 79-inch wingspan flatten their wings against their sides, then turn in a partial corkscrew motion just before hitting the water bill first. One comes up stretching out its huge pouch indicating that a fish was in it.

A flat-bottomed fishing boat comes parallel to shore and turns leaving a trailing arch. The pelicans fly. Somehow the intruding boat and its arch look elegant in the calm water.

Now the sky’s bathed in light pastel colors. It’s all part of the magic of what has been a cloudy morning on the beach. Smitten by the scene I sit down and take in the show.



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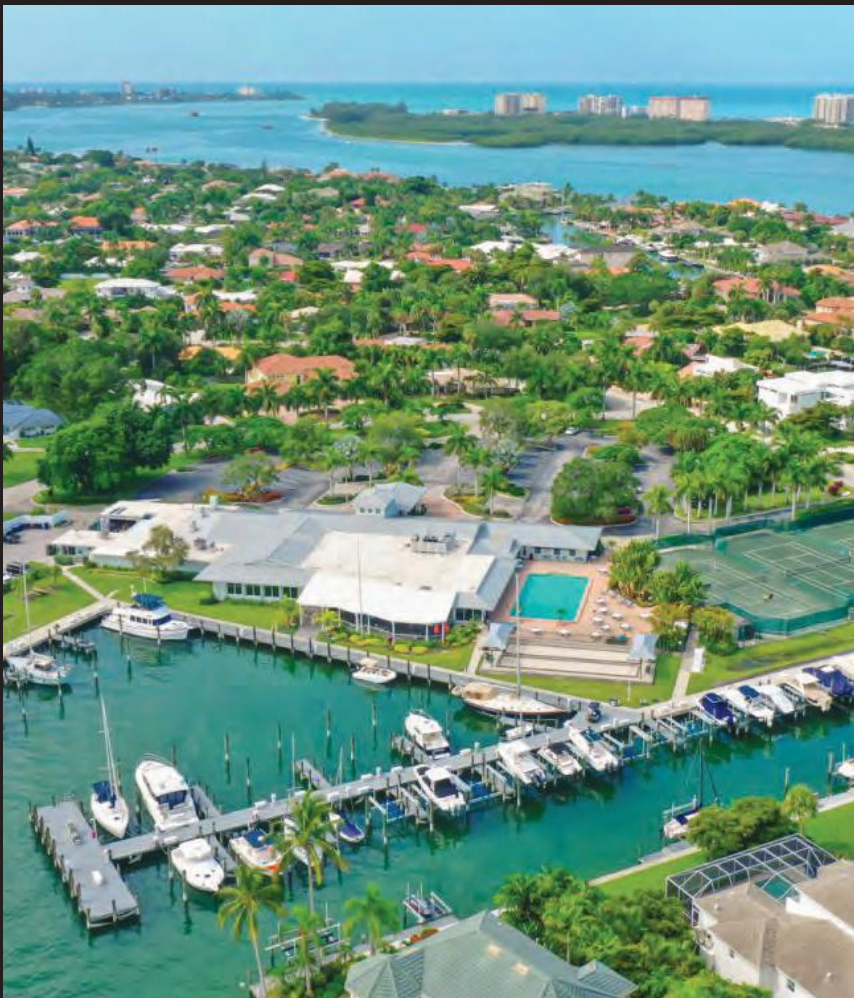
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# OnPatrol

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

## Aug. 18 Citizen assist

6:02 p.m.  
Sgt. Montfort was dispatched to a watermain break at Spanish Drive South. Sgt. Montfort arrived in the area and was greeted by a foreman from FPL. It was determined that an FPL crew struck a water line while looking for electrical lines. Sgt. Montfort was advised a private plumbing company would be taking care of the break. Case clear.

## Boat

8:58 p.m.  
Sgt. Montfort was dispatched to assist Longboat Key Fire Rescue with a report of a jet skier who did not return to the dock after dusk. Fire Battalion Chief 9 arrived in the area and it was determined the caller would be located at the north boat ramp in Bradenton Beach. Sgt. Montfort advised communications to notify Bradenton Beach Police to have them respond. Sgt. Montfort arrived in the area and met with Battalion 9 who stated the jet skier had been located and would be towed back to the dock. It was determined he had run out of fuel. Sgt. Montfort then returned to service without incident. Case clear.

## Noise complaint

11:15 p.m.  
Officer Ferrigine responded to the 3400 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive report of a noise complaint. Upon arrival, Officer Ferrigine located where the noise was coming from and approached a man and he was advised of the noise ordinance and was told to shut it down for the night. Case clear.

## Aug. 19 Suspicious incident

6:04 a.m.  
Officer Ramsaier responded to Putting Green Lane for a call of a burglary in progress. Upon arrival, the woman said she heard beeps coming from the upstairs alarm. An interior check of the residence met with negative results as well as the exterior of the property. There were no signs of forced entry into the residence. Case to be reclassified as a suspicious incident. Case clear.

## Boating citation

4:13 p.m.  
Officer Connors while on marine patrol in the area of Lido Beach observed a black and green jet ski operating inside the designated swim area. Officer Connors observed the jet ski approach from the south end of the swim area, passing inside the southernmost Regulatory Swim Zone Marker and continue towards a crowd of swimmers. At the time, county life-guards were present and a heavy presence of bathers/swimmers were observed. As the jet ski approached the second regulatory marker, the operator made an abrupt turn west, exiting the designated swim area. At that time, Officer Connors conducted a stop and advised the operator of the violation. The jet ski had no registration numbers on neither the port or starboard side, although the registration sticker was visible on the port side. The operator was also unable to produce registration paperwork, identification and a boater's safety education card due to his age. The operator advised that he was the owner/operator of the jet ski. Due to the current conditions, Officer Connors advised the operator that he will be receiving a citation via certified email. Case clear.

## Aug. 20 Dog on the beach

12:00 a.m.  
Officer Ferrigine responded to the 2800 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive for a report of a dog on the beach. Upon arrival, Officer Ferrigine observed a small dog next to its owner. Officer Ferrigine approached the man and interviewed him. He was advised that dogs on the beach



were prohibited and was given a citation. The man accepted the ticket and returned to his vehicle with his dog. Case clear.

## Noise

9:48 a.m.  
Officer Ramsaier responded to Cedar Street for a call of construction work being done on Sunday. Upon arrival, Officer Ramsaier observed the construction worker doing stucco work on the house. The individual said he was doing side work for the construction company and was unaware of the municipal code for noise on Sunday. The man was issued a warning for both himself and the company for noise violation. The man packed up his equipment and left the site. The call was initially classified as construction work on a Sunday but

was reclassified to a noise complaint. Case clear.

## Noise

10:50 p.m.  
Sgt. Montfort was dispatched to the 6800 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive for a report of a woman screaming in the restaurant. Sgt. Montfort and Officer Ferrigine arrived in the area and observed screaming coming from the area of Longboat Drive South in Longbeach Village. The officers heard screaming coming from the rear of Longboat Drive South where they located several female juveniles in the pool area. Officers made contact with one of the parents who was advised of the local noise ordinance. A warning was issued. Case clear.

## Aug. 21 Citizen assist

11:58 a.m.  
Officer Martinson was dispatched to the Norton Street on a call of Illegal Parking. Remarks were that a construction vehicle was blocking access to Public Works. Upon arrival, Officer Martinson observed a black pickup truck with a trailer leaving the area as well as a garden work truck with a trailer parked mid block. The garden truck was parked along one side of the street but there was enough room for him to drive by. When Officer Martinson reached the end of the block, he was flagged down by a woman who said that before his arrival, there were three work trucks parked on the street which were blocking the road. She said the Waste Management garbage truck did not have enough room to drive past the work trucks to it turned around and left the area without picking up her or her neighbor's garbage. Officer Martinson advised the woman to call Waste Management to advised their garbage truck driver to return to pickup the garbage because the road was now clear. Before leaving the area, Officer Martinson spoke with the workers from the gardening company and told them that they needed to make sure to leave enough room in the roadway for garbage trucks to drive by. The works apologized and stated in the future they will make sure to park further off to the side of the road. Case clear.

## Agency assistance

9:29 p.m.  
Officer Smith was dispatched to the 2500 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive for a citizen assist call where the caller accidentally locked her keys in the trunk of her vehicle. Prior to arrival, the caller advised that no child or animal was locked int eh vehicle and was instructed to contact a locksmith by Sgt. Smith. Case clear.

## Aug. 24 Noise

5:05 p.m.  
Officer Connors was dispatched to Hornblower Lane for a report of construction noise after hours. Upon arrival, no violations were observed as the construction crew was cleaning up for the day. Officer Connors reminded the crew of the construction hours pertaining to the ordinance. Case clear.

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# Editor Letters



**Letters, from page 6**

Bill Riebe  
Utilities Director  
City of Sarasota

Payne Park - Water Feature

**To: Sarasota City Utilities Director Bill Riebe**

I hope your day is going well. I got no word! Could you send me the photos via cloudbox? I don't have a google account. Unbelievable!

Jerry Fogle  
Parks and Recreation Director  
City of Sarasota

**Payne Park - Water Feature**

To: Sarasota City Parks and Recreation Director Jerry Fogle  
Disheartening for sure. Will forward photos to you later today or 1st thing in the morning.  
Bill Riebe  
Utilities Director  
City of Sarasota

**Payne Park - Water Feature**

To: Sarasota City Utilities Director Bill Riebe  
I concur! You and your team went way above and beyond on this project! Not that the individual(s) could understand or have an appreciation for the amount of work that went into this project!  
I copied Stacie and Matt on this email. Please send the photos to Matt. The City is self insured. We may be able to get this covered or at least some of it covered, if indeed Mr. Brown decides to repair the water feature.  
Jerry Fogle  
Parks and Recreation Director  
City of Sarasota

**Payne Park - Water Feature**

To: Sarasota City Parks and Recreation Director Jerry Fogle  
The pond looked beautiful, and we were ready to install plants to add the finishing touches. We pulled out the broken furniture from the Café yesterday. It appears there's a lot broken, including the pump, and perhaps the liner has a hole in it. You would almost have to redo the entire pond again. Given all of that, and the cost to keep it running, I am suggesting that

we (Parks and Recreation) design it and plant it as a bioswale, without any pump or running water. Thoughts?  
Candie Pedersen  
General Manager, Parks and Recreation Department  
City of Sarasota

**Payne Park - Water Feature**

To: Sarasota City Manager Marlon Brown  
I hope your day is going well. Please advise on Candie's below highlighted email. This will be a lot less expensive. We will probably get some complaints because people enjoyed the water feature. However, we can design an aesthetically pleasing bioswale (i.e. Ringling/Bayfront).  
Jerry Fogle  
Parks and Recreation Director  
City of Sarasota

**Payne Park - Water Feature**

To: Sarasota City Parks and Recreation Director Jerry Fogle  
We can probably revisit it in the future but given our budget situation proceed as suggested.  
Thanks.  
Marlon Brown  
City Manager  
City of Sarasota

**Payne Park - Water Feature**

To: Sarasota City Parks and Recreation Director Jerry Fogle  
Thanks. Did we design a bioswale?  
Marlon Brown  
City Manager  
City of Sarasota

**Payne Park - Water Feature**

To: Sarasota City Manager Marlon Brown  
Yes, they designed and installed a very nice bioswale feature.  
Verne Hall  
Utilities Director  
City of Sarasota

See Letters, page 14

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# StayingAlive

## The beauty of walking and bio intelligence

*Especially among the “elderly,” walking fast really cut down on the risk of cardiovascular death. Do the right stuff, and your body gets smarter. All the time.*

**MATTHEW EDLUND**  
Guest Columnist  
Edlundr@lbknews.com

Your legs are not just talking to your brain, they’re telling it what to do. That’s a very good thing. Otherwise your brain might not develop properly, and keep adapting through your life.

That’s the conclusion reached reading a study penned by Raffaella Adami and others from the Universities of Milano and Pavia. It helps explain why astronauts lose strength in space, why stroke victims lose muscle mass, and why walking is literally learning.

That’s how biological intelligence works – your body’s many information systems are not just talking to each other, but changing the actions and “behavior” of many others.



MATTHEW EDLUND

### Pinioned Mice

Doing the experiment in humans was impossible for ethical and practical concerns. Adami and company pinioned the rear legs of mice, while allowing them free use of their front legs. They moved, ate, socialized as usual. But their big leg muscles remained inactive.

The consequences were many. They included:

1. A 70% reduction in stem cell proliferation in the subventricular zone of their brains.
2. Immature cell differentiation in brain cells.
3. Lower oxygen and decreased metabolism.

Interestingly, some of the changes also appeared epigenetic in nature, occurring over ten reproductive cycles in cells in vitro.

Why should brain metabolism slow if you can’t move your legs, but everything else? Why would brain stem cells stop proliferating, and brain cells improperly mature?

Because they’re not getting the right kind of information.

There is plenty of evidence that use of leg muscles in humans leads to new brain cell growth. Some of this relates to productions of proteins by muscle cells that somehow influence the brain to proliferate.

Moving really moves us.

### Walking As Learning

We tend to see learning in cognitive, linguistic forms. I learn Spanish. You learn calculus. We both learn how to fill in tax forms.

Information in the body is much vaster than our cognitive corpus. The immune system learns to find and kill tumors. Muscles learn to ride bikes and play soccer. Bones learn to survive rocks, stones, and potholes.

This learning is not conscious, for most learning is not conscious. It’s all part of biological intelligence, how your body creates and uses information.

The study of Adami fits what is seen in neurological illness. If you improperly innervate the legs, they atrophy. What’s more interesting and important is the other side of the equation, what the legs are doing to the brain.

We know it’s doing quite a lot of good.

### The Quick and the Dead

A recent study from 11 population centers in England Scotland, analyzed by a team from Australia, the UK and Ireland, found that walking was not just an aid to health, but a faster one.

Walking speed changed survival.

It was not the kind of result one might expect. The 50,000 people surveyed gave their own estimate of how fast they walked. How fast was not defined, though lead author Emmanuel Stamatakis thought it probably meant 5-6 kilometers an hour, or 3 to 3.7 miles an hour. Still, self definitions vary a lot, which usually makes it much harder to show statistical significance – there’s too more noise in the data.



Nevertheless, walking moderately or fast was associated with about a 20-24% decrease in cardiovascular mortality. The numbers were more impressive for older folk. For those over 60, cardiovascular mortality went down 46% for moderate, and 53% for fast walkers.

Especially among the “elderly,” walking fast really cut down on the risk of cardiovascular death. The authors were emboldened to suggest that speed recommendations be included in public health announcements.

Many may not listen, but the body already knows.

### Health is Learned

For those who consider the normal silos of academic research and education, the idea that leg muscles materially change the brain every moment of life was seem strange, or even absurd. For those who think in terms of biological intelligence, it’s obvious.

Moving through an environment means you see more of it. You experience more. You learn more.

What has been missing is a sense of the process.

Much of how we learn is still considered only in cognitive terms. Evolution sees a different picture.

A body in motion engages numerous ecosystems, all of which represent advantage and threat. To survive, it must adapt.

So the legs change. More exercise generally means different kinds of muscle fibrils, in different concatenations and different sizes. That’s implicitly evident to most of us.

But different muscles also give their signals to the brain. The brain must also adapt. Now it’s getting clearer that it does more than change synapses and interconnections. If the Adami study proves applicable in people, it also provides them new and more active brain stem cells. It increases overall brain metabolism. It changes how cells look, act, and communicate.

Because information is always flowing. Learning must continue. That’s how we survive, for health itself, our ability to ward off infection and cancer, to navigate the world, depends on growing and adapting.

And the flow of that information is through endless streams of intercommunication working at levels of intensity and complexity we have not yet glimpsed.

Do the right stuff, and your body gets smarter. All the time.

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# WineTimes

## Forecasting a harvest in a stormy world

*Growers in many of the major wine regions in California had already expected that cooler than normal temperatures during the summer would delay harvesting by a few weeks.*

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

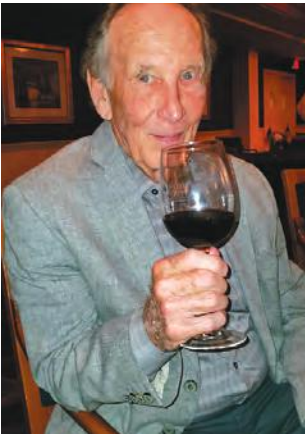
The rogue storm path of Hurricane Hilary put a scare into wine grape growers in California. Had heavy rains such as those that fell in San Diego and Los Angeles moved further west, they would have damaged grapes on the vine, making it difficult to work in the fields, and causing mold and rot, as happened to the 2013 vintage in Bordeaux. After the storm turned to the east, vineyards in the coastal areas north of Los Angeles escaped damage to their impending wine grape harvests.

Growers in many of the major wine regions in California had already expected that cooler than normal temperatures during the summer would delay harvesting by a few weeks. A typical harvest season begins around Labor Day in some regions and continues through October in others. During the days leading up to harvesting of the grapes, winemakers keep a close eye on the weather. They check various plots of grapes frequently. They try to keep work crews standing by to begin the harvest when the optimal time arrives.

California has vineyards distributed across a wide area, with many different microclimates, and terrain that differs+ in elevation, slope, and soil composition. Each wine region has its own harvest season challenges. While the state has more than its share of catastrophic local events, a catastrophe in one region rarely spills over into many of the other regions. Recent local calamities include scorching temperatures, lingering droughts, landslides, floods, and smoke from wildfires. Despite these nuisances, most California wine regions produce wines of consistent quality year after year. In California wines, vintage matters primarily because it tells us the number of years from harvest to the present time. Wines made for aging in the barrel or bottle, usually red wines, may improve in the bottle for years after their vintage years.

We may think that wine experts are forecasting quality of wines based on weather events in the region because other variables such as terrain remain constant. That would be closer to the truth in forecasting of grain harvests than wine. While climate does have an impact on wine quality in areas, especially in Europe where the climate varies greatly from year to year, the more important forecast may turn out to be the year when the bottle will be ready to drink. This critical forecast depends on the wine varietal and the skills of the winemaker. Aging wines of weaker quality should be drunk closer to their vintage year. The great vintages could continue to improve in the bottle for forty years or more.

The most general rule having to do with how long to hold a wine would be to drink it now if you wish or hold it for a month or two. Relatively few wines improve with age in the bottle, yet most wines will keep a year or two. Also, hold red wines longer than white wines or Rosé The United Kingdom wine merchants Berry Bros and Rudd have French vintage and World vintage charts showing which varietal vintages to hold, hold or drink, and drink in the current



year: <https://www.bbr.com/vintages>. Wine writer Jancis Robinson provides brief summaries of climate and other factors affecting wine quality by region: <https://www.jancisrobinson.com/learn/vintages>. Napa Valley Vintners displays climate details by month for the Napa Valley: [https://napavintners.com/napa\\_valley/vintage\\_charts.asp](https://napavintners.com/napa_valley/vintage_charts.asp).

Forecasting by weather in a wine region fails to consider a crucial variable: a winemaker who gives priority to quality will thin grape clusters during favorable growing conditions and select clusters during times of poor growing conditions will make good wine consistently, no matter the weather. A great winemaker resists the temptation to increase the yield of a vineyard when doing that might affect the quality of a vintage wine.

All in all, the best way to evaluate a wine is to taste it. The 2019 Alexander Valley Vineyards Cabernet Sauvignon (\$19) from the Alexander Valley of California, next door to Sonoma and Napa counties, answers the question of what Cab to drink at dinner. The usual pairings of Cab with red meat and pungent cheeses makes a simple meal a dining experience.

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


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

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# KeyObit

## Terrie Smith DuCray passes

Terrie Smith DuCray, a longtime resident of Longboat Key, Florida, died on Sunday, March 12 after a debilitating illness.

Terrie was born in York, PA, daughter of Reynold and Josephine Smith, founders of the York Tape and Label Company.

Terrie graduated from York College (York, Pa) in 1976 with a BS degree in Psychology. After graduating from college, she started her career in banking. Her mother encouraged her and thought Terrie would eventually be a bank president. Terrie left her career in banking as Assistant Treasurer but did become a president but in her other pursuits.

From bank management, Terrie moved to the insurance business where she became a property and casualty insurance

agent. She enjoyed meeting people in all walks of life but particularly enjoyed meeting entrepreneurs.

In fact, it inspired her to start her own businesses. Terrie, who had always been a "fashionista," became the owner and operator of her own boutique, L'esperance. Terrie would say about naming her boutique that she didn't study enough French. She thought L'esperance meant "the experience," but instead it meant "the hope." And that was her behind-the-scenes little joke.

Terrie was very good at finding the "funny" in just about everything. She excelled at making people laugh. If you ever



sat next to her class, you knew you were going to laugh... usually at inappropriate times, which only made you laugh harder.

In Longboat Key, she became President of Bay Isle Bayou HOA as well as President of own musical entertainment agency which got her in all the nightclubs around Sarasota. But the late night hours weren't compatible with her other pursuits. She liked to swim, run and bike. And she excelled at it all. Terrie participated on several boards in Longboat Key and in York, Pa. She was a recipient of the Spartan Award from her alma mater, York College.

Terrie was a creative, accomplished woman of many talents, but style, her sense of fun, her generosity, and her great laugh was a colorful presence in the lives of many.

Terrie leaves behind her sister, Dr. Melody Smith of Boca Roton and many dear friends. Terrie was an avid, enthusiastic supporter of scholarships for York College students for many years. Those wishing to make a donation should send it to York College, Reynold B Smith Scholarship Fund.

## Grouper, from page 1

through innovative science and technology to help navigate the challenges of ensuring oceans thrive for generations to come," said Mote President and CEO Dr. Michael P. Crosby. "The results of this particular study by Dr. Locascio and his colleagues will provide valuable insights into Goliath grouper population dynamics as the State of Florida reopened a limited harvest on the species after a 32-year moratorium."

Given the data collected at multiple spawning sites in 2013 to monitor population changes, the species was showing signs of recovery. However, as part of his National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) funded study, Locascio found significantly lower numbers of the Goliath grouper at most of the same historical spawning sites where previous population estimates were made. "Due to the moratorium on commercial harvest of the species there is not yet enough data to estimate future stock-recruitment or stock assessment of this species. It is our job now to provide reliable data on Atlantic Goliath grouper abundance, which are used as a prerequisite to informed management decisions," said Dr. Locascio.

His study methods "tags" and releases a sample of the species in a way that does not affect its survival. It is an effective and reliable method that allows researchers to tag the species without catching the fish by hook-and-line and raising it out of the water, and so causes minimal disruption.

In addition to the original spawning aggregation sites off Jupiter, Florida, three additional sites off the coast of Sarasota have been identified by Locascio as spawning sites. Mote is now seeking support to use these sites to create a long-term monitoring program to track changes in the species' abundance as is done for other iconic species. This is especially relevant as this species faces new regulations, lethal red tide events and an uncertain future after 32 years of no-harvest protection.

# KeyCrossword

## ACROSS

- 1. Awesome
- 5. Hard on the lungs
- 10. Quickly, quickly
- 14. Velvet Underground vocalist
- 15. Snake feeder
- 16. Actress Pinkett Smith
- 17. The yoke's on them
- 18. They take seven digits
- 20. Put aside
- 22. Made merry
- 23. Popular droid
- 24. Houston sch.
- 25. Prior's prior
- 26. Gray area?
- 28. Postal letters
- 30. They may hold counter demonstrations
- 38. Waffler's words
- 39. One who may keep you on your toes
- 40. Became a member
- 41. Sushi center?
- 42. Julia's Oscar-winning (2001) role
- 43. One of fifteen states that ceased to exist on January 1, 1992: Abbr.
- 45. No milquetoasts, they
- 49. Water nymph
- 53. Instrument in a Picasso painting
- 55. High-ranking NCO
- 56. Curios
- 58. They have their pluses and minuses
- 59. "The Birth of a Nation" group
- 60. Helena rival
- 61. French wave
- 62. Sources of taxol

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56								57			58			
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62					63						64			

- 63. What inspired Watt
- 64. Its eye is needed in a "Macbeth" recipe
- 12. Psychiatrist Alfred who coined the term "inferiority complex"
- 13. \_\_\_ quatre
- 19. Judgment, of a sort
- 21. Additional dose
- 24. Smooth over
- 27. Ellington contemporary
- 29. Pull
- 30. One of six for a hexagon
- 31. Bang on \_\_\_ (NYC music festival)
- 32. Popeye feature
- 33. GPS part: Abbr.
- 34. Logician's statement
- 35. Having more smarts?
- 36. Sulky event
- 37. Sun. deliveries
- 43. Hard on the lungs
- 44. Fine fur
- 46. "Someone \_\_\_ America" (1996 film)
- 47. Central spot
- 48. Matrilineal
- 50. "The Who" song of 1973
- 51. Dads' rival
- 52. Rave part, perhaps
- 54. Remote locations?
- 55. Flower holder
- 57. Mens \_\_\_

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