



FREE

*Watercraft gone  
from LBK home  
...page 10*



# Mote talks deployment of red tide mitigation

Mote Marine Laboratory & Aquarium recently invited researchers from around the world to discuss mitigation tools and technologies for the harmful algal bloom (HAB) that affects many communities across the state – Florida red tide – as part of its Florida Red Tide Mitigation & Technology Development Initiative.

Mote hosted the workshop where Florida red tide mitigation scientists, engineers, and government agencies, gathered to review the current research being developed, discuss options for deployment technologies, understand the regulatory steps and agencies involved, and plan for intellectual property and commercialization issues that may arise.

Red tides are caused by higher-than-normal concentrations of *Karenia brevis* (microscopic algae native to the Gulf of Mexico), often discoloring the water in the ocean and coastal waters of southwest Florida. *K. brevis* produces toxins that can harm sea life, lead to massive fish kills, and cause respiratory irritation in people. Florida red tides can also have detrimental effects on shellfish, fishing and tourism industries.

The Florida Red Tide Mitigation & Technology Development Initiative, a partnership between Mote and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), was established by the Florida Legislature and signed by Governor DeSantis in 2019 to establish an independent and coordinated effort among public and private research entities to develop prevention, control and mitigation technologies that will decrease the impacts of Florida red tide on the environment, economy and quality of life in Florida.

Through the Initiative, Mote developed a multi-tiered process to safely develop and test mitigation tools and technologies taking proposals from literature research or lab-based work, to incrementally larger tank-based research testing to ensure no harm to non-target species of fish, crustacean and other invertebrates, to eventual field testing, all while considering regulatory compliance and numerous commercialization challenges for actual use.

“The goal of the most recent Workshop was to assist the commercialization phase of the Florida Red Tide Mitigation and Technology Development Initiative,” said Kevin Claridge, Mote’s Vice President of Sponsored Research and Coastal Policy Programs. “Mote and its many partners have been working steadfastly on the science and testing to provide mitigation tools and technologies, and through the Initiative’s parallel work on commercialization it’s been evident how important the federal and state regulatory considerations are, including designated protected area restrictions, and that close collaboration with the local governments and communities are vital to the process.”

Since the inception of the Initiative, Mote has examined well over 300 compounds and devices and more than 30 projects have been completed or are underway, and researchers have continued to share their effective methods on HAB mitigation through various meetings and workshops.

In its fifth year, the Initiative has seen significant progress on the development of Florida red tide mitigation tools and technologies for field testing and implementation, thus the next step is working to understand the effectiveness of these research products in deployment.

“The big takeaway from this workshop, hearing updates on current projects, regulations, patenting, and deployment technologies, is that the Initiative is producing real-world tools and technologies that have major potential in combating the effects of red tide,” said Claridge.

At Mote’s Red Tide Institute, scientists have been working to establish mitigation solutions since its beginning in 2018 with the following mission: Reducing adverse impacts of Florida red tide on public health, coastal marine ecosystems and Florida’s economy via the rigorous testing and application of a “tool box” of science-based mitigation and control technologies and strategies.

With its emphasis on direct mitigation and control, the Institute complements multiple other Mote research programs focused on red tide ecology, biology, nutrients and water quality, ecotoxicology, ocean sensing technology, environmental health and public information, and more. Mote red tide scientists collaborate within a vast network of red tide local, state, regional and federal research partners whose specialties include red tide monitoring, management, physical oceanography, public health protection, forecasting and other complementary efforts.

## Market cost, from page 1

The study measured average yearly personal income against common living expenses, assigning each city a corresponding index score to determine where it fell on the list. Sarasota received a score of 47.39 based on its annual income average of almost \$70,000 and the cost of housing, utilities and transportation as well as the price of common purchases like a movie ticket, a new car, and a pack of cigarettes.

Hollywood, with an average per capita income of \$73,500, ranked as the cheapest city in Florida, posting an index score of 61.29. It was followed by Fort Myers, Boca Raton, Bradenton and Melbourne.

Though the 29 cities in the study were ranked from cheapest to most expensive, the frontrunners don’t necessarily post the lowest numerical cost of living — just as the back end doesn’t have the highest. Hollywood’s cost of living, for example, is 12% higher than the national average, while Gainesville — the list’s second-most expensive city — has only a 2% higher cost of living than the national average.

Numbeo, a cost-of-living database used in the Florida Rentals study, calculated the monthly cost of living for a Sarasota resident at almost \$1,200 without rent. The average rent price across all properties citywide is \$2,900, according to data from Zillow. Overall, data from Payscale puts Sarasota’s cost of living 5% higher than the national average.

## Lido home, from page 1

Spanning more than 5,700 square feet, the home has an open-concept living area with floor-to-ceiling sliding doors and ocean views; a chef’s kitchen with a walk-in pantry; a temperature-controlled wine room; a commercial-grade elevator; and a primary bedroom suite with a sitting and lounge area and a balcony, according to the listing.

Outside, there’s a custom kitchen on the lanai, a Gulf-front swimming pool with a surrounding deck with plenty of entertaining space, and a six-car garage.

The seller, a limited liability company, paid \$3.4 million for the underlying property in 2021, records with PropertyShark show. The buyer couldn’t be reached for comment.



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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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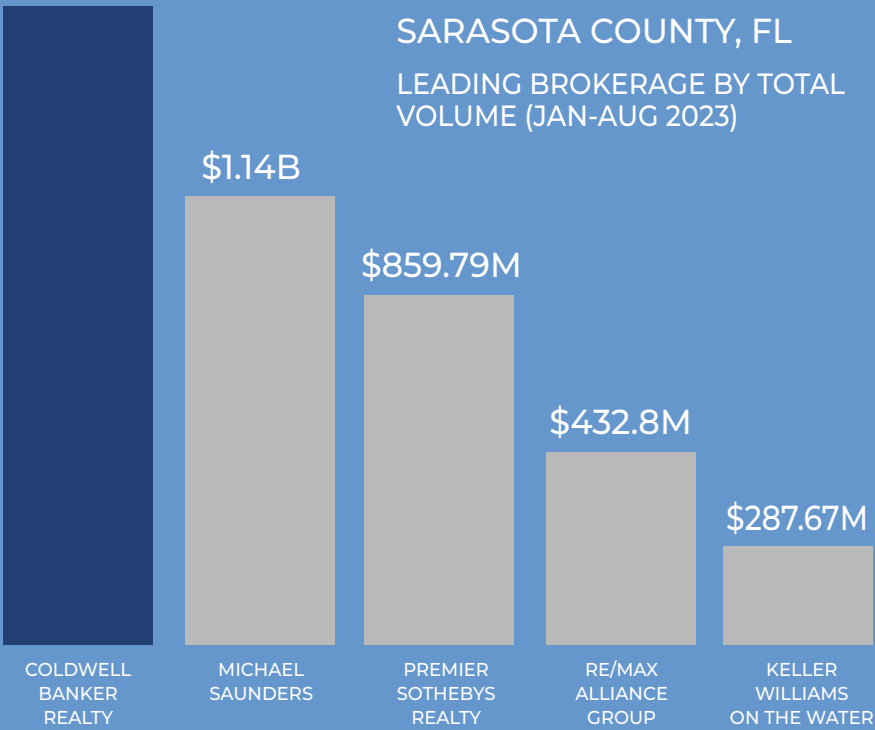


**SIESTA KEY • HIGEL AVE.** **\$16,995,000**  
Currently under construction and scheduled to be ready Fall 2023, this breathtaking 8,964 AC/SF residence is one of a kind, designed by DSDG. Gulf front property on one acre and offers a 2,000 SF roof terrace. Separate guest house and 8-car garage. No expense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

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**1211 GULF OF MEXICO DR., #601 | LONGBOAT KEY**

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



**5910 GULF OF MEXICO DRIVE | LONGBOAT KEY**

Under Construction. This spectacular, 4,210 sq. ft., newly built 4BR/4.5BA, coastal contemporary waterfront home provides easy access to the Intracoastal Waterway, Sarasota Bay and Gulf of Mexico. Located on a three-quarter acre lot with 133 feet of frontage on a 125-foot-wide canal.



**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

Police Data

To: Longboat Key Commissioner Mike Haycock  
Yes, I'm sure he'd be happy to answer any questions and provide a little more context.  
Let me check the schedules but we'll either do this at the 9/26 meeting or on 10/2.  
Howard N. Tipton  
Town Manager  
Town of Longboat Key

Police Data

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton  
The year over year comparisons need some context. More crime, more enforcement, measurement difference? Can we have Chief Turner review at next meeting?  
Mike Haycock  
Commissioner  
Town of Longboat Key

Police Data

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton, Police Chief George Turner

Would it be possible to see a year over comparison of the quarterly stats summarized in the first table in this accident report?  
Debra Williams  
Commissioner  
Town of Longboat Key

Police Data

To: Longboat Key Commissioner Debra Williams  
Please see attached Quarterly Report Comparison, FY22 to FY23.  
George Turner  
Police Chief  
Town of Longboat Key

Police Data

To: Longboat Key Police Chief George Turner  
Any explanation for the dramatic increase in YOY arrests?  
Ken Schneier  
Mayor  
Town of Longboat Key

Police Data

To: Longboat Key Mayor Ken Schneier  
The increase in both Felony and Misdemeanor arrests are a direct result of our high visibility Patrol Program, and

increased traffic enforcement.  
Some consideration can also be attributed to manpower availability and shift coverages during certain quarters. Total Calls for Service are consistent. Increases in arrests, tickets and warnings are the result of proactive policing.  
George Turner  
Police Chief  
Town of Longboat Key

911

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton  
In reading the very helpful LWV summary of Tuesday's Manatee BOCC meeting, I noticed that Heather Hedgecock, Public Safety/911 Emergency Communications Manager, was acknowledged as County employee of the month for August. Maybe we should explore moving our 911 to Manatee as one part of our investigation into solutions for the problems with Sarasota. This could include a discussion at next week's BIEOM of the quality of 911 service experienced by the Anna Maria municipalities.  
Ken Schneier  
Mayor  
Town of Longboat Key

From the League of Women Voters Manatee County

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton  
Just in case you missed this item, the League of Women Voters of Manatee County released a report on Manatee County's Sept. 12 meeting. It appears that Mr. Charlie Bishop will become the permanent County Administrator.  
#59. Discussion of Finalists for County Administrator  
Manatee County conducted a nationwide search for a new County Administrator and the previous meeting narrowed the field to Andrew Butterfield and then added the current Deputy Administrator, Charlie Bishop as a finalist in the last regular meeting, over the objections of Kruse. Kruse stated that the direction of the board, and supported by citizens, was for someone outside of the county with fresh ideas. The other Commissioners stated that they liked Butterfield and would consider him for an alternate position, but that they thought Bishop was a better fit. Moved to appoint Bishop County Administrator passed 6-1 Kruse voting no.  
Penny Gold  
Commissioner  
Town of Longboat Key

Possible topic for our Manatee County meeting

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton  
I am curious if the Manatee water treatment plant is addressing this serious health issue, and/or if are there plans to do so. Would this be an appropriate agenda item for our Oct. 31st meeting?  
Indiana  
Microplastic report highlights need for new technologies and reduction in fast fashion  
Noe Padilla  
Lafayette Journal & Courier  
A report presented to West Lafayette leaders this week depicted what tiny, harmful manmade items can be found in

See Letters, page 7

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# EditorLetters



## Letters, from page 6

our water and offered suggestions for removal.

After several months of research, the West Lafayette Go Greener Commission presented its report on microplastic pollution in relation to wastewater treatment in the City of West Lafayette to the city council on Monday.

Error! Filename not specified.

The report was requested by the West Lafayette City Council back in June in hopes of gaining a deeper understanding of how microplastics affect the water within the Greater Lafayette area. The report would also address methods for removing microplastics.

What are microplastics?

Microplastics are tiny plastic particles that result from both commercial product development and the breakdown of larger plastics over time. The microplastics, according to the research presented, can act as carriers of other environmental toxins, such as polystyrene.

Exposure to high concentrations of polystyrene can affect human lung cells and increase the risk of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, according to the National Library of Medicine.

Halee Griffey, West Lafayette Climate Resiliency and Sustainability officer, shared her findings of the report with the West Lafayette City Council.

“The current literature does reveal however microplastics are a threat to the environment and human health. And in the context of wastewater contamination are found in both wastewater and in the biosolids known as “sewage sludge” resulting from the water treatment process,” said Griffey, also a member of the West Lafayette Go Greener Commission.

“Studies have shown that wastewater treatment plants across the world are currently capable of mitigating microplastic contamination to some extent, with some studies urging that they can reduce microplastic contamination by about 90 percent in primary and secondary treatment systems and some can even reduce microplastic contamination in pretreatment systems.”

Recommendations for removing microplastics from our water:

Ultimately, Griffey offered two significant recommendations to the West Lafayette City Council on how to address the issue of microplastics; first by investing in newer wastewater technologies that can address microplastics; and second, by educating local residents on the impact microplastics can have on one’s health and how individuals can reduce their effect of producing microplastics by altering certain daily habits.

Penny Gold

Commissioner  
Town of Longboat Key

## Street and light

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton

Tip several months ago we had a water leak under Ketch Lane, and it still has a trench in the dirt across the street, also the new street lights are out on the entire street.

Gary Coffin  
Commissioner  
Town of Longboat Key

## Street and light

To: Longboat Key Commissioner Gary Coffin

Howard and Susan forwarded me your email below. Yes, you are correct; the pavement repair is taking way too long. Our go-to asphalt repair vendor has recently been non-responsive, so we are going to look into other options. We have some personnel out this week, but when they return next week, we should be able to get a vendor and a timeline that we can forward to you. Also, Guy Matricciani on our team will be inspecting the streetlight issue tomorrow to see what we need to do there.

Isaac Brownman  
Director Public Works  
Town of Longboat Key

See Letters, page 11

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171 WHITTIER DR

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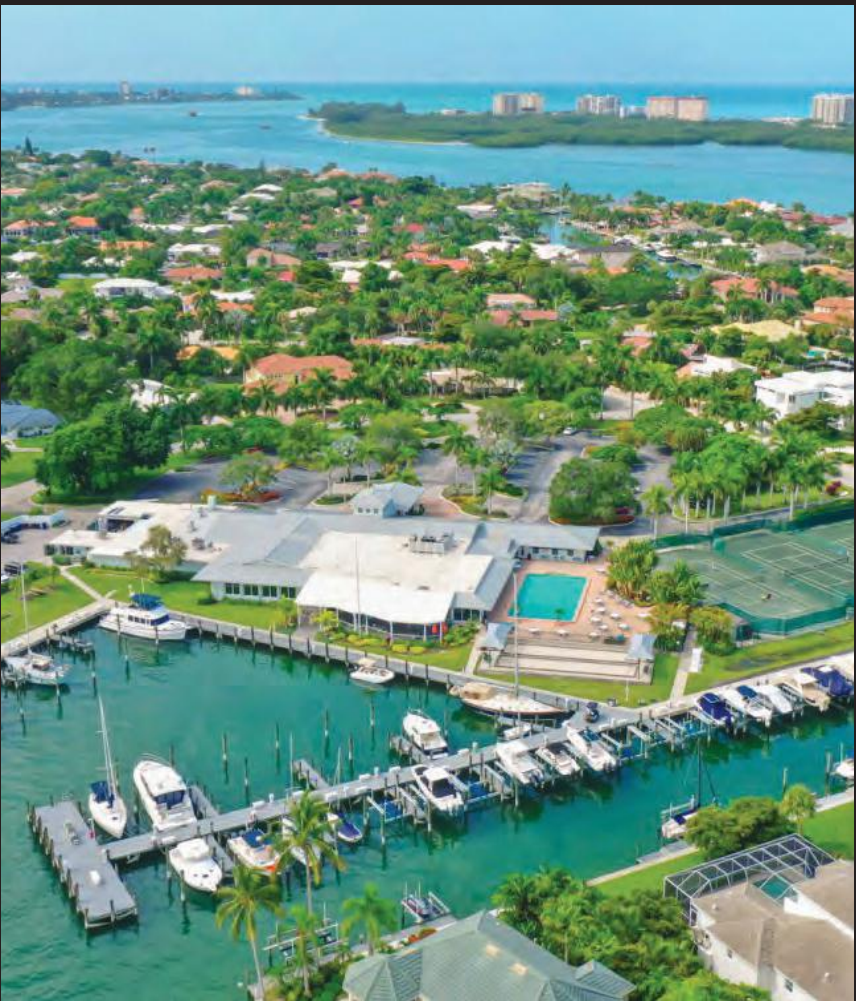
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# OnPatrol

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

## Sept. 8 Lost property

11:04 a.m.  
Officer Zunz was at the police department front desk when a resident called to report two of her watercraft possessions were missing from her property as a result of the hurricane last Wednesday. Officer Zunz then advised that police do not take reports over the phone, but made an exception as the resident was out of the area. The missing items include a blue two seater kayak that's believed to be an Ovation brand as well as a white paddleboard with manufacturer unknown. The caller stated that the entire property had been checked with negative results, though she opted to file a report. Case clear.



escorted the boat back to the Coquina Boat Ramp to retrieve the paperwork. While dockside, Officer Connors conducted a safety check of the boat in which the owner/operator was unable to produce the required safety equipment, personal floatation devices for the three occupants, type IV throwable and flares which were expired and missing the correct amount. Officer Connors issued the owner/operator citations. Case clear.

## Sept. 9 Citizen assist

8:49 a.m.  
Officer Miklos was dispatched to the 4400 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive in reference to a disabled vehicle. Upon arrival, Officer Miklos came into contact with the complainant who advised she needed to get a tow truck for her street legal dune buggy. The complainant advised an unknown woman from the condominium advised her she could not get a tow truck int eh parking lot due to the pavers. The complainant requested that Officer Miklos follow her to her residence. The complainant arrived safely back at her residence. Case clear.

## Traffic citation

8:51 p.m.  
Officer Ferrigine responded to the 3000 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive and observed a blue Honda without license plate lights traveling southbound. Officer Ferrigine conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle and made contact with the driver who presented a passport from Brazil. The driver was issued a notice to appear for no driver's license. The driver was advised to park the vehicle. Case clear.

## Flooding

10:03 p.m.  
Officer Nazareno responded to the 4800 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive for a citizen assist call regarding flooding in the location. Upon arrival, Officer Nazareno observed heavy water flow from the stand pipe fire suppression system of the building and immediately requested for Longboat Key Fire Department to respond. Firefighters turned off the fire suppression system upon arrival and checked the area. Officer Nazareno was released from the scene by the Fire Department supervisor. Case clear.

## Sept. 11 Traffic citation

11:58 a.m.  
Officer Martinson while on patrol monitoring traffic, observed a black Chevrolet Spark traveling northbound on Gulf of Mexico Drive and had a solid red light fail to come to a complete stop before making a right hand turn on red onto Bay Isles Parkway. Officer Martinson conducted a traffic stop in the parking lot of Publix. Officer Martinson made contact with the driver and explained to her why she had been pulled over. The driver stated she did not realize she had not come to a complete stop for the red light before making a right hand turn on red. The driver was given a citation. Case clear.

## Boating citation

2:00 p.m.  
Officer Connors while on marine patrol in the area of Longboat Pass, observed a boat operating with no registration numbers nor registration sticker. Officer Connors requested the owner/operators registration paperwork in which he was unable to produce. Officer Connors

## Sept. 12 Traffic hazard

1:34 a.m.  
Sgt. Montfort while on patrol, observed a vehicle in a ditch at the intersection of Gulf of Mexico Drive and Triton Bend. Sgt. Montfort then observed a man laying on the trunk of the car appearing unresponsive. Sgt. Montfort made contact with the man who said he was lost and attempted to turn around, missing the turn. The man further stated he was extremely tired after arriving from a flight from Jackson Hole, Wyoming. The man did not exhibit any signs of intoxication and requested a winch out of the ditch. Sgt. Montfort observed minor damage to the front bumper lip of the vehicle. The man observed minor damage to the front of the vehicle. The man declined having an accident report completed. Sgt. Montfort then requested the next available tow truck to be dispatched to the scene. The towing company was dispatched and arrived on scene to remove the vehicle. Officer Ferrigine and Sgt. Montfort stopped traffic so the tow operator could get the vehicle out. Once the vehicle was removed, Officers returned to service. Case clear.

## Traffic hazard

12:40 p.m.  
Officer Connors while on patrol, observed a vehicle that was disabled, partially in the roadway, obstructing the bike lane. Officer Connors spoke to the owner who advised that he had a tow truck en route and should be arriving shortly. Due to the tow being delayed, the vehicle was pushed off the roadway. Officer Connors assisted the owner with a ride to his residence. Case clear.

## Sept. 14 Noise complaints

2:20 p.m.  
Officer Miklos and Officer Martinson were dispatched to the 4800 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive in reference to a noise complaint about a boat with loud music near the beach. The caller did not want to meet with police. Upon arrival, Officer Martinson could hear music off in the distance and located the boat near the beach access entrance. Officer Martinson spoke to the man playing music and advised him of the noise complaint. The man was fully cooperative and advised he would turn the music down. The music was turned down and officers left without further incident. Case cleared.

## Sept. 15 Fire

8:34 a.m.  
Officer Swinford was dispatched to Lyons Lane in reference to smoke coming from the garage at a residence. Officer Swinford arrived on scene after Longboat Key Fire Rescue and stood by as they assessed the situation. Smoke was observed coming from the residence. Shortly after Longboat Key Fire arrived on scene, the fire was put out in the garage. Case clear.

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# Editor Letters

## Letters, from page 7 Street and light

To: Longboat Key Public Works Director Isaac Brownman  
Thank you Isaac for your quick response no rush I just wanted to bring it to your attention.  
Gary Coffin  
Commissioner  
Town of Longboat Key

## Triton Property

To: Longboat Key Building Official Patti Fige  
From Commissioner Bishop and is regarding a property at the corner of Triton and GMD that backs up to the houses on Buttonwood. This property, she referred to it as Ben Price's property although she also said he doesn't own it anymore, may be in the early stages of development.  
The problem that occurred during Idalia was that the dirt from that property apparently went into the backyards and pools of several houses on Buttonwood (maybe 600 and 602 Buttonwood). The silt fence that was supposed to have stopped or greatly reduced the material leaving the site apparently failed badly. I assume that the elevation of the new construction is probably higher than the older homes on Buttonwood and that may have also contributed to the problems.  
Would you please have someone check on this and if the silt fence broke or isn't working, let's see that it gets back to proper working order. If there are other drainage improvements, like a swale to retain water coming off of the higher property, let's be sure that what ever the plans call for is being implemented in a timely manner.  
Thanks very much for your help with this.  
Howard N. Tipton  
Town Manager  
Town of Longboat Key

## Triton Property

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton  
Inspectors provided the following information:  
"The property is being prepared for a new construction single family residence and has a building permit issued - Permit #PB23-0053 – the address is 3100 Gulf of Mexico Drive. Doug and I visited the site and found the silt fence upright and trenched in compliance. We saw no large amounts of dirt outside the fencing at this time The new site is being built up to be elevated higher than neighboring properties, but there are existing swales at the perimeter of the site. I have reached out to the contractor to make them aware of the previous issue and they assured me they would be watching the site closely."

Let me know if you would like us to do anything further. We will continue to monitor this site.  
Patti Fige  
Building Official  
Town of Longboat Key

## Triton Property

To: Longboat Key Commissioner BJ Bishop  
Below is the report from Patti on that construction site after the storm. By copy of this email, I'm asking Patti to reach out to the neighbors next to the property to see if there still is (or if they have pictures of) the dirt coming off of the construction site into their pools/yards. If the site was properly maintained as indicated and there were still impacts to neighboring properties, we will need to review the requirements to see if they're adequate.  
Howard N. Tipton  
Town Manager  
Town of Longboat Key

## Canal Navigability Ordinance

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton  
Since July 10, 2023, a large boat was improperly moored that is not even the owner of record/homeowner's vessel. There has been much activity on the boat with people living there, leaving lights on going into the unoccupied home that the current residents are not living in. They are about to list and sell their property again and it may imply to the new home buyer that this is evidently assumed it is allowed and what if the new buyer has an even bigger vessel to improperly moor there? We really need your help in resolving this issue immediately please!  
I believe there's many violations here with a 30-day minimum rental rule on the island as well as since two years ago we have been trying to have the town address the serious void in our public owned canals.  
I implore you to have the ordinance adopted and immediately enforced being the current owners of record, are preparing to list the property to sell, and we certainly don't want any incorrect conveyance of the property as though the new homeowner has the right to create a marina out of there a 30 percent permitted dock area in country club, Shores, or anywhere in Longboat Key  
I look forward to being first on the docket September 11 at 1 p.m. so we can address this issue and finally get some resolution to prevent further flagrant behavior that will create a nuisance for all residents living here on the canals.  
I appreciate all of your support and help in this oversight with our neutral, navigational waters and all of our publicly owned canals in Longboat Key. I know that you all have our

See Letters, page 12

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# Editor Letters



**Letters, from page 11**

interests at heart & hope that everything will be officially concluded after Mondays meeting on Sept. 11. Thank you very much for your time and your efforts.

Kathy Callahan  
President -Country Club Shores I & II  
Longboat Key

**Canal Navigability Ordinance**

To: Kathy Callahan  
Your email was forwarded to me. Thanks for letting us know about these issues. I'm aware that the Police Dept. investigated the navigability complaint back in July and that Chief Turner followed up with you to advise of the Officer's determination that the moored vessel did not prohibit navigability of the Marine Unit's largest vessel.  
We will also be especially on the lookout for evidence of vacation rentals in violation of the minimum 1-month stay. The Town utilizes a service that crawls through online listings of multiple vacation rental services. If you, or your neighbors, are aware of any of specific instances where a short-term rental may be taking place, please reach out to our Code Enforcement Officers at 941-316-1966 Ext. 2520, or via email at codeenforcement@longboatkey.org.  
With regard to the Canal Navigability ordinance, the Town Commission provided direction to staff, as a next step, to bring forward an ordinance to the Planning & Zoning Board. We are targeting the P&Z Board's October 17th Regular Meeting for a public hearing on a draft ordinance. Following that, the ordinance will be brought to the Town Commission for 2 public hearings.  
If you have any follow-up questions, etc. please don't hesitate to reach out to me directly. My contact info is below.  
Allen Parsons  
Director Planning, Zoning & Building Department  
Town of Longboat Key

**Canal Navigability Ordinance**

To: Kathy Callahan  
Following-up on the Town Manager's feedback at the beginning of the Town Commission meeting yesterday. I'm attaching the report that was included as background for the Town Commission's discussion on this topic back in February. On page 3 of the staff report is a draft of the language that will be considered in a public hearing; first with the P&Z Board and then with the Town Commission.  
Allen Parsons  
Planning, Zoning and Building Director  
Town of Longboat Key

**Radioactive Roads Sign-On Opportunity to EPA**

To: Longboat Key Commission  
My name is Emma Haydocy, I'm reaching out on behalf of Surfrider Foundation and constituents in our Suncoast Chapter to ask for your support to join state and local elected officials from across the state in a letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency urging them to deny an application from Mosaic to use phosphogypsum in a pilot road study in Florida, and to oppose the use of phosphogypsum.  
We need your voice to protect public and environmental health in Florida.  
The letter to the EPA will be a major showing of elected officials from Florida who do not want radioactive waste in their roads and communities.  
As leaders in the Sunshine State, you understand how important it is to protect the health of our communities and integrity of our waterways. The approval of the Mosaic application could ultimately lead to widespread use of the toxic and carcinogenic substance in road construction throughout the state. The impacts to Longboat Key's vibrant community and prized waters would be devastating.  
We must ensure the EPA hears from state and local elected officials in Florida to let them know that despite the passage of HB1191 in the state legislature this year, Floridians do not want to be unduly exposed to radioactive material on their morning commute.  
The voice of Longboat Key is essential – please review the letter and sign here. Feel free to share widely within your network. The deadline to sign is September 15, 2023.  
Emma Haydocy  
Florida Policy Manager  
Surfrider Foundation

**Millage rate**

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton  
Tip can you ask staff to run the difference between the proposed 1985 rate against the 1999 rate currently in effect, and ask them to compare those \$ numbers with home values of 1mil, 2mil, and 3 mil? Also, for homesteaded and non-homesteaded residents. Any time prior to our next meeting is fine.  
Gary Coffin  
Commissioner  
Town of Longboat Key

**Millage rate**

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton  
Tip can you ask Sandi to run the numbers with your new millage proposal rates?  
Gary Coffin  
Commissioner  
Town of Longboat Key

**Whitney Plaza/Manatee County**

To: Longboat Key Commissioner Maureen Merrigan  
Heard from Manatee County Interim Administrator Charlie Bishop on Saturday that he's directed his team to draft the interlocal with the School Board regarding leased space at Whitney Plaza and to "get this over the finish line". This the first definitive direction on this subject from the County Administrator's Office that I have seen and it is a critical moment for this project. I have shared my gratitude with Mr. Bishop for mobilizing his team (the right people are involved) to get this moving forward as a follow up to the County Commission direction that authorized staff to negotiate with the School Board on the interlocal agreement.  
I know that Mr. Porter, owner of Whitney Plaza, has been very patient in this process and the County's movement should include finalizing a lease agreement (along with the interlocal agreement). All of this still must be approved by both the County Commission and School Board.  
Lastly, the County Commission is expected to make a decision on a permanent County Administrator at their September 12th meeting.  
Howard N. Tipton  
Town Manager  
Town of Longboat Key

**A/C Issue in Chambers**

To: Longboat Key Commission  
First meeting back and of course the A/C unit that serves the Chamber is acting up this morning. We have put in a service request to our vendor but at this time don't know if they will have success in addressing it prior to the start of the meeting at 1:00 pm.  
While the rest of the building units are working and will keep the other areas cool, we are looking at some fan options. I'm sharing this with you as you may want to wear something cooler in the event it is not fixed (and bring a sweater or jacket in case it is fixed and it becomes too cool for your comfort).  
Howard N. Tipton  
Town Manager  
Town of Longboat Key

**Signs**

To: Longboat Key Town Manager Howard Tipton  
In the water just north of Land's End, there used to be a "Slow No Wake" sign... similar to the one next to Shore restaurant. Fairly recently, perhaps in the storm, the sign disappeared... just an empty post now. As a result, we've had an increase in boats cruising past at high speed making lots of wake which is undercutting our seawall, not to manage posing a hazard to anchored boaters, kayakers, etc. Since these are Town waters, can you please arrange for the Town to replace the Slow No Wake sign? Since it was there before, I'm hopeful this can be done without State involvement.  
Also, could the Town please post some large signs at the end of our Dock saying "Loud  
**See Letters, page 14**

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# WineTimes

## The meaning of wine ratings

*The summaries of ratings of volunteer reviewers on the web prove more reliable than the ratings of any individual reviewer and closely correlated with the ratings of wine experts.*

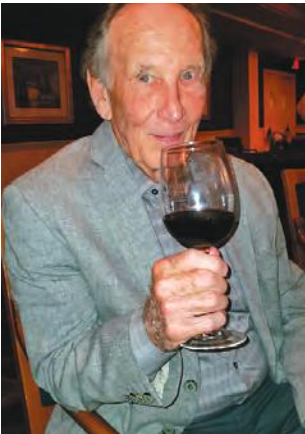
**S.W. and Rich Hermansen**  
**Guest Writers**  
**wine@lbknews.com**

Anyone shopping for wine in a wine shop, beverage store, or supermarket notices the expert wine reviewer points and other ad copy on shelves. Retailers decorate shelves and bottles with adtags, shelf talkers/barkers, and bottle neckers. These marketing devices have become an industry in their own right.

The wine shelf ads with points, such as 90 RP or 92 JS, attract many buyers. In a wine bar or at a dinner party, we hear about a 90+ point wine. What does this mean?

It means that a wine reviewer working independently or for a print or web publication has assigned a numeric grade to a wine. The 100 point scale popularized by RP (Robert Parker) has a barely passing grade of around 70 and an rarely used ultimate grade of 100. Wine buyers tend now to prefer wines with 90+ points and may only buy those wines. Similar to grade inflation in colleges beginning during the 1970's, wine reviewers have let points creep up to 85 points at the lower range of an acceptable wine and 90+ point ratings for far too many ordinary wines. When looking at ads on shelves that have a wine rating of 90+ points, bear in mind that it takes only one reviewer to boost a wine rating into this favored range. Some wine reviewers give more weight to a low price, while others prefer wines from certain varietals or regions. Wine ratings of 90+ by several trusted reviewers inspire greater confidence.

Wine reviews have become a business model for RP, JS (James Suckling), JD (Jeff Dunham), and others. Some have paid subscription services, much like on-line magazines, and employ reviewers who cover specific wine regions. In addition to price and region, other factors influence ratings or wines. A recent vintage of a wine may have a higher or lower rating than a older vintage. A 2022 vintage of the Cline Ancient Vines Zinfandel from Contra Costa in California (\$19) has a rating of around 90 points, while the 2022 vintage of the same wine has a slightly lower rating. While it would make sense to rate a wine from a recent vintage lower, in that will need years of aging before it's ready to drink, than an older vintage that has reached peak aging, but that does not seem to be the case. True, the ratings of an exceptional vintage will be higher than the ratings of a more recent vintage considered less than exceptional, yet ratings do not appear to take into account the costs and uncertainties entailed in holding a wine for several more years. Perhaps speculators who plan to hold wine expect to see price increases in the future. For them, wine ready to drink now has no special value.



Comparisons of ratings of a wine by different reviewers seem reassuring. Vivino, a wine seller on the web and creator of a very large if not the largest database wines, has summarized wine reviews by well known reviewers who assign points to wines on a 0-100 scale. The correlation of ratings by wine reviewers suggests uniform standards for rating wines. The summaries for one-point intervals show closely correlated numeric ratings. Vivino publishes web community reviews on a zero to five scale of a large number of wines on <https://www.vivino.com/US-CA/en/>. Within the usual intervals of wine critics' 0-100 scale and the Vivino five point scale, the critics' 90 point rating matches a Vivino 4.0 rating, except the corresponding 91 point rating by Vinous' highly respected reviewer Antonio Galloni.

Perhaps more significant, and a bit surprising, the consensus ratings of hundreds of volunteer reviewers from different countries correlate and fall in step with ratings by prominent wine reviewers. This means that upward progressions of Vivino community average ratings correspond closely with upward progressions of the critics' ratings. As one would expect, a quick look at a distribution of Vivino community ratings of a given wine has much greater variance than the distribution of ratings by highly regarded wine critics. Reviews from across a community of wine reviewers does not have the uniform standards of the expert reviewers. It seems clear, nonetheless, that the summaries of ratings of volunteer reviewers on the web prove more reliable than the ratings of any individual reviewer and closely correlated with the ratings of wine experts..

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

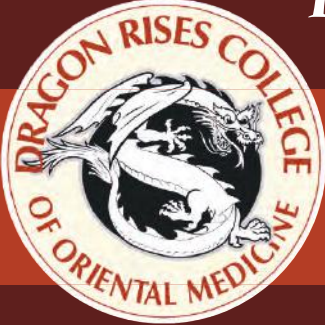
*Rich Hermansen selected his first wine list for a restaurant shortly after graduating from college with a degree in Mathematics. He has extensive service and management experience in the food and wine industry. Family and friends rate him as their favorite chef, bartender, and wine steward. He lives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

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Letters, from page 12

Music Prohibited. Longboat Key Ordinance,” or something to that effect?  
James G. Haft  
Longboat Key

Noise Violations City of Sarasota

To: Sarasota City Commission  
It is 6 p.m. on a Monday night, and I am sitting in my living room - with the patio door closed - and like my neighbors am being bombarded with the percussive and incessant sound of drums. It has been going on since I returned home (and probably before) at approx. 4.45pm. My decibel reader has clocked the neighbor, whose rental cottage is 10ft from our property line and which we overlook, at a max of 93 dB with the needle staying mostly in the mid 80s. This is cruel and unusual punishment!  
There are 80 seniors who live here, and while several have some measure of hearing loss, the majority of us do not. Several of us have called the police when the drumming goes on for an abnormal length of time, but they claim that their hands are tied by city statutes. However, I found the following buried within those very statutes and would like to know why the laws cannot be enforced, please?

There must be something that can be done. One person should not be able to disrupt and destroy the peaceful enjoyment of the homes and environment of an entire residential neighborhood, albeit in the city.  
I'm looking forward to hearing a response from you and/or your legal team.  
Tina Steele  
Sarasota

Noise Violations City of Sarasota again

To: Sarasota City Commission  
It is Sunday, and for the past two hours, and counting, we have again been subjected to the incessant, loud drumming of the idiot who lives in the cottage my apartment building overlooks. This is on the heels of the partying he was doing until almost 4 a.m. this morning, when he and his friends were talking loudly, laughing and keeping everyone awake who has hearing. Any hearing. Had I not been so exhausted, I would have called the police - as I had to do just last week because he was carousing until gone 3 a.m. The time before, it was 5 a.m. These parties are becoming more frequent, and we've had 2 in the past 7 days.  
Living here has become increasingly intolerable. How can this be acceptable? We are a large community of ~80 seniors and we are being tormented by this selfish, uncaring individual. The police have been called out repeatedly - both day and night - for making unacceptable noise. But, he has never been held accountable.  
When I met recently with Commissioner Ahearn-Koch, we looked at the actual city statutes, and there is one that encompasses daytime noise, that is applicable in this case. Mr. Fournier has yet to respond to my earlier emails, and Jen said she would speak to him again, but I have heard nothing and we continue to be bombarded with this almost daily noise

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Sarasota City News

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pollution.  
You are elected officials and as a constituent, and a protected class (disabled senior), I implore you to do something for my community. We are being tormented.  
Tina Steel  
Sarasota

Noise Disturbance Calls for Service

To: Sarasota City Captain Robert Armstrong  
Morning Rob. Can you please have either Jamie or Dustin contact the complainant and explain the ordinance and how noise violation procedures work. Hopefully that will help her understand the process. Thanks.  
Deputy Police Chief Scott Mayforth  
Sarasota City Police  
City of Sarasota

Noise Disturbance Calls for Service

To: Sarasota City Police Sgt. Dustin Luciano  
Please call the complainant on this. Let me know the outcome. Thank you.  
Captain Robert Armstrong  
Sarasota City Police  
City of Sarasota

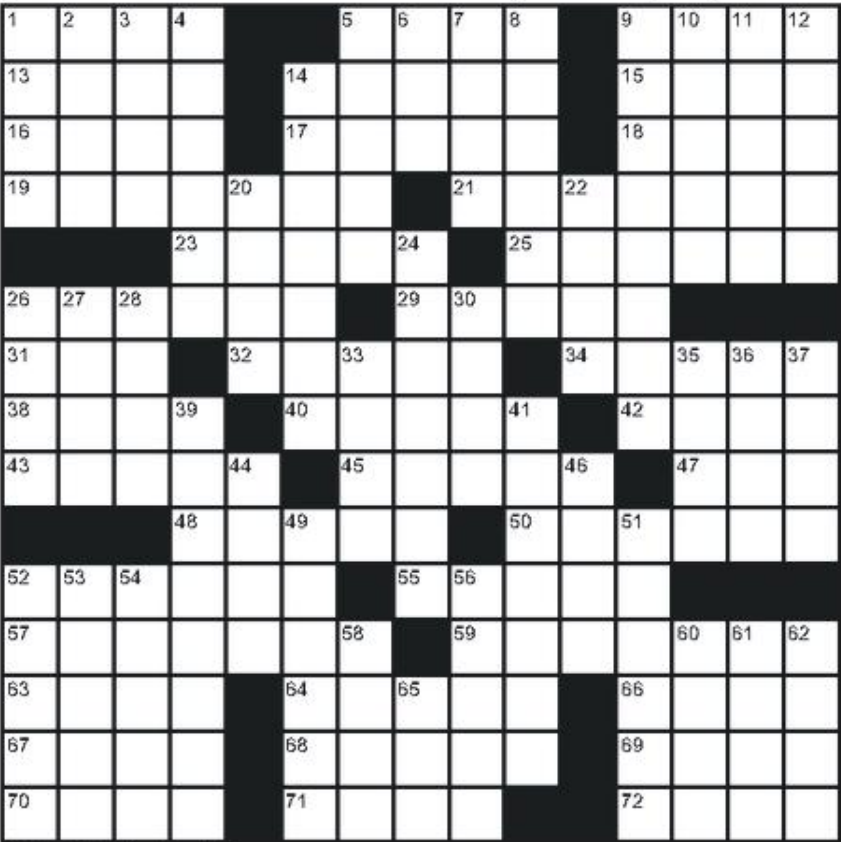
Noise Disturbance Calls for Service

To: Sarasota City Police Captain Robert Armstrong  
Captain, just an update.  
I called and left a voicemail for Ms. Steele. No call back yet. I went to Casa Santa Marta Apartments and spoke to Manager, Deborah Mester, who stated that there are occasionally reports from residence that is playing loud drums. She advised that Ms. Steele's is the complainant most of the time and that her apartment overlooks the backyard on 7th St. which is a contributing factor.  
I went to the residence and met with one of the tenants. He advised that his roommate plays the drums, and he would talk to him when he returned home. I provided him with my business card. He was very reasonable and respectful.  
I then spoke to the tenant and he stated that his neighbor does play the drums once or twice a month but typically only plays it in the afternoon hours.  
I also spoke to the manager at Rosemary Apartments, and they advised that they have not had any issues. I'll keep you posted.  
Sgt. Dustin Luciano  
Police Department  
City of Sarasota

KeyCrossword

Takeaway

- ACROSS
- 1. Twinkl\*
  - 5. Ou\*look
  - 9. "Dani'l Boon\*" actor
  - 13. Gung-\*o [Lat.]
  - 14. Sp\*t\*ed cats
  - 15. Male chauvini\*t, \*ay
  - 16. Playin\* the slots, e.\*.
  - 17. Minia\*ure desser\*s
  - 18. Admonis\* [suffix]
  - 19. \*iding, as a sword
  - 21. Neither young nor ol\*
  - 23. Diat\*ibe delive\*e\*s
  - 25. \*hief
  - 26. Sergea\*t of old TV
  - 29. Denta\* devices
  - 31. Still feelin\* sleepy
  - 32. \*over up
  - 34. Mentalist inspired by "Mandra\*e the Magician"
  - 38. Struc\* with the foot
  - 40. Mail origi\*ator
  - 42. Absolutely ama\*e
  - 43. \*emoves pencil ma\*ks
  - 45. Big pi\*kles?
  - 47. Cat\*\* warning\*
  - 48. Apo\*tle known a\* "the Zealot"
  - 50. Dise\*se tr\*nsmitted by cont\*min\*ted w\*ter
  - 52. Italian po\*t?
  - 55. Cerea\* protein [Ger.]
  - 57. P\*blic sales
  - 59. Im\*roved one's lot [hyph.]
  - 63. Can\*ne restran\*nt
  - 64. Sou\*hwes\* German ci\*y
  - 66. Rea\*y to be ri\*\*en
  - 67. Roun\*e\* up



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- 68. Lessons fro\* fables
- 69. 1960\* prote\*t [2 wds.]
- 70. S\*ut up
- 71. Places \*o pick up chicks?
- 72. Likel\* to rise?
- 11. \*mall amount, briefly
- 12. Device that re\*oves stalks fro\* fruit
- 14. Chin\*s\* cuisin\*
- 20. \*atchy \*ony
- 22. \*oting booth feature
- 24. Big name in ba\*\*s
- 26. Pulit\*er, e.g. [Fr.]
- 27. \*egis\*ative routine [Sp.]
- 28. B\*ontë family
- 30. Speaks gi\*\*erish
- 33. First mo\*th, to Jua\*
- 35. Lesley of "60 Minu\*es"
- 36. Waiti\*g o\*e's tur\*
- 37. Di\*dainful expre\*\*ion
- 39. Left the Met\*oline\*
- 41. Core cont\*iners
- 44. National park in sout\*west Tennessee
- 46. Turt\*es and bu\*\*ets have them
- 49. \*mpos\*ng house
- 51. Biase\*
- 52. Qi\*g Dy\*asty people
- 53. A\*\*ow shoote\*s
- 54. O\*erdo the diet
- 56. Street art, \*aybe
- 58. Stron\* \*rowth
- 60. Not homo\*eneous [Lat.]
- 61. "Lo\*e Me Tender" star
- 62. B\*rth cert., for one
- 65. Rank\*es



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