

THE BINNACLE

ALL THE MAIN NEWS!

AHOY APRIL!

It's Spring Time in Spanish Main!

One of the nicest things about this part of Florida is that we do experience a little of the four seasons. We had some cool days this winter but in recent weeks we've enjoyed the waters warming again and our key blossoming with a sense of renewal.

The notorious 'island season' will soon be winding down. Traffic woes will ease and restaurant tables open up as snow-birds fly away. It's been an unusually dusty 'winter' with the under-grounding work. Our nests have sometimes felt as ruffled as the ospreys who were evicted by the bald eagles!

Perspective is important though and gratitude is always my touchstone. At the time of writing world news is frightening and bleak. For me, this brings frequent pangs of guilt living as we do in this rarified idyllic bubble.

I remind myself often to find solace in this islands beauty and joy - even while the world seems to be falling apart. That beauty and joy fuels me and helps give me the strength to stay hopeful. Truly, the optimism embodied by springtime makes it my favorite season.

It's the humble hope of this newsletter to unite us, foster connections, and encourage inclusivity and kindness. So in some small part I hope those ideals stay with each of us and reach far beyond our fortunate community.

This issue is bursting with articles from our many talented members who share their life stories, their interests and their knowledge with us all. Thank you to everyone who has contributed your time, your words, and your wisdom.

Extra special thanks, as always, to the spectacular newsletter committee members. Their volunteerism, and the online circulation, keep this newsletter 100% free to all!

TAM MORRISON (Editor)



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BON VOYAGE TO
THOSE OF YOU
LEAVING SOON.
ENJOY THE SUMMER.
BUT FIRST.....
JUMP INTO SPRING!





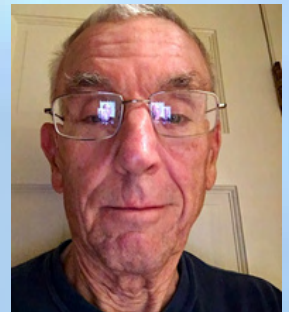
The Helmsman's Report

RANDY CLARK
BOARD PRESIDENT



Challenges. We always have them but it seems we have more than usual right now. Globally, nationally, Florida, Longboat Key and, of course, right here in SMYC. During the past fiscal year we have dealt with leadership transfer struggles, Covid-19, unprecedented property insurance premium increases, and electrical undergrounding. While many of these challenges are ongoing some of them are nearly resolved. Patience and cooperation from our community, even if not unanimous, was instrumental in surviving the Covid challenge. The most difficult aspects of the undergrounding project are almost behind us. Many thanks to volunteer efforts by Tom Freiwald, Gene Brown and Tam Morrison in helping us prepare for and endure that challenge so far.

A special thank-you to Don Pond (pictured right) who left the Board and community last month. We are grateful for his work on the Board and his efforts in implementing the Communications and Safety & Security Committees.



My thanks to the entire community for your patience, cooperation, and volunteer efforts this past year.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

EDITORS NOTE: On behalf of Spanish Main members, The Binnacle thanks both Randy and Don for their service to our community and wish them all the very best. We are grateful for all our friends and neighbors who chose to serve on the board, in committees, or leading activities; sharing their experience and giving their precious time. With members input and support we're sure to navigate challenges and changes together whilst maintaining SMYC as the very best place to live.

ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING

Wed April 6th 10am

Our Main Crew

Connie Hall: Past, Present & Future

As told to M. S. Ellsworth

I was born on January 20, 1933 in Solvay, New York, days before Franklin Delano Roosevelt celebrated the first of his four inaugurations. When I was little, I assumed the hoopla and fireworks of inaugural celebrations were for me! Despite the Depression, our parents gave me and my two sisters a happy and carefree childhood.



I met Bryant Hall—the love of my life—in high school. We married and were blessed with three children: Debbie, Shari, and Steve. They married and between them produced eleven children. Today, with seven great grandchildren, our family numbers twenty-six!

I raised my children and did volunteer work for church and community until I hit forty, when I enrolled at Lemoyne College as a “senior” freshman. After I received my BS in English Education, Syracuse University offered me a scholarship for my Masters if I taught English as a Second Language. I had found a new love! After receiving the MA, I created an extended ESL Program at Onondaga Community College. I went on to study for my PhD, but had only completed the course work and not the dissertation when Bryant accepted a promotion, and we moved to Connecticut.

The Connecticut Board of Education hired me as a Diagnostic and Remediation Specialist to teach new programs, and to evaluate and assist teachers in three districts.

I also oversaw a program for students who needed remediation.

Four generations of Halls have spent their summers at Camp Seventh Haven, our place on Seventh Lake in the Adirondack Mountains of NY (in the Adirondacks, all dwellings on lakes or in the woods, whether humble or palatial, are called camps).



Bryant and I retired in our late fifties, and in 1993 began dividing our time between the Camp in New York, and Spanish Main. We eagerly involved ourselves in almost every aspect of SMYC, as did my daughter Shari, who owned a villa on South. Spanish Mainers will remember her as a tireless advocate for breast cancer charities. Bryant left this earth eleven years ago to sit on his cloud and be our Guardian Angel. We miss him still.

Fifty-five years ago at Seventh Lake, we met Don and Dottie Wichman and became lifelong friends, as did our children. Much too soon, Dottie left her family to claim her cloud. Eventually Don and I became

a couple and we have continued to enjoy our camps, SMYC, and our families for the past eight years. SMYC and church still claim my time as I move toward my 90th year.

As to the future, who knows? I may even become a Star Reporter. Or a poet!



Fred Beyerlein, Thirty-Year Resident!

By Meredith Ellsworth

Fred Beyerlein has been a snowbird for 33 years, spending at least six months each year in SMYC since 1988. He was born in 1927 in East Longmeadow, Massachusetts, and spent his youth working on clambakes and helping on his father's farm. He graduated from high school at the age of 17 and enlisted in the Navy in 1944. They sent him to the Philippines where he learned radio communications. Upon his discharge, he enrolled at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, graduating with an BS in electrical engineering. He and CJ Nager were actually in the same class at RPI, but didn't meet until they both arrived in SMYC.



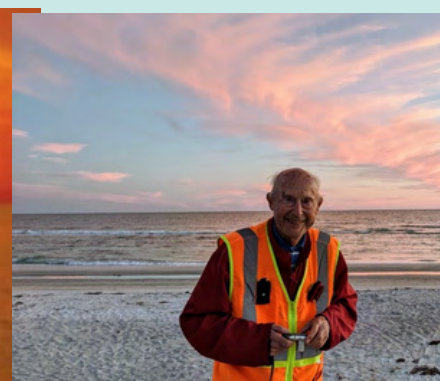
After the war, Fred went to work for General Electric in Schenectady, NY, where he met his future wife Joanne Bailey at a church social group. In 1956, GE sent him to Oklahoma to work on a military ordnance system. He flew back to NY to marry Joanne, then returned to Oklahoma. Later that year they drove from Oklahoma to NY on a belated honeymoon, and visited Longboat Key for the first time.

Joanne's father, Dr. Albert Bailey, and his wife Mimi discovered LBK in the 1950s and they bought a strip of land that stretched from the bay to the gulf (now Gulfbay Road). On the Gulf side he built a motel with five efficiencies. He and Mimi lived in one of the units. He later sold the motel and gulfside property to a relative. In 1986 the founder of Shoney's restaurants, Alex Shoenbaum, demolished the motel and built the current mansion at 5541 GMD.

Bailey sold off the bayside land in lots, keeping one parcel halfway down the drive, and the shoreline. Fred's daughter Karen and her brother had a treehouse near the small turnabout at the end of Gulfbay Drive. The last lots were sold to a builder in the 1980s. Except for some dilapidated houses, the land remained undeveloped for almost 15 years, most of it overgrown and wild. In 1994 James Durante donated money to the town to buy it for what became Durante Park.

Dr. Bailey bought the house at 546 SDS in 1981, and when Fred retired in 1988, he and Joanne inherited it. They settled on a six-month cycle—six months here and six in Massachusetts, then Vermont.

Fred and Joanne enjoyed SMYC's potlucks and fish fries, attended Mote lectures, and took the SMYC bus to baseball games. They went birding on Audubon canoe trips. In fact, Joanne wrote a weekly column for the LBK Observer called Bird Notes. As for Fred, he loved golfing, and up until two years ago he played at least nine holes every week. He still loves his evening walk to the beach and rarely misses a sunset—his photographs have even been published in the Observer!



SOLD**LANDLUBBERS!****Real estate round-up by our resident realtor Kim Freiwald**

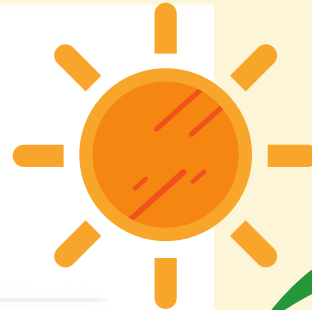
As of January 1, 2022, 6 villas have sold.

Below are the names of the new owners and the location of their full-time home

- Sold - 711 SDS - Jeff and Lisa Page - Natick, Massachusetts
- Sold - 722 SDS – PENDING
- Sold - 639 SDS – Dr. Jerry and Judy Blaine – Winchester, Massachusetts
- Sold - 653 SDN – Halie Hoku – full-time
- Sold - 789 SDN – Nancy Boyd – Pocono's, NY
- Sold - 727 SDS - Kathleen Herzing – full-time

SUPPLY

Condominiums & Townhomes "For Sale"



This graph shows the extremely low inventory of condos and townhomes for sale in all of Manatee and Sarasota counties. That area is from Parrish to Venice/North Port (north-south) and the barrier islands to 16 miles east of I-75 (west to east). This is a 90% reduction in inventory from Jan 2019 to present day.

This is not a housing bubble as we experienced in 2008, but the result of 1000 people a day moving to the state of Florida.

We live in a great state!


Welcome to all our New Owners and future good friends!

In Our Wheelhouse

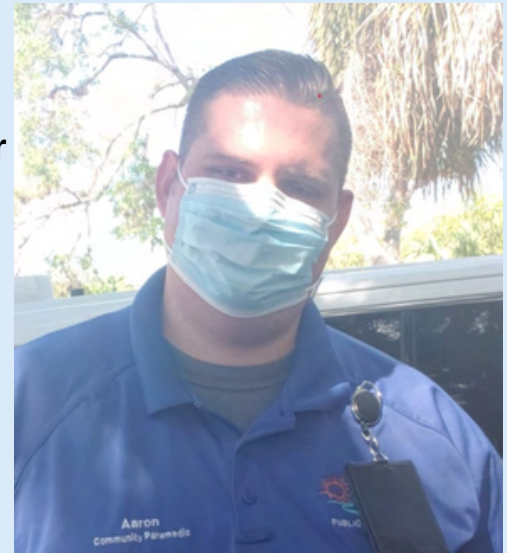
Manatee County Paramedics Provide COVID-19 Vaccines to the Homebound on Longboat Key by Bill Roberts



In August 2021, a homebound person on Longboat Key received a COVID-19 vaccination without ever leaving home. Yes! The person was homebound and therefore unable to travel to a vaccine site. The vaccination happened through a service offered by the Manatee County Community Paramedicine Program, which ensures that homebound seniors, residents with disabilities, or those otherwise unable to travel to a vaccine site do not fall through the cracks.



Community Paramedic Aaron Fullenwider (pictured) traveled to the homebound person's home on Longboat Key in an EMS van to deliver the vaccine, even going so far as to wait for 15 minutes to ensure there were no immediate adverse reactions. In addition, Aaron gave the resident a vaccination card for record-keeping. The resident could not have been more appreciative of Aaron's efforts.



The program is a part of a statewide initiative by the Florida Department of Health and Florida Division of Emergency Management to increase vaccine access for seniors in Florida with limited mobility. Residents, who fall through cracks in the health care system, often suffer from chronic illnesses, mental health issues, substance abuse, or are hampered by age and cannot drive to a healthcare facility.

Since the program began, the Manatee County Paramedics have administered approximately 450 COVID-19 shots to homebound residents. In addition, it has administered all COVID-19 vaccine brands, i.e., Moderna, Pfizer, and Johnson and Johnson. The program also provides booster shots.

Locations for vaccinations in Manatee County include CVS, Publix, Walgreens, the Palmetto Bus Station, to name a few. Still, if a resident can't get to these locations, it is nice that the Manatee County Community Paramedicine Program can help those homebound residents.

Homebound residents, or relatives of someone in need of COVID-19 vaccination, can contact Manatee County for assistance by calling 941-749-3500. The operator will put you in touch with the Homebound Vaccination Program, or you can email them at HomeboundVaccine@em.myflorida.com.

**GOOD
HEALTH**

What is Prediabetes?



By Teresa Love, MS, RD, CDCES.

Prediabetes is a condition where the body's muscle cells have trouble using glucose in the blood for energy. As a result, too much glucose stays in the blood. This can affect how your heart and blood vessels work, and over time, could lead to Type 2 diabetes.

For most people, there are no symptoms of prediabetes.

Your health care provider can diagnosis prediabetes using a blood test called Hemoglobin A1C. Normal A1C is under 5.7%. Prediabetes A1C is 5.7% to 6.4%, and Type 2 diabetes A1C is diagnosed at 6.5% or higher.

Without changes in diet and lifestyle, the problem can get worse. But the good news is that prediabetes can be treated through weight loss, physical activity, diet, and lifestyle changes. Specifically, if you are diagnosed by your health care provider with prediabetes, you should:

- **Try to lose 5-7% of your current weight.**
- **Aim for 30 minutes of physical activity per day, and even short sessions of light activity help the body's cells use blood sugar better.**
- **Stop smoking.**
- **Ask your health care provider for a referral to a National Diabetes Prevention Program. Many YMCAs offer this program.**
- **Get enough sleep. 7-8 hours is ideal.**
- **Eat a healthy diet.**

To see if you have a healthy eating style, ask yourself these questions.

- **Am I using a 9-inch plate?**
- **Is half my plate filled with colorful vegetables?**
- **Is about a quarter of my plate filled with whole grains, beans, starchy vegetables?**
- **Is another quarter filled with a source of protein like meat, poultry, fish?**
- **Are my beverages other than milk low in calories?**
- **Can I eat more 100 % whole grains, oatmeal, sweet potatoes, dairy foods, beans/legumes, fruits (especially apples, berries. red grapes, green leafy vegetables, lean meats and fish, nuts and seeds, healthy oils, tea, coffee, water, and dark chocolate?)**
- **Can I eat less refined white breads and cereals, donuts, Danish, bagels, white potatoes, processed meats, sugar sweetened beverages?**

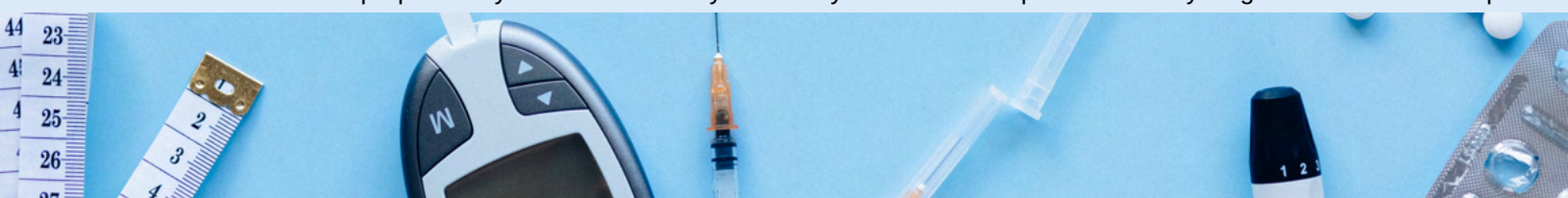
There are some on-line resources that may be instructive.

www.diabetes.org

www.myplate.gov

www.cdc.gov/diabetes/prevention/lcp-details.html

This article is for information purpose only. You should always consult your health care provider for any diagnosis and treatment plan.





Renovating?

New HVAC option shared by Eric Gietl



It seems everywhere we look villas are being remodeled and renovated. As members invest in our community it's interesting to share new options that exist to update our little corners of paradise.

I thought I would share with you some photos of the new reverse cycle HVAC system we've installed at 911 SDS. Over the past few years Jim Fuller (738 SDS) and I have been looking at options to eliminate the AC units on our roofs.

Our research led us to a fairly new system that uses a low-profile evaporator/blower that fits in the attic. The compressor uses a slim unit that is the same used on mini-split systems. The system is a bit of a hybrid because it uses the existing ducts for forced air where the mini-splits mostly use a special head mounted on an interior wall. Last year the Fullers installed this system into their villa placing the compressor on the roof with great results.

The key advantage is the doghouse is eliminated which reduces the potential for roof leaks. On our villa at 911 we chose to tuck the compressor unit on a side wall behind our carport closet. Next year we will be putting up a small white plastic fence similar to what others have done. This will serve to further hide the unit. Now when you walk along the canals and look up at our villa there is nothing but a clean roofline.

A few of the advantages of this system are:

1. Elimination of doghouse on roof eliminates leak opportunities
2. Roofline is nicer looking
3. Unit in attic is completely out of the weather. Compressor is out of direct wind and sun extending overall life
4. System is much more efficient. It requires a 25A breaker whereas traditional system is 50A
5. System is so quiet you'll need to hold a hand over register to feel for air to know it's running.

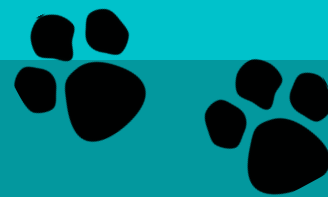
Obviously, there are some disadvantages that I must point out. Because the evaporator/blower are installed in the attic, a fair amount of storage space is sacrificed. The system is not cheap, expect to pay twice as much. Being minimalists, we felt the loss of storage space was an acceptable compromise. As for the high cost we felt it was justified because we didn't want to listen to it and we wanted a cleaner roof line. Feel free to walk around and have a look, if we're home stop in and visit.



roof view



unit view



THE POOP DECK!

Spanish Main pets are the BEST!



MEET GIGI



by Barbara Milano

Gigi is our four year old Yorkshire Terrier. She is five pounds of sweetness with an endless amount of liveliness . She loves to hunt geckos. One day she caught a pale baby and quickly spit out the wiggly one.

Gigi loves small squeaky toys. She will race around the house and pull out all her tricks... sneezing, paw and twirling just to play ball. Gigi rings a small call bell to go outside. She loves to go out and will ring the bell just to get outside regardless if she has to potty. One of her favorite things is going on our boat, sitting on her Dad's lap.



In Spanish Main Gigi is a member of the 7pm walking gang. Bunny and Gigi are the only girls. Beau , Bentley, Dave and Henry round out the group. The pups wear lighted collars. It's social for the pups and owners.

Join us, the more the merrier!

Nancy Bromley Boyd



Where were you born? Where have you lived?

I was born and raised in Rosemont and Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania. I moved to Greenspring Valley, Maryland with my daughter, then to Naples, Florida when she graduated from college. After thirteen years in Naples, I moved back to Villanova, PA.

What work did you do?

I started out teaching kindergarten, but soon realized that I loved helping children learn to read, so I got my Masters in reading from Johns Hopkins University. I went on to teach first and second grades at Garrison Forests school, a girls' school outside of Baltimore. When I moved to Naples, I taught elementary school at Seacrest Country Day School.

What about your family?

I have been married...more than once. My mother often reminded me that I made poor choices! I have one daughter, Emilie, who is married to Alex and has twin boys Angus and Harry. I cared for the boys for their first four years while Emilie worked full time as the comptroller at Lilly Pulitzer.

What first brought you to this part of Florida?

In 2020, Emilie and Alex bought a place in Bay Isles to establish a Florida residency while Alex is stationed in Tirana, Albania for the State Department. Emilie works remotely for Tuckernuck, an apparel company. In order to be closer to them and my grandsons, I began stalking the housing market. It took a year, but I eventually landed in Spanish Main. I love the stand-alone villas because I can grill and garden. Alex tells me it's the perfect place for me!

Pets? Hobbies?

I inherited Emilie's corgi Finney when she went to college. He was a big dog in a little dog's body! After that I adopted a yellow lab named Barley. My hobbies are gardening, interior decorating, and reading a good book on a beach chair with my toes in the sand. I also enjoy my morning walks on the beach and in the woods.

Sports fan? Favorite team?

I'm not a fanatic. Whatever town I have lived in, that is my team. Go Eagles! Note from editor: Hey—what about the Bucs?

Give us an interesting fact about you.

I own a house in the mountains surrounded by woods and sitting by a glacier lake discovered by my great grandfather and his fishing and hunting buddies. It was passed to me by my mother. I have been going there all my life, and my grandsons have too!

Favorite travel destination:

My lake house!

What is the most valuable lesson you've learned from life?

Find the happiness wherever I am.

Favorite thing about SMYC?

The people!

Any good jokes for us?

My grandsons think I bought the funniest house in Spanish Main (789 SDN) because it is the punchline of their favorite joke: Why do all the numbers fear 7? Because 7 ate (8) nine.



Welcome

FIRST MATES

Welcome

Tom and Deb Cooney are thrilled to be back in the area that they call paradise!

After spending about 17 years here, we moved to Virginia to care for Deb's parents. We were introduced to each other many years ago through the owner of Paradise Bagels on Anna Maria Island. Our favorite dating spots were Lynches Landing when it was located mid-key and Kilwin's Ice Cream on St. Armands. We spent many weekends cruising LBK in convertibles and still love to do that now when the traffic allows. We were married at Longboat Island Chapel and honeymooned right across the street at Silver Sands.

We have two children. Nick is a third year Computer Engineering major at the University of Virginia and Aidan lives with us currently and is training to be an auto technician at BMW Sarasota. And we have recently adopted a four-legged child, an 11-year-old pocket beagle named Harold.

In our spare time, we love exploring the area via boat and visiting all the amazing restaurants that are here.

We look forward to meeting you all!



Jay & Janice Taranto

WELCOME

Jay – was born and was raised in Chelmsford, MA

Jan – was born and raised in N. Providence, RI

After we got married we lived in Chelmsford, MA for 25 years and then moved to Charlotte, NC 5 years ago.

as told to Judy Behny

Occupation:

Jay – is a VP of Sales for a consulting firm

Jan – Special Education Teacher working with Down Syndrome children

Favorite Hobby:

Jay – Playing Golf with my good friends

Jan – Anything involving Cooking & Shopping

Children:

One Daughter – Alexandra who is 23 years old

Pets:

None at the moment but we had our share of fish, a cat, a hamster & a dog through Alexandra's years growing up

Sports Team:

The New England Patriots, of course, and the Boston Red Sox & Boston Celtics

However, in hockey it is whoever our good friend is coaching, right now it's the Washington Capitals

Favorite Travel Destination:

Toss up between Alaska & Hawaii

Professional Organizations:

Jay – Volunteer with Special Olympics, Big Brother/Sister Organization & other industry organizations

Jan – Volunteer with Special Olympics & Guardian ad Litem Advocate

Interesting Fact About Yourself:

Jay – with my full name being Angelo Joseph Taranto Jr., no one ever knows that I am half Irish. No wonder I love St. Patrick's Day and corned beef and cabbage.

Jan – was a flight attendant with TWA for 6 years and that is how I met Jay

What brought you to Spanish Main:

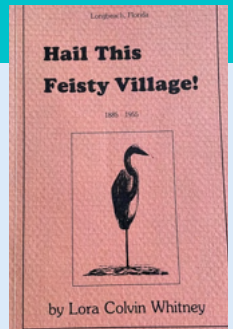
We had come down to Sarasota on Memorial Day Weekend 2021 to visit friends. During that weekend we visited with our longtime friends Kristen & Peter on LBK and they introduced us to the island which we immediately fell in love with. We expressed at the time that we were interested in looking for vacation home, they said look no further we have the perfect community for you! Next thing you know they started sending us listings in SMYC and in June we found the perfect villa for us at 828 Spanish Drive S.



LOCAL HISTORY

Whitney's Hail This Feisty Village!

by Jackie Breen-Compitello



In Whitney's Restaurant, guests may have noticed the stenciled words over the main entrance, "Hail This Feisty Village" and wonder (like me) what this refers to. It is the name of a book penned by Lora Colvin Whitney! Coincidentally, when my husband John and I bought our home at 621 Spanish Drive North in June last year, this book was on the bookshelf. We are New Yorkers, new to Longboat Key, and I am curious about the history of the area and those who settled it. We plan to retire in Spanish Main in a few years, but in the meantime, we visit as often as we can. After visiting Whitney's, I had to read the book and learn about Whitney Beach, Longbeach and Lora Colvin Whitney.

Lora and her husband Gordon bought a 1,000 foot stretch of land in the village of Longbeach, FL in 1935, and named it Whitney Beach. They decided to raise their family and build a colony of 13 cottages for vacationers. They were a civic minded couple and started, with the help of neighbors, the Longboat Key Arts Center, of which Lora was the President. They were involved in the Longboat Key Civic Association, the Fire Department, and the Longbeach School – established in 1936. Her book is full of stories and photos of the struggles they faced, the victories they celebrated, and the pluck and indomitable spirit of the brave and hardy souls who lived in Longbeach in the early days. In fact, her book is dedicated "In praise of the human spirit."



Lora and Gordon Whitney with their two sons, Charles and Colvin Whitney, when they came to Longboat Key in 1935.

Longbeach became part of history when Longboat Key was established as a municipality in 1955. In 2017 when the gas station located on the property was sold, the owners of Whitney's dedicated the restaurant to Gordon and Lora Whitney. Additionally, the Longboat Key Historical Society, established in 1980, utilizes two of the original Whitney Beach cottages as the headquarters for the organization.



*by Annie
Bondi
& Janet
Shaffer*

Ports of Call



WHITNEY'S

6990 Gulf of Mexico Dr. Longboat Key, FL
Open Monday-Friday, 11am – 9pm,
Saturday & Sunday 9am – 9pm
Happy Hour Monday – Thursday 3pm – 5pm

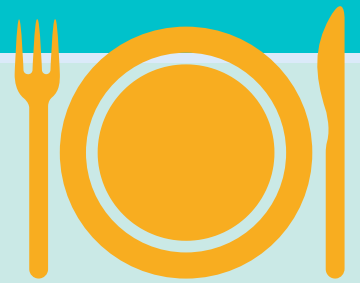
If you're hungry and in the mood for a light, airy, Caribbean ambiance, make your way to Whitney's restaurant. The restaurant, opened in January 2020 by a creative group of owners in a former gas station in the Village neighborhood, provides a unique, full-service casual dining option on LBK. You will feel as if you are on vacation, with palm trees swaying and cool breezes blowing through tall, open garage doors blending the indoor and outdoor seating.

Brunch, served on Saturday and Sunday from 9am – 3pm, includes options such as homemade donut holes, creative egg dishes, and banana French toast. The All Day Menu has shareable appetizers, casual hand-held sandwiches and main course selections such as the catch of the day. A comprehensive bar menu features fun craft cocktails, beer, wine, and a local favorite, Frose' All Day. A wide variety of nonalcoholic beverages are available, too.

Whitney's is a first-come first-serve venue and offers several places to relax while you wait, including a bar, fire pit, and corn hole game area. Live music is performed most weekend evenings and during brunch on Sunday. Please refer to Whitney's website: whitneylbk.com for an updated performance schedule.

We hope you find your visit to Whitney's a delicious dining experience with friendly service, and as special as we did.



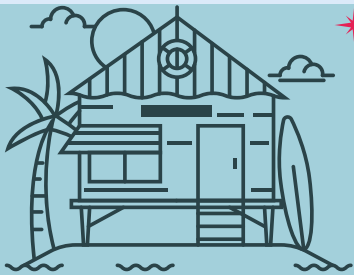
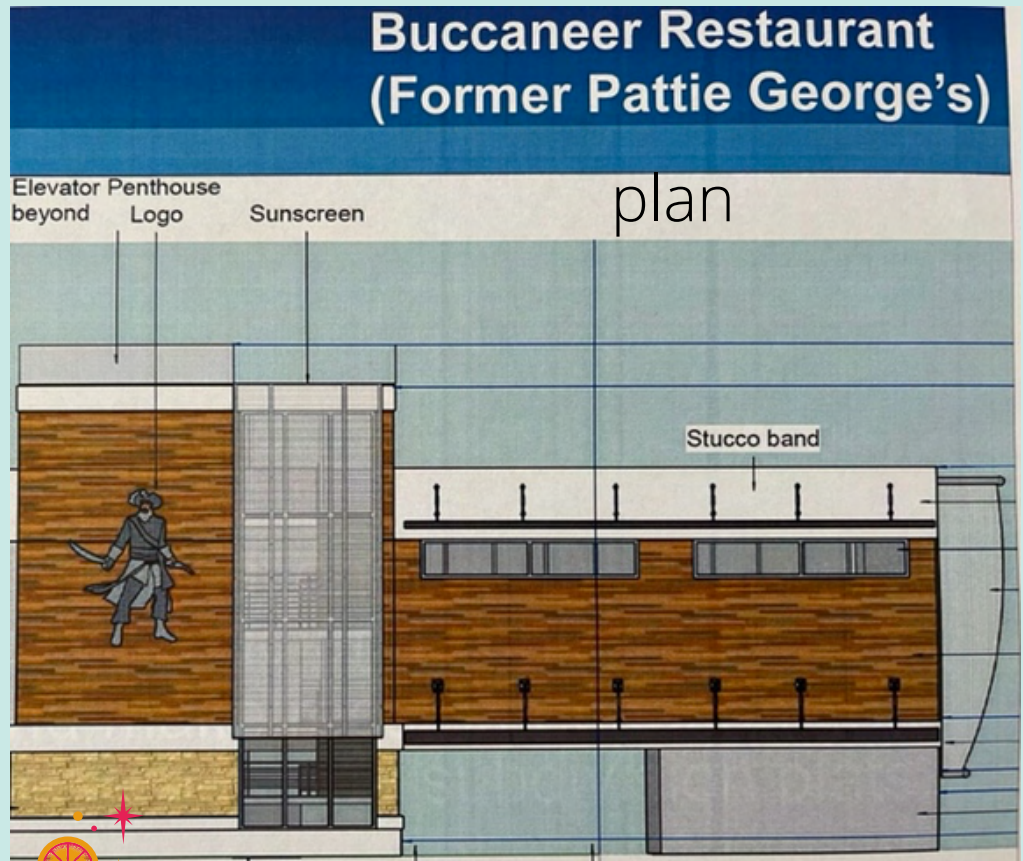


New!

**RESTAURANTS
COMING SOON!**

**146 seats
including open-
air rooftop
seating will be
part of The
Buccaneer.
Dock and dine
too!**

**OPENING
SOON**



Lo Key Tiki Bar

The new restaurant planned in place of the recently closed Tina's Salon at 5620 G of M Drive was denied by town planners recently. An April Town Meeting will discuss further. Send support emails to aparsons@longboatkey.org



We may soon see a new Hurricane Hanks at Whitney Plaza - watch this space!



UPDATE

Experiencing delays in renovation and fittings our new super local Mexican restaurant hopes to be opening in the summer of 2022

See also new restaurant and tiki at The Cedars coming soon!

*Go West
Young Woman!*

From The Galley of Sandy Brut-Christensen



In the mid 1970's I packed up my VW Bug with all my worldly possessions, my downhill skis securely fastened on the back, and headed West.

I ended up in the then bucolic mountain town of Evergreen, Colorado. It was there I developed an interest and liking for southwestern food.

The recipe I am sharing with you comes from one of my favorite well used cookbooks, Colorado Collage.

Four Corners* Black Beans and Rice

- 2 Tablespoon Olive Oil
- 1 medium onion, peeled and diced
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup chopped green bell pepper
- 1 teaspoon. crushed Garlic
- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups peeled, seeded, and chopped tomatoes (or use a can of Ro-Tel diced tomatoes & green chilies)
- 2 cups of canned black beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 cup of chicken broth
- 1 cup of uncooked long-grain rice
- 1 cup of water
- 1 cup of dry white wine
- Salt & freshly ground black pepper



In a large saucepan, heat olive oil over medium heat. Add onion, bell pepper and garlic and fry 5 minutes. Add tomatoes, beans, and chicken broth and simmer 5 minutes, stirring frequently.

Reduce heat to low, add rice, water, and wine. Cook stirring occasionally, 15-20 minutes or until rice is tender. Season with salt and pepper, serve immediately. Rice can get a bit "muddy" color due to the beans.

***Geography tidbit**

Four Corners is the only place in the USA where four states intersect: Arizona, New Mexico, Utah and Colorado

Please send your recipes to newsletter@smyclbk.com

**DON'T FORGET**

Earth Day. A Special Treat on Longboat Key

**by Sue Reese**

April 22nd is the Longboat Island Chapel's second annual "Nature Talks and Walks for Earth Day." Just up the street from Spanish Main, you can take a walk, drive or ride your bike to the award-winning Friendship Garden on the chapel's campus at 6200 Gulf of Mexico Drive. The celebration will be held on Earth Day between 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. There's something to interest everyone at every age, plus there's plenty of parking and the entire event is FREE.

Plan to wander through the winding paths inside and around this beautiful garden where you'll find attractive exhibits highlighting the wonders of nature here and around our island. Look for place cards describing unique trees, bushes, and flowers along the way. See the new Harvest Garden of herbs and veggies along Sarasota Bay.

Sponsored by Longboat Island Chapel and Town of Longboat Key, there will be over a dozen educational displays, hands-on-exhibits, games and helpful representatives to answer questions from Selby Gardens, Mote Marine, Save our Seabirds (SOS), Florida Maritime Museum, Keep Manatee Beautiful, Sarasota Historical Society, Clearwater Fla. Marine Aquarium, All Clams on Deck, Florida Fish & Wildlife Commission and many others. Bay Walk tours will also be available with Mote Marine guides.

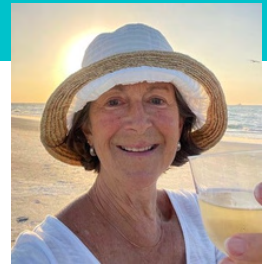
Throughout the day special speakers will present various topics inside the Chapel's Shook Fellowship Hall and in the Garden. At 2 p.m. the keynote lecturer, Dr. Dave Tomasko, will talk on "Taking Care of Sarasota Bay - Current Conditions and Actions for a Healthier Future." He is the Executive Director of Sarasota Bay Estuary Program.

In addition, The Main Line Food Truck will be located outside the garden featuring lobster and more for purchase.





The First Annual Super Bowl Sunday Polar Plunge was a splashing success!



Thirteen brave souls met up at 596 SDN on Sunday, February 13th to be greeted by lovely hostess Sandy Brut-Christensen serving up broad smiles and shots of Norwegian Line Aquavit otherwise known, in this case, as “liquid courage”.

A very festive atmosphere prevailed as participants and well-wishers prepared for this daring feat of bravery.

We made our way to the beach to find more Spanish Mainers eager to watch the spectacle that was about to unfold.

The Polar Plungers quickly doffed extraneous clothing and ran joyfully screaming and yelling into the “polar” waters of the gulf.

Our hearty, brave and bold participants were (in no particular order):

Dave and Karen Weissenstein
Bill Roberts and guest, Susie England
Tamsin and Graeme Morrison
Sandy Brut-Christensen
Phil Bondi
Harry Mintz and guest, Billy Hollis
Warren Persky
Mark Kammert
Barbara Fincke





Safety First!

The Safety and Security committee would very much appreciate your ongoing input.

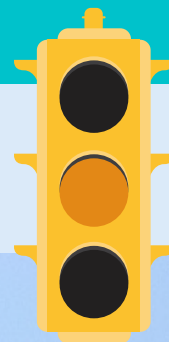
If you have any safety or security related concerns about our community, please email them to

Jeffrey Love at
jeffreylove1@verizon.net.

The committee will investigate and respond to residents concerns so your input is essential. Thank You



PLEASE....
ALWAYS
pick up
after your
fur
babies!



Please keep your speed to 15mph maximum on our community roads. And ask your contractors and visitors to do the same.

THANK YOU!

BE KIND - PARK WITH OTHERS IN MIND

Robeline Palms by Peter Mellor

The pygmy date palm (Phoenix Robeline) is loved for its graceful, feathery fronds atop an upright, slender trunk. Usually seen growing in clusters of many trunks, basic pruning of this palm is focused solely on removal of dead, browning or diseased fronds, keeping healthy green fronds.

The fronds have very sharp stickers and have to be pruned carefully. Branched clusters of seed heads may also be cut away to suit personal aesthetics.

As the tree matures and grows it is important to remove all the lower old dead growth from the trunk of the palm.

If you have Robeline palms in your yard it is your responsibility to trim on a regular basis yourself, or by your monthly landscape contractor.

Owners with other palms, such as Christmas or Foxtails, do not have trimming issues as these palms are self-shedding and require no maintenance.



Before



After

Mask advisory for vaccinated folk in the Clubhouse was removed on March 4th. Find much more local advice and Spanish Main information on our website at www.smyclbk.com. NEW website coming soon!



APRIL 1, 2022 - ISSUE 3

Close Haul

No need to travel far - Have fun and meet new friends right here!

EXCITING NEW SOCIAL ACTIVITIES!



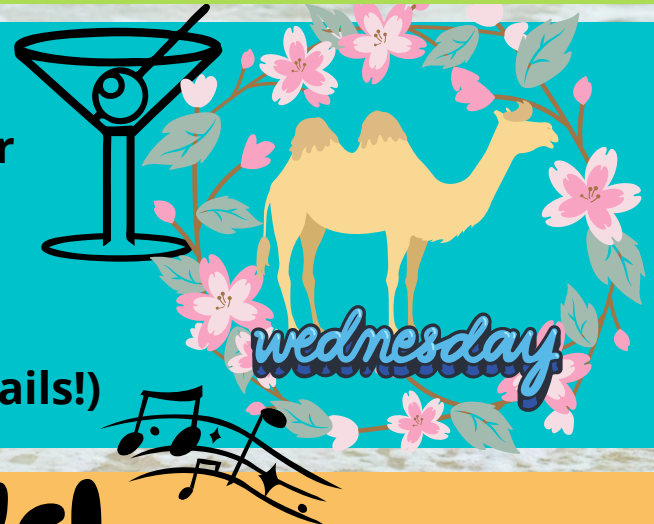
Lake Floating Tiki!

If you enjoy your sun-downers on the water join the Spanish Main lakeside residents who enjoy a regular floating tiki bar. Help needed to carry it to the Marina on calm evenings please!

Also planned:

- Fenced in dog park on the green south of SM clubhouse
- A fun zip line from the clubhouse roof across the marina
- New gymnasium to be built between the kayak racks
- Hard pool cover to convert the pool-deck to a Pickleball court

5pm Hump Day Happy Hour continues!
Outside all year long! An informal, regular
social gathering for whomever turns up!
Bring your own drinks and snacks and
meet other Spanish Mainers.
BYOCC (Bring Your Own Cooler and Cocktails!)



Romeo's!

RESIDENTS AND GUESTS PLEASE JOIN US!
RETIRED OLD MEN EATING OUT

THURSDAY



TRIVIA NIGHT Friday, April 8th at 7pm

**TRIVIA NIGHT! Gather your smartest SMYC friends!
And come up with a TEAM NAME.**



The Spanish In-QUIZ-ition

**7pm Fri 8th April
In the Clubhouse**
Cash Prizes!

Questions and to
register contact Jack
jamans@comcast.net

**Host and Quiz Master
Jack Mans**

Teams of 3-7 people.
Entry fee is \$10 per team.
Pre-registration required to reserve table.

Teams should have minimum of 3 players and maximum of 7.
Please chose your Team Name in advance and pre-register with Jack Mans to secure
your team table. The Quiz will be held inside the clubhouse.

Bring your own team drinks and snacks.

No cell phones at tables and Quizmaster has final decision on correct answers.

Cash Prizes for Winner, runner up and 3rd place.

THE TENNIS CLUB NEXT DOOR

Cedars Tennis Resort offers a full range of activities centered around their 10 Har-Tru Courts, Junior Olympic Sized Pool, Fitness Center, Pro Shop and soon to open European Restaurant and full Bar and Tiki Bar by the pool.

The Tennis Pro offers private lessons, clinics and organized Round Robins for members and Guests.

Bicycles are available and the ball machine can help anyone's game. There is an active Book Club and many social activities, also available to members and non-members alike.

See you on the Court!

by Jane Oaks



BRIDGE

Every Monday and Friday night at 7:00pm in the Spanish Main Clubhouse.

All levels welcome, novices included. Our fun group of men and women play for about 2 hours for the enormous cost of 50 cents!

It's lots of fun, meet new people, learn more about Bridge or bring your knowledge to share. Sign up on the Bulletin Board in the hall of the Clubhouse Questions? Call Jane Oaks 941-387-8600



Play Bridge at
Spanish Main!

BOOK CLUB

Book for April 13th
2:30pm

is 'The Gown' by
Jennifer Robson

BOOK CLUB IS HELD ON THE 2ND
WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH AT
2:30 PM. OPEN TO ALL OWNERS,
RENTERS, VISITORS, AND
GUESTS.

CONTACT RUTH MYERS OR EMAIL
ANLBKFLA@GMAIL.COM

FREE

GET FIT WITH FRIENDS!

3 mornings a week - all invited.

A fun and friendly group work-out led by SMYC residents with modifications for all levels of fitness and mobility.

Thank
you

to instructors Katy, Kim, Melissa and
Deb who give so generously their
time and expertise to keep us fit!



FREE

enjoy

11 am at Durante Park
April 12th and
April 19th

SM YOGA with Cari



Thank you Cari!

BINGO

2	21	32	46	66
15	30	44	58	70
5	29	FREE SPOT	48	74

BINGO! (\$2 a card)

**SMYC BINGO with Cari is
fabulous!**

**JOIN IN On APRIL 10th Poolside
at 4pm**

**text Cari with questions
(516) 816 1428**

**A full list of each months events and activities is printed out at the
clubhouse office for you.**

*Thanks
for
Reading*

THANK YOU!

**...to the dedicated and talented newsletter
committee, and this month's guest writers.**

**New members welcome! Guest writers
embraced! Write about what matters to you!**

Get Involved!

Please send your submissions to

Tam Morrison or

newsletter@smyclbk.com

I LOVE SMYC

**Join the FACEBOOK private group for SMYC residents/owners.
Please join 'I LOVE SMYC' and share in community
communication. Enjoy SMYC photos, keep up-to-date on events,
share a beautiful wildlife shot, warn of traffic congestion or have
a weather concern whilst away, your SMYC Facebook Community
is here FOR YOU.**

OVER 140 MEMBERS SO FAR

