



March 13, 2024

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What Gregg's Been Up To

As he continues to make the rounds with AI presentations throughout the county, Gregg visited the Tivoli Lakes, Baywinds, and Century Village communities. Be sure to let us know if you'd like him to visit a group you're involved with.

To draw attention to the importance of flood protection, Gregg presented the county's Building Division staff with a proclamation on March 4th. Palm Beach County participates in the National Flood Insurance Program, meaning it sets higher standards to reduce flood risks and damage. For county residents, this means you can buy flood insurance at

reduced rates. [With the wet season just around the corner, it's worth knowing your flood risks and deciding on whether you need flood insurance.](#)

At the March 5th Board of County Commissioners (BCC) meeting, commissioners approved a new Animal Care and Control (ACC) Facility. The current facility on Belvedere Road has been in operation for more than 30 years, and it is worn out. [The new facility, which will be built on the existing site, will be close to 90,000 square feet, better designed, and have air-conditioned kennels.](#) Work on the facility will start later this year. **Savings alert:** during the month of March ACC is [waiving adoption fees](#), so these furry friends could be yours!

In a March 5th special meeting with the League of Cities board, [county commissioners rejected continuation of the Infrastructure Sales Tax \(IST\).](#) This penny sales tax went into effect in 2017, and it's set to expire next year. The rejection was a blow to League of Cities members, who had expressed a desire to continue the tax for another decade. Several commissioners indicated that they are considering asking voters to approve a transportation tax in the future.

Here is Gregg's take on allowing the IST to expire: "We promised voters that the IST would sunset after 10 years or collecting \$2.7 Billion. We will hit that \$2.7 Billion threshold next year, and it's time for a pause. Looking towards the future, with growth continuing, I see an ever-increasing need for us to address transportation issues. Our focus should be on identifying projects that residents and businesses can support, like having smart signalization that improves the flow of traffic throughout the county, and coastal link commuter rail that connects the downtowns of our cities from Boca to Jupiter. Once we have a list of projects that we can all get behind, we can go to the voters in the future and ask them if they are willing to provide a dedicated funding source through a transportation sales tax. We should be able to leverage these local funds with federal matches, stretching our dollars and maximizing the bang for our buck. I look forward to working with our cities and towns on this."

We are pleased to report that the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) responded favorably to Gregg's request to install pedestrian safety enhancements on Dixie Highway near The Greene School. The Greene School is growing. It recently added a high school. Many of the kids walk or bike to school. Work on the safety enhancements is expected to start in December 2025. In the meantime, FDOT will look at the signal timing. It will install a No Turn On Red sign on the northeast corner of Flamingo Road and Dixie Highway.

Just a block north of The Greene School sits a county storage facility abutting the tracks on Park Place. It is surrounded by historical buildings that have been spruced up and are now owned by Hive. Hive runs a bakery and several upscale design and gift stores in the area, and its owners, as well as another party, have indicated that they're interested in acquiring the county-owned building. At the March 12th meeting, the BCC gave staff direction to explore disposing of the property, provided that the county gets a similar facility in return, and that there are no costs to the county. Gregg directed staff that they explore these

options, but to make sure to get input from the adjoining Flamingo Park and Grandview Heights neighborhoods,

That's a wrap.

Thanks for being a valued reader.

Happy Women's History Month!

Silver Airways Returns to PBI With New Cities Offered

One-way fares start at \$78

Nonstop service to Palm Beach International Airport (PBI) on Silver Airways is now available from these cities: Tampa (TPA); Nassau, Bahamas (NAS); Tallahassee (THL); Pensacola (PNS); and Marsh Harbor, Bahamas

Flights can be booked on www.silverairways.com. Visit www.pbia.org to find out more and book your flight today.

[Click for News Release](#)

Palm Beach
INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT



Celebrating the Women of Palm Beach County Fire Rescue

This Women's History Month we're honoring all of the wonderful women who make Palm Beach County Fire Rescue (PBCFR) one of the best fire and rescue departments in the country. PBCFR performs a critical service to communities across the county.

Thank you for keeping us safe!

[Watch the video here](#) or just click on the image below.





AI Insights

AI-generated Videos Coming to a Theater Near You?

The future is arriving at warp speed, and AI continues to lead the charge. Among the pioneers of this digital wild west are creative types, blazing trails with their imagination and embracing these tools like kids in a candy store. [Madonna is one of them.](#)

[Short on time? Click here for a summary of the article.](#)

Madonna is among the early adopters of AI's next wave



AI You Can Use



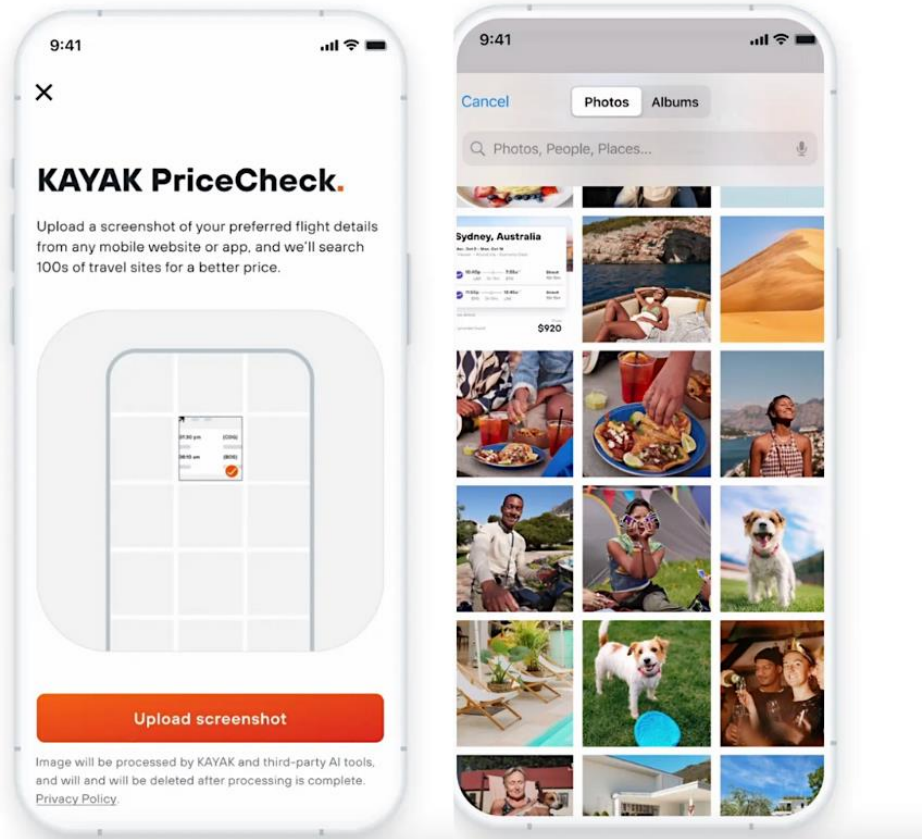
Hey folks! Up top we told you about Silver Airways' new nonstop flights to PBI. Well, the popular flight booking website KAYAK just launched a new AI feature that lets you find flights **with just a screenshot**. And if you're not sure where you want to go, their new "Ask KAYAK" travel planning tool can help you figure that out.

To use the "Ask KAYAK" travel planning tool, just enter a prompt based on your budget, travel dates or interests, and destination options from around the world are suggested. Currently, this tool is in Beta, but if you want to give it a whirl click [here](#).

To use KAYAK's PriceCheck tool, take a screenshot of any flight (even if you found it on a KAYAK competitor website), upload the photo to PriceCheck, and the tool will "search hundreds of sites to see if we can find a better price."

[KAYAK app for iPhone](#) | [KAYAK for Android](#)

That's it for today. If you'd like us to write about a specific AI topic email us at district2@pbc.gov.



AI Calendar

Note: Not all the events listed below are open to the public

3/14/2024 @ 1:00 PM: Golden Lakes Democratic Club. Contact Ann Frances for information.

3/25/24 @ 4:00 PM: AI forum, The Club at Ibis. Ibis residents can contact Judy Budnick for more information.

4/3/24 @ 2:00 PM: AI presentation at Lakeside Senior Living. Contact Richard Leeds for more information.

4/9/24 @ 7:00 PM: AI presentation at The Groves Community in Boynton Beach. Residents can contact Pamela Avalos for more information.

4/11/2024 @ 12:00 PM: United Methodist Church at [900 Brandywine Rd. West Palm Beach](#). Contact Margie Yansura for more information.

5/8/2024 @ 9:00 AM: AI presentation for the Coalition of Boynton West Residential Associations (COBWRA) Safety and Security Committee.

6/1/2024 @ 11:00 AM: AI presentation at Lakeridge Falls Clubhouse. Contact Marsha Auster for more information.

If you would like to invite Gregg to give a presentation in your community on artificial intelligence or any other topic, just contact our office at: district2@pbc.gov or [561-355-2202](tel:561-355-2202)



Palm Beach Post:

'Taxpayers need a break': But League of Cities argues county is replacing one tax with another

Animal Care and Control is getting a new \$48M facility with needed air-conditioned kennels

Federal Communications Commission (FCC):
[Chairwoman Announces Members of Intergovernmental Advisory Committee](#)

WLRN:
[Palm Beach County's penny tax is set to lapse - but a new surtax may be coming](#)

South Florida Sun Sentinel:

[Penny for your thoughts? Palm Beach County may not renew one-cent sales](#)

BNN Breaking:

[Palm Beach County Invests \\$48M in Animal Shelter Expansion Amid Overcrowding Crisis](#)

AOL:

[Animal Care and Control is getting a new \\$48M facility with needed air-conditioned kennels](#)

Commish in the Community

Celebrations, anniversaries, meeting with agencies, recognizing community leaders, joining neighbors' festivities and going to neighborhood meetings... Commissioner Weiss spends a LOT of time in the community.

"As an elected official, I want to be part of the community I represent," said Commissioner Weiss. "I want to understand the issues in my district, and that's why I spend many evenings attending events to listen and learn."

If you'd like to invite Commissioner Weiss to your event, let us know.



Century Village Computer Club

Century Village's Computer Club invited Gregg to present on AI. Gregg spoke to a crowd of about 100 people on generative AI. The presentation was followed by an engaging discussion on tech innovation and its impacts.



U.B. Kinsey Educational & Community Center

Digital equity and adoption was the focus of U.B. Kinsey Educational & Community Center's Women in Leadership panel discussion. Gregg attended the "Tackling the Digital Divide" talks, where panelists agreed that high-speed internet access isn't a luxury, it's a necessity.



Wynnebrook Groundbreaking

Wynnebrook Elementary, serving families along Drexel Road for 50+ years, needs replacement. On March 1, Gregg, Superintendent Mike Burke, and school officials broke ground for the rebuild. Students will return to the original site in 2025-26. They are currently using Crestwood Middle's campus.



Proclamation at Grassy Waters Preserve

Grassy Waters Preserve was the backdrop for the kickoff to Flood Awareness Week in Palm Beach County. Gregg joined fellow county official at this wetlands ecosystem that provides the water supply for the city of West Palm Beach to draw attention to the importance of flood protection.



Reading at Belvedere Elementary

The Belvedere Bees in Ms. Olmos' 3rd grade class were all ears when Gregg read to them on March 1st. Since it was Dr. Seuss Day, "Green Eggs and Ham" was on the menu. Thanks to Ms. DeQuesada for inviting us, and for wearing a most Seussical outfit. We hope to be back next year!



Palm Beach Prep Grads Pay Tribute

[Palm Beach Prep Charter Academy](#) facilitator Vernestine Williams presented Gregg with a signed & framed photo (with wishes for a speedy recovery from Gregg's shoulder surgery!) from the school's graduates. Gregg continues to be a steadfast supporter of the Academy's mission to educate, motivate, and graduate lifelong learners by coaching students academically and socially.



Jupiter High Students Tackling Plastic Pollution

These Jupiter High students have been studying plastic pollution for a year, looking at its impact on water and wildlife, and proposing solutions. They aim to reduce the use of single-use plastics and have a plan for businesses to earn recognition for eco-friendly practices. They recently presented their ideas to Gregg, and a documentary by Katie Carpenter and Tom Fritz will air on PBS in June, covering their progress. Pictured are: (L/R) Kayla Barlow, Gregg, Merrick Walder, and Michael Tolmachev-Strong.

[Visit Gregg's Facebook Page](#)

Elections 2024

Voters wishing to vote by mail in the 2024 elections are required by law to make a new Vote-by-Mail Request for all elections.

2024 Presidential Preference Primary & Uniform Municipal Elections

Early Voting: March 9-17, 2024 (7 a.m.-7 p.m.)

Election Day: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 (7 a.m.-7 p.m.)

[Click for Map of Early Voting and Secure Ballot Intake Station Location Hours\(March Election\)](#)

2024 Primary Election Information

Early Voting: Aug. 10-18, 2024 (7 a.m.-7 p.m.)

Election Day: Tuesday, Aug. 20, 2024 (7 a.m.-7 p.m.)

2024 General Election Information

Early Voting: Oct. 21, 2024 - Nov. 3, 2024 (7 a.m.-7 p.m.)

Election Day: Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2024 (7 a.m.-7 p.m.)

Have You Registered To Vote?

Check your voter registration status today by visiting “My Status” at <https://www.votepalmbeach.gov>

Request Your Vote-By-Mail Ballot

- **Online:** <https://palmbeach.electionsfl.org/vrservices/mbrs#>
- **By Phone:** **561-656-6208**
- **By Email:** votebymail@votepalmbeach.gov
- **In person Main Office:** [240 S. Military Trail](#) West Palm Beach 33415

**Ideas? Suggestions? Concerns?
Contact us!**

We're here to help you!

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