



Weiss Words Newsletter



GREGG K. WEISS

Palm Beach County Commissioner
District 2



April 22, 2026

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The Word

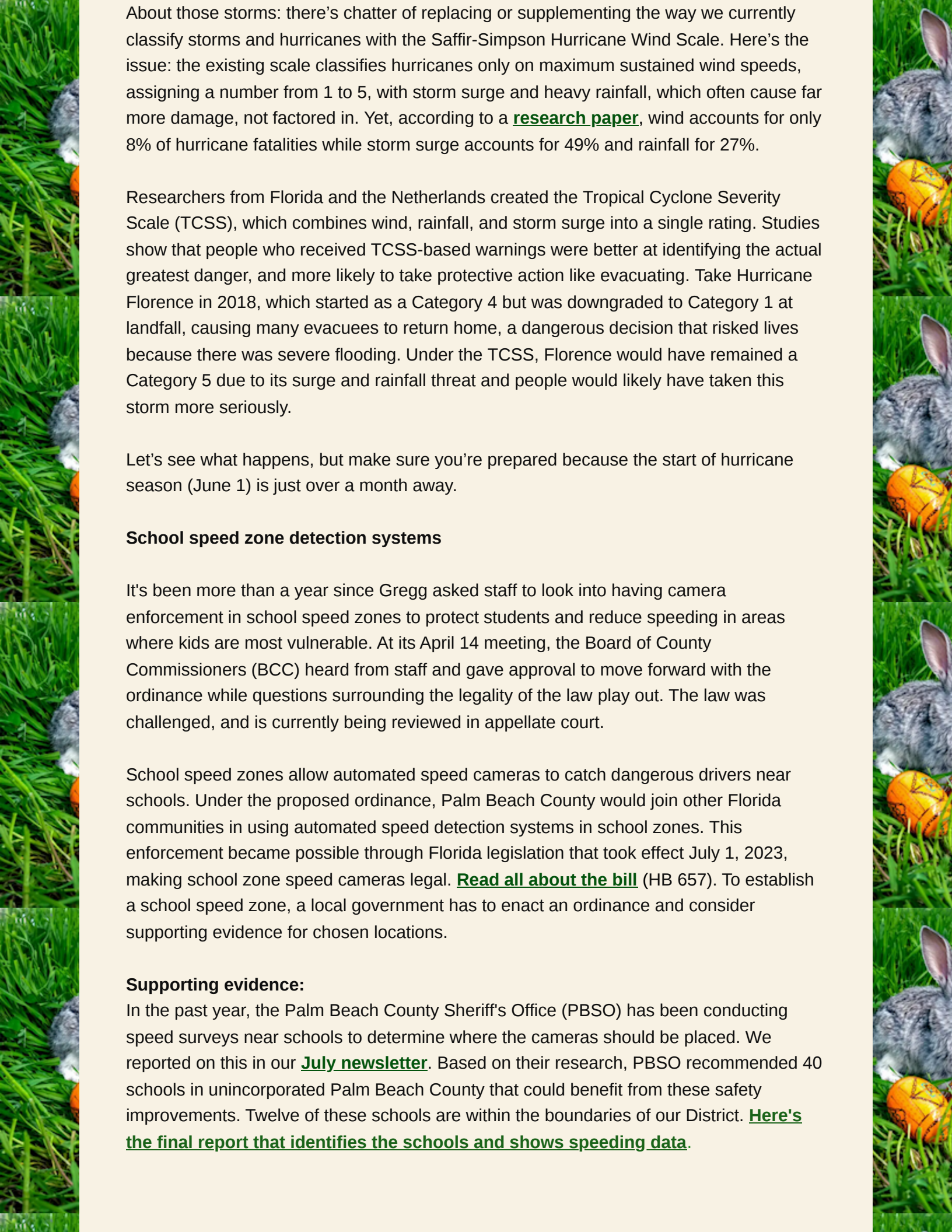
Gregg just returned from a trip to California, where he learned about traffic technologies that can help move people around more efficiently. Take a look in the Spotlight section of this newsletter for a short video where Gregg talks about what he learned.

I'll talk more about traffic later but first let's talk weather for a minute.

Rainfall and drought conditions

March and April, normally among the driest months of the year, ended up pretty wet, providing much-needed rain. The risk of wildfires is **greatly diminished** and the plants are loving it. But year-to-date we have not received the rainfall we normally do, and we're **still in a drought**. The start of the wet season is just a month away, which will hopefully give us enough rain without the tropical storms.

A new way to label storms



About those storms: there's chatter of replacing or supplementing the way we currently classify storms and hurricanes with the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale. Here's the issue: the existing scale classifies hurricanes only on maximum sustained wind speeds, assigning a number from 1 to 5, with storm surge and heavy rainfall, which often cause far more damage, not factored in. Yet, according to a [research paper](#), wind accounts for only 8% of hurricane fatalities while storm surge accounts for 49% and rainfall for 27%.

Researchers from Florida and the Netherlands created the Tropical Cyclone Severity Scale (TCSS), which combines wind, rainfall, and storm surge into a single rating. Studies show that people who received TCSS-based warnings were better at identifying the actual greatest danger, and more likely to take protective action like evacuating. Take Hurricane Florence in 2018, which started as a Category 4 but was downgraded to Category 1 at landfall, causing many evacuees to return home, a dangerous decision that risked lives because there was severe flooding. Under the TCSS, Florence would have remained a Category 5 due to its surge and rainfall threat and people would likely have taken this storm more seriously.

Let's see what happens, but make sure you're prepared because the start of hurricane season (June 1) is just over a month away.

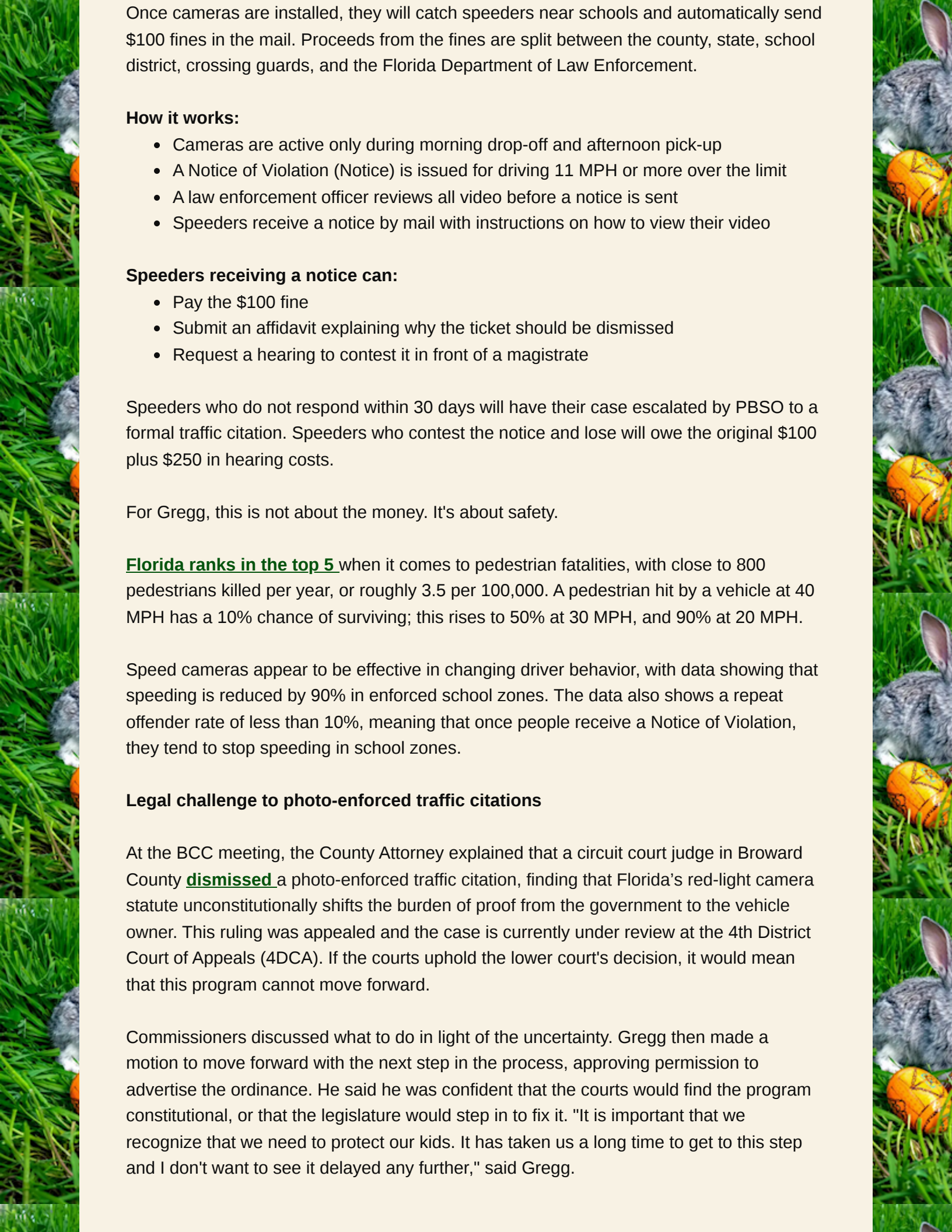
School speed zone detection systems

It's been more than a year since Gregg asked staff to look into having camera enforcement in school speed zones to protect students and reduce speeding in areas where kids are most vulnerable. At its April 14 meeting, the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) heard from staff and gave approval to move forward with the ordinance while questions surrounding the legality of the law play out. The law was challenged, and is currently being reviewed in appellate court.

School speed zones allow automated speed cameras to catch dangerous drivers near schools. Under the proposed ordinance, Palm Beach County would join other Florida communities in using automated speed detection systems in school zones. This enforcement became possible through Florida legislation that took effect July 1, 2023, making school zone speed cameras legal. [Read all about the bill](#) (HB 657). To establish a school speed zone, a local government has to enact an ordinance and consider supporting evidence for chosen locations.

Supporting evidence:

In the past year, the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office (PBSO) has been conducting speed surveys near schools to determine where the cameras should be placed. We reported on this in our [July newsletter](#). Based on their research, PBSO recommended 40 schools in unincorporated Palm Beach County that could benefit from these safety improvements. Twelve of these schools are within the boundaries of our District. [Here's the final report that identifies the schools and shows speeding data.](#)



Once cameras are installed, they will catch speeders near schools and automatically send \$100 fines in the mail. Proceeds from the fines are split between the county, state, school district, crossing guards, and the Florida Department of Law Enforcement.

How it works:

- Cameras are active only during morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up
- A Notice of Violation (Notice) is issued for driving 11 MPH or more over the limit
- A law enforcement officer reviews all video before a notice is sent
- Speeders receive a notice by mail with instructions on how to view their video

Speeders receiving a notice can:

- Pay the \$100 fine
- Submit an affidavit explaining why the ticket should be dismissed
- Request a hearing to contest it in front of a magistrate

Speeders who do not respond within 30 days will have their case escalated by PBSO to a formal traffic citation. Speeders who contest the notice and lose will owe the original \$100 plus \$250 in hearing costs.

For Gregg, this is not about the money. It's about safety.

Florida ranks in the top 5 when it comes to pedestrian fatalities, with close to 800 pedestrians killed per year, or roughly 3.5 per 100,000. A pedestrian hit by a vehicle at 40 MPH has a 10% chance of surviving; this rises to 50% at 30 MPH, and 90% at 20 MPH.

Speed cameras appear to be effective in changing driver behavior, with data showing that speeding is reduced by 90% in enforced school zones. The data also shows a repeat offender rate of less than 10%, meaning that once people receive a Notice of Violation, they tend to stop speeding in school zones.

Legal challenge to photo-enforced traffic citations

At the BCC meeting, the County Attorney explained that a circuit court judge in Broward County **dismissed** a photo-enforced traffic citation, finding that Florida's red-light camera statute unconstitutionally shifts the burden of proof from the government to the vehicle owner. This ruling was appealed and the case is currently under review at the 4th District Court of Appeals (4DCA). If the courts uphold the lower court's decision, it would mean that this program cannot move forward.

Commissioners discussed what to do in light of the uncertainty. Gregg then made a motion to move forward with the next step in the process, approving permission to advertise the ordinance. He said he was confident that the courts would find the program constitutional, or that the legislature would step in to fix it. "It is important that we recognize that we need to protect our kids. It has taken us a long time to get to this step and I don't want to see it delayed any further," said Gregg.

In the end, the BCC unanimously voted to move forward. The item will be back for discussion on May 5th. The ordinance will not be implemented and cameras will not be installed until there is clarity about the legality of the program.

That's it for this one.

Thanks for being a reader!

2026 Back To School PBC!

Please note: this event is by invitation only, meaning that qualifying families must reside in specific areas of the county.

[Click here](#) for an interactive map of all eligible areas. To search by address, click the magnifying glass on the top right of the linked page, and type in your address. If a student who registered last year receives an error that they do not qualify this year, please contact the organization they registered with last year for assistance.

Qualifying parents or students should go to the [registration link here](#) and enter code PBCOCR (or you can leave it blank), the parent's email address, and the parent's cell phone number. Registration is available in English, Spanish, and Creole, and can be completed online via a PC, tablet, or smartphone. A confirmation email will be sent upon registration.

In addition to the backpacks and school supplies, participating students may receive haircuts, school uniforms, sneakers, socks, blood tests, biometric health screenings, vision, dental and hearing tests, and other services and resources, depending on location and resource availability.

REGISTRATION

is now open for the

2026



REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

for a student to participate in the event

PLEASE NOTE:

Students must reside in designated neighborhoods or mobile home parks in unincorporated Palm Beach County to be eligible to register.

PLEASE REGISTER ONLINE AT
backtoschoolpbc.org

ENTER CODE **PBCOCR**

for students to receive
FREE SCHOOL SUPPLIES
& OTHER COMMUNITY RESOURCES

REGISTRATION ENDS

THURSDAY
May 7, 2026

The back-to-school event will be held on **Saturday, August 1, 2026.**

PRESENTED BY



Multi-Industry Career Fair

Join Career Source Palm Beach County for a multi-industry career fair on *Wednesday, April 29, 2026, from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.*, featuring Randstad, PGA National, and AWP Safety. Please bring your resume and be ready to network with hiring professionals. Employer career pages:

[AWP Safety](#) | [Randstad](#) | [PGA National](#)

[Pre-register here](#) to speed up your entry.



Multi-Industry Career Fair

Bring Copies of Your Resume & Dress for Success

April 29, 2026 | 10:30AM - 1PM

Central Career Center
3400 Belvedere Rd.
West Palm Beach, FL 33406

REGISTER TODAY



30+
AVAILABLE POSITIONS



Early Access
from 10AM - 10:30AM is reserved for, U.S. veterans and pre-registrations.

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AI Insights

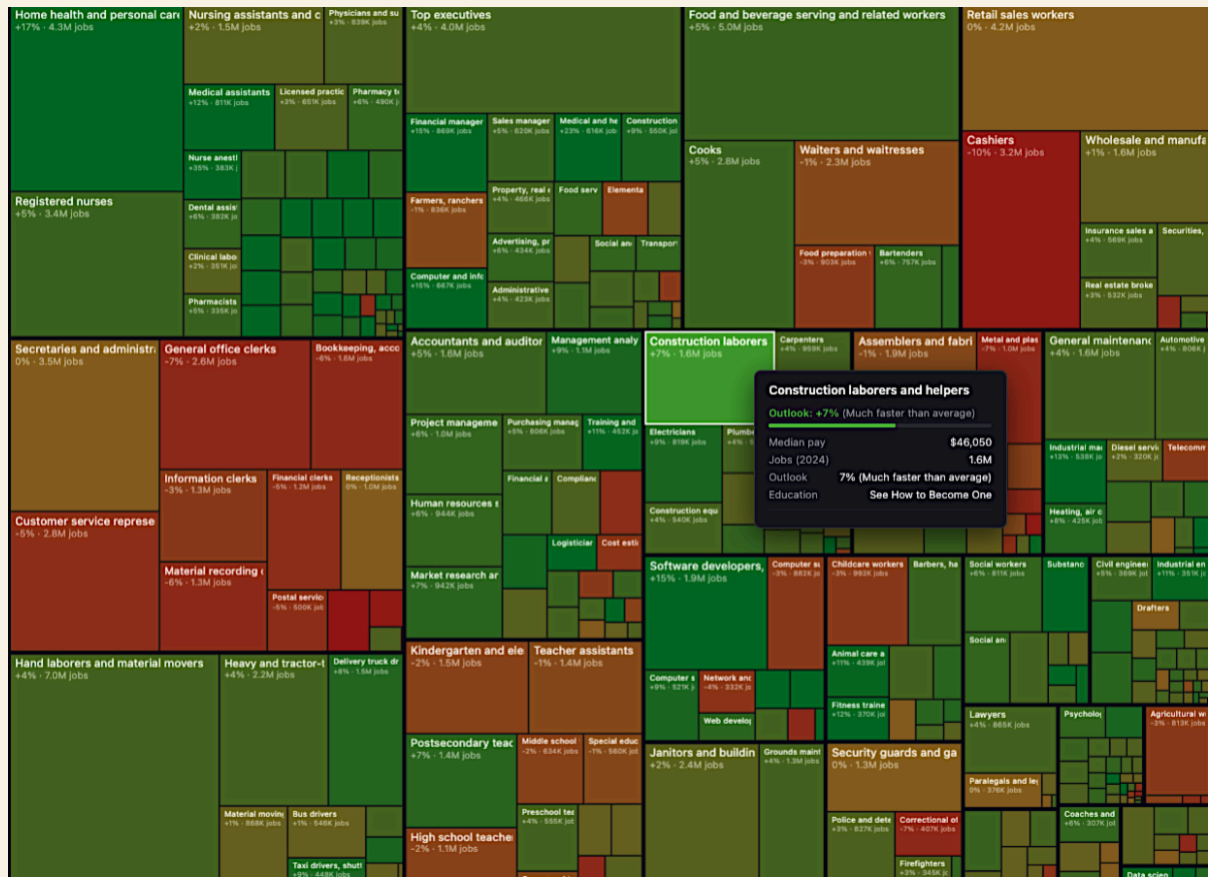
How Will AI Affect the Jobs Market?

AI researcher and Eureka Labs founder Andrej Karpathy recently released an interactive **US Jobs Market Visualizer** to show which jobs are most at risk of AI taking over your job.

The tool comes with a few caveats, including that these are rough LLM estimates not rigorous predictions. It visualizes 342 US occupations using Bureau of Labor Statistics data, with each job sized by employment and color-coded by metrics like pay, growth,

education, or AI exposure. Below is an image of the tool; green-coded blocks indicate jobs showing positive growth, and red-coded blocks (with variations on red) declining jobs.

Explore the Jobs Market Visualizer



AI You Can Use



The AI toolkit built for brains that work differently

Hi all! Jana, here. I've always been drawn to tools that were built for one group of people but turn out to be useful for almost everyone. Goblin Tools is that. It was designed for neurodivergent users — people whose brains sometimes make ordinary tasks feel like a wall. The standout feature, Magic ToDo, lets you type in anything you need to do ("deal with the garage," "write that email") and breaks it into actual steps. A "spiciness" slider controls how granular it gets. There's also Judge, which reads a message you're about to send and tells you how it might land emotionally. Useful for everyone, honestly.

Best of all: it's FREE. No account needed. [Just go play.](#)

Goblin Tools



goblin.tools

Magic ToDo
Breaking things down so you don't

The Professor
Give me the crash course

Compiler
Compile my braindump into a list of tasks

The Judge
Am I misreading the tone of this?

AI Calendar

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

4/22/2026 @ 7:00 PM: AI presentation at Valencia Falls. Contact Jason Doskow for more information.

6/8/2026 @ 2:00 PM: AI presentation at the Vi at Lakeside community. Contact Richard Leeds for more information.

If you would like to invite Commissioner Weiss to give a presentation in your community on artificial intelligence or any other topic, contact our office at district2@pbc.gov or 561-355-2202.

Spotlight

The Future of Getting Around

Gregg just spent time in LA and San Francisco exploring some of the most forward-thinking transit solutions in the country.

It's not new territory for him — Gregg spearheaded the adaptive signal technology that's already on its way to the county. But that's just the start. He believes that truly serving our community means rethinking how we approach getting around -- letting go of old habits and finding fresher, safer, smarter ways to move people through our corner of Florida. So he went straight to the source to, "get into the brains of these people that are solving these problems," as he put it, reporting back in the office.

Gregg's goal was simple: figure out what's actually working, and then bring the best of it home — practical ideas and proven solutions, adapted for the real challenges people face

in Palm Beach County.

The ideas are out there. Now it's about making them ours.

Watch the Video



Commissioner
Gregg K. Weiss
in the
NEWS

Stet News:

[11 big ideas to boost Palm Beach County tourism](#)

[Greenes' gift boosts Vanderbilt University plan](#)

MSN:

[Palm Beach County voters could approve \\$150 million for a new main library.](#)

Palm Beach Post:

[County commissioner and sheriff discuss housing and immigration](#)

[Sheriff Ric Bradshaw says he's kept promise of no role in ICE raids](#)

[Marina plan may give Riviera convention center to compete with county](#)

[Recount makes Andy Thomson new Boca mayor. Liebelson may fight result](#)

[Final Lake Worth ballot question fell by 2 votes, recount finds](#)

Boca Magazine:

[An Analysis of Boca Raton's Election Results](#)

PressReader:

[Thomson wins mayor recount in Boca Raton](#)

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.



Talking AI At Tulane

Gregg headed to New Orleans to speak at Tulane University's Murphy Institute on April 17th, joining a panel with the title, "AI and the Labor Market: Disruption, Adaptation, and Opportunities." Wearing his Co-Chair hat for NACo's AI Exploratory Committee, he dug into how labor markets are shifting, which skills and institutions will matter most as things change, and what it actually takes to build a more resilient future of work. The conversation aimed to cut through both the doom-and-gloom and the rose-colored-glasses takes on AI and jobs — and get into the real, practical choices that will shape what work looks like in the years ahead. More about the symposium [here](#).



PBI Groundbreaking Ceremony

PBI broke ground on Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting (ARFF) Station 81, and Gregg was delighted to speak at the April 13th event. ARFF teams play a key role in airport operations; they're specially trained to respond to aircraft incidents, airfield emergencies and medical events across the airport. They also provide advanced life support and emergency medical response services at the airport. From terminal medical calls to airfield incidents, ARFF is ready 24/7. [Learn more about ARFF.](#)



Speak Up For Kids Black & White Gala

The silent auction during a black-and-white gala held by Speak Up for Kids raised more than \$200,000 to help foster parents. As Speak Up Co-Founder along with his wife Rebecca, Gregg was front and center at the April 11th event in Palm Beach Gardens. Speak Up provides support services for those who take in at-risk children, helping with transportation, medical care, and dental care. [Learn more](#) about this wonderful organization.



Honoring Public Safety Telecommunicators

Public Safety Telecommunicators (aka 911 operators) serve as the first critical point of contact between the public and emergency response agencies. Their work is stressful, requiring operators to stay calm while managing traumatic incidents, high call volumes, emotional callers and life-or-death decisions. To honor the county's 911 operators during National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week (April 12–18), Gregg presented an offsite proclamation to the team April 9th at the Emergency Operations Center. We are grateful for the team's dedication to this essential work.



Fire Rescue Recruit Class 96

Palm Beach County Fire Rescue and friends honored the latest group of Fire Rescue recruits with an evening of recognition and celebration at the Eissey Theater in Palm Beach Gardens on March 31st. Gregg was on hand to honor the "Frozen Chosen," the new recruits embracing this selfless profession that serves our communities and keeps them safe. Congratulation to all these brave men and women, with profound thanks for their service.



Baywinds Community AI Presentation

Community members gathered at the Baywinds Club House on the afternoon of March 31st for Gregg's presentation on artificial intelligence, updated from his previous talks to include the rise of AI agents. As always, there were plenty of questions from the audience, who expressed both concern and enthusiasm for the many uses of this unstoppable technology. Special thanks to Len Cosimano for inviting us, and for the warm welcome.



West Palm 100 Happy Hour for a Cause

Every month the all-volunteer West Palm 100 holds events to support local communities in need. Founded in 2001, the nonprofit has raised over \$600K for local organizations and served over 50,000 volunteer hours in the community, impacting the lives of thousands of people. 100% of their funds raised go directly to selected charities. Gregg joined in at Mr. B's on March 19th for the month's event benefitting Leadership Palm Beach County. Learn more about [West Palm 100](#).



Speak Up For Kids Aviation Awareness Day

North County Airport was the site of this year's **Speak Up For Kids** Aviation Awareness Day, a transformative experience specifically designed for children in foster care. At the event, held on March 14th, children had the chance to participate in hands-on aviation learning experiences, meet aviation professionals and mentors, get a free introductory flight with a certified pilot, and enjoy breakfast and educational programming in a fully supervised setting. A co-founder of Speak Up, Gregg was delighted to participate in this year's event that for many children is life-changing. [More photos from the event.](#)

[VISIT GREGG'S FACEBOOK PAGE](#)

**Ideas? Suggestions? Concerns?
Contact Us!**

We're here to help you!

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