



Weiss Words Newsletter



GREGG K. WEISS

*Palm Beach County Commissioner
District 2*



May 18, 2026

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The Word


School's out in just a few weeks. Here's our latest newsletter before we head into summer vacation.

Don't forget that hurricane season is just around the corner. Now is the time to **get prepared.**

Board OK's Licensing Agreement With Trump Organization Over Gregg's objection

On May 5, the Palm Beach Board of County Commissioners (BCC) voted 4-3 to approve a trademark agreement related to the renaming of Palm Beach International Airport as Donald J. Trump International Airport. Gregg voted against it, along with Commissioners Bobby Powell Jr. and Joel Flores. Here's how it played out:

Several months ago, the Florida Legislature passed legislation removing the county's authority over the naming of Palm Beach International Airport and renaming it at the state level. That decision was made in Tallahassee, not by the Board of County Commissioners.



At the May 5 BCC meeting, Gregg took issue with the licensing agreement and the process. The 35-page agreement was placed on the agenda late the day before the meeting, giving commissioners little time to thoroughly review the document. At the meeting, Gregg asked numerous questions and voted against it because he didn't feel certain our residents are fully protected.

One of his concerns is that the agreement may leave an opening for the Trump Organization to sell airport-branded merchandise off-site for profit. Another issue is that any use of the Trump name or image for airport marketing must first be approved by the Trump Organization.

Gregg believes that residents deserve transparency and adequate time for review when their county government enters into complex legal agreements and that did not happen here.

The airport's new three-letter FAA code will change from PBI to DJT, with the transition deadline set for July 9.

Traffic: Board Adopts Safety Action Plan But Delays School Speed Zone

At the May 5 BCC meeting, County Engineering staff presented a Safety Action Plan, which includes recommendations for the top five county corridors that account for 20% of all fatal and serious injury crashes on county-maintained roadways. The plan, which was approved unanimously, directs the county to pursue grants from the United States Department of Transportation and the Florida Highway Administration to make these roadways safer. Read the full report [here](#). If you want to see what the five corridors are and which improvements are proposed, check page 52 onwards.

Gregg has long been an advocate for school speed zones. It's a system where automated cameras ticket drivers who speed excessively in school zones. We told you in our last [newsletter](#) that the board moved forward with the ordinance while awaiting the outcome of a legal challenge. At the May 5 BCC meeting the majority of the board - not including Gregg - had a change of heart and decided to stop the process, leaving open the option to take up the ordinance after the courts have made a ruling or the legislature provides a fix.

Virginia Leaves District 2

After more than seven years of working in Gregg's office, Virginia Savietto has taken a job in the private sector. Virginia, who was with us from the beginning, juggled a variety of tasks including scheduling and special projects, and she was instrumental in our Hispanic outreach, producing our Spanish-language newsletters. We wish her well and are hoping to announce her replacement in the next newsletter.

Interns are here

Like most summers, we have a few interns who will be working in our office to learn about county government. Fredy Verdugo is back from last year. He will be joined by a first-time intern, Eliana, about whom you can read in the spotlight section of this newsletter.

Thanks for being a reader!

Veteran's Memorial Park Tribute

Memorial Day Program at Veteran's Memorial Park

Looking for a meaningful way to observe Memorial Day this year? The annual Memorial Day Program presented by Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 10556 returns Monday, May 25 at 9:30 a.m. at Veteran's Memorial Park.

The community ceremony will pay tribute to the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. Armed Forces, and will feature a procession of colors, guest speakers, and patriotic music in a moving morning of remembrance and gratitude. The event is coordinated jointly by the VFW Post 10556 and the Palm Beach County Parks and Recreation Department Special Events Section, with sponsorship support from Grimes Events and Party Tents and Professional Concessions Inc.

Veteran's Memorial Park is located at [9400 W. Palmetto Park Road](#) between Lyons Road and U.S. Highway 441, west of Boca Raton. Residents of all ages are encouraged to attend and honor those who served.



Kids Fitness Festival

Registration is now open for the 2026 Kids Fitness Festival of the Palm Beaches, presented by Baptist Health!

Join in on July 8 for a fun-filled day featuring 20+ interactive sports clinics where local youth can move, play, and try something new alongside coaches, mentors, and athletes from across our community. Last year presenters welcomed over 1,500 participants who got active and had a blast.

Don't miss out on this year's action. [Click here](#) to register or on the button below.

Register



KIDS FITNESS FESTIVAL OF THE PALM BEACHES

Kids Fitness Festival of the palm beaches
PRESENTED BY
Baptist Health

**10 A.M. TO 2:30 P.M. ON JULY 8. 2026
SOUTH FLORIDA FAIRGROUNDS**

The graphic features a young boy in a neon green t-shirt and black shorts, dribbling an orange basketball. The background is a light green and white halftone pattern. A large red banner with white text reads "KIDS FITNESS FESTIVAL OF THE PALM BEACHES". Below the banner is a white scalloped-edged box containing the festival logo and the Baptist Health logo. At the bottom, a white banner with red text provides the event details.



AI Insights

Behind the Curtain: How AI Chatbots Work

Lake Worth resident Dee McCalla has built an application that illustrates — in real time and in 3D — how Artificial Intelligence (AI) really works. Dee's tool debunks the myth that AI has a brain, like a thinking human. It's just math, she says.

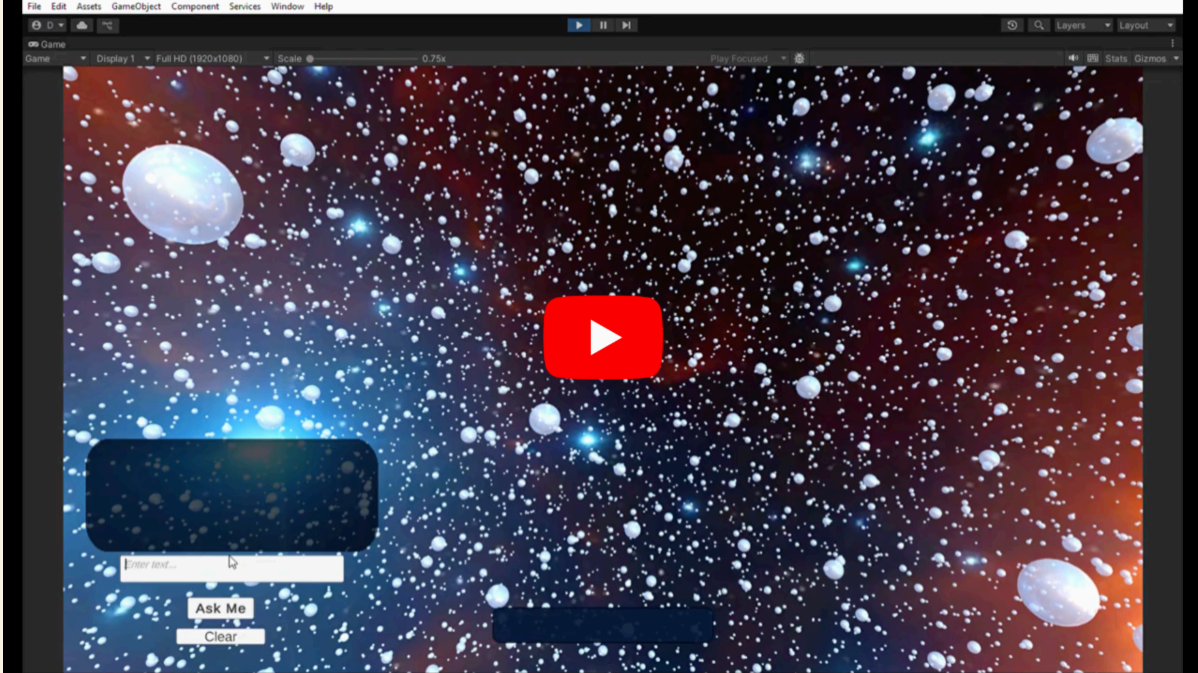
Here's the basic idea: AI models learn by reading an enormous amount of human-written text: websites, books, articles, and more. As they read, they break language down into small chunks called tokens. Each token gets assigned a kind of address in mathematical space, based on how it was used in context. Tokens that tend to appear in similar situations end up as neighbors. "Dog" and "cat" land close together. So do "king" and "queen," or "mortgage" and "interest rate."

The model doesn't learn definitions — it learns relationships.

When you type a question, the AI doesn't look up an answer. It predicts, one token at a time, what chunk would most sensibly come next, building a response piece by piece. What makes Dee's app remarkable is that you can watch that process happen. Each of those tokens is represented as a floating point of light, and thousands of them arrange themselves in three-dimensional space as the model works out its response. Tokens that appear close together are mathematically similar in meaning — and that's not a metaphor or an animation trick. The geometry is real.

The app requires no internet connection, no special equipment, and no technical background to appreciate. Just ask a question and watch the AI's "thought process" take shape before your eyes. It was designed to make AI less mysterious — and from what we've seen, it delivers. [Check out the app here](#) or by clicking on the image below.

Want to learn more from Dee? Email her at: dtanis007@gmail.com



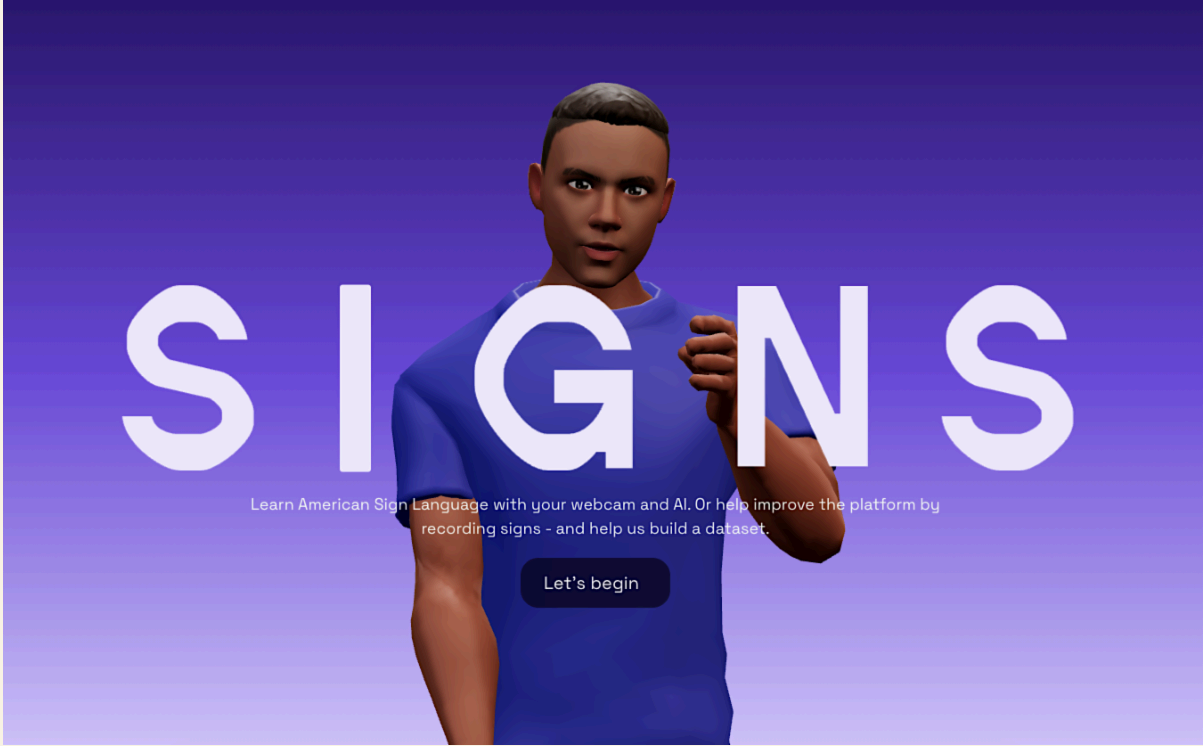
AI You Can Use



Hi all! Jana, here. I just finished watching the HBO series [DTF St. Louis](#), which is worth committing to for many reasons, but especially because one of the main characters (Floyd) is an impossible-not-to-love American Sign Language (ASL) interpreter. Floyd is not a symbolic character in the series, there to teach us a lesson or signal the show's sensitivity. Being an ASL interpreter is just his job. He's a character that rarely gets this kind of storytelling attention in television. Which brings me to today's AI tool:

[SIGNS](#) is an AI-powered platform by NVIDIA and the American Society for Deaf Children that makes learning ASL interactive and accessible. Using real-time feedback through a 3D avatar, it helps users practice sign language while contributing to a growing open dataset. The platform serves hearing parents, Deaf individuals, and developers building inclusive communication tools. Give it a whirl. I plan to!

[Explore SIGNS](#)



AI Calendar

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

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

Eliana Gaines

Meet Eliana, a second-year politics student at Palm Beach Atlantic University. With seven years of agriculture study, she's passionate about political issues impacting farming, food systems, and rural communities. Eliana also volunteers teaching 2nd grade literacy, driving her commitment to education policy and equity for local students. Here's Eliana on Mill Mountain in Roanoke, Virginia!



Commissioner
Gregg K. Weiss
in the
NEWS



Palm Beach Post:

[After contentious debate, county airport will be named after Trump](#)

[West Palm Beach deserves better than backroom 'park' deal | Opinion](#)

[Should voters decide plan to move Flagler Drive in West Palm Beach?](#)

The Town-Crier:

[County Commissioners Hit The Brakes On School Zone Speed Camera Plan](#)

International Business Times/UK:

[Palm Beach International Airport Officially Renamed After President Trump In Controversial 4-3 Vote](#)

Miami New Times:

[Palm Beach Airport Should Be Named for Ariana Grande, Not Trump, State Rep Says](#)

AsutuNews (Jakarta):

[Palm Beach County Approves Trump International Airport Trademark Deal](#)

WPTV:

['Emergency' rail repairs force 8-hour overnight closure of major West Palm Beach intersection this weekend](#)

Thought Catalog:

[Major U.S. Airport Will Be Renamed After Donald Trump, and His Family Will Keep the Profits](#)

The Florida Bar:

[Legal Aid Society celebrates Justice for All with record-breaking gala](#)

WFLX/Fox29:

['Emergency' rail repairs force 8-hour overnight closure of major West Palm Beach intersection this weekend](#)

CBS12:

[South Florida court dismisses speed camera cases, could Palm Beach County be next?](#)

Miami Herald | yahoo!news

[Palm Beach County signs off on controversial Trump airport trademark deal](#)

CBS 12 News:

[Palm Beach Zoo gives koalas a bigger, greener home in newly unveiled habitat redesign](#)

SunSentinel:

[Palm Beach County approves license agreement to rename airport after Trump](#)

Florida Politics:

[Palm Beach County OKs Donald Trump airport naming deal amid profit concerns](#)

Readers.id:

[Palm Beach County Approves Trump Airport Trademark Agreement](#)

El Paso Times | Press Reader:

[County OKs deal naming Florida airport after Trump](#)

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.



National Safe Boating Week

Did you know that nearly 600 people die each year in the US, in boating-related accidents? 76% of these fatalities were drownings, because the person was not wearing a life jacket. Human error and inexperience account for most boating accidents, so it's important to be smart on the water. Gregg drew attention to this with a proclamation given on May 13th, declaring May 16-22 National Safe Boating Week in Palm Beach County. [Learn more.](#)



Story Time at the Boys & Girls Club

It was an afternoon of reading, fun, and learning May 11th at the [Florence De George Boys & Girls Club](#), where Gregg engaged with kindergarten and first grade Club members in an educational story time experience centered around the children's book, "Henry and the Hurricane". In partnership with [AshBritt, Stronger Than the Storm](#), Brittany Perkins Castillo (author) and Nathan Jarvis (illustrator) connected their story to real-life scenarios involving major storms. The kids learned about what a storm is, how they can help their families prepare, and what to do in the aftermath. They left the story time feeling confident and empowered to handle all types of weather.



Student Showcase of Films

Florida's largest and most prestigious student film competition took place May 1st at the Maltz Theater with the 31st Annual Palm Beaches Student Showcase of Films. This year's award show theme, "Set-Jetting," highlighted how films inspire audiences to travel, explore, and experience destinations seen on screen. Gregg was delighted to attend and celebrate the creativity, innovation, and the cinematic spirit of Florida's young storytellers. See all the winners and more pics [here](#).



Alliance of Women Executives Scholarship Awards Dinner

The [Alliance of Women Executives](#) (AWE) celebrated its 10th anniversary April 28th, awarding 25 scholarships plus a new laptop each, to young women from Palm Beach County high schools, bringing its all-time total to 177. Gregg was delighted to attend this milestone event, where Commissioner Maria Marino (far left in photo), presented AWE with a formal proclamation from the county honoring a decade of service. AWE President Vicki Tate (photo center) leads the organization that helps young women overcome financial and technology barriers as they head to college.



Fire Station 24 Groundbreaking

Palm Beach County Fire Rescue broke ground on a new fire station at Seminole and Westgate Avenue on April 27th, and Gregg was on hand to celebrate and give remarks. The new station on donated land will replace an older Station 24, whose aged infrastructure needed extensive repairs and was no longer big enough to fully accommodate the size and type of equipment used today. The new design not only considers firefighter safety but will have dedicated decontamination areas for dirty gear, high-efficiency HVAC systems, and LED lighting throughout to maximize energy efficiency.



PB Zoo Showcases New Habitat for Koalas

The [Palm Beach Zoo](#) unveiled its reimagined koala habitat at a ribbon-cutting on April 24th, with Gregg joining local leaders to celebrate the renovated space. The redesigned habitat features both an air-conditioned indoor space for the koalas plus a newly built outdoor area where they can munch on eucalyptus leaves and take luxurious naps. Not a bad hang!



Legal Aid Society Justice For All Gala

The [Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County](#) hosted its "Justice For All Celebration" April 18th at the Kravis Center, welcoming 500 guests to an evening themed, "Waves of Justice: from the Shores of Amalfi." Over \$550,000 was raised, breaking the record for the event and delivering a powerful boost to Legal Aid's programs serving low-income and vulnerable residents in the community. Gregg was on hand to celebrate, and present Legal Aid's Bob Bertisch with a proclamation honoring his 45-year career as the organization's Executive Director.

[VISIT GREGG'S FACEBOOK PAGE](#)

Ideas? Suggestions? Concerns?

Contact Us!

We're here to help you!

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