

Lantana Passes Temporary Moritorium To Buy Time

The Lantana Town Council passed an temporary moratorium on the submittal and processing of applications and permits for small wireless facilities until December 31, 2017.

This is to give the Town time to get the proper ordinances in place.

The Florida Legislature passed House Bill 687, known as the "Advanced Wireless Infrastructure Deployment Act." The law establishes a process by which wireless providers may place certain "small wireless facilities" on, under, within, or adjacent to certain utility poles or wireless support structures within public rights-of-way that are under the jurisdiction and control of an "authority" (i.e., a county or municipality). The Town currently has regulations pertaining to such facilities within its Code of Ordinances, specifically codified within Chapter 17, "Streets, Sidewalks and Other Public Places," Article V, "Right-of-Way Regulations," which need

to be evaluated in light of the new law and Town staff has not had adequate time to evaluate the impacts or address local issues that are presented by the new law and take action accordingly. Town staff recommends a moratorium within the Town on the submittal and processing of applications and permits for small wireless facilities or micro wireless facilities until December 31, 2017 and recommends adoption of 0-10-2017 to accomplish this purpose.

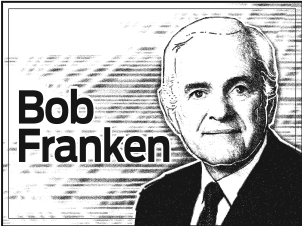
Three Little Words

At the beginning of my reporting career, I covered a federal judge hearing a civil suit against National Guardsmen several years after the Kent State killings. The judge refused to allow transcripts of grand jury testimony from earlier criminal proceedings into evidence. Grand juries are supposed to be secret, he ruled, and allowing their deliberations into the record would mean they'd become public.

Unfortunately -- or fortunately, depending on one's perspective -- I had gotten my hands on the transcripts from sources I won't identify to this day. Each evening, as a local TV reporter, I'd do live shots about the material that his honor had suppressed that day, and then read on the air what was relevant in the text. It infuriated the judge. I know that because I was summoned to his chambers: "I need for you to tell me where you got these transcripts. From whom?"

"I can't" I replied. He continued, "You know, I can throw you in jail." My response

was polite, but curt: "Go ahead. Make me a star." He decided not to pursue it. Maybe that's why I never became a star.



Decades later, little has changed. Come to think of it, it's gotten worse. We're now at the point of open warfare against reporters and their duty to protect the sources who have anonymously revealed information that Americans have a right to know. Make that a need to know.

President Donald Trump makes no bones about his contempt for journalists and his fury at the leaks that make his time in office a constant embarrassment. He has railed against the disclosures of classified material, but he really means anything that presents him in an unfavorable light, and there's plenty of that.

Now his "beleaguered" attorney general, Jeff Sessions, is desperately trying to save his job by announcing a prosecutorial investigation to identify any and all leakers. That includes "reviewing policies affecting media subpoenas."

The policies to which he refers severely restrict the Department of Justice from taking action that requires newpeople to disclose their sources under threat of imprisonment.

Over the years, I have refined my response to such official demands. It's much shorter now -- three words, actually. On Twitter, "Meet the Press" host Chuck Todd put it a lot more elegantly: "If DoJ media source threat is real, then I look forward to ignoring that subpoena." That's succinct, but not as succinct as mine, which is more Anthony Scaramucci as to what they can do about their subpoena.

The reasons for insisting on protecting the sources on stories that simply displease politicians are obvious: The misbehavior our leaders are trying to hide has no business being hidden. The constitutional role of media is to pull apart the veil so that the citizens of our democracy can see inside and make informed decisions about the ones we elect.

It's not just Donald Trump. Leaks enrage every president. Barack Obama was hardly an angel when it came to crossing the line with reporters.

All we can do is continue to aggressively cover the president and use some variation of my three-word response. I've used it before, and will proudly use it again. And there are other suggestions where that came from.

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Senior Flash Mob at Palm Springs Travel Club



Senior flash mob interrupts Travel Club meeting at the Village of Palm Springs. Travel Club meets 1st Thursday of each month. Contact Parks & Recreation Dept for more information at 561-964-8820. Contact Pat Mieszczenski at 969-0686 for more information about classes at the Village of Palm Springs.

Tax Collector Warns of Possible Scam Targeting Taxpayers

Anne M. Gannon, Palm Beach County Constitutional Tax Collector warns the public to be alert to a possible scam targeting taxpayers. The scam was confirmed earlier this week by the Okaloosa County Tax Collector's Office.

According to Ben Anderson, Okaloosa County Tax Collector, taxpayers received letters on letterhead resembling his agency's official letterhead. The letters identified the Okaloosa County Tax Collector as an agent of the Internal Revenue

Service (IRS). Multiple IRS forms were attached to the letter with instructions for the tax payer to return the completed forms with certified funds.

"Protecting the citizens of Palm Beach County from this type of crime is critically important," said Gannon. "Although we have not seen this scam in our county, I want to make sure taxpayers are aware. This scam can be extremely convincing, especially to our senior citizens."

Anne M. Gannon, Con-

stitutional Tax Collector serving Palm Beach County, is not an agent of the IRS and will never send letters to taxpayers in conjunction with IRS forms. If anyone receives this type of letter, Gannon urges them to report it immediately by contacting her agency's call center at 561- 355-2264.

"I take these types of threats very seriously and will work with local law enforcement if I find this happening here in Palm Beach County," said Gannon.

School Board's Erica Whitfield Addresses LW Commission

Erica Whitfield, District 4 School Board Member gave a presentation to the Lake Worth City Commission to update them on activities of the School Board.

Whitfield began discussing the changes Superintendent Avossa has brought to the School District. Whitfield said Dr. Avossa has brought things to a high level of strategic planning and that phenomenal changes are coming to create a positive and supportive climate so students "can be the best they can be."

Whitfield discussed the importance of community involvement with students and assisting the school system in giving the best education possible along with the

importance of student attendance. Based on the graduating class of 2014, Whitfield said students with 0-5 absences in their eighth grade year had a graduation rate of 86.5 percent. For those with 6-10 absences graduation rate was 85.8 percent. The percentages dropped drastically after that with graduation rates of 72 percent with 11-20 absences and for students with 21 or more absences, only 53.3 percent graduated.

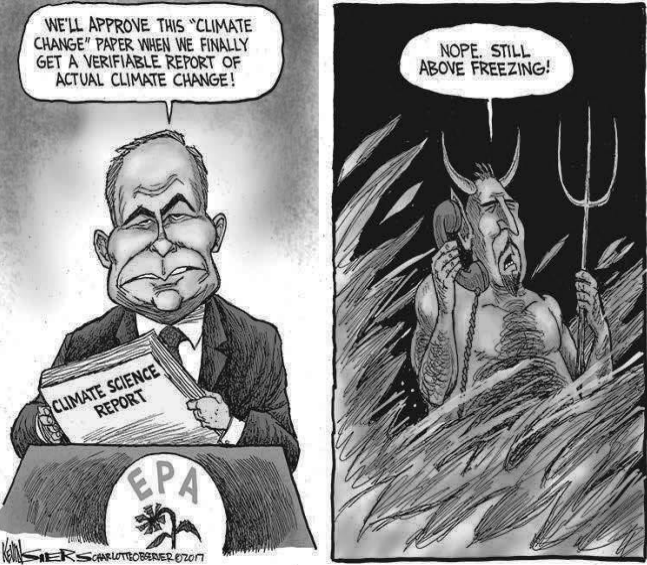
Local elementary schools have held C and D grades and there will be strong emphasis on raising the scores.

Whitfield introduced Lake Worth High School's new Principal, Dr. Elvis Epps. Dr. Epps explained the demographics of the

school as having 87 percent minority students. Epps also said 75 percent of the approximately 2500 students are eligible for the free lunch program.

Epps said many students are afraid to come to school because they fear ICE will pick them up for being illegal immigrants. Epps reached out to Guatemalan students at Palm Beach State College and found they would be interested in coming in and helping the students by tutoring them. Epps petitioned the School District for funds to pay the PBSC students and was granted permission to pay them.

Epps also issued a plea for local businesses to get involved with Lake Worth High School to assist the education process.



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Lake Worth High School Principal, Dr. Elvis Ebbs addresses the City Commission after being introduced by District 4 School Board member, Erica Whitfield.