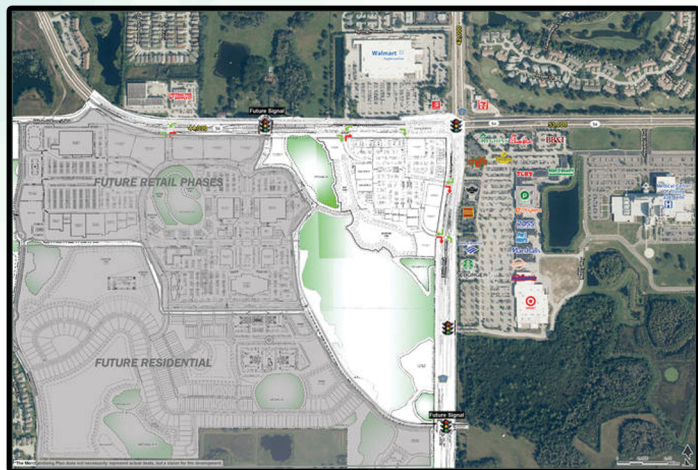


APRIL 2018

# Community News

THE COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS

The Voice of Condo, Civic, and Homeowner Associations of Pasco County



## ***The Village at Mitchell Ranch***

Pasco's western hub is about to get some new spokes, just not as quickly as envisioned.

Construction is scheduled to begin next month on the initial 30-acre phase of Mitchell 54 West, a 330-acre, mixed-use project of up to 800 homes and nearly 1 million square feet of commercial space. It will be on land currently owned by the Mitchell family at the southwest corner of State Road 54 and Little Road.

Pasco County, in its long-range market plan, designated that area as its western hub, essentially the edge of the Trinity-to-Wesley Chapel corridor along State Roads 54 and 56. The county encouraged walkable communities and accommodations for future mass transit in the location.

To read more of this article, visit: <https://goo.gl/HWdfcZ>

## ***Another School Rezoning Update***

Two years into the debate, little new remained to be said about Pasco County's west-side school attendance zones during a Tuesday public hearing.

Twenty-three residents spoke at the 5 p.m. event — a number perhaps dampened by rain and going-home traffic — with the bulk of them living in the areas most impacted by the proposed changes, Longleaf and Ellington.

Most opposed the superintendent's recommendation that their neighborhoods be reassigned, although a couple expressed pleasure with the programs offered at the schools where they'd be sent.

But regardless of peoples' personal views on the specifics, a common message arose within the comments. They wanted a more comprehensive approach to the district's crowding issues.

To read more of this article, visit: [goo.gl/5ERVVR](https://goo.gl/5ERVVR)







## **Burn Bans Approvals**

The Pasco County Board of County Commissioners passed an ordinance on April 11 that will give the county administrator the power to issue burn bans based on recommendations from fire officials.

**Previously, getting bans approved took weeks**

**New process would allow bans to go into effect immediately**

**Ordinance still needs to be filed with Department of State**

Pasco County Fire Rescue Chief Scott Cassin said in the past, getting bans approved has taken weeks.

"It's extremely frustrating, because it was around a year ago in Pasco County we were seeing the effects of the large number of brush fires that we had," Cassin said. "Several of those brush fires were quite large in magnitude. So we needed to do something really, really quick, and we were kind of bound by the meeting schedule."

In the past, it's been up to county commissioners to authorize a ban, and regular meetings are only held twice a month. Cassin said this new process would allow a ban to take effect immediately.

To read more of this article, visit: [goo.gl/UQFwb9](https://goo.gl/UQFwb9)

# Community News

## **Mettler-Toledo Relocation**

Mettler Toledo recently moved from a Hillsborough County facility to a new 267,000 square foot home in Lutz.

**Facility designs, builds machines that check food quality**

**Company outgrew facility expanded in 2010**

**Company expects to employ 600 at new facility by summer**

"This is huge. I mean, it's creating, overall, almost 700 jobs – good-paying jobs," said Pasco County Commission Chairman Mike Wells. "This is just the start."

The facility designs, builds, and services machines used by companies to check food quality.

"In modern food manufacturing, a lot of equipment is moving around. Stainless steel pieces, once in a while, will fall off," said Mettler Toledo General Manager Viggo Nielsen. "We find that before it gets to the supermarket."

Nielsen said the Hillsborough facility underwent a major expansion in 2010 that Mettler Toledo outgrew faster than expected. The company went in search of a 30-acre lot – something Nielsen said wasn't possible to find in Hillsborough County.

To read more of this article, visit: [goo.gl/V6wcnv](https://goo.gl/V6wcnv)





## Getting Young Voters Active

As a pivotal election creeps closer and closer, it was all about enticing voters to hit the polls during a Pasco County festival on Sunday.

**Rally encourages people to register to vote**

**Focus on getting young voters involved in the process**

**Push comes in the wake of Parkland shooting**

The push comes at a time when teens are seeing the words 'register to vote' all over social media.

In the wake of the Parkland shooting, dozens of survivors have taken to Twitter, urging their peers to take part in the electoral process.

But is it working?

Andrina Krug was one of the many who registered to vote this weekend. She says she hasn't been swayed by student activists and just wants to make sure her voice is being heard.

"Now that I'm 18 I can be involved in more stuff than I ever could have, and I just love being involved," she said.

Nathan Tatum, 17, registered to vote before even hitting the legal age. That way the day he turns 18, he will be in the system and ready to hit the polls.

"It's inspiring to me to see people my age standing up for what they believe in and fighting for what they believe in," he said.

From what he's heard around school, Tatum feels this election will have a stronger turnout than ever for first-time voters.



## Community News

### ***The Fast and the Furriest***

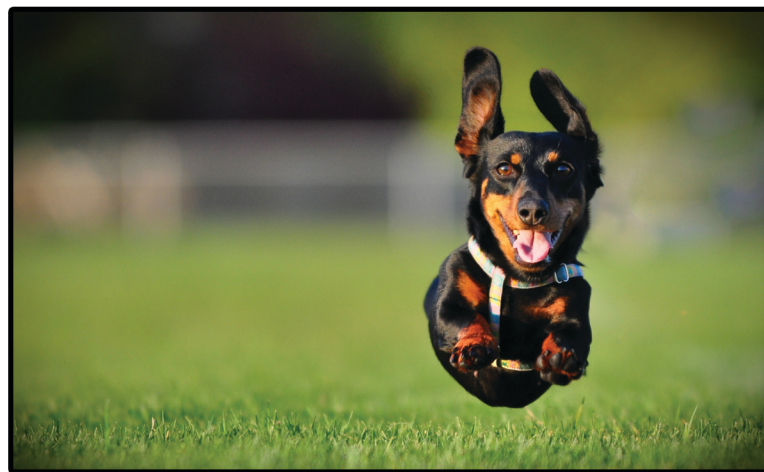
From the beautiful Bayou in Port Richey Waterfront Park to the Gulf of Mexico and back, Tampa Bay pups will vie to determine who is top dog during The Fast and The Furriest Race April 21.

The event starts at 8 a.m. At 9:15 a.m., prizes will be presented for best-dressed, most festive and fastest pets and owners. Giveaways and raffles will be awarded as well.

Every pet participating will receive a special dog tag and their companions will get their own dog tag and a summer cooler.

The event benefits Raffle Rescue pet food assistance program. In conjunction, attendees are encouraged to bring pet food or treats to donate.

For further information, visit: <https://goo.gl/9Vppq8>



### ***CONA Elections & Meetings***

Last month we had two new officers elected for the CONA Board of Directors. Please welcome Tricia Shade and Sarah Alonso to the team!

Our next meeting will be held on April 18, 2018 at 9:30am. Please keep in mind that our new meeting address is:

**New Port Richey City Hall  
5919 Main Street  
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