

HAPPENINGS

Weekly Edition

July 10, 2026

Parrish Healthcare Supports Local Teachers with Second Annual Back-to-School Supplies Giveaway *Healing Classrooms, Inspiring Futures*

Recognizing the incredible impact teachers have on shaping young minds, Parrish Healthcare is giving back to North Brevard educators by purchasing back-to-school supplies for the upcoming 2026-2027 school year. Through the second annual Healing Classrooms, Inspiring Futures giveaway, Parrish Healthcare will purchase classroom supplies for several local teachers, helping them start the new school year equipped with the resources they need to inspire.

From Monday, June 29 until Sunday, July 12, North Brevard teachers are invited to submit their classroom wish lists for the opportunity to have requested supplies purchased. Whether it's everyday essentials like paper, pencils and notebooks or educational tools that encourage creativity, exploration and hands-on learning, Parrish Healthcare is committed to supporting the educators who make a lasting difference in the lives of local students.



“At Parrish Healthcare, we believe caring for our community extends beyond the walls of our hospital and medical offices, it includes investing in the educators who help shape the future,” said George Mikitarian, President and CEO of Parrish Healthcare. “Teachers generously give their time, talent and often their own resources to create meaningful learning experiences for their students. This initiative is our small way of saying thank you.”

To be eligible for the Healing Classrooms, Inspiring Futures giveaway, applicants must be teachers at a school serving the North Brevard community and, if selected, provide a valid school ID for verification. Eligible communities include Titusville, Port St. John, Mims, Scottsmeer, Sharpes and Canaveral Groves. A select number of teachers will be chosen to receive classroom supplies, helping to ease the financial burden many educators face when preparing for a new school year. By supporting local teachers and

Healing Classrooms, Inspiring Futures

*A 2026-2027 back-to-school
supplies giveaway for our
North Brevard educators!*



equipping classrooms, Parrish Healthcare hopes to empower educators to focus on what they do best: teaching, inspiring and caring for our youth.

To submit a wish list, please visit: <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/SqTkuLtrM>.

“Educators are the heartbeat of our community,” said Natalie Sellers, Senior Vice President of Communications, Community and Corporate Services at Parrish Healthcare. “As a healing organization, Parrish Healthcare recognizes the importance of supporting every element of a healthy, thriving community. Together, we look forward to making sure our teachers start the school year strong.”

*The weekly digital edition
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Best Time To Run Appliances?

From laundry to dishwashing, timing could impact your energy use more than you think. Lately, questions have been coming to FPL as customers look for easy ways to stay comfortable without overdoing it:

“Should I be running my dishwasher or washing machine at night? Is there actually a best time of day to use appliances and save?”

Appliances add heat when it's the hottest part of the day. In the afternoon and early evening, your home is usually at its warmest. The sun has been heating your home for hours. That heat makes your air conditioner work harder to keep things comfortable. When you run appliances like your dishwasher, washing machine or dryer during that time, you add more heat and humidity inside your home. That can make your cooling system work even harder.

It's not just about the appliance itself. It's about everything happening at once. At night, outdoor temperatures start to drop and your home begins to cool down. Your air conditioner doesn't have to work as hard and adding a little extra heat from appliances has less impact on overall comfort. That's why running appliances in the evening or later can help reduce how hard your cooling system has to work during the hottest part of the day.

You don't need to overhaul your routine. Even small changes can help:

- Run the dishwasher after dinner instead of mid-afternoon.
- Do laundry later in the evening when temperatures are lower.
- Avoid using heat-producing appliances during the hottest hours of the day when possible.

These shifts can help reduce the amount of heat building up inside your home at the same time your A/C is already working hardest.

If you're looking to go a step further:

- Use energy-saving or eco modes when available.
- Wash clothes with cold water when possible.
- Run full loads instead of multiple smaller ones.
- Air dry dishes or clothes when you can.

Bottom line: While there isn't a single “perfect” time to run your appliances, avoiding the hottest part of the day can help your home stay more comfortable and reduce how hard your cooling system has to work.

You can also explore programs like FPL On Call®, which can help you save on your energy bill. With On Call, you can earn monthly bill credits when you allow temporary cycling of selected appliances, only when absolutely necessary. Customers can save over \$90 a year. Learn more and see if it's right for you.

Meet Atlantis' Final Crew

Stay for the All-American Drone Show

On July 11, step into a defining moment in space history. With admission, meet the four astronauts who flew the mission that marked the end of the Space Shuttle Program and the launch director for a once-in-a-lifetime experience beneath the orbiter itself. During fireside chat-style conversations, they will share personal stories from the flight that concluded an era in human spaceflight. Hear what it felt like from those who were there. These conversations offer rare, behind-the-scenes insight into this last mission and the space shuttle legacy.

Following each discussion, meet the astronauts and capture a photo, taking home a lasting memory. *Please note that no autographs will be offered.*

Then, stay for the night's finale: the All-American Drone Show, lighting up the night for one night only.

Visit www.kennedyspacecenter.com/event/sts-135-anniversary-atlantis-final-flight for tickets and for more information about the 3-day event.

Jim Stables Is New Brevard County Fire Chief

The Brevard County Board of County Commissioners has confirmed Jim Stables as Brevard County's new Fire Chief. The Commission, during its regular Board meeting on Tuesday, July 7, voted 4-0 on Stables' confirmation to lead Brevard County Fire Rescue. (The District 1 Commission seat is vacant.)

Stables succeeds Patrick Voltaire, who has retired after serving as chief since 2022. Voltaire had been with Fire Rescue since 2000.

Stables has extensive service in fire and executive leadership, most recently serving as Town Manager of Mount Carmel in Tennessee. He previously served as a District Chief with Brevard County Fire Rescue, making this appointment a return to the department.

Stables' experience includes:

- Town Manager, Mount Carmel, Tennessee
- Interim City Manager, Boynton Beach, Florida
- Fire Chief, Boynton Beach, Florida
- Fire Chief, Johnson City, Tennessee
- Fire Chief, Palm Bay, Florida
- Fire Chief, Ormond Beach, Florida
- District Chief, Brevard County Fire Rescue

As fire chief, Stables will oversee Brevard County Fire Rescue's operations, emergency response, fire prevention, emergency medical services and administrative functions while leading one of the county's largest public safety departments.

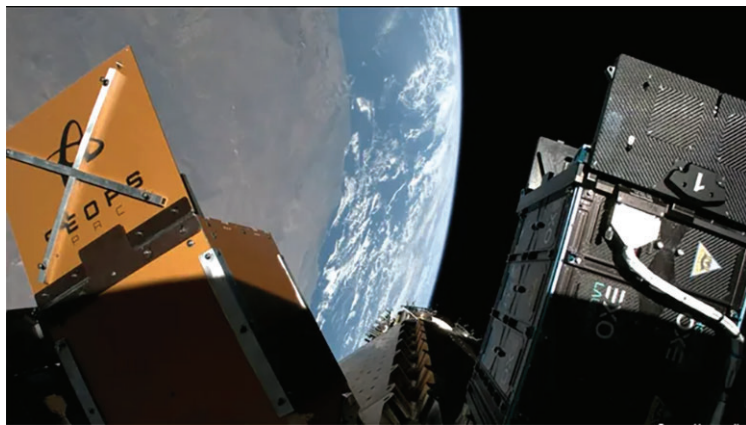


Image credit: SpaceX

First Nuclear-powered Commercial Satellite

The world's first commercially built nuclear-powered satellite launched on July 7 from Vandenberg Space Force Base in California on SpaceX's Transporter-17 rideshare mission and has reached orbit. The BOHR (Betavoltaic Orbital High-Reliability) satellite was built by Florida-based company City Labs.

BOHR is designed as a pathfinder mission to test the feasibility of City Labs' new technology, which is meant to provide continuous power to spacecraft without a reliance on solar energy. Though its tritium core isn't actually BOHR's power source, City Labs' technology could help introduce new vehicles capable of exploring places where current spacecraft can't operate for long periods of time.

The moon's south pole has an abundance of water ice there, and its potential for extraction as a resource makes the lunar south pole particularly suited to support long-term habitation of the moon. It is becoming the target region for NASA's Artemis lunar landing missions and NASA is actively funding the development of nuclear reactor technology to support that goal. BOHR, and City Labs' tritium development, was funded under a Department of Defense contract.

One benefit of using tritium as the basis for a power system is the low radiation levels it emits. "City Labs' tritium-based power systems are engineered for safe handling, transportation and integration within standard commercial launch environments," the company stated. Though the cubesat's NanoTritium power source cannot produce nearly enough energy to power something like a moon base, City Labs sees its application scaling to eventually be able to do so.

City Labs hopes the success of this mission will pave the way for more nuclear-powered spacecraft to support national defense as well as private space missions in the future.

For more information about City Labs, Inc. and the BOHR mission, visit citylabs.net.

Port Readers Book Club

All interested readers are welcome to join the Port Readers Book Club at the Port St. John Library, 6500 Carole Ave. on Wednesday, July 15 at 6:30 p.m.

At this meeting, we will discuss *Is a River Alive?* by Robert Macfarlane.

You can also pick up the book for July: *The Sun Also Rises* by Ernest Hemingway.

Light A Fire on the Moon?

NASA is planning to conduct a controlled fire experiment on the moon to study how flames behave in reduced gravity environments. This will mark the first time in history that combustion experiments have been conducted on the moon. Past research has shown that some materials considered safe on Earth may actually be more likely to burn in reduced gravity.

Researchers say the experiment is critical as NASA works toward establishing a long-term human presence on the moon through its Artemis program. NASA currently tests space materials on Earth before approving them for flight.

However, scientists have discovered that those tests don't always reflect how flames behave in space or on the Moon. On Earth, hot gases from a fire rise quickly, drawing oxygen into the flame. In some cases, the speed of the air entering the flame can be so high that the chemical reactions are unable to keep pace. This can cause the flame to become destabilized, a phenomenon commonly known as blow off. On the Moon, airflow is much weaker, allowing flames to spread differently, and in some cases, making certain materials easier to ignite.

Researchers said future missions could face a greater fire risk because astronauts are expected to live in environments with lower atmospheric pressure and higher oxygen concentrations. Those conditions could increase the flammability of some materials.

Each sample will burn while researchers observe how the flames spread. The team will also measure temperature, heat radiation and oxygen levels. Scientists hope the results will confirm which materials are more flammable in lunar gravity while also providing a better understanding of how flames develop. The findings could lead NASA to update the standards it uses to certify materials for spacecraft and future missions.

The experiment is expected to provide the first observations of fire in lunar gravity, leading to safer conditions for astronauts on future missions to the moon and, eventually, Mars.

~Alexandra Myers



Port St. John Library Events

Bring the family and friends to the Port St. John Library at 6500 Carole Ave.

DIY Wind Chimes: July 11, 1:30 p.m. Make and paint your own wind chimes. Supplies provided. This is a family event ages 6 and up adult supervision required. One kit per family. First come first served.

Teen D & D: July 11 & 25, 3:00 –4:45 p.m. A staff-led, beginner-friendly tabletop role-playing adventure where players create characters, roll dice and collaboratively tell a fantasy story. This event is for ages 13-17. Adult supervision required.

Brevard County Sheriff's Office Canine Unit: July 13, 10:00 a.m. Ages 3 and up.

Mr. Richard's Sing-A-Long: July 15, 3:00 p.m. All ages welcome.

Port Readers Book Club: July 15, 6:30 p.m. At this meeting, we will discuss *Monkey Business* by Carl Hiaasen, and then pick up the book for August: *The Buffalo Hunter Hunter* by Stephen Graham Jones.

Game Day: Sundays, 1:00–4:00 p.m. Board, tabletop and card games in the main library area. All ages welcome. Adult supervision required at all times.

Kids' D & D: Sundays, 3:00 & 3:30 p.m. A staff-led, tabletop role-playing adventure where players create characters, roll dice and collaboratively tell a fantasy story for children ages 8–13. Space is limited; kids will be split into parties of five for 30-minute sessions. Adult supervision required at all times.

Brick Builders: Tuesdays, 4:00-5:00 p.m. A free building session play event for ages 6-12, featuring building bricks and blocks. Adult supervision required.

Read Your Way to K:

Little Laptime: Tuesdays, 9:30–10:00 a.m. Short stories and nursery rhymes for babies ages 1 and under. Adult supervision required.

Little Movers & Groovers: Thursdays and Fridays, 9:30–10:00 a.m. A fun movement program for toddlers five and under. Adult supervision required.

Toddler Story Time: Thursdays & Fridays, 10:30–11:00 a.m. For children ages 3–5. Adult supervision required.

Playdate: Thursdays & Fridays, 11:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. For babies and toddlers five and under. Adult supervision required.

Summer Feed and Read: Fridays, 3:00-5:00 p.m. Stop by the library to pick up a free, nutritious meal pack and a book! These resources are available to local

youth every Friday at the Youth Services Desk.

Yarn Group: Fridays, 1 p.m. Yarn Group of PSJ Library is a group of adults who enjoy knitting and crocheting. They are happy to help you learn. All levels and ages are welcome. They donate projects and meet every Friday at the PSJ Public Library from 1 p.m.

Family Movie Mondays: Enjoy FREE popcorn and a movie sponsored by Friends of the Port St. John Library every Monday from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. This event features G or PG-rated movies:

- 7/13 *Beauty and the Beast* (1991)
- 7/20 *The Lion King* (1994)
- 7/27 *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* (2001)

Adult supervision is required. Adults are also welcome to stay and enjoy some popcorn and a fun, family oriented movie. Wear something comfortable!

Parrish Healthcare Open Interviews

Parrish Healthcare hosts open interviews every Tuesday, 9:00 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Parrish Medical Center, 951 N. Washington Ave., Titusville.

• Registered Nurses (RN)

- Emergency Department, Med/Surg, PACU and Perioperative Services
- Charge Nurses
- Cardiac-Pulmonary Rehabilitation
- Cardiovascular Invasive Specialist
- Rapid Response
- Discharge
- Labor & Delivery
- Occupational Health

• Technologists

- CT/MRI
- Radiology

• Surgical Scrub Techs

• Nursing Assistants

• Medical Assistants

• Cardiovascular Invasive Specialist (CVIS)

• Paramedics

• Pharmacists

• EMTs

• DI Cardio PACS Specialist

• Surgical First Assistant

• Sterile Processing & Transport Technician

For additional information regarding open positions within Parrish Healthcare, please visit parrishhealthcare.com/careers.

**Be A Part of Something Special.
Be a Parrish Care Partner!**