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July 3-9, 2018

# THE UNIVERSE

Serving the Brigham Young University Community

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Provo, Utah

# BYU grads create AR fireworks

By ANNA JOHNSON

Three BYU graduates are changing how the world thinks about enjoying a traditional fireworks show on the Fourth of July through their local startup, Seek. They do this by utilizing an up-and-coming technology called augmented reality (AR).

The founders of Seek have made it possible for any person to create his or her own fireworks show and choreograph it to a favorite song that friends and family can enjoy. This can be accomplished through an AR studio, called Seek Studio, that Seek released three weeks ago.

Seek Studio is a template-based studio where user-unique AR experiences can be created at a touch of a button. One of the templates, which was inspired by the upcoming celebration of the Fourth of July, is a grid of fireworks. The user gets to pick the color and shape of the firework when it explodes and the song to which the fireworks show is choreographed.

No longer are fireworks shows limited to a pitch-black sky. Instead, someone can create a unique fireworks show on Seek Studio and look through a phone's camera and screen to enjoy the fireworks show with a sunset as the backdrop. That is where the AR technology comes in.

"AR is overlaying a digital object or image on the real world," Seek CEO Jon Cheney said. Augment means to enhance, so AR enhances a person's reality by overlaying a 3D digital object on the real world through a camera. Familiar examples of AR technology are the puppy dog ears on Snapchat lenses and the Pokemon in Pokemon Go.

Although creating a fireworks show through AR may sound difficult to some, Seek Studio has made it as easy as making a video — or at least close to it.

"It is so easy. I don't want people to think, 'That looks really cool, but I



Carolyn Cheney

With augmented reality, the possibilities are endless. Seek Studio has many AR templates that are fun and easy to use. Scan the photo with the **Universe Plus** app to watch a video demonstrating a custom fireworks show.



don't think I could do it.' Literally, a five-year-old could do it. I don't want people to be afraid of it. I want people to say, 'I know I am capable of creating AR content,'" Cheney said.

Every AR fireworks show created through Seek Studio can be shared by a link, meaning it can last forever instead of ending with a grand finale.

Cheney said they are trying to integrate Seek Studio into the company's main product, Seek XR — essentially, the YouTube of AR. Seek XR is a free app where anyone can publish, discover and share AR content.

Seek XR acts as a search engine

much in the same way YouTube does, but it is a platform for only AR content.

Seek Studio gets into the creative side of AR because it provides templates that make creating AR experiences fun and easy.

"Our goal is to have the most AR content and the most people viewing that content than any other platform," said Cheney.

Seek is experiencing success in the relatively new market of AR. The company has raised about \$2 million and has made about \$1 million in sales in the last 12 months, according to Cheney. Seek is actively raising funds

right now, which will hopefully help to double the size of its team and continue to grow the company.

"I really do see it as that central discovery platform for AR," said Seek COO Mike Snow, and co-founder of Seek.

Although the three co-founders — Cheney, White and Snow — have been successful in their AR business venture, the success would not have come without their entrepreneurial mindsets.

Cheney, who graduated from BYU with a major in Chinese and a minor in business, has been an entrepreneur

since he was a little boy. During Christmastime, he would go door-to-door selling bushels of mistletoe. While at BYU, he ran his own kayak school.

"Clearly startups are where I thrive and where I feel the most comfortable but at the same time uncomfortable. If we fail, it is my fault. If we succeed, it is my team's fault," Cheney said.

At BYU Cheney learned important values that have helped him succeed in his career.

"BYU helped me know how to think, work with others and get something done when it needs to get done," Cheney said.

Snow, who graduated from BYU as a pre-med student, also had entrepreneurial aspirations.

Speaking about Cheney, Snow said, "We were just random college roommates at BYU. We became good friends and had a lot of mutual interests." That friendship is what led them to start the business ventures together that eventually led to Seek.

Cheney's advice to BYU students thinking about starting their own company is to go for it. He said to move forward every single day, even if only in small increments. He also warned students to not forget where everything comes from.

"Being prayerful and close to the Spirit is the number one thing that has attributed to our success. I have an advantage over all the people in Silicon Valley. I have prayer," Cheney said.

Seek, with its office in Lehi, is made up of about 15 employees, many of which are BYU graduates. The company is always looking for great interns for 3D animation, development or marketing.

Seek is hoping to enhance everyone's Fourth of July through AR fireworks shows.

"I just really hope that people will get out and build an AR experience — one of these firework experiences — on the Fourth of July and remember what the day stands for," White said.

# New legislation regulates fireworks

By MORGAN MARCH

New firework regulations are in effect for the upcoming firework season.

The use of fireworks has been reduced from seven to four days around the July 4 and July 24 holidays. Legal firework usage will begin two days prior to the holiday and will continue until the day following the holiday.

Additionally, setting off fireworks is limited to the hours between 11 a.m. and 11 p.m., except the for July 4 and 24, when the hours are extended to midnight.

According to the 2018 updates enacted by the Utah legislature, the penalties for those who violate firework discharge regulations will increase.

"An individual who negligently, recklessly or intentionally causes or spreads a fire through discharge of a class C explosive is liable for the cost of suppressing that fire and any damages the fire causes."

State officials believe residents will be more conscious of their firework usage because of stricter regulations and penalties

"Despite our best efforts, we still have an enormous amount of people that aren't safe with fireworks. How do we get people's attention to ensure they are following what we ask them to do?" asks Utah State Fire Marshall Coy Porter. "We're trying to get the message across."

Many communities and cities will post a map of the restricted areas or permitted parks for using fireworks. "We allow people to shoot

fireworks off at specific locations, which are city parks. We give people a good variety of safe places they can light them off," said Kevin Paxton, a fire marshal with the third Provo Fire Station.

Some Provo parks that allow lighting off fireworks are Sertoma, Exchange, Fort Utah, Footprinter, Provost and Kiwanis.

In addition to the illegal locations marked on Provo's "Firework Discharge Restricted Area" map, fireworks are not to be used anywhere on BYU campus.

"We have hot dry summers. This one is probably going to be another bad one. We still, unfortunately, have people that put others in danger by not acting responsibly," Porter said.

These restriction maps are published with the hope of decreasing the number of injuries and fires caused by firework usage, especially in the hot summer months.

"We never go a season without a brush fire or something that is caused because of fireworks. But Provo City does pretty good about keeping it to a minimum," Paxton said.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, almost 18,500 of fires reported annually are caused by fireworks.

Despite the potential danger, fireworks continue to play a large role in many people's Fourth of July and Pioneer Day celebrations.

"Am I going to watch fireworks and enjoy them and be somewhere where my family sets them off? Yeah, I'm going to. We're just going to do it in the right places and as safe as we can," Paxton said.

# Freedom Festival 2018 celebrates America



Jayare Roberts/Facebook

Freedom Run participants wait at the starting line of a past race. The Freedom Run is part of the annual Freedom Festival in Provo.

By MORGAN MARCH

The Freedom Festival will host its 38th annual Stadium of Fire event this year on July 4, Independence Day.

This annual event, held at BYU's LaVell Edwards Stadium, will feature the award-winning musical group OneRepublic as the headliner.

Stadium of Fire is billed as the largest stadium fireworks show in the nation and features patriotic music and other exciting acts. About 45,000 to 50,000 spectators are expected to attend the concert this year.

"I love seeing Americans come

together to celebrate their freedom so strongly, despite differing views and opinions," former Orem resident Ladd Wadsworth said.

Stadium of Fire is a way to help community members, including families and children, celebrate America's independence.

"The Freedom Festival is specifically to celebrate the Fourth of July, the Declaration of Independence and those things that took place at the founding of our country," said Paul Warner, executive director of the Freedom Festival.

Stadium of Fire ticket prices range from \$35-\$250. All proceeds will help support the Freedom Festival. The organization is a non-profit and hosts

about 25 events every year, most of which are free to the public.

"The number of events each year varies from about 24 to 27. It just depends. We expect somewhere around a half a million each year to attend the Freedom Festival events," Warner said.

Events held for Independence Day include Stadium of Fire, the Grand Parade, the Balloon Fest and the Freedom Run.

The Balloon Fest will be celebrating its 34th year with approximately 25 hot air balloons, which spectators can see close-up. Located on Bulldog Field in Provo, this event is free to the public.

See **FREEDOM** on Page 2

# UNIVERSE news briefs

FROM THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



## Drones spied on prison months before escape

Drones seen buzzing above a French prison months ago may have been on a reconnaissance mission ahead of the helicopter escape of a notorious French criminal.

France's justice minister said July 2 the drones may have been linked to the escape of career criminal Redoine Faid.

Heavily armed men landed a helicopter in a prison courtyard, and broke open the door of the visiting room where Faid was seeing his brother and escorted the prisoner to freedom.



## Mexico's victor reaches out to Trump

The morning after his election victory, Mexico's president-elect Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador thanked President Donald Trump for his congratulatory message.

Lopez Obrador said in an interview July 2 with the Televisa news network that Trump's Tweet on July 1 "was very respectful. That is what we want to maintain with the U.S. government."

Trump tweeted July 1 "there is much to be done that will benefit both the United States and Mexico!"



## Utah wildfire threatens seasonal cabins

A wildfire burning in hot and dry conditions in Utah has forced the evacuations of a handful of seasonal cabins near a popular fishing reservoir.

Jason Curry of the Utah Division of Forest, Fire and State Lands said July 2 the fire has scorched about 10 square miles (28 square kilometers) near Strawberry Reservoir.

Curry says the blaze about 80 miles (129 kilometers) southeast of Salt Lake City started July 1. Officials believe it was human-caused but are investigating.



## Penn & Teller cancel shows after Teller hurts back

Penn & Teller's magic shows are on hiatus because Teller's back injury has flared up.

The duo canceled a performance in Mississippi on June 29, with Teller tweeting an apology to fans.

He wrote he's stopping work until Aug. 18 and "getting my back surgery pronto."

Raymond Teller, who is 70, says he's "disoriented and befuddled" because he thinks they've had to cancel only four shows on short notice during their career.



## Canada tariffs on US goods begin

Canada began imposing tariffs July 1 on \$12.6 billion in U.S. goods as retaliation for the Trump administration's new taxes on steel and aluminum imported to the United States.

Some U.S. products, mostly steel and iron, face 25 percent tariffs, the same penalty the United States slapped on imported steel at the end of May. Other U.S. imports, from ketchup to pizza to dishwasher detergent, will face a 10 percent tariff at the Canadian border, the same as America's tax on imported aluminum.

## FREEDOM

### Events held to celebrate America

Continued from Page 1

Guests are able to walk around the balloons and watch them fly on July 2 to July 4 from 6 a.m. to 8 a.m. Families are encouraged to arrive at 6 a.m. to see the balloons inflate.

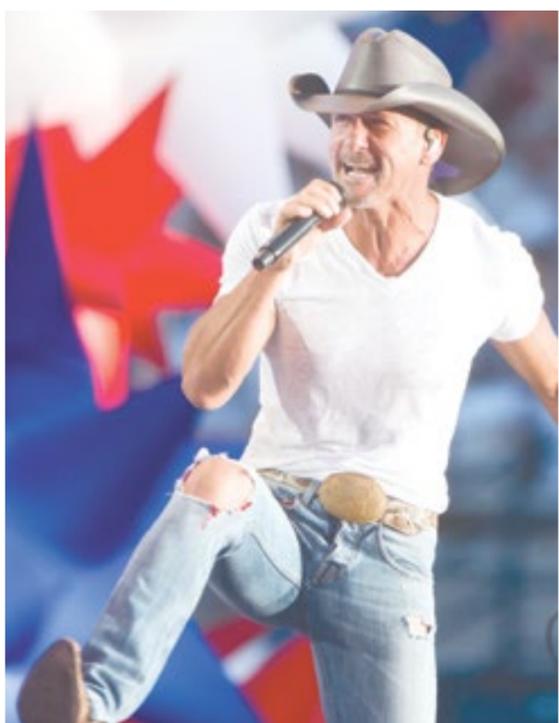
Another popular event of the Freedom Festival is the Freedom Run held on July 4 at 7 a.m. The Freedom Run includes a 10K, a 5K and the Mayor's one-mile Fun Run. All finish lines are at Kiwanis Park in Provo.

"It definitely unites the community. It is such a fun thing to do," Chelsea Clayton, a BYU graduate student in athletic training, said.

The event cost varies by race and date of registration. Medals, awards and cash prizes are given out to eligible runners following the runs at 8:30 a.m. at the bandstand.

One of the biggest events of the Freedom Festival celebrations is the Grand Parade—the largest of its kind in Utah with around 300,000 spectators.

Community members will see bands, professional floats, giant helium balloons and professional performances throughout the course of the parade. The event celebrates America's founding through music, dance and displays.



Ari Davis

Tim McGraw headlined Stadium of Fire in 2016.

The route for this year's parade will begin at 960 North University Avenue in Provo, head south to 200 South, and then turn east to 200 East. The route will then run along Center Street before ending on 900 East.

The Grand Parade is free, but spectators can reserve bleacher seats for \$7 each.

Spots can be saved on University Ave. after 3 p.m. on July 3. All other places on the

parade route can be claimed at 5 a.m. on July 4.

"Utah County is a family neighborhood, and the Freedom Festival is designed so families can get out and appreciate the opportunity they have to live in America," Warner said.

For more information on the upcoming Freedom Festival events and volunteer opportunities, visit [freedomfestival.org](http://freedomfestival.org).

## Thai rescuers find missing boys and coach alive in cave

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rescuers found all 12 boys and their soccer coach alive deep inside a partially flooded cave in northern Thailand on July 2, more than a week after they disappeared and touched off a desperate search that drew international help and captivated the nation.

Video released July 3 by the Thai navy showed the boys in their soccer uniforms sitting on a dry area inside the cave above the water as a spotlight, apparently from a rescuer, illuminated their faces.

Chiang Rai provincial Gov. Narongsak Osatanakorn said the 13 were in the process of being rescued, but he cautioned that they were not out of danger yet.

"We found them safe. But the operation isn't over," he said in comments broadcast nationwide, referring to the complicated process of extricating them.

Family members of the missing hugged each other as they cheered the news.

Aisha Wiboonrungrueng, the mother of 11-year-old Chanin Wiboonrungrueng, smiled and hugged her family as news of their discovery spread. She said she would cook her son a Thai fried omelet, his favorite food, when he returns home.

Rescue divers had spent much of Monday making preparations for a final push to locate the lost soccer players, aged 11 to 16, and their 25-year-old coach. They disappeared when flooding trapped them after entering the Tham Luang Nang Non cave in Chiang Rai on June 23.

Narongsak said the divers located the missing group about 300-400 meters (yards) past a section of the cave that was on higher ground and was thought to be where the team members and their coach may have taken shelter.

"When the medics have

evaluated the kids to see if their health is in good condition, we will care for them until they have enough strength to move by themselves, and then we will evaluate the situation on bringing them out again later," Narongsak said.

In the 5-minute navy video, the boys are quiet as they sit on their haunches, legs bent in front of them. They are clad in the uniforms they apparently were wearing on the morning they disappeared in the cave.

"You are very strong," one of the rescuers said to them in English. One of them asks what day it is, and the rescuer responds, "Monday. Monday. You have been here — 10 days."

One of the boys, noticing the camera and hearing words they don't immediately understand, said in Thai, "Oh, they want to take a picture; tell him we're hungry. I haven't had anything to eat."

Then the boy breaks into simple English, saying, "Eat, eat, eat," to which another voice responds in Thai that he already told that to the rescuer.

Anmar Mirza, a leading American cave rescue expert, said many challenges remain for the rescuers. He said the primary decision is whether to try to evacuate the boys and their coach or to supply them in place.

"Supplying them on site may face challenges depending on how difficult the dives are," Mirza, coordinator of the U.S. National Cave Rescue Commission, said in an email. "Trying to take non-divers through a cave is one of the most dangerous situations possible, even if the dives are relatively easy. That also begets the question: If the dives are difficult then supply will be difficult, but the risk of trying to dive them out is also exponentially greater."

Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha thanked the international experts and rescuers who helped locate the missing for their

"tremendous efforts."

"The Royal Thai Government and the Thai people are grateful for this support and cooperation, and we all wish the team a safe and speedy recovery," Prayuth's office said in a statement.

Thai navy SEAL divers and rescue workers from other countries had made initial progress through a narrow passageway early Monday after passing through a key chamber on Sunday whose high, murky waters had previously blocked their progress.

Gov. Narongsak had said earlier the passageway goes upward in some places and downward in others and is very narrow, making it difficult for divers and their gear to fit through.

Divers have been stymied repeatedly by rising water that forced them to withdraw for safety reasons. When water levels fell Sunday, the divers went forward with a more methodical approach, deploying a rope line and extra oxygen supplies along the way.

Narongsak explained early Monday that fixing rope lines and deploying oxygen tanks along their route will allow the divers to operate.

In addition to the divers, teams have been working to pump out water as well as divert groundwater. Other efforts have focused on finding shafts on the mountainside that might serve as a back door to the blocked-off areas.

Teams have been combing the mountainside looking for fissure that might lead to such shafts. Several have been found and explorers have been able to descend into some.

"These are challenging conditions and there's a lot of consideration for safety as well as, the environment outside is contributing to the environment inside," U.S. Air Force Capt. Jessica Tait said, referring to the rain that has been flooding the cave. "So I'd say, yeah, it's an accurate statement that it's challenging."

## THE UNIVERSE

Serving the Brigham Young University Community

July 3-9, 2018 • Volume 71, Issue 43 • [universe.byu.edu](http://universe.byu.edu)  
152 BRMB, BYU, Provo, Utah 84602

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The Universe is a product of The Daily Universe and is an official publication of Brigham Young University and is produced as a cooperative enterprise of students and faculty. It is published as a laboratory newspaper by the College of Fine Arts and Communications and the School of Communications under the direction of a professional management staff.

The Universe is published weekly except during vacation periods.

The opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the views of the student body, faculty, university administration, Board of Trustees or The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

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## Campus News

### MARRIOTT SCHOOL OF Business

On June 17, the Institute of Certified Management Accountants Board of Regents presented BYU the Corporate Recognition Award for the university's continued support. As the first university to receive this annual award, BYU boasts an 80 percent pass rate for the CMA certification, compared to the national average of 50 percent. Furthermore, BYU offers no official program, resulting in the BYU chapter of the Institute of Management Accountants to host information sessions and student-led study groups.

BYU experience design students Rachel Drean and Cassie Parkinson joined AdHub Marketing to create a program that allows students to virtually explore different colleges. By combining augmented reality, smartphones, and 360-degree video technology, this



Rachel Drean Cassie Parkinson

program provides potential college students the opportunity to tour various campuses through their device.

### DAVID O. MCKAY SCHOOL OF Education

Elementary educators attended BYU Arts Express, a conference which provides insights on ways to integrate the arts into curriculum learning. Attendees participated in a series of workshops and activities and heard from keynote speakers including New York Times

best-selling author Carmen Deedy and accomplished film score musician Enrique Feldman.

### COLLEGE OF Humanities

The College of Humanities appointed associate professor of French and Italian Daryl Lee as the new chair of the Department of French and Italian. Replacing Corry Cropper, who served for the last nine years, Lee will leave his position as International Cinema co-director as of June 2018.

### IRA A. FULTON COLLEGE OF Engineering and Technology

BYU engineering and technology students attended the annual international technology competition held in Atlanta. They received multiple awards, including first place in the teaching competition and the media video production competition.

# Romney wins election, but not all BYU students voted

By AIMEE COLTON

Former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney secured the Republican Senate nomination that could restart his political career, but many BYU students did not vote in the election on June 26.

Romney swept the primary on June 26 against competitor Rep. Mike Kennedy with more than 70 percent of the vote. Romney won with as much as 76 percent of the vote in some Utah counties.

"Well, it looks like our team won the primary," Romney said to a crowd of supporters after voting closed.

As the Republican nominee, Romney could replace retiree Senator Orrin Hatch, who will finish out his term to complete 42 years of service, the longest a Republican senator has ever remained in office.

The win is certainly something for Romney to celebrate,

but his next task is getting Utah voters to the polls this fall.

According to the Utah Foundation, Utah has one of the lowest voter turnout rates in the nation. In 2014, less than 30 percent of Utah residents voted in the primary election. But because Utah tends to vote Republican, the primary often decides the election.

For many Utah voters, it is hard to see how their vote makes a difference when 71 percent of Utah's election races were won by more than 30 percent in 2016.

Utah voters between the ages of 18-29 have some of the lowest voter turnout rates. This age group represents a majority of BYU students.

BYU students Kimberlee and Jacob Stern cast their vote Tuesday night. They said many other students don't vote because of voter registration hassle.

The Sterns moved to Utah from Wisconsin and both had out-of-state licenses. However,

after listening to a message from The Church of Jesus Christ of



Aimee Colton

Kimberlee, left, and Jacob Stern after voting in the Utah primary election.

Latter-day Saints encouraging members to be politically engaged, the Sterns registered as Utah voters.

"We decided that it was time to get Utah licenses so we could

vote," Jacob said.

He said many BYU students don't vote because it is difficult to get Utah residency.

"We had to wait for a long time in lines at the DMV," Kimberlee

said. "It takes time and effort."

It's an effort not many students take upon themselves. At BYU, about 12 percent of student are Utah natives and are eligible to vote in the state. Within this group, 19.9 percent of those aged 18-29 years old participated in the 2014 midterm election. According to these statistics, only 788 of the 33,000 potential voters attending BYU are likely to vote in midterm elections.

For the Sterns, it was worth the work to obtain Utah residency, and they look forward to voting in the midterm elections this coming fall.

"People should vote," Jacob said. "That's my strongest political view."

To students who don't engage in local politics, Utah voter Mary Webb, said, "Speak up. Be heard. This is your future more than mine."

Webb emphasized that it is dangerous when people think one vote doesn't matter. "We ended up with Trump because

of primaries," she said. "Be engaged. It matters."

In November, Utahns will have the opportunity to vote again as Romney faces off against Democratic nominee Jenny Wilson.

Another voter, Jake Packer, agreed with Webb's sentiments.

"The primary is more important than the general election," he said. "If you want your party to be less extreme — vote in the primaries."

Packer also said the more extreme supporters of parties are the ones who tend to vote in primaries, and they tend to elect the more extreme candidates. He said it is dangerous for states like Utah to have low voter turnout in the primaries because the Republican nominee is likely voted into office.

BYU students wishing to change their residency before the November general election can visit the Department of Motor Vehicles in person or online.

# BYU students find more taste with technology

*Apps, videos and websites help students improve their cooking*

By SARAH MATTHEWS

BYU student Chase Abel clicked play on a BuzzFeed Tasty cooking video and began to follow the instructions. He had just begun whipping thick cream cheese when he quickly had to pause the instruction video.

The video was giving him the next step of the recipe before he had finished the current one. When he was ready, he started the video again.

Abel added sugar, eggs and a substitution peppermint oil for mint extract. The kitchen filled with mint aroma as he finished the cheesecake portion of the mint chocolate chip cheesecake brownies.

Millennials are more likely to use technology when they cook, and BYU students follow the trend. Familiarity with technology is driving the way young adults cook because the answers to their questions are just a click away.

There are dozens of smartphone apps available across all platforms and rankings online also claim to know the best cooking apps to use. These cooking apps include cooking websites like The Daily Meal and technology sites like Digital Trends.

Various apps, both free and otherwise, contain features like recipe organization, step-by-step guides to cooking, pictures of the meal at each stage, so the cook can be certain they are on the right track, substitution options, easiness ratings and recipes by food group.

BYU students Skyler Southam and Drew Jensen, business and computer science,

followed Big Oven, an app they chose from an online list. The two chose to make crepes because the recipe seemed relatively easy.

Both of them had experience cooking on their missions, which they said is different than cooking in college. Jensen said he often resorts to macaroni and cheese out of laziness.

Once the crepe recipe was chosen, it was easy to follow because it offered information on both instructions and ingredients, according to Southam.

Southam and Jensen both agreed they used the internet to find recipes for specific meals.

Biochemistry junior Becca Clark said she uses Pinterest consistently to find recipes and ideas. She said she will simplify Pinterest recipes by making the ingredients more applicable to her current student lifestyle.

Pre-med junior Elise Glazier said she followed a Pinterest recipe for both fried rice and chow mein.

"I was excited to see how it turned out because the meals were outside my normal repertoire," she said. "I was surprised at how much the recipes made, but I thought they turned out pretty good."

Glazier said she enjoys cooking but only finds time to try new recipes on Sunday afternoons when she does not have class or work to worry about.

Along with Pinterest, students can watch cooking videos. While blogs and apps may have videos showing various stages in the process, videos are meant to show what each stage should look like. Then, chefs won't have to pull up written instructions.

Lauren Harker, said she loves to watch the popular BuzzFeed's Tasty cooking videos that pop up on her Facebook feed. She said she attempted to follow one of the recipes, but it did not turn out as easy as she had thought it would.

"I felt like just watching the

video didn't give me enough," Harker said. "I needed to be able to read step by step instructions to make it turn out better."

Abel agreed the videos are a little fast-paced for inexperienced chefs.

"(Tasty) had a clean kitchen and had a lot of the ingredients already ready, so that was nice to watch," Abel said. "But the only thing that was hard to follow, was the video was really fast."

Abel said he had to pause the video often to keep up with the instructions. He also said the recipe was listed at the bottom of the page. In the future he would prepare his ingredients ahead of time, and only have to pause the video three or four times.

"(With the video), you can see what it's supposed to look like as you add the ingredients in," he said. "It makes it easier to follow. You can be sure you're doing the right thing."

While the final product did not look as perfect as the cover photo for the recipe, Abel said it turned out delicious.

With so many tech options to help with cooking, students can be overwhelmed with choices.

Candace Brock, said she feels cooking apps are a waste of money, and she could not think of a feature that would make the cost worth it. She also said she rarely cooks because of her busy lifestyle.

Because of her internships, work and athletics schedule, Brock often leaves home at 6 a.m. and returns around 11 p.m.

"I would never pay for a cooking app," Brock said. "These days you can get anything you need for free on the internet."

Apps are less likely to catch students' attention because of their ability to find the same information for free without using up precious storage space. While some students prefer apps, the majority can be found using easier options.



Smith's



Allie Jones

BYU students and millennials use apps, websites and videos to enhance their cooking. Scan the illustration with the **Universe Plus** app to listen to a Portuguese translation of this story.

## TODAY

**UNIVERSITY DEVOTIONAL**  
Tuesday, July 3, 11:05 a.m.  
de Jong Concert Hall

This event will also be broadcast to the JSB Auditorium.



**Denise C. Stephens**

*BYU Associate Professor, Physics and Astronomy*

Dr. Denise Stephens received her bachelor's degree in physics from Brigham Young University and her master's and PhD degrees in astronomy from New Mexico State University. She then worked with the Hubble Space Telescope for three years and as a research scientist at Johns Hopkins University for three years before coming to BYU.

Denise's husband, Tom, also has his PhD in astronomy. He works on NASA's Fermi Space Telescope as well as teaching occasionally for the BYU Computer Science Department. They have been married for 24 years and have 7 children. Currently they are serving as Sunbeam teachers in their ward and love having their youngest son, Ben, in their class.

Selected speeches available at [speeches.byu.edu](http://speeches.byu.edu).

**NEXT: UNIVERSITY DEVOTIONAL**



**Jeffrey S. McClellan**  
*Director, BYU Publications and Graphics*

July 10, 11:05 a.m.  
de Jong Concert Hall  
PLAN NOW TO ATTEND.

## GRILL UP THE PERFECT DATE



# Putin, Trump to hold summit in Helsinki



Associated Press

In this Friday, July 7, 2017, photo U.S. President Donald Trump meets with Russian President Vladimir Putin at the G-20 Summit in Hamburg. The Kremlin and the White House have announced June 28, that a summit between Russian President Vladimir Putin and U.S. President Donald Trump will take place in Helsinki, Finland, on July 16.

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Russian President Vladimir Putin and U.S. President Donald Trump will hold a summit in Helsinki on July 16, a long-expected encounter that comes amid spiraling tensions between Moscow and Washington.

A terse synchronized statement issued by the Kremlin and the White House said Putin and Trump will discuss bilateral issues and international relations. The announcement comes a day after Trump's National Security Adviser John Bolton held talks with Putin in Moscow to lay the groundwork for the summit.

"I've said it from Day One, getting along with Russia and with China and with everybody is a very good thing," President Trump said on June 27. "It's good for the world. It's good for us. It's good for everybody."

He said they would discuss Syria, Ukraine and "many other subjects."

Finland has been a favored location for U.S.-Russian summits since the Cold War times, a role helped by its efforts to maintain neutral friendly ties with its huge eastern neighbor.

The summit will offer President Putin a chance to try to persuade Washington to lift some of the sanctions imposed on Russia over its 2014 annexation of Crimea, its support for separatists fighting the government in

eastern Ukraine and its alleged meddling in the 2016 U.S. presidential election.

During a June 27 meeting with Bolton, President Putin argued U.S.-Russian relations were at a low point because of American political infighting and expressed a desire to "restore full-fledged relations based on equality and mutual respect."

President Putin had two brief meetings with President Trump on the sidelines of international summits last year, but plans for a full-fledged summit had been delayed amid the FBI and Congressional probes into alleged Russia-Trump ties that President Trump has dismissed as a "witch hunt."

Russian officials and lawmakers warned against excessive optimism about the summit — a cautious stance reflecting Moscow's failed expectations for rebuilding ties after President Trump's victory.

President Trump has called for improving relations with Moscow, but his administration has imposed an array of new anti-Russia sanctions.

During Thursday's briefing, Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman Maria Zakharova warned against waiting for any quick breakthroughs resulting from the summit, noting that Moscow has "pragmatic and realistic" expectations for the meeting given the scope of issues to be addressed.

She said Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and U.S.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo could meet as part of efforts to prepare for the summit.

Ahead of the announcement, President Trump repeated Russian denials of election interference, tweeting "Russia continues to say they had nothing to do with Meddling in our Election!"

President Trump has continually echoed the Kremlin's denial of election interference, a move that has put him out of step with the findings of the U.S. intelligence community and nearly all Democrats and Republicans in Congress, who say there's clear evidence of Russian efforts to influence the 2016 U.S. presidential campaign.

Sergei Vostretsov, a member of parliament from the United Russia party, President Putin's power-base, said overcoming the sanctions should be a top issue.

"Crimea is Russian. It will never be anyone else's. One should recognize this. It's time to stop playing the sanctions policy," Vostretsov said.

Moscow resident Vladimir Markelov had a different take.

Presidents Trump and Putin should discuss "issues of mutual understanding and friendship between the countries," Markelov suggested. "What else do we need? Not war and attacks on each other. It's the most important. There shouldn't be any other issues in life."

Russian foreign affairs adviser, Yuri Ushakov, said after President Putin's meeting with

Bolton that the issue of alleged Russian meddling in the U.S. presidential election was raised in the meeting and the Kremlin reiterated its denial of any interference with the U.S. vote.

"It was stated clearly by our side that the Russian state hasn't interfered with the U.S. domestic politics, moreover hasn't interfered in the 2016 election," Ushakov said.

NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg welcomed the U.S.-Russia summit, saying that "for me, dialogue is not a sign of weakness. Dialogue is a sign of strength."

"It's absolutely, totally in line with NATO policies to talk to Russia, to meet with Russian leaders," Stoltenberg said. "We don't want a new Cold War. We don't want to isolate Russia. We want to strive for a better relationship."

Former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev said this summer's Helsinki summit could go down in history as a major landmark if Presidents Putin and Trump make steps toward cooperation. Russian lawmakers were also positive about the meeting.

"The decision on holding a full-fledged summit is a very positive development," Russian upper house speaker Valentina Matvienko said June 28 in remarks carried by Russian news agencies. "We hope it will play a very important role in helping begin the normalization of Russia-U.S. ties."

# Finnish neutrality key to US-Russia summit

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Finland has a long tradition of hosting U.S.-Russian summits, particularly during the Cold War, when the country was a neutral buffer state and its capital, Helsinki, served as a gateway between the Communist East and the West.

The nation of 5.5 million people has a 1,340-kilometer (830-mile) border with Russia — and a complex history with its large neighbor. As a part of the Swedish Kingdom, it took part in dozens of conflicts with Russia over the past centuries and fought two wars with the Soviet Union during World War II, from 1939-40 and 1941-44. In the postwar period, however, Finland pursued pragmatic political and economic ties with Moscow.

President Sauli Niinisto has nurtured a close relationship with Putin, as did his predecessor Tarja Halonen, and has equally good ties with U.S. President Donald Trump, whom he met at the White House last year.

The area known today as Finland served as a battlefield for Russian-Swedish conflicts for centuries, and fell in 1809 into Russian hands in Europe's Napoleonic Wars after 700 years of Swedish rule. However, as an autonomous Grand Duchy of the Russian Empire, it was allowed to develop politically — having its own parliament — and economically, eventually leading to independence from Soviet-Russia in the turmoil surrounding the Russian Revolution in 1917.

Finns, who last year celebrated the centenary of regaining their independence, have secured friendly ties with Moscow by pledging neutrality and a non-alignment policy and developing trade with the Russians.

West German politicians and scholars dubbed the policy "Finlandization" in the 1970s, using it in a derisive way to describe the influence of a powerful country in the policies of a smaller neighbor. The term is much detested by Finns.

With big public support, Finland joined the European Union in 1995 and was one of

the original eurozone members, adopting the shared euro currency in 2002.

But Finland is not a member of NATO and most Finns remain opposed to NATO membership today, according to polls, though many politicians in the current center-right government favor it.

Finland's post-WWII foreign policy was defined by its fine balancing act of maintaining the small country's good relations with the West — particularly with the United States — and the Soviet Union during the Cold War.

At the height of detente in the 1970s, President Urho Kekkonen hosted a U.S.-Soviet summit in Helsinki in 1975 where U.S. President Gerald Ford, Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev and others signed the Helsinki Accords, a watershed commitment to peace, security and human rights.

In the 1980s, Finland also served as a convenient base for high-ranking U.S. officials keen to tap the Finns' knowledge of the Soviet Union, often en route to Moscow. In May 1988, President Ronald Reagan met with Finnish President Mauno Koivisto in Helsinki on his way to the USSR.

After the 1989 fall of the Berlin Wall and the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, Finland continued to maintain equally good relations with Moscow and Washington while integrating more deeply into Western security structures.

In September 1990, the Finns hosted a U.S.-Soviet summit between U.S. President George H.W. Bush and the last Soviet leader, Mikhail Gorbachev, in Helsinki over Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and the situation in the Middle East.

President Bill Clinton met his Russian counterpart Boris Yeltsin there in March 1997 to discuss NATO expansion into former Soviet bloc countries.

Recently, a Finnish state-owned manor just outside Helsinki has been the venue for several international meetings, including for delegations from the Korean peninsula and the United States, and top military leaders of Russia and the United States.

# New activists, moms rally to keep migrant families together

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Immigrants who have spent years fighting to change the country's immigration system are getting newfound support from liberal activists, moms and first-time protesters motivated by a visceral narrative: President Donald Trump's administration separating children from their parents at the U.S.-Mexico border.

Groups that pulled off massive women's marches the past two years and other rallies are throwing their weight behind migrant families. More than 600 marches could draw hundreds of thousands of people nationwide, from immigrant-friendly cities like Los Angeles and New York City to conservative Appalachia and Wyoming.

Though many are seasoned anti-Trump demonstrators, others are new to immigration activism, including parents who say they feel compelled to show up after heart-wrenching accounts of children forcibly taken from their families as they crossed the border illegally. In Portland, Oregon, for example, several stay-at-home moms are organizing their first rally while caring for young kids.

"I'm not a radical, and I'm not an activist," said Kate Sharaf, a co-organizer in Portland's event. "I just reached a point where I felt I had to do more."

She and her co-organizers are undaunted after nearly 600 women wearing white and railing against the now-abandoned separation policy were arrested June 28 in Washington, D.C.

With demonstrations emerging nationwide, immigrant advocacy groups say they're thrilled — and surprised — to see the issue gaining traction among those not tied to immigration.

"Honestly, I am blown away. I have literally never seen Americans show up for immigrants like this," said Jess Morales Rocketto, political director at the National Domestic Workers Alliance, which represents nannies, housekeepers and caregivers, many of whom are immigrants. "We just kept hearing over and over again, if it was my child, I would want someone to do something."

Saturday's rallies are getting funding and support from the American Civil Liberties Union, MoveOn.org, the National Domestic Workers Alliance and The Leadership Conference. But local organizers are shouldering on-the-ground planning, many of them women relying on informal networks established during worldwide women's marches on President Trump's inauguration and its anniversary.

Tyler Houlton, a spokesman for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, welcomed interest in the immigration system and said only Congress has the power to change the law.

"We appreciate that these individuals have expressed an interest in and concern with the critical issue of securing our nation's borders and enforcing our immigration laws," Houlton said. "As we have indicated before, the department is disappointed and frustrated by our nation's disastrous immigration



Associated Press

A small group of stay-at-home mothers, with children at their sides, work to organize an immigration rally in Portland, Ore. The small group of mothers organizing Saturday's rally in Portland to coincide with Families Belong Together rallies nationwide, are working almost around-the-clock to pull together an event expected to attract 5,000 people. From left to right are Kate Sharaf, Lisa Carol Stiller, Erin Conroy and Caely Barrett.

laws and supports action."

White House spokesman Hogan Gidley did not respond to a request for comment.

In Portland, Sharaf and other mothers are working to organize a march expected to attract 5,000 people — all while they change diapers, nurse babies and prepare snacks. They have marched for women's rights but have never spearheaded a political rally.

Portland's weekend rally is not related to an 11-day vigil at the city's U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement headquarters by a group of protesters who want the federal agency out of the city. Federal police raided the sit-in on June 28 and

arrested nine people.

Sharaf and three other women recently fired up their laptops and cellphones at her dining room table — one mother breastfeeding her son as she worked. A toddler wolfed down pasta in a high chair and two five-year-olds and a four-year-old careened around the house.

"I'm a mom, and I think everyone I know that I've talked to about this issue has had a very visceral reaction," Sharaf said. "Because as moms, we know how important it is to be with your child and how critical attachment is to a child. It's just heartbreaking for me to see."

Sharaf and co-organizer Erin Conroy are coordinating their

efforts with immigrant advocacy groups.

"This is not my wheelhouse," Conroy said. "As far as I'm concerned, this is a national emergency that we all need to be focused on right now."

That passion is heartening for the broader anti-Trump coalition, which hopes the weekend marches will attract people who have otherwise been on the sidelines, said David S. Meyer, a political science professor at the University of California, Irvine, who has authored books on U.S. political protest.

"There are people who have all kinds of other grievances or gripes with the Trump administration and they're quite happy

to use this one as the most productive and salient for the moment," he said.

The groups planning the so-called Families Belong Together rallies have carefully framed them as peaceful and family-friendly — another draw for those looking to jump into their first protest, Meyer said.

That's in contrast to the sit-in in the nation's capital Thursday, where participants knew they might be arrested.

In El Paso, Texas, immigrant advocacy groups are partnering with religious leaders and women's march organizers Saturday to try to shut down the bridge connecting El Paso and Ciudad Juarez, Mexico.

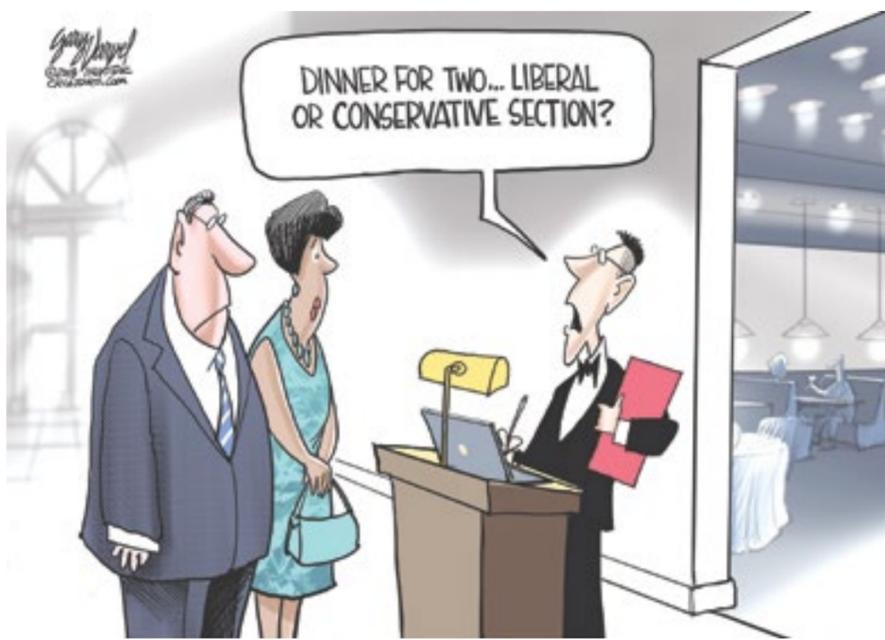
Immigration attorney Linda Rivas said groups have met with U.S. authorities, congressional representatives and other leaders to discuss an escalating immigration crackdown that they say began decades ago. But the family separation policy has been a watershed for attracting a broader spectrum of demonstrators, she said.

"To finally have people on board wanting to take action, marching, taking to the streets, it's been motivating for us as advocates because we have to keep going," Rivas said.

In Los Angeles, Angelica Salas said she has been marching to fix the immigration system for nearly two decades. The executive director of the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights said she would often tell people about how immigration enforcement was splitting up families and non-immigrants couldn't believe it.

Now, she said, they do.

# [ ISSUES & IDEAS ]



## Tweet Beat

#HeardAtBYU #BYUprobs

Want to see your tweet in print? Tweet something about life around you with #BYUprobs or #BYU and hopefully it makes the cut.

Leave comments at universe.byu.edu or @UniverseBYU

**@HeardAtBYU**

Taking a rough census of Mexico vs. Brazil RMs today by counting soccer jerseys on campus

**@MaevaNorton**

"He's just so like, thirsty for love, you know?" @HeardAtBYU

**@connerjamesw**

"The pound is the hashtag, right?" @HeardAtBYU

**@ElizaLahti**

"My caterpillars hatched so I have to go feed them or they'll die..." @HeardAtBYU

**@TheMormonLikes**

Me: "Hi"  
Girl waiting for her missionary: "He still has 414 days left ugh"

**@nickhansonMN**

"we almost dated" is such a weird relationship to have with someone

**@carladasilvam**

People are outraged about the new ABC show #TheProposal but.. have they heard about #BYU?

@HeardAtBYU

**@poetickate**

utahns drop the t in mountain because t is against the word of wisdom

**@TheMormonLikes**

Current relationship status: confident I can convince someone to settle for me one day

**@BFMGLTA**

i just realized that 'hymn' is the utah spelling for 'him' and now utah mormon culture makes so much more sense

**@meghargeezy**

There's mormon, and then there's go on your honeymoon to Nauvoo, mormon.

## Trending topics

**@marygeorgant**

Manhattan DA filed additional charges against Harvey Weinstein including two counts of predatory sexual assault, a felony which carries a minimum sentence of 10 yrs and a max of life.

**@KayaJones**

Harvey isn't the only one in Hollywood. When will they all see time? Harvey Weinstein faces life in prison with new sex crime charges

**@lilactyler**

Harvey Weinstein getting life in prison is the best news I've heard in my life

**@EdKrasen**

BREAKING: Michael Cohen tells George Stephanopoulos, when asked if he's still loyal to Trump: "My wife, my daughter and my son have my first loyalty, and always will. I put my family and my country first. I don't agree with those who demonize the FBI."

**@SethAbramson**

No criminal defense attorney would let Michael Cohen give the interview he gave today—so either he gave the interview in contravention of a lawyer's advice, gave the interview without any legal advice at all, or is working some scheme in conjunction with a lawyer to get a pardon.

**@funder**

I'll believe Michael Cohen when I see the signed plea agreement. No one else should trust a word he says. He lied about his Russian business ties. He's been taking bribes for meetings with Trump, both from companies and allied countries. Dude is nothing but a corrupt traitor.

**@KennedyForUtah**

I would also like to congratulate, @MittRomney on his victory. As I told him last night, he will have my support and help in any way that we can work together for the people of Utah. #UTPOL

**@HuntsmanBrady**

Really don't think @MittRomney is the best choice for Utah. Outside of politics, I'm sure he is a great guy. But for #UtahPolitics he's not the answer. Why is it so hard to get someone worth while to run?!

**@kaitlancollins**

Confirmed -- White House counsel Don McGahn spoke with Utah Sen. Mike Lee last week to discuss Supreme Court vacancy. They talked through selection process and Trump's broad outlook. McGahn also spoke with all Rs on the Senate Judiciary.

**@RayRichardsonJr**

The last time Utah Senator Mike Lee was a guest on my show, I asked him if he would accept an appointment to the Supreme Court

He said it would be the professional honor of his life

Mike Lee is my choice to replace Justice Kennedy

**@tyler\_wilden**

If it really is down to the rumored top five for Trump's next SCOTUS nomination, then @SenMikeLee is my preferred choice. But his brother, Thomas Lee would be an even better choice as someone who serves on the Utah Supreme Court and also advocates for originalism and textualism.

Tweets are unedited

# [ OPINION OUTPOST ]

The Opinion Outpost features opinions and commentary on the latest hot topics from national news sources.

## Muslim ban

The ban is absolutely unneeded. There is no elevated terrorism threat from travelers from those countries. Even Chief Justice John Roberts, in his opinion affirming the ban, added, "We express no view on the soundness of the policy." The policy is unsound, but that isn't the point. The point is that this nation doesn't separate people based on their religions, and the specific wording of the ban doesn't exist without the intent behind it, which is the president's insistence that Muslim travelers are a threat.

—Editorial Board  
The Salt Lake Tribune

## Justice Kennedy

Anthony Kennedy acted in the best interests of the Supreme Court and his own legacy Wednesday by deciding to step down after 30 years as

an Associate Justice. The fight to replace him was always going to be titanic, and by retiring on July 31 he gives a Republican President and Senate an opening to nominate and confirm a replacement with the best chance of keeping the Court tethered to the Constitution.

—Editorial Board  
The Wall Street Journal

## Cost of health care

In the face of a grave injury, a series of calculations follow: The clear and urgent need for medical attention is weighed against the uncertain and potentially monumental expense of even basic services. ... Health care is a complicated problem, one exacerbated by the gridlock in Washington. But the trade-offs that everyday people are being asked to make, the calculations they are being forced to undertake in the scariest of situations, suggest that far too many of America's politicians have placed too little value on the well-being of its citizens. Nothing will change until their

fellow citizens step into the ballot box and insist on something better.

—Editorial Board  
The New York Times

## Trump and Putin

Russia and the United States need to deal with each other on (international) issues. ... Some might argue that Trump's comments about NATO, which arguably reflect his "America First" approach to foreign affairs, as well as his see-no-evil attitude toward Russia's election meddling, don't matter — because the rest of the U.S. government pursues a policy toward Russia that is rooted in reality. There is some truth to that argument. ... Yet Americans can derive only so much consolation from the fact that others in the Trump administration see Russia and Putin with clear eyes. Under our Constitution, it's the president who ultimately drives foreign policy. What Trump says — and doesn't say — to Putin still matters.

—Editorial Board  
Los Angeles Times

## Trump and immigration

(The president) betrays a frightening ignorance of the document he swore to preserve, protect and defend. And a total ignorance of why we have it. Without the need for law enforcement agencies to prove to a judge that they have sufficient reason, based on law and evidence, to hold, to charge, to convict or to deport any person, there would be nothing to stop any renegade, or just sloppy, officer or agency from grabbing any random passer-by, or any specific person he just didn't like, ... and sending them off to who-knows-where.

—Editorial Board  
The Salt Lake Tribune

## Freedom of the press

One fact is specially chilling about the murders (of journalists) in Annapolis: before the murderer's identity was known, almost everyone who expressed an opinion, whether on left or right, assumed his motives were political. This was a natural conclusion to jump to in the present polarized climate. ... The real enmity lies not between the press and the people, but the free press (and people) and the powerful. ... But it is still true that the enemies of democracy are the lovers of darkness and a free press is their enemy everywhere.

—Editorial Board  
The Guardian

## Fireworks

Many cities in Utah already have imposed restrictions on fireworks in certain areas where fires are more likely to ignite. Parowan has banned them completely within city limits. That seems the sanest approach. As they do each year, fire officials are urging caution. "We are expecting things to burn," United Fire Authority spokesman Eric Holmes told KSL. It is frankly irresponsible to set up such expectations each year and act as if the possible loss of a few homes is acceptable. State lawmakers should let this be the last year when private fireworks are allowed in Utah.

—Editorial Board  
Deseret News

## WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

The Universe encourages students, faculty and BYU staff to add their voice to ours by writing letters to the editor and guest editorials, or by submitting editorial cartoons.

- All letters should be submitted by email to universe.ideas@gmail.com. The topic of the letter should be included in the subject line.
- Letters should also include the author's name, hometown (for students), campus position (for faculty and staff) and phone number. Anonymous letters will

- not be published.
  - Letters should be no more than 250 words and may be edited for length, clarity or style.
  - Guest editorials should be 500 to 700 words and are encouraged from individuals with professional or academic expertise on the topic.
  - Original cartoons are also welcome.
- Opinion editor Ciera Lundberg can be reached at universe.ideas@gmail.com.

## LA-Bron: James agrees to 4-year contract with Lakers

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LeBron James is leaving home for Hollywood and an iconic team.

The four-time NBA MVP announced July 1 that he has agreed to a four-year, \$154 million contract with the Lakers, joining one of the league's most storied franchises and switching conferences to try and dethrone the Golden State Warriors and grow his own legacy.

For the second time in his career, James is saying goodbye to the Cleveland Cavaliers, who drafted the teenage sensation from Akron in 2003. Unlike his two previous forays in free agency, James did not drag out his decision and made the announcement less than 24 hours after NBA free agency opened.

James' management agency, Klutch Sports Group, announced his agreement with the Lakers with a simple, short release. It was a stark contrast from eight years ago when a TV special to announce his departure from Cleveland backfired and damaged James' image.

James isn't planning any more comments and there won't be a welcoming press conference or celebration in Los Angeles, a person familiar with his plans said Sunday night on the condition of anonymity. James will make his next public comments on July 30 in Akron when he opens a public school started by his family foundation.

The game's biggest star will now lead a young Lakers team — run by Lakers Hall of Famer Magic Johnson — that has been overmatched in recent years while rebuilding. But the Lakers will instantly rise with James, a three-time champion who after being swept by the Warriors in this year's NBA Finals said he is still driven and very much in "championship mode."

James wasn't planning to have any face-to-face meetings, but Saturday night he met with Johnson, who sold him on his vision for the Lakers, the person told AP. Earlier in the week, Johnson seemed resigned to the possibility he might not get James or Paul George, who ended up re-signing with the Oklahoma City Thunder.

But Johnson was confident he could pull something off.

"I'm Magic Johnson," he said.

The Lakers' rich legacy is something that has always appealed to James and it wasn't long after his announcement that he heard from Kobe Bryant, who won five titles during 20 seasons with Los Angeles.

"Welcome to the family @King-James," Bryant said on Twitter. "#lakers4life #striveforgreatness."

James and Bryant were Olympic teammates and there has been a perceived rivalry between the pair of



Associated Press

In this June 6 photo, Cleveland Cavaliers' LeBron James shoots against Golden State Warriors' Draymond Green during the first half of Game 3 of basketball's NBA Finals in Cleveland. James recently signed a four-year contract to play for the L.A. Lakers.

alpha males. They're now linked like never before and if James wants to prepare for his eventual life after basketball, who better to learn from than Johnson, who has made a fortune as a business entrepreneur, or Bryant, an Academy Award winner.

The massive Los Angeles market will also provide James with a grander platform for his philanthropy and social activism. He already owns two homes in Southern California and has a film production company.

This is the third time in eight years James has changed teams. After bolting from Cleveland in 2010, he returned in an emotional homecoming four years later, determined to make the Cavs champions. The 33-year-old had previously said he wanted to finish his career in Ohio, and although he's leaving again, Cavs fans are more forgiving after he ended the city's 52-year sport title drought in 2016.

Shortly after the announcement, which came in a surprising manner, James posted a three-photo tribute to Cleveland fans on his Instagram account.

"Thank you Northeast Ohio for an incredible four seasons," James wrote. "This will always be home."

But there will always be a portion of Cleveland fans disappointed that James left again and that he wouldn't

give the Cavs a longer commitment. His deal with the Lakers is his longest since he signed for six years with Miami in 2010.

And unlike eight years ago when he ripped James for leaving, Cavs owner Dan Gilbert thanked him. Gilbert opened his comments by referring to Cleveland's 2016 title as "a championship that united generations of Clevelanders, both living and passed."

"LeBron, you came home and delivered the ultimate goal," Gilbert said in a statement. "Nothing but appreciation and gratitude for everything you put into every moment you spent in a Cavaliers uniform. We look forward to the retirement of the famous #23 Cavs jersey one day down the line."

On Friday, James informed the Cavs that he was not exercising his \$35.6 million option and becoming a free agent. While in Los Angeles following a family vacation, he spoke to Cavs general manager Koby Altman moments after free agency opened on Sunday, and it appears that was more a courtesy than a chance for Cleveland to make one last pitch.

Cleveland's roster was exposed during this year's finals, and James may not have seen a way for it to improve enough to win a fourth title.

James gave Cleveland something to remember in his final season. He

played in all 82 regular-season games and then somehow carried a team that underwent several transformations to a fourth straight conference title and matchup against the Warriors.

As has been the case in the past, James didn't have enough help as the Cavs were swept, dropping him to 3-6 in the NBA Finals — a record sometimes used to compare him to Michael Jordan.

His stay with the Cavaliers will best be remembered for 2016, when he rallied the Cavs from a 3-1 deficit in the finals to stun the Warriors. James helped seal a Game 7 win with a chase-down block of Andre Iguodala, the signature moment of a career that has shown no signs of decay.

With the Lakers, James will be playing in the Western Conference for the first time and just down the Pacific Coast Highway from the Warriors, the team that has stymied him three times in the past four finals.

The chance to play for one of America's most storied franchises is a new challenge for James, who prides himself on knowing the game's history. In Los Angeles, championships are the standard and he'll feel new pressure in upholding the legacies of Johnson, Bryant, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Jerry West and other Lakers greats.

Now it's his turn.

## Utah State football player accused of rape

ASSOCIATED PRESS

A Utah State football player has been charged with sexually assaulting a woman at a party, marking the latest in a string of similar cases at the school in recent years.

Jamaal A. Evans, 19, took an intoxicated woman into a room and assaulted her on June 17, prosecutors who filed rape and forcible sodomy charges said in court documents filed Thursday.

When the woman's friend confronted him about what happened, he told her "when you're in the moment and you want what you want, just got to do it sometimes," and "he gave that girl what she wanted," according to the documents.

Evans told police the sex was consensual, according to documents. He said he was "a little buzzed," but the woman didn't seem drunk until she vomited after the encounter.

His lawyer Shannon Demler did not immediately return a message seeking comment Friday.

Other partygoers told police the woman was acting intoxicated and her friend told police the woman was "completely incoherent" after the alleged assault. The woman told police she couldn't remember what happened.

Evans, who graduated from Centennial High School in Las Vegas, redshirted as a freshman linebacker at Utah State last year. He's now been suspended from the team in the northern Utah city of Logan.

The charges come as a former Utah State football player heads for trial on charges alleging he assaulted seven women between 2013 and 2015. Torrey Green has maintained his innocence.

Two fraternity members at Utah State have also pleaded guilty in sexual assault cases in recent years. The university has also pledged reform after an investigation found a pattern of sexual misconduct in its piano program.

Utah State now requires all students to undergo training designed to prevent sexual assault, and the athletic department adds its own training, said Eric Warren, a spokesman for the university.

Last year, the football team brought in former NFL player Chris Draft as well as the Logan police chief during a series of events aimed at preventing sexual assault.

Warren said Utah State takes the allegations seriously and will not tolerate any sexual misconduct at the school.

## FIFA says video reviews have been 99.3 percent correct

ASSOCIATED PRESS

FIFA says video reviews are "close to perfection" at the first World Cup to use the system, claiming 99.3 percent of "match-changing" plays were called correctly.

Don't tell that to some of the coaches still angry about a few penalties, fouls or cards that were or weren't handed out.

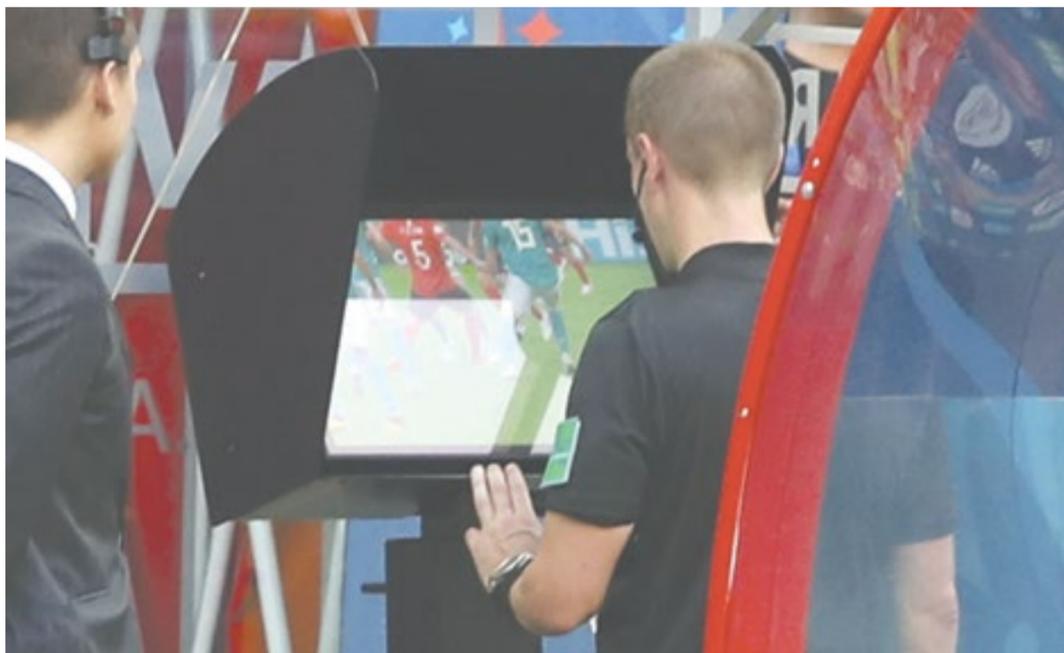
The system has had a major impact, with seven penalties awarded using the Video Assistant Referee system. Two goals were given after being initially ruled offside, including one by South Korea that helped to eliminate world champion Germany.

FIFA's referee committee head Pierluigi Collina claimed Friday that 99.3 percent of "match-changing" decisions were called correctly at the World Cup — "very, very close to perfection" — based on assessments by him and other senior ex-referees. Without VAR, the figure would be 95 percent, Collina said.

That missing 0.7 percent in Collina's statistic is still bitterly contentious.

Serbia's coach suggested a referee should be sent to a war crimes tribunal when his team didn't get a penalty after two Swiss defenders appeared to hold Aleksandar Mitrovic in the penalty area. English media complained about Tunisian defenders grappling with striker Harry Kane.

Collina didn't address those plays directly but suggested they prompted a warning to referees to be stricter about holding in the penalty area.



Associated Press

Referee Mark Geiger from the US watches the Video Assistant Referee system, known as VAR, during the group F match between South Korea and Germany, at the 2018 soccer World Cup in the Kazan Arena in Kazan, Russia, June 27.

"I think you might have appreciated that at a certain point of the group phase there were some incidents which suddenly disappeared," he said. "We had some holdings and they almost disappeared, but if they continued they were punished with the corresponding decision."

That's an example of the refereeing system being "fine-tuned," Collina said.

VAR means players and viewers expect more from referees. FIFA's head of refereeing Massimo Busacca expressed frustration about the interest in errors.

"Today you are asking to be God, perfect," he said. "Who is perfect in this life?"

On the whole, FIFA views VAR's rollout as a success. Before the World Cup, there were concerns about referees who

hadn't used the system before, about slower games and pedantic rulings on minor fouls. However, FIFA says the ball has been in play for longer than at the last World Cup and total fouls are down through 48 games.

The VAR crews, wearing full referee kit in a darkened room on the outskirts of Moscow, are urged to view incidents at normal speed so they aren't too harsh on slight contact between players. They

can use slow-motion to find the point of contact, but normal speed to decide how serious it was.

"Everything with slow-mo or super slow-mo seems bigger, seems tougher, seems more deliberate," Collina said. "Football is a sport where contact doesn't mean a foul."

The VAR crews have examined 335 incidents — 6.9 per game — including all the goals but flagged only 17 for formal review. Fourteen decisions were changed and three were upheld.

Collina said he hopes for VAR discussions between referees and the control room to be part of TV broadcasts in future. However, FIFA's deputy secretary general Zvonimir Boban immediately pushed back against that idea, saying the mix of languages at the World Cup could make it "impossible" for broadcasters.

The more VAR is used, the more players demand it. Players and coaches are constantly drawing a TV screen with their fingers at this World Cup, but Collina said referees should only book players if it's meant to be "disrespectful."

Referees themselves aren't allowed to speak with reporters, but FIFA says they welcome VAR.

"In some situations, I prayed a lot when something occurred. I said 'My God, what happened?' And then, at the end, I was lucky in very difficult circumstances. Sometimes I decided without seeing, only made an interpretation from distance," said Busacca, who had a long refereeing career including two World Cups.

"What we want to give to the referees is this big opportunity not to be lucky," he said.



# Celebrating the 4th of July



Associated Press

In this July 4, 2013 file photo, the White House is adorned in preparation for the Fourth of July celebration on the South Lawn. A televised concert will be held again in Washington to celebrate Independence Day.



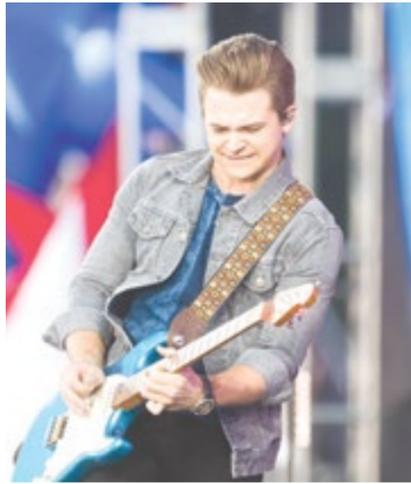
Ari Davis

A paratrooper descends into the LaVell Edwards Stadium with an American flag at last year's Stadium of Fire.



Business Wire

The 2018 Macy's 4th of July Fireworks will launch more than 75,000 shells and effects from seven barges on the East River in New York City.



Ari Davis

Country musician Hunter Hayes performs at the 2017 Stadium of Fire.



Associated Press

This June 15 photo shows homemade fire starters, shown in Strafford, N.H., which make great summertime gifts for friends with backyard fire pits.

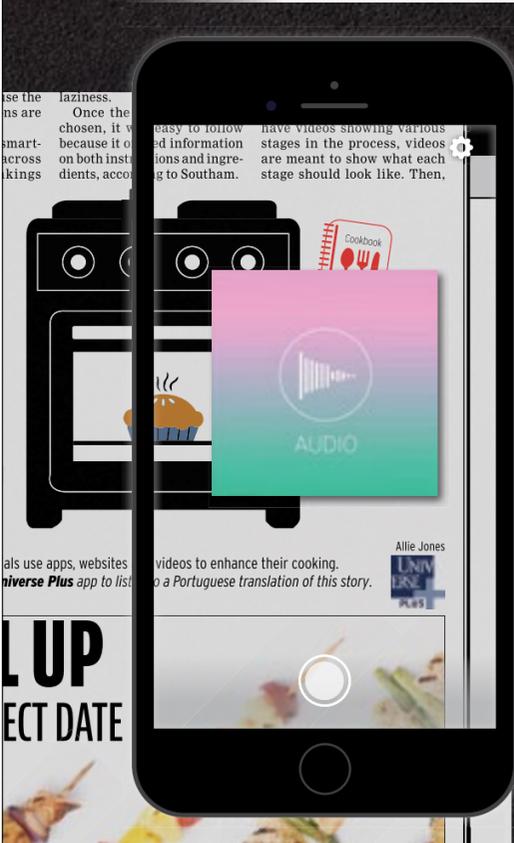


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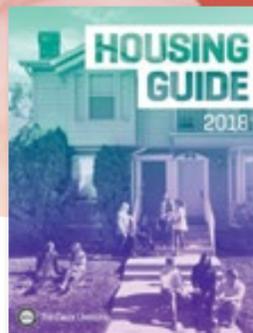
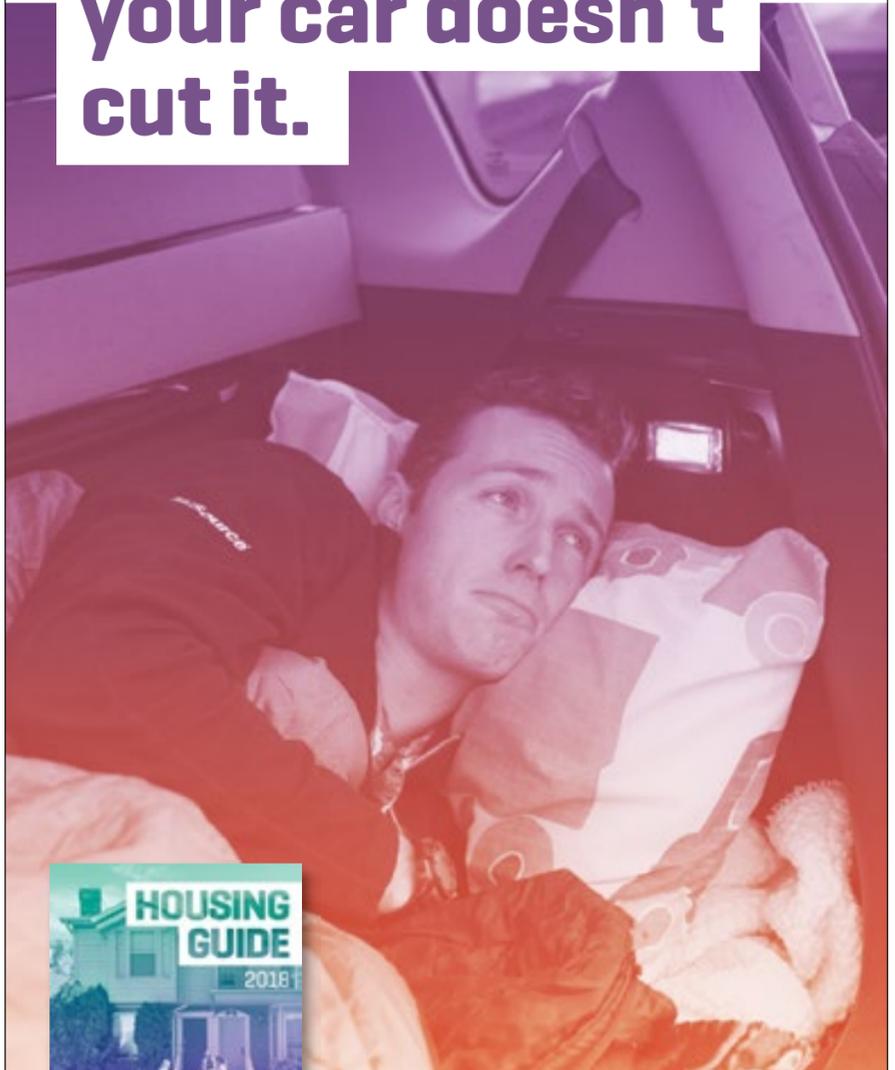
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On Page 1, use the app to watch a video. Or, on Page 3, listen to a Portuguese translation.

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