

Shocked. Money comes from out-of-state

Editor:

Yes, I am aware that the seed for all of Apopka expansion was planted long ago.

However, I am aware that an election will be held in several months. I always check carefully

from where the campaign dollars come.

It did shock me that so much money came to one of the candidates from Michigan and other out-of-state donors. Another donor was the owner of the golf course that is closed now. I do understand that

the current mayor can and does take advantage of all photos in the paper. I realize he is campaigning against a local man who is a born-and-raised Apopkan.

Z.B. Williams
Apopka

Moore: Principals leading schools to success

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Another group of schools just missed an "A" by a few points. Projections have Apopka and Clay Springs elementary schools reaching the goal this spring. Principals Lukeshia Miller and Patricia Weisbach are leading their schools to success. Lakeville Elementary and Prairie Lake earned "B" grades which is considered high performing and admirable. This was an improvement for these two schools led by Cynthia Swanson and Dr. Robert Strenth. I was pleased with their gains and continuous improvement model.

Dream Lake and Rock Springs, led by Carole-Ann Clenton-Martin and Nathan Hay, also have potential to move up from their current "C" grades. It is important for children to arrive at school having completed a high quality pre-kindergarten, as students are expected to read and write by year end.

Community groups that offer English as a second language for parents is extremely helpful.

Our schools with nearly 100 percent of their students on free and reduced lunch provide the greatest challenge. Three schools – Lovell, Wheatley, and Zell-

wood – all achieved "C" grades last year. None of these schools are in the group of lowest performing schools that require supervision by the School Transformation Office. Principals Mr. Aguirre, Dr. Atkinson and Mr. Mattucci are very effective. Their campuses are inviting and friendly. Teachers and students are all engaged in learning.

Sometimes, a helping hand is needed with the harsh demands of life. We must promote high expectations while offering additional supports. Success is happening in every school. We need to recognize and praise it.

Corbeil: Pluto suffers from global warming

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ional Geographic News headlined a story with, "Mars Melt Hints at Solar, Not Human Cause for Warming, Scientists Say."

And, a press release in February from the Keck Observatory in Hawaii was headed with, "Saturn's Strange Hot Spot."

Another release headline from M.I.T. in 1998 stated, "M.I.T. Researcher finds Evidence of Global Warming on Neptune's Largest Moon." This evidence was gathered from a Voyager space probe fly-by in 1989. (This was six years before the Kyoto Krackpot Conference.)

A report from Space.com in October 2002 states, "Global Warming on Pluto Puzzles Scientists." The article leads with: "Astronomers today said Pluto is un-

dergoing global warming in its thin atmosphere even as it moves further away from the sun on its long odd-shaped orbit."

Bethell saves the "big one" for the last planet on a headline from USA Today of May 2006 – "New Storm on Jupiter Hints at Climate Change." The main thrust states, "The latest images could provide evidence that Jupiter is in the midst of global climate change that can modify temperature by as much as 10 degrees F. on different parts of globe."

In addition to orbiting the sun at various distances, these planets all share characteristics that they don't have with our planet Earth. None of them has any human or animal presence or activity, especially greenhouse gasses from industrial activity or billions of 18

wheelers, jet aircraft, SUVs, furnaces, air conditioners, power plants, skyscrapers, etc., etc. al-Gore, call your office.

The highest temperature ever recorded in May in Central Florida occurred on May 30 (100 degrees) and May 31 (102 degrees) in 1945. June of that year began with 100 degrees that first day of the month – a historical record.

That's three consecutive record days 72 years ago when the population of Orange County was under 100,000, led by Orlando with 42,000 and Winter Park with 7,200. The entire state had less than 2.5 million.

"The LORD is thy keeper. The LORD is thy shade upon thy right hand. The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night". Psalm 121:5 and 6.

Nelson: Contractors removed yards of debris

Continued from page 2A

moved totaled at 166,840 cubic yards during the week of October 15, with the smallest amount of yard debris removed totaling at 4,007 cubic yards during the week of December 11. The contractors had removed a total of 900,000 cubic yards of debris as of December 12, with 825,000 being vegetative debris and 75,000 being waste debris. Currently, contractors are closing out to the removal process, where they are finalizing canal and retention pond debris and reducing debris for final disposal, all of which is expected to be completed by January 2018. In addition, documents are currently being prepared for reimbursement from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the cost of debris removal. The costs of debris removal can be broken down into the following components: vegetation removal; citizen sites; stumps; leaners and hangers; hazardous trees; construction and demolition; and monitoring

services. Vegetation removal can be further broken down into the following categories: debris removal from rights-of-way; debris storage at a temporary debris storage and reduction (TDSR) site; debris reduction; and final disposal of debris.

Out of 270 total gated communities, 125 had submitted service tickets by calling the Orange County 311 Call Center. Public Works reached out to the inquiring communities and did the following: explained the process for debris removal in gated communities; scheduled 54 team visits with homeowner's association (HOA) representatives; estimated debris; and discussed options for removal. Residents in gated communities had the following options for removal of debris: rolling off the debris outside of the community (putting a dumpster outside of the community); obtaining a letter permitting them to dispose of debris at the citizen sites; and making arrangements to put the debris

on the trucks with the contractors. It was reported that nine residents had requested letters, one decided to roll off, and eight had arranged to transfer their debris to the trucks.

Following the hurricanes that hit Florida in 2004, Orange County provided for an absolute funding mechanism for gated communities from several sources, both existing and new: OCU yard waste pick up; HOA insurance, if available; and the addition of the "Storm Debris Removal Account" in the Subdivision Regulations of the county code. At a public hearing on February 24, 2009, the Board of County Commissioners amended the Subdivision Regulations to include the "Storm Debris Removal Account" as part of the county code. The code now reads: "Require the establishment and maintenance of an HOA account for storm debris cleanup and removal, such as clearing downed trees, landscape,

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PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE CHANGE OF ZONING

NOTICE is hereby given that Orange County Public Schools has made an application, in accordance with Florida Statutes 163.3187(c) and the Apopka Code of Ordinances, Part III, Land Development Code, Article XII, Section 12.04.00, to the City of Apopka City Council, and Apopka Planning Commission for a **CHANGE OF ZONING FOR APPROXIMATELY 15.17 +/- ACRES FROM "CITY" AG (AGRICULTURE) AND "COUNTY" A-1 TO PO/I (PROFESSIONAL OFFICE/INSTITUTIONAL)**. This application relates to the following described property located west of Jason Dwellley Parkway and south of West Kelly Park Road.



Parcel I.D.: 18-20-28-0000-00-053 & 18-20-28-0000-00-054
Contains: 15.17 +/- Acres

ORDINANCE 2624

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF APOPKA, FLORIDA, CHANGING THE ZONING FROM "CITY" AG (AGRICULTURE) AND "COUNTY" A-1 TO PO/I (PROFESSIONAL OFFICE/INSTITUTIONAL) FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY GENERALLY LOCATED WEST OF JASON DWELLEY PARKWAY AND SOUTH OF WEST KELLY PARK ROAD, COMPRISING 15.17 ACRES MORE OR LESS, AND OWNED BY GEORGE THUM JR. AND PHILLIP AND PEGGY DIONNE; PROVIDING FOR DIRECTIONS TO THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR, SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Notice is given that the City of Apopka Planning Commission will hold a public hearing to consider the change of Zoning request at its regularly scheduled meeting in the City Council Chambers of the Apopka City Hall, 120 E. Main Street, Apopka, Florida on **Tuesday, January 9, 2018 beginning at 5:30 p.m.**, or as soon thereafter as possible.

Further, notice is given that a public hearing will be held by the City of Apopka City Council at its regularly scheduled meetings in the City Council Chambers of the Apopka City Hall, 120 E. Main Street, Apopka, Florida on **Wednesday, February 7, 2018, beginning at 1:30 p.m.**, or as soon thereafter as possible AND on **Wednesday, February 21, 2018, beginning at 7:00 p.m.**, or as soon thereafter as possible. Public hearing notices are also posted at www.apopka.net.

Affected parties and the public may appear at the above listed hearings to speak. The proposed Zoning can be inspected at the Apopka Community Development Department located at Apopka City Hall on weekdays between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. City Hall address shown below. Please be advised that, under State law, if you decide to appeal a decision made with respect to this matter, you will need a record of the proceedings and may need to ensure that a verbatim record is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), persons with disabilities needing assistance to participate in any of these proceedings should contact the City Clerk's Office at 120 East Main Street, Apopka FL 32703, Telephone: 407-703-1704, no less than 48 hours prior to the proceeding.

Apopka City Council
Apopka Planning Commission
Community Development Department

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The Way I See It Patti Bankson

No Scrooges Allowed!

You know what season this is, don't you? Winter, you guess? Of course. Christmas? Duh! Hallmark's Count Down to Christmas? Bingo!! In our house, Hallmark movies are the antidote for the guts, gory-glory, sex and shoot 'em ups that dominate the news and pass for entertainment. No, they're not all bad, but they're not all good, either... not as consistently as Hallmark movies are. For most of us, this is a wondrous and happy time spent in the warm circle of friends and family. However, for one writer at a Leftist online magazine, they're not just bad, they're like the nursery rhyme about the little girl with the curl in the middle of her forehead... 'cause when Hallmark's bad, it's very, very bad... and more than that, it's most decidedly horrid! Whatever the pre-text for his article, it's obvious from the start that his problem isn't really with Hallmark, it's with God, and where

HE chose to use the color, White. See, his complaint is about everything (Hallmark) being White... White snow, White women with "pure" hearts who trip over their words, bite their lips and act "besotted" over goofy White knights on White horses... But, wait! There's more... after all that, when Hallmark women are presented with a choice between a business career "in the big liberal city" and being a stay-at-home wife/mom, they have the audacity to make what the writer deems the wrong decision... they choose marriage, family, and traditions. (Hey, dude... we can do both!) When noting the premier of even more original Hallmark Christmas movies, he described them as "42 hours of sugary, sexist, preposterously plotted, plot hole-festooned, belligerently traditional, ecstasically Caucasian cheer".

I don't have room here... nor the stomach!... to go through everything he's written, but this man is using Hallmark as an opportunity to vent... to be upset and angry about everything. His whole piece is filled with hateful, animosity-filled, anti-tradition, anti-Trump voters and anti-white garbage

... in my opinion, this is about one unhappy man's opinion about goodness, innocence, happiness... and Whiteness. It's merely a racist diatribe masquerading as a review of Hallmark's Christmas movies.

To the unhappy author of the Hallmark piece, and all the other Scrooges of the world, I've got this to say:

There's no Law against Holly or against being jolly, No Law against Tinsel and Trees. No Law against kisses or Happy Holiday wishes to all in the stores that we see. All the holiday fixin's are found in abundance... they're all lawful in public, and how! But, the one thing forbidden, conspicuously hidden, the one thing the Law won't allow... is the mention of Jesus and how He came to us, as Savior, as Lord, King of Kings. That's why we celebrate, why I don't even hesitate to say "Legal stuff" means not a thing. So, Happy Birthday, to Jesus and to all others we say, have a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed Holiday.

(p.s. Thanks to The Chief's Joey for the inspiration! Feel free anytime.)

Comments Welcome
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The Apopka Chief is a consistent award-winning community weekly newspaper and a member of the Florida Press Association. The newspaper won the group's award as its best newspaper in 1982, 1987, and 1988, the only three-time winner. Letters to the editor are welcome, but must be signed and include a daytime telephone number, address, or email address for verification. Management reserves the right to edit letters.

www.theapokachief.com,
news@theapokachief.com

The city of Apopka was chartered in 1882. It is located at 28°30 north latitude and is 150 feet above sea level. Its population is about 48,000 and its total area is more than 30 sq. mi. www.apopka.net



All About Apopka

www.orangecountyfl.net

City of Apopka Telephone Numbers

City Hall	407-703-1700
Mayor's Office	407-703-1703
City Administrator	407-703-1750
City Clerk	407-703-1704
Community Devel.	407-703-1712
Code Enforcement	407-703-1738
Finance Dept.	407-703-1725
Fire (non-emerg.)	407-703-1756
Parks and Rec. Dept.	407-703-1741
Police Chief	407-703-1789
Police (non-emerg.)	407-703-1771
Job Line	407-703-1721
Solid Waste Collect.	407-703-1731
Street Maintenance	407-703-1731
Utility Billing	407-703-1727
Medical, fire emergency	911

Orange County Telephone Numbers

Animal Services	407-254-9140
Auto/Boat Tags	407-836-4145
Building Dept.	407-836-5760
County Chairman	407-836-7370
County Commission	407-836-7350
County Attorney	407-836-7320
Clerk of the Court	407-836-2065
Elections Supervisor	407-836-2070
Fire/Rescue	407-836-9111
Garbage Collecting	407-836-6601
Health Dept.	407-836-2600
Hunting/Fishing Lic.	407-836-4143
Parks and Rec. Dept.	407-836-6280
Property Appraiser	407-836-5000
Sheriff Administrative	407-254-7000
Non-Emerg. Complaint	407-836-4357
Utilities	407-836-5515
All other departments	407-836-3111
Medical, fire emergency	911

Other Area Numbers of Note

U.S. Senators	
Bill Nelson (Dem.)	407-872-7161
Marco Rubio (Rep.)	407-254-2573
U.S. Representative	
Val Demings (Dist. 10)	321-388-9810
State Representatives	
Jennifer Sullivan (Dist. 31)	352-742-6275
Kamia Brown (Dist. 45)	407-905-3807
State Senators	
Randolph Bracy (Dist. 11)	407-656-6716
Orange County Commissioner	
Bryan Nelson (Dist. 2)	407-836-7350
Orange County Public Schools	
Pupil assignment	407-317-3233
Bus routes	407-317-3800
Superintendent	407-317-3202
School Board	407-317-3236
Miscellaneous	
The Apopka Chief	407-886-2777
Museum of the Apopkans	407-703-1707
Chamber of Commerce	407-886-1441