

Vote-by-mail ballots for city elections were mailed this week

By John Peery
Apopka Chief Staff

The first vote-by-mail ballots for Apopka's municipal election went out this week and should be landing soon in mailboxes of registered voters who live in the city limits.

Bill Cowles, Orange County supervisor of elections, said the ballots were mailed Wednesday, February 2, for the March 8 city election that features a race for mayor and two city commissioner seats.

On the top of the city election ballot will be the race for mayor as incumbent Bryan Nelson faces a challenge from City Commissioner Kyle Becker. Nelson is in his first four-year term as mayor, while Becker is in the middle of his second term as a commissioner. Becker has resigned from Seat 4 to run for mayor. His resignation is effective April 26, the day that the election winners will take office.

Running for Becker's seat are Nick Nesta and Eric Mock. Nesta ran unsuccessfully for the City Council two years ago, while this is Mock's first foray into Apopka politics. The winner will have to run for re-election in 2024 since he will be filling out the final two years of

Becker's four-year term in Seat 4.

Commissioner Diane Velazquez is up for re-election for Seat 2 and she is facing opposition from Wes Dumey for the four-year term.

Commissioner Alexander Smith was automatically re-elected after no one qualified to run against him and his name will not appear on the ballot.

Doug Bankson was the only sitting member of the City Council who was not up for re-election after he won a second four-year term in 2020.

Cowles also said that sample ballots as well as information for early voting and Election Day voting will be mailed to Apopka voters on February 18.

Last week, the Apopka City Council added an early-voting site for the March 8 city election with six days of early voting at the Apopka Community Center/VFW to make it the only municipality in Orange County to have a site for early voting within its city limits for a city-only election.

Prior to the vote by the City Council, the only early-voting site that had been planned for the municipal election was at Cowles' office at 119 W. Kaley St., Orlando beginning Monday,

February 28, through Friday, March 4, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. That will continue to be an early-voting site for the Apopka city election.

The additional early-voting site is the Apopka Community Center/VFW, 519 S. Central Ave., and voting will be held there Tuesday, March 1, through Sunday, March 6, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The final time to vote will be on Election Day on Tuesday, March 8, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

It will cost the city more than \$21,000 for the six days of early voting at the community center. The estimate from Cowles' office is a cost of \$21,196.16 to the city, plus 28 cents for the cost of each ballot that is printed. The ballots are printed on-demand after a voter shows up and signs in to get the ballot.

This will be the second time in a city-only election that early voting will occur in the city limits of Apopka. There was early voting in Apopka for the 2006 city election, said City Clerk Susan Bone. There was also early voting in the city during the March 2020 city election when the vote piggybacked on the presidential preference primary that was held in Florida. During all other city-only elections, early voting was

held exclusively at Cowles' office in Orlando.

The change also makes Apopka the only municipality in Orange County to pay for early voting inside its city limits for a city-only election.

Funds to pay for the ear-

ly voting at the Apopka Community Center/VFW will come from the General Fund reserves.

All of the seats on the City Council are elected at-large, meaning all Apopka voters can cast their ballot in

each race. The current mayor's salary is \$127,000, while commissioners are paid \$16,200 annually.

Apopka residents wishing to vote in the city election must be registered to vote by Monday, February 7 at 5 p.m.

REGAL
Fri., Feb. 4, 2022 thru Sun., Feb. 6, 2022

JACKASS FOREVER (R) 12:00; 12:30; 2:30; 3:00; 5:00; 5:30; 7:30; 8:00; 9:30; 10:00
MOONFALL (PG-13) 12:00; 1:00; 3:30; 4:00; 6:30; 7:00; 9:40; 10:10
SCREAM (R) 1:10; 4:10; 6:50; 10:30
THE 355 (PG-13) 1:20; 4:20
SING 2 (PG) 12:40; 3:40; 6:20; 9:20
SPIDER-MAN: NO WAY HOME (PG-13) 12:10; 3:20; 6:40; 7:10; 9:50; 10:20

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CITY OF APOPKA PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE CHANGE OF ZONING

NOTICE is hereby given that **KIMLEY-HORN AND ASSOCIATES, INC. C/O BRIAN ASHEY** has made an application, in accordance with Florida Statutes 163.3187(c) and the Apopka Code of Ordinances, Part III, Land Development Code, Article II, Section 2.4.7(B) to the City of Apopka Planning Commission, and City Council for a **REZONING OF PROPERTY**. This application relates to the following described property:

ORDINANCE NO. 2898
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF APOPKA, FLORIDA, CHANGING THE ZONING FROM T (TRANSITIONAL) DISTRICT TO KPI-MU (KELLY PARK INTERCHANGE MIXED-USE), AND ASSIGNING A NEIGHBORHOOD OVERLAY DISTRICT, FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY GENERALLY LOCATED EAST OF SR 429, WEST OF PLYMOUTH SORRENTO ROAD AND SOUTH OF KELLY PARK ROAD, COMPRISING 41.2 ACRES MORE OR LESS, AND OWNED BY DIANE REID-GOOLSBY, DEBRA REID WILBARGER, DIANE DONOHOE AND DWANA MCCLURE; PROVIDING FOR DIRECTIONS TO THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR, SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.



(THIS MAP IS FOR REFERENCE PURPOSES ONLY AND IS NOT TO SCALE)

Parcel Identification Numbers: 13-20-27-0000-00-041, 13-20-27-0000-00-044, 13-20-27-0000-00-049, 13-20-27-0000-00-010, 13-20-27-0000-00-040, 13-20-27-0000-00-031, 13-20-27-0000-00-039, 13-20-27-0000-00-042, and 13-20-27-0000-00-043
Contains: 41.2 +/- Acres

Notice is given that the **City of Apopka City Council** will hold a public hearing to consider Ordinance No. 2898 at its regularly scheduled meeting in the City Council Chambers of the Apopka City Hall, 120 E. Main Street, Apopka, Florida on **Wednesday, February 16, 2022 beginning at 7:00 P.M.**, or as soon thereafter as possible.

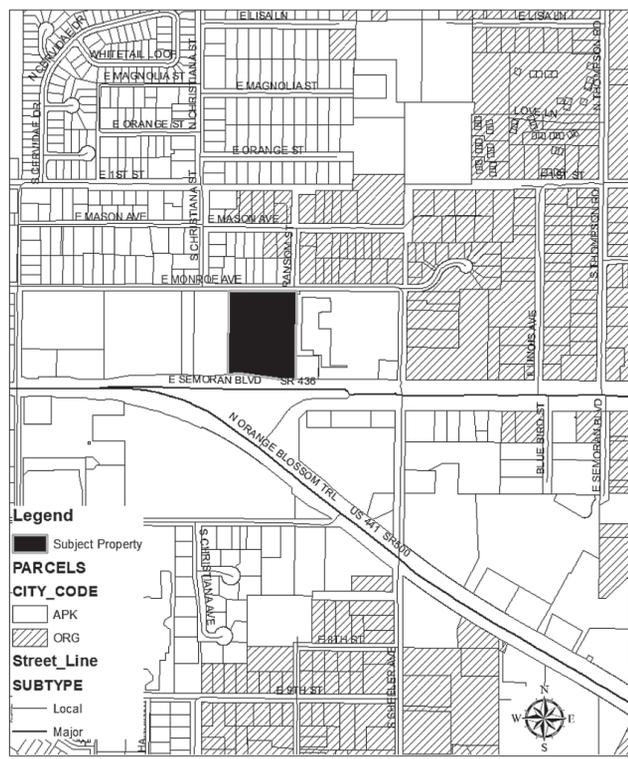
Affected parties and the public may appear at the above listed hearings to speak. The proposed zoning ordinance can be inspected at the Apopka Community Development Department located at Apopka City Hall on weekdays between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. City Hall address shown below. Please be 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

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE SMALL SCALE FUTURE LAND USE AMENDMENT

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Secs. 163.3187 and 166.041(3) (c), Florida Statutes and the Apopka Code of Ordinances, Part III, Land Development Code, Article II, Section 2.4.7(B), that **A and R Real Estate Development** has made an application, to the City of Apopka City Council, and Apopka Planning Commission for a **change in the Future Land Use Designation for approximately 5.67 +/- acres from Commercial to Mixed-Use**. This application relates to the following described property located North of E. Semoran Blvd. and West of Sheeler Avenue.

Vicinity Map



(THIS MAP IS FOR REFERENCE PURPOSES ONLY AND IS NOT TO SCALE)

Parcel I.D.: 10-21-28-0000-00-061
Contains: 5.67 +/- Acres

ORDINANCE NO. 2895
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF APOPKA, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE FUTURE LAND USE ELEMENT OF THE APOPKA COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF THE CITY OF APOPKA; CHANGING THE FUTURE LAND USE DESIGNATION FROM COMMERCIAL TO MIXED-USE FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED NORTH OF E. SEMORAN BOULEVARD AND WEST OF SHEELER AVENUE, COMPRISING 5.67 ACRES MORE OR LESS, AND OWNED BY THREE R CORP.; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Notice is given that a public hearing For Ordinance No. 2895 will be held by the **City of Apopka City Council** at its regularly scheduled meeting in the City Council Chambers of the Apopka City Hall, 120 E. Main Street, Apopka, Florida on **Wednesday, February 16, 2022, beginning at 7:00 p.m.**, or as soon thereafter as possible.

Affected parties and the public may appear at the above listed hearing to speak. The proposed Future Land Use 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
Community Development Department

Moore: Non-profit held accountable for execution of its bold plans

Continued from page 2A

a non-profit technical assistance program provided \$4 million. The goal is to serve 271 nonprofit organizations over three years. The technical assistance programs will include leadership training, fundraising, financial management, risk management, and innovation ideas for nonprof-

its. Under the social services and community services bucket is \$3 million for addressing homelessness. The organizations that are receiving funding include: Clean the World, which operates mobile showers, Samaritan Resource Center, a case management resource in east

Orange County, Pathways Drop-in Center which assists homeless individuals with mental health concerns, and \$1 million for the Coalition for the Homeless to expand diversion programs and for shelter and homeless prevention. Adult and youth mental health organizations received \$7 million from the ARPA funds. The Cen-

ter, Mental Health Association of Central Florida, Peer Support Space, Advent Health, Aspire Families, and Embrace Families received funding. Job training also received a significant boost through funding for Career Source of Central Florida. Career Source is using the funds for outreach, marketing, employer engagement, job placement in STEM fields, etc. Because, I saw this in a Board of County Commissioners presentation, I immediately asked for an event in the South Apopka area. More information will be coming soon.

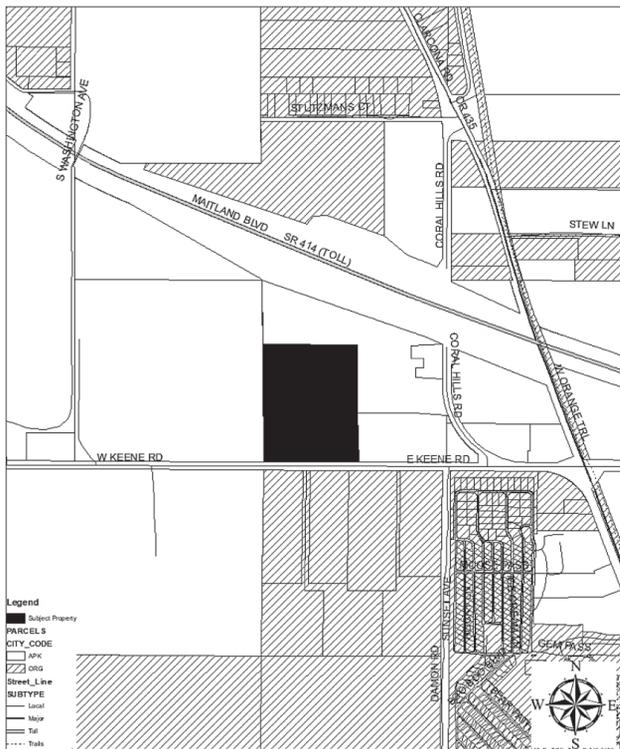
Additionally, the county holds these non-profits accountable for the execution of the bold plans. One of their proposals is to develop a high school year-round internship program, develop workforce services for hard-to-employ populations, and develop a public service career academy. All of this is quite exciting!

I hope to keep you abreast of Career Source's progress. As for the ARPA dollars impacting children's services, the Early Learning Coalition will receive \$8.5 million for child care supplements, classroom technology improvements, and to support the Business Institute for Early Learning entrepreneurs. Also, 4C or Community Coordinated Care for Children will receive funding for a series of services.

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE SMALL SCALE FUTURE LAND USE AMENDMENT AND CHANGE OF ZONING

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Secs. 163.3187 and 166.041(3)(c), Florida Statutes and the Apopka Code of Ordinances, Part III, Land Development Code, Article II, Section 2.4.7(B), that **Tara Tedrow** has made an application, to the City of Apopka City Council, and Apopka Planning Commission for a **change in the Future Land Use Designation for approximately 12.74 +/- acres from "County" Rural to "City" Industrial and a change in Zoning from T (Transitional District) to I-L (Light Industrial District)**. This application relates to the following described property located North of E. Keene Road and West of Clarcona Road.

Vicinity Map



(THIS MAP IS FOR REFERENCE PURPOSES ONLY AND IS NOT TO SCALE)

Parcel I.D.: 22-21-28-0000-00-168
Contains: 12.74 +/- Acres

ORDINANCE NO. 2896
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF APOPKA, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE FUTURE LAND USE ELEMENT OF THE APOPKA COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF THE CITY OF APOPKA; CHANGING THE FUTURE LAND USE DESIGNATION FROM "COUNTY" RURAL TO "CITY" INDUSTRIAL FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED NORTH OF E. KEENE ROAD AND WEST OF CLARCONA ROAD, COMPRISING 12.74 ACRES MORE OR LESS, AND OWNED BY AED DEWAR NURSERY 2019 TRUST; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

ORDINANCE NO. 2897
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF APOPKA, FLORIDA, CHANGING THE ZONING FROM T (TRANSITIONAL DISTRICT) TO I-L (LIGHT INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT) FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED NORTH OF E. KEENE ROAD AND WEST OF CLARCONA ROAD, COMPRISING 12.74 ACRES MORE OR LESS, AND OWNED BY AED DEWAR NURSERY 2019 TRUST; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Notice is given that a public hearing For Ordinance Nos. 2896 and Ordinance No. 2897 will be held by the **City of Apopka City Council** at its regularly scheduled meeting in the City Council Chambers of the Apopka City Hall, 120 E. Main Street, Apopka, Florida on **Wednesday, February 16, 2022, beginning at 7:00 p.m.**, or as soon thereafter as possible.

Affected parties and the public may appear at the above listed hearing to speak. The proposed Future Land Use and 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.

February 4, 2022
Apopka City Council
Community Development Department

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ing entrepreneurs. Also, 4C or Community Coordinated Care for Children will receive funding for a series of services.

The Second Harvest Food Bank is receiving \$8 million for the "Bring Hope Home" program, where volunteer drivers transport food directly to people in need in a contact-free manner. My staff volunteered at Second Harvest to pack some of the boxes that are delivered to people's doorsteps.

Public Health and Safety received substantial funding for services during the pandemic. About \$19.3 million was spent for COVID-19 Testing at Barnett Park, the old Clarcona Elementary School, and others. There was \$3.7 million used for administering vaccinations and other needs for storage, and PPE purchases cost \$1.2 million.

Infrastructure projects have been discussed at length in previous columns. I did not mention, however, that a substantial amount of funds was spent on a Bithlo water main extension, and Frankel Street and Lake Downey water main extension projects. Pine Hills received a \$4.3-million dollar grant to assist with sewer on the small properties along south Pine Hills Road.

This will be the basis for business expansion in an area that desperately needs investment, and ability to offer more job opportunities.

Broadband improvements are important as well. We found in this COVID-19 environment that Wi-Fi kept many of us employed and connected with the world. It is hard to imagine that some of our Orange County residents have not had access to Wi-Fi.

As for revenue recovery, significant funding is being given to Orange County Fire Rescue. They are looking to replace a station and acquire a new one in Horizon West. Public Works is replacing aging heavy equipment and a radio tower. Technology security enhancements are important in this global environment. Safeguarding county assets is vital. Can you imagine if cyber warfare destroyed something in utilities? We must protect all of our countywide systems which operate traffic lights, utilities, etc.

This was a long column in order to give you a fuller picture of how your federal American Rescue Plan Act dollars will be implemented in Orange County government. If you have additional questions, do not hesitate to contact my staff at 407-836-5850.

Byrd: Stay tuned to Tallahassee, know what changes can be made

Continued from page 2A

ing priorities while we are there as well.

The second day of the event is spent visiting with our Central Florida delegation. Our staff makes appointments with several legislators so that we can sit down in their offices and talk about the bills that we are passionate about and explain our positions.

dren ultimately need to be successful. This is why having discussions with our lawmakers is so important. We have to make sure they understand the effects of the laws they may pass.

Since the legislators obviously can't be experts on every issue that the state faces, it's important for industry experts and citizens to share insights that can help them make good decisions.

It's important to know that these meetings in Tallahassee are not the only time we meet with our legislators. Building relationships with our local delegation is something we do year-round. But meeting them on their turf sends an important message that we value our partnership and that we are collaborators.

Our public education system is being chipped away at by these bills and I feel very fortunate to be able to advocate for our schools and kids as a school board member.

As school board members, we are dealing with the results of education laws every day. We know how certain bills and mandates will affect the everyday functions of our school districts and what our children

There are bills being proposed that I believe

I want to encourage our community to keep up with the happenings in Tallahassee this legislative session. Read about the bills being proposed and write to your legislators and let them know where you stand.

Hayden: Jesus provides escape

Continued from page 2A

not be afraid, what does that mean?" The grandpa pointed down the road where a big tractor-trailer was parked and he asked, "See the truck and the shadow that falls across the road?" The boy said, "Yes-sir." "Would you rather be hit by that big truck or just the shadow?" the elderly man asked. "Grandpa, I'd rather get hit by the shadow!" the boy said. "That's

right, baby. Jesus got hit by the big truck, so you and I only have to pass through the shadow!"

life, no man comes to the Father except through me."

Grandpa's wisdom explained why we need to have no fear, even when threatened with death. God is not willing that any should perish, and so He allows valleys in our lives so we would seek and accept His way to escape. In the Gospel of John, chapter 14, verse 6, Jesus said "I am the way, the truth, and the

Jesus patiently waits for you and me to receive Him as our Savior, and compass to guide us through our deepest valley and give us courage to face the obstacles that seem insurmountable. Remember, courage does not mean having no fear but saddle up and go anyway, trusting our guide to clear our minds, using common sense to prevail.

ALL ABOUT APOPKA

The Apopka Chief

Established 1923 (USPS 545-440)
The Apopka Chief is published every Friday and entered as Periodicals, postage paid at Apopka Post Office, under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879. The Apopka Chief newspaper is published by Foliage Enterprises, Inc., every Friday at 400 North Park Avenue, Apopka, Fla., 32712-3417. An annual subscription is \$25 in Orange County and \$30 outside Orange County. Phone 407-886-2777. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Apopka Chief, P.O. Box 880, Apopka, Fla., 32704-0880.



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.theapokkachief.com, news@theapokkachief.com



City of Apopka Telephone Numbers

City Hall	407-703-1700
Mayor's Office	407-703-1701
City Administrator	407-703-1649
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	407-703-1769
Police (non-emerg.)	407-703-1771
Job Line	407-703-1743
Solid Waste Collect.	407-703-1731
Street Maintenance	407-703-1731
Utility Billing	407-703-1727
Medical, fire emergency	911
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.	
apopka.net	

Orange County Telephone Numbers

Animal Services	407-836-3111
Auto/Boat Tags	850-617-2000
Building Dept.	407-836-8550
County Mayor	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	407-836-3111
Solid Waste	407-836-6601
Garbage Collection	407-703-1731
Health Dept.	407-836-2600
Hunting/Fishing Lic.	888-347-4356
Parks and Rec. Dept.	407-836-6200
Property Appraiser	407-836-5044
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
www.orangecountyfl.net	

Other Area Numbers of Note

U.S. Senators	
Rick Scott (Rep.)	202-224-5274
Marco Rubio (Rep.)	407-254-2573
U.S. Representative	
Val Demings (Dist. 10)	321-388-9808
State Representatives	
	352-742-6275
Kamia Brown (Dist. 45)	850-717-5045
State Senators	
Randolph Bracy (Dist. 11)	407-297-2045
Orange County Commissioner	
Christine Moore	407-836-7350
Orange County Public Schools	
Pupil assignment	407-317-3233
Bus routes	407-317-3800
Superintendent	407-317-3200
School Board	407-317-3200
Miscellaneous	
The Apopka Chief	407-886-2777
Museum of the Apopkans	407-703-1707
Chamber of Commerce	407-886-1441