

COVID: Caring shows our concern Byrd: Panthers are school mascot

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Respondents are asked to indicate their behavior in donating to charity, helping a stranger, and volunteering. Answers to all three questions, across every part of the globe, increased by about 25 percent. During these challenging times, we have become less self-focused, and behaved in ways that showed more love and concern for others.

I have observed such behavior as I saw people donating their stimulus checks to those who needed the money more than they did.

I have seen offering numbers within my local church and across my denomination increase in unexpected ways. This survey indicates that we have become more willing, not

only to help our brother, but also to help strangers. Yes, I am my brother's keeper, but also, "we are the world," and we have indicated that our concerns and behaviors have broadened to the helping of strangers at this difficult time.

We realize that our struggles pale in comparison to the citizens of Ukraine. European countries in general, and Poland in particular, have risen to the challenge, welcoming refugees by the hundreds of thousands, even by the millions, demonstrating that not only are we our brother's keeper, but we are also a keeper of the strangers across the globe.

The COVID years have been a deadly era, and I speak as one who lost a close family member, and as one who grieves

with students, classmates, church colleagues, and many friends.

In comparison, the Ukraine invasion has totally disrupted the lives of an entire region of Europe. This is an era that will live in infamy.

Yet, there is a silver lining: If we respond by reducing our radical individualism, to demonstrate more concern for our brothers, our neighbors, and the strangers around the world, there will be a lasting positive impact, in the midst of human tragedy.

Let's all accept this challenge.

Dr. Gary L. Welton is assistant dean for institutional assessment, professor of psychology at Grove City College, and a contributor to the Institute for Faith & Freedom.

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School is lucky to have him and this great program!

Second, I want to share more exciting news about our new K-8 school, the newly named Kelly Park School.

As you know, we first named the new principal, Kelly Steinke, who is an Apopka native, a couple months ago.

We then went through the naming process which

involved surveying the community and Kelly Park School was chosen.

Now, the fun part: The school community was once again surveyed for the school mascot and colors, and I'm proud to announce that the Kelly Park Panthers came out on top! The school colors will be navy blue and gold!

The Panthers named after the Florida panther received 62 percent of the vote among the school

community. Other choices were the Bucks and Bobcats.

Kelly Park School is on schedule to be finished soon and will be opening in August.

There will be an opportunity for the public to tour the school as we get closer to opening.

It's going to be an exciting year next year for all our Kelly Park Panthers to start a new year in a beautiful new building.

Hayden: Experience is best teacher

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grow into functioning, successful, and healthy adults who can make their way in life without depending on assistance with every problem they will face, but then we encourage them to be pain-free with whatever it takes to alleviate the pain, strain, heartache, or failure in their childhood. When our kids get to a certain age, is it any wonder the drug dealers in our cities are making millions from their drug sales? Not only that, but we give them the idea that not only do the drugs give us a pain-free existence, but it allows our minds to expand to include new heights of pleasure as though we deserve those new heights of pleasure without working for them the old-fashioned way.

The world tries to convince us that the answer to our problems comes in the form of a pill that makes us feel better temporarily, that the euphoria of drugs is liberating when all along

they are selling you into the slavery of addiction that destroys lives and tears families apart. The societies of today have associated a productive, good and satisfying life with big homes, foxy automobiles, vacations on sun-filled beaches, and lavish lifestyles of the rich and famous, and pills or beverages that can make it all come true without the labor and work it took years ago just to raise kids to the age they could decide for themselves the life that they wanted to live.

I have never seen such a lack of parental guidance when it comes to teaching manners and common courtesies. It is as though we are depending on the people our children meet on the street to teach them how to behave. One of these days, the time will come when we must pay the piper and my thought is that it is going to be quite a bit higher price than we expected.

I believe the answer to changing this is to allow our kids to suffer some

of the growing pangs and pains that will help them to face problems of life without the need to be strengthened by drugs of any kind. Most of us had to undergo some pains and discouragement in our growing up years, and we lived and learned valuable lessons on how to manage our lives and be capable of making it better for someone else.

Someone asked me once, "If you could go back, knowing what you know now, and live your life over, would you?" My knee jerk reaction was absolutely, but, after thinking about it, I said "no." When they asked why, I told them that even the terrible things I went through worked out for good in someone else's life and I could not take that away from them.

I think the song by Alan Jackson, "The Older I Get" is more relevant to me, and as the song says, "If they found the fountain of youth, I wouldn't drink a drop."

CITY OF APOPKA PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE SPECIAL EXCEPTION

NOTICE is hereby given that **CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT INC. C/O JONATHAN HUELS** has made an application, in accordance with Apopka Code of Ordinances, Part III, Land Development Code, Article II, Section 4.2.2.C to the City of Apopka Planning Commission for a **SPECIAL EXCEPTION TO ALLOW A CHILD CARE FACILITY.**

This application relates to the following described (portion of) property located on the southeast corner of Plymouth Sorrento Road and Lester Road:



Parcel Identification Number: 06-21-28-7172-15-011 (portion of)
Contains: 2.3 +/- acre

Notice is given that the **City of Apopka Planning Commission** will hold a public hearing to consider the special exception request at its scheduled meeting in the City Council Chambers of the Apopka City Hall on **Tuesday, May 10, 2022, beginning at 5:30 P.M.,** or as soon thereafter as possible.

Affected parties and the public may appear at the above listed hearing to speak. 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, Florida 32703; Telephone: 407-703-1704, no less than 48 hours prior to the proceeding.

Apopka City Council
Apopka Planning Commission
Community Development Department

April 29, 2022
Publish: The Apopka Chief

171132

CITY OF APOPKA PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The following ordinance will be read on **Wednesday, May 4, 2022** and held over for second reading where it will be considered for adoption at the City Council meeting in the Apopka City Hall Council Chambers on **Wednesday, May 18, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.,** or as soon thereafter as possible.

ORDINANCE 2933
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF APOPKA, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF APOPKA, CHAPTER 78 UTILITIES, ARTICLE II WATER AND SEWER SYSTEMS BY CREATING DIVISION 1.5 INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL PRETREATMENT; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; AND SETTING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

respect to the proposed ordinance. The proposed ordinance is available in the City Clerk's office for inspection.

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.

Dated this 25th day of April, 2022
Susan M. Bone, City Clerk
City of Apopka, Florida

Publish: April 29, 2022 and May 6, 2022
The Apopka Chief

171144

Interested parties may appear at this meeting and be heard with

CITY OF APOPKA PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The following ordinance will be read on **Wednesday, May 4, 2022** and held over for second reading where it will be considered for adoption at the City Council meeting in the Apopka City Hall Council Chambers on **Wednesday, May 18, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.,** or as soon thereafter as possible.

ORDINANCE NO. 2931
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF APOPKA, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF APOPKA BY AMENDING CHAPTER 2 ADMINISTRATION BY CREATING SECTION 2-24 MAINTAINING ORDER, DECORUM AT COUNCIL MEETINGS; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

respect to the proposed ordinance. The proposed ordinance is available in the City Clerk's office for inspection.

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.

Dated this 25th day of April, 2022
Susan M. Bone, City Clerk
City of Apopka, Florida

Publish: April 29, 2022
The Apopka Chief

171143

Interested parties may appear at this meeting and be heard with

Everybody has an opinion. Why not share yours?

Send a letter to the Editor online: www.theapopkachief.com

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.theapopkachief.com, news@theapopkachief.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. www.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 |