

# Byrd: Morale problem needs help

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our district to further successes. That is what made this so difficult. In my opinion, both candidates have tremendous attributes – as should be expected in candidates for this position.

So, I had to really dig deep and think about where we are at this moment in time, what we are going to be faced with in the future, and where I want to see the district in that future.

So, this is where I landed. Our school district is NOT a floundering school district that needs saving with a whole new reboot. In fact, it's quite the opposite. Districts and school boards from around the state and country reach

out to us all the time for advice and consultation because we are a highly successful district.

But we do have a big problem - we have a significant morale problem that needs immediate attention. So, the question is: Who can keep us on the successful track we are on, yet tweak the culture in a way that positively impacts our staff? I believe Dr. Maria Vazquez is that person.

I have worked very closely with Dr. Vazquez over the past couple of years and I knew from those interactions that her knowledge, her drive, her attention to detail would make her an excellent superintendent but I did have concerns the same as some

that I heard from constituents, that if we went with someone from within, nothing would change in the culture.

So, I addressed this very directly and bluntly in my one-on-one interview with Dr. Vazquez. She is very aware of this issue and has a clear plan to tackle the problem. When you read her 100-day entry plan, she acknowledges in the opening paragraph that we have made incredible progress over the last decade, yet we face some challenges. The common theme throughout her plan is listening and learning. She frequently reiterates her desire to listen to

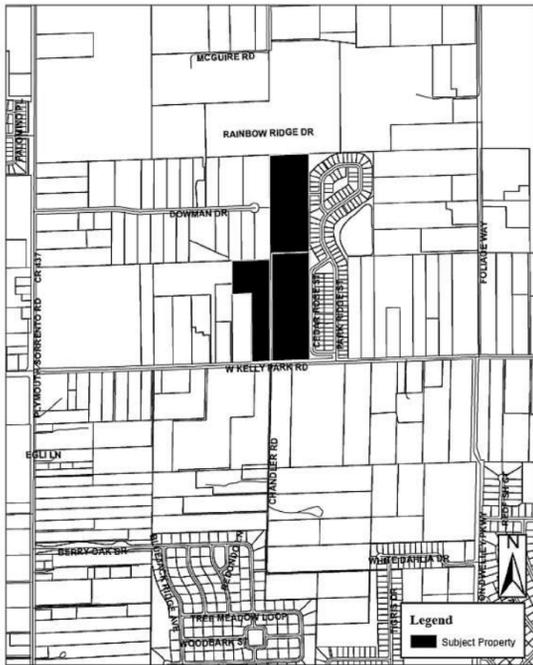
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## CITY OF APOPKA PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE CHANGE OF ZONING

NOTICE is hereby given that **GL SUMMITT ENGINEERING, INC.** 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. 2950

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 NORTH OF KELLY PARK ROAD, EAST OF PLYMOUTH SORRENTO ROAD AND WEST OF FOLIAGE WAY, COMPRISING 39.72 ACRES MORE OR LESS, AND OWNED BY NAM KI YEON; LEE JONG DAN NAM; LEE LEE KYUN; LEE MYUNG JA; ROBERT J & ALANA T. HUTTER; PROVIDING FOR DIRECTIONS TO THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR, SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.



Parcel Identification Numbers: 07-20-28-0000-00-036; 07-20-28-0000-00-066; 07-20-28-0000-00-067  
Contains: 39.72 +/- Acres

Notice is given that the **City of Apopka Planning Commission** will hold a public hearing at its regularly scheduled meeting in the City Council Chambers of the Apopka City Hall, 120 E. Main Street, Apopka, Florida on **Tuesday, July 12, 2022 beginning at 5:30 P.M.**, or as soon thereafter as possible.

FURTHER NOTICE is given that a public hearing for Ordinance Number 2950 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, August 3, 2022 beginning at 1:30 P.M.**

Affected parties and the public may appear at the above listed hearings to speak. The proposed rezoning 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

July 1, 2022  
Publish: The Apopka Chief

171569

# Roe vs. Wade overturn is victory

Editor:

What a win for the Supreme Court and our nation on Friday, June 24! Overturning Roe vs Wade is a major victory for all people of the United States of America who value human life.

"You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed." Psalms 139:16.

The sanctity of life is sounding loud once again across this land.

As a 1970s hippie-generation lady writing this, I know firsthand the after-effects of having an abortion right before Roe vs Wade went into law.

Guilt consumes the soul of a woman for years until healing occurs and brings restoration.

There is always hope at the end of the tunnel even if you have walked through the valley of the

shadow of death experiencing an abortion.

Now, the curse is off our land.

However, our hearts should remain humble in thanksgiving to our heavenly Father for this great win on behalf of human life, yet not forgetting the more than 63 million babies who never got to fulfill their destiny here on earth.

To God be the glory!

Jeanne Gabrielle Bowser  
Apopka

# Life does begin at fertilization

Editor:

I wasn't sure it would happen in my lifetime, but what a blessing to have the Roe vs. Wade case overturned! After 50 years with more than 60 million babies killed in the womb, common sense has returned, legal interpretation of the Constitution has been righted, and a moral code of not killing babies has been re-established in America on the federal judicial level.

I found the following quote amazing by the dissenting justices Stephen Breyer, Sonia Sotomayor, and Elena Kagan. In their dissent, they wrote: "Today, the Court discards that

balance. It says that from the very moment of fertilization, a woman has no rights to speak of."

Look at this sentence! The dissenting justices acknowledge that life begins at fertilization (at least for the woman they mention)! This is what so many have been saying all along. Life begins at conception and that life is a real person (baby boy or girl) ... not merely a blob, frog, or dog.

The real news is that unborn babies can finally have a life at all, instead of a death penalty executed while in the womb.

For 50 years, our nation has been under the socially-engineered and politically-invented inter-

pretation of the constitution, which bore no legal grounds that the writers of the Constitution intended. Sanity has now returned to the legal system, without legal prejudice. Babies in the womb now have an opportunity to live.

Also, I'm glad the whole issue gets kicked back to the states, where it belonged long ago. Amazing day of blessing. Amazing quote from the dissenting justices.

Amazing gift of life to baby girls and boys who can now live and experience this world God created for them.

Pat McGuffin  
Pastor, Freedom Fellowship Church

# Fourth: Clean up after show over

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fireworks use.  
\*Use fireworks on hard, flat surfaces; if you shoot on grass, lay down a plywood board as your hard, flat surface.  
\*Have water readily available for emergencies (hose is best; fire extinguisher or bucket of water will work).  
\*Keep plenty of distance

between the launch site and spectators – 150 ft. for aerials and 35-50 ft. for ground items; and shoot in a clear open area.  
\*Brace your aerials, tubes, and fountains with bricks to avoid tip-over.  
\*Use safety gear (safety glasses and gloves) when lighting fireworks.  
\*Keep pets inside during fireworks use (the noise can

frighten animals).  
\*Douse your fireworks thoroughly with water when you are finished and dispose of them in a covered metal container outdoors and away from any buildings.  
\*Clean up when the show is over, which includes picking up any debris that may fall into your neighbors' property.

# Hayden: Pay attention and vote

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guns, and 2.5 million military trucks.  
We put 16.1 million men in uniform in the various armed services, invaded Africa, Sicily, and Italy, won the battle for the Atlantic, planned and executed D-Day, marched across the Pacific and Europe, developed the atomic bomb, and conquered Japan and Germany.

With this kind of impetus, we could have had most of the nations of this globe under our thumb and we could have colonized most of the known world, but we did not. We more than helped those defeated nations become sovereign

and under their own rule and the government of their choice.

What do you think? Could we do this today? I refuse to believe we will let the pettiness of those who would divide us stop our great nation from being the shining city on the hill. If you wake up in the morning with a chip on your shoulder, do not get out of bed until after you count all your blessings, including this nation, your family, your neighbors, and all the people who know you and still appreciate the fact you are in their life!

You decide to be happy. That is your decision and no one else's. Whatever your lot is, use it for a

reason to make improvements. You are an American and no one else in the entire world is like you. No one else has your ability to make lemonade out of lemons like you can.

This administration has it wrong! We do know how to spend our money. We do have the right to bear arms, and that right is not given by our Constitution, but is protected by our Constitution which states that it is an inalienable right given by our Creator. Suddenly, we the people can react.

We have the primary election on August 23, and the General Election is on November 8! See you there!

**Everybody has an opinion. Why not share yours?**

Send a letter to the Editor online  
[www.theapopkachief.com](http://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](http://www.theapopkachief.com), [news@theapopkachief.com](mailto: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](http://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](http://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