

AFD adds new revenue stream with charge for administrative duties

Tell them you saw it in The Apopka Chief

By John Peery
Apopka Chief Staff



Apopka Fire Chief Sean Wylam during a City Council meeting held at City Hall.

For the past several decades, the Apopka Fire Department's Emergency Medical Services have charged a fee to those who call 911 for an ambulance to help recover the costs associated with the services. However, there have been no charges for administrative work the department did regarding the inspection of construction plans or buildings.

That has changed as of June 1, when the Apopka City Council voted unanimously to approve a new fee schedule for required administrative work done to inspect construction plans or buildings.

Apopka Fire Chief Sean Wylam said the department was leaving money on the table by not charging or having the fees before now.

"We've never charged for anything like this before," Wylam said. "It's something we looked at from the fire administration side of things and realized that we weren't capturing some of the administrative costs to do some of these processes that pretty much every other municipality out there is already doing."

"I did an informal inquiry of all the surrounding cities and counties – Winter Garden, Orange County, Lake County, Seminole County, Maitland, and several other municipalities – and they're currently charging these types of fees for inspections and things like that. It's uncommon that we were not charging."

Wylam said that if the fire department had the fees in place last year, that just for the 2,700 business inspections the department's personnel did in 2021, it would have meant an additional \$130,000 for the AFD.

The new funds will go to help the department with operational costs, which can mean adding equipment and/or personnel.

"Any revenue line goes into the General Fund – and we're funded 100 percent by the General Fund – so it is my hope that by being able to capture some of these funds – it's user-fee based so it's nice that it doesn't hit every taxpayer, it's specific to the users – but with some of this funding, we're going to be able to hopefully fund some of our operational costs with things we want to get or maybe even in (personnel) positions eventually," the fire chief said.

Wylam said he's hoping that the new money will help members of the City Council approve the department's budget requests when the council holds its budget workshops in July.

"When we're having our (budget) talks with council, we can say, 'Look, we're providing another revenue stream,'" Wylam said.

One of the new charges is for an AFD management team member to inspect commercial and multi-family construction plans.

The base fee of \$49 for the inspection covers only the first \$1,000 in property valuation. A fee of \$1 is added for each \$1,000 in value or any fraction of \$1,000, meaning that a

commercial building with a \$1 million valuation would come with a fee of \$1,048 for the inspection of construction plans.

Something that might hit closer to home for residents and existing businesses are charges for the fire department responding to a false fire alarm.

There will be no charge for the first alarm, but if there is a second false alarm at a residence, that would incur a \$61 charge, and that doubles to \$122 on the third and subsequent false alarm responses.

For a business, there is also no charge for the first response to a false fire alarm, but the second response charge is \$153, and it also doubles, moving to \$306 for third and subsequent responses to a false alarm.

"It doesn't happen a lot, luckily," Wylam said. "It's also about the safety. We want them to get the fire alarm fixed."

Wylam said the money could be used for new equipment such as fire hoses or protective gear for the fire fighters.

The funds could also be used to pay for training of fire fighters and emergency medical personnel, he said.

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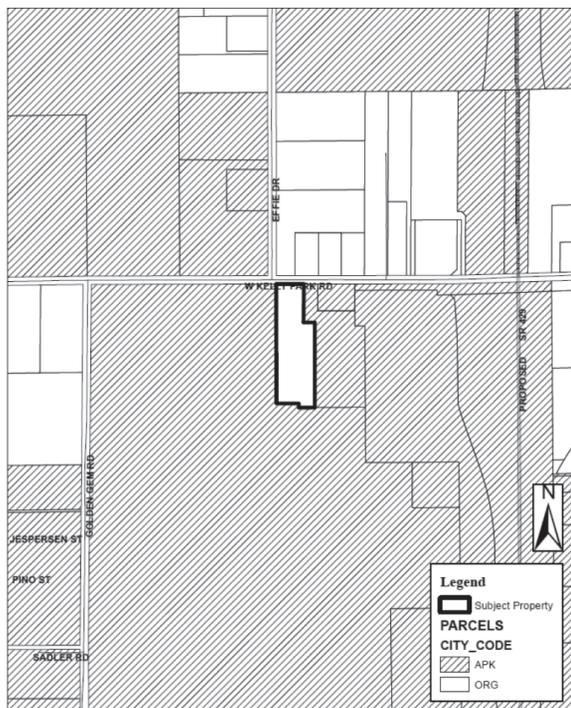
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PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE ANNEXATION CITY OF APOPKA

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Florida Statutes 171.044, the Apopka Code of Ordinances, Part III, Land Development Code, Article II, Section 2.5.1.A, that **AMERICAN CIVIL ENGINEERING COMPANY C/O JOHN HERBERT** has made an application to the City of Apopka City Council for an **ANNEXATION** of a property located on the southwest corner of Kelly Park Road and SR 429, specifically 3612 West Kelly Park Road, approximately 4.98 +/- acres. This application relates to the following described property:

ORDINANCE NO. 2947
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF APOPKA, FLORIDA, TO EXTEND ITS TERRITORIAL AND MUNICIPAL LIMITS TO ANNEX PURSUANT TO FLORIDA STATUTE 171.044 THE HEREINAFTER DESCRIBED LANDS SITUATED AND BEING IN ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA, OWNED BY KELLY PARK STORAGE, LLC; LOCATED ON THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF KELLY PARK ROAD AND SR 429; SPECIFICALLY, 3612 WEST KELLY PARK ROAD; PROVIDING FOR DIRECTIONS TO THE CITY CLERK, SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.



Parcel Identification Number: 13-20-27-0000-00-047
Contains: 4.98 +/- acres

NOTICE is given that public hearings for Ordinance No. 2947 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, July 6, 2022 beginning at 1:30 p.m., AND on Wednesday, July 27, 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 Annexation 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

June 10, 2022

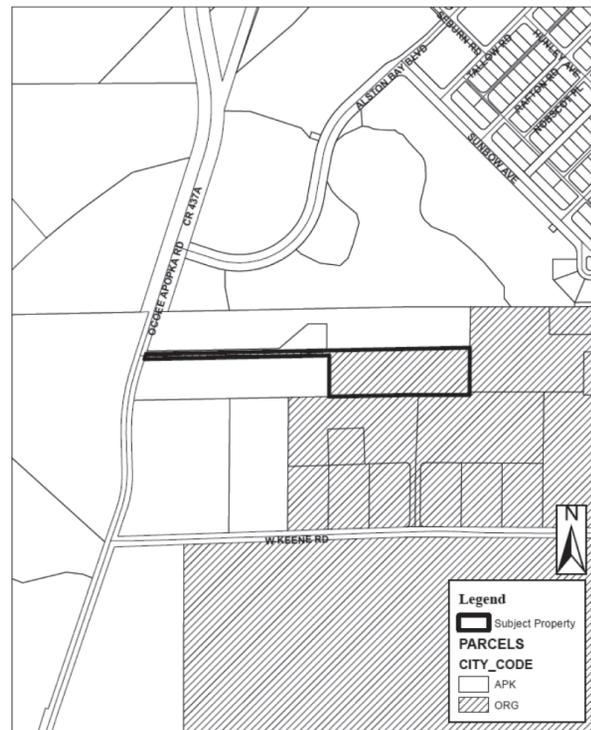
Publish: The Apopka Chief

171440

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE ANNEXATION CITY OF APOPKA

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Florida Statutes 171.044, the Apopka Code of Ordinances, Part III, Land Development Code, Article II, Section 2.5.1.A, that **JONATHAN HUELS** has made an application to the City of Apopka City Council for an **ANNEXATION** of a property located east of Ocoee Apopka Road, north of Keene Road, specifically, 2309 Ocoee Apopka Road, approximately 5.7 +/- acres. This application relates to the following described property:

ORDINANCE NO. 2944
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF APOPKA, FLORIDA, TO EXTEND ITS TERRITORIAL AND MUNICIPAL LIMITS TO ANNEX PURSUANT TO FLORIDA STATUTE 171.044 THE HEREINAFTER DESCRIBED LANDS SITUATED AND BEING IN ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA, OWNED BY RONNIE B. AND WANDA R. PHILLIPS; LOCATED EAST OF OCOEE APOPKA ROAD AND NORTH OF KEENE ROAD, SPECIFICALLY, 2309 OCOEE APOPKA ROAD; PROVIDING FOR DIRECTIONS TO THE CITY CLERK, SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.



Parcel Identification Number: 20-21-28-0000-00-028
Contains: 5.7 +/- acres

NOTICE is given that public hearings for Ordinance No. 2944 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, July 6, 2022 beginning at 1:30 p.m., AND on Wednesday, July 27, 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 Annexation 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

June 10, 2022

Publish: The Apopka Chief

171439

Moore: Development of community's character improves its image

Continued from page 2A

"green" and "smart" technologies. He recommends visualizing future possibilities and constantly analyzing how to improve.

Let me tell you about how many times I drove up and down Clarcona-Ocoee Road to work through Kercher's subject areas. The corridor has a wide pedestrian path and will soon connect with all of the Pine Hills, Shingle Creek,

and Coast-to-Coast Trails. These trails will connect pedestrians and bicyclists with Brevard County to the east and Pinellas County to the west. However, the corridor has food and grocery store deserts. This has required me to work with the county's economic development folks and prepare to meet with a few companies myself. There is so much to do to improve a corridor.

Clarcona-Ocoee Road

will soon connect State Road 429 from the west to Interstate 4 in the east all the way through Kennedy Road into Eatonville. Clarcona-Ocoee is a main street of District 2. Yet, it has been unsafe with multiple accidents and fatalities. County Public Works, within record time, recently installed a new signal at Gaymar. This is the location where three young children and their moms were killed. It was a tragic,

tragic accident.

I was also successful working with Orange County Public Works to conduct a corridor management study that will recommend engineering solutions. I'm aware of a few tools which include lowering speed limits, adding LED street lighting, removing portions of the suicide lane, and repositioning turn lanes. I'm excited to see all the recommendations come back this fall.

I also wanted to engage the owners and residents socially. To that end I organized a cleanup. While some would say a cleanup is only about trash, it is so much more than that. It is about building pride, engagement, and making a series of improvements.

Last Saturday, more than a dozen organizations

worked together on the Clarcona-Ocoee corridor. Volunteers were civic leaders, business owners, faith-based leaders, members of HOA Board of Directors, and everyday residents. Seeing the before and after brings hope, concern, and future action to all of these various groups and individuals.

Yes, many volunteers picked up trash while many others painted blighted walls and planted new landscaping. An apartment complex and gas station even mowed all of their grass, the first time in a year. A non-profit organization completed the demolition of their aging landscaping and will be completely replanting and upgrading fencing. Gas station owners or managers added mulch, made repairs,

and pressure washed parking lots. And yes, I used some of my CIP dollars to pressure wash sidewalks all around the main intersection. I have found clean sidewalks inspire residents to step up their maintenance.

My goal is to build communities with superior character or civic pride, which is the fundamental factor that drives everything. Where community character exists, some mystical concoction of the town's economic, social, and physical attributes has resulted in community trust and hometown spirit.

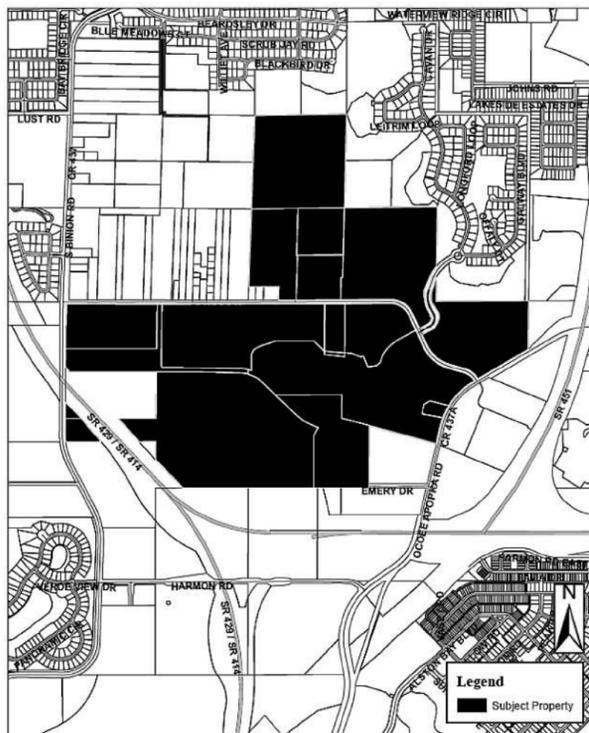
I cannot wait to hold another cleanup! All it takes is enough engaged people to assist me. Call my staff at 407-836-5850 if you would like to help with future cleanups.

CITY OF APOPKA PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE CHANGE OF ZONING

NOTICE is hereby given that **VHB C/O ERIKA HUGHES** 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. 2938

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF APOPKA, FLORIDA, AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2858, WHICH IS KNOWN AS "THE RIDGE" PLANNED DEVELOPMENT (PD), FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY GENERALLY LOCATED NORTH AND SOUTH OF BOY SCOUT ROAD, WEST OF SR 451, NORTH OF SR 414 AND WEST OF SR 429, COMPRISING 407.8 ACRES MORE OR LESS, AND OWNED BY TROY S. BRONSON FAMILY LP, BRONSON TROY S LIFE ESTATE, APOPKA CENTERLINE DEVELOPMENT, LLC, KS APOPKA CENTERLINE DEVELOPMENT, LLC, DRP FL, LLC, AG EHC II (LEN) MULTISTATE 1, LLC, AND RIDGE 429 OWNER, LLC; PROVIDING FOR DIRECTIONS TO THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR, SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.



Parcel Identification Numbers: 17-21-28-0000-00-003, 17-21-28-0000-00-006, 17-21-28-0000-00-007, 17-21-28-0000-00-008, 17-21-28-0000-00-012, 17-21-28-0000-00-013, 17-21-28-0000-00-015, 17-21-28-0000-00-017, 17-21-28-0000-00-018, 17-21-28-0000-00-023, 17-21-28-0000-00-028, 17-21-28-0000-00-030, 17-21-28-0000-00-031, 18-21-28-0000-00-013, 18-21-28-0000-00-014, 18-21-28-0000-00-032, 18-21-28-0000-00-047, 18-21-28-0000-00-073, 18-21-28-0000-00-102, and 18-21-28-0000-00-103
Contains: 407.8 +/- Acres

NOTICE is given that a public hearing for Ordinance No. 2938 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, July 6, 2022, beginning at 1:30 P.M. and Wednesday, July 27, 2022, beginning at 7:00 P.M.** as soon thereafter as possible.

Affected parties and the public may appear at the above listed hearings to speak. The proposed zoning ordinance and Master Plan 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

June 10, 2022

Publish: The Apopka Chief

171438

Byrd: Goal is to be violence-free

Continued from page 2A

es Department was created in 2018 to oversee the 18 agencies OCPS has engaged for outside providers of mental health services for students.

These outside agencies that work with OCPS provide services to students and families when they are referred to them by the schools. Some of these services are provided outside school and some are provided during the school day in our schools.

OCPS also hired more than 50 new mental health counselors with the new mental health appropriations received from the state on top of putting so-

cial workers in every middle and high school. Besides helping students directly, these professionals help with referrals to the outside partner agencies.

Threat Assessment Teams existed at OCPS for numerous years before law required them. After the requirement of Threat Assessment Teams by the state, OCPS restructured its Threat Assessment Teams to conform to the requirements of the law.

Every school has its own team that reviews students who are showing signs of distress, and actions or procedures are put in place to ensure that those students receive the help they need with the hope

being that no child falls through the cracks.

As we continue to navigate this complex problem of school violence, no one can deny that early identification of problems is vital in combatting the problem. How often do we hear that there were signs, that, if only the child had received the help they needed, a tragedy could have been prevented?

I believe that OCPS is doing a great job of recognizing this important issue and addressing it on many levels. We will continue to focus on safety as well as prevention as we work tirelessly to provide a safe and healthy learning environment for all students.

Hayden: Work creates end result

Continued from page 2A

behind a mule or a horse (Dad had two beautiful Belgian draft horses), you never look at the plow-share or the furrow to see your progress. Nor should you ever look back to see where you came from. You put your eyes on a tree or anything else stationary at the far end of the field and you keep your eyes on that point until you finish the row. How does that apply to daily living? Simply put, when you commit yourself to anything in life, you need to keep your eyes on the end and not get caught up in derailments.

I would be plowing and Dad La Free would come out to bring me a sandwich and a glass of cold lemonade. He would wait at the end of the furrow and when I got there, I would unhitch Sam to let him get a drink and put the feed bag back on while I sat and talked with Dad.

He would ask, "Have you been looking for me?" I would answer that I had or had not, and Dad would say, "I see where you started looking for me. Look out there at that fourth furrow." I would look out where he was pointing and sure enough, you could see the little bit of a jog in the furrow where I had looked back to see if he had come up or was coming. Something else I learned.

There are times when you are busy and you get sidetracked by outside influences and you think no one will notice, but those that are looking from an unfamiliar perspective will notice that jog in your furrow. In ground preparation, it is not such a big problem (except for the grain drill) but in life, you never know who will see that jog and think that it is OK to be mediocre in their work or daily living. We need to be aware that we are teachers to someone.

Luke 9:62 says, "Jesus said unto him, 'No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.'" Another life lesson.

Do not start something if you are not willing to do what it takes to finish it. There is so much satisfaction in finishing a job and seeing what you have accomplished. It encourages a person to further his or her skill in other endeavors. When you look out over a field that was at first, a ground broken up and laid bare by the plow and see that same ground yielding 30 or 40 bushels of corn per acre, it produces a feeling of satisfaction and completion that cannot be explained. And it all started with putting your hand to the plow.

The old farmer said, "Never corner anything that is meaner than you!" In other words, if you cannot handle it, leave it alone, don't start!

Everybody has an opinion. Why not share yours?
Send a letter to the Editor online: www.theapokkachief.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.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. 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