

# Disney: State has showered it with special favors and privileges

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pulled himself out of Iger's – er, I mean Wile E. Coyote's – trap and turned the tables on the self-described genius, as the Roadrunner always does. Maybe Disney and Iger will finally learn not to target the Roadrunner. More likely, Disney will continue targeting the Roadrunner until Disney brings complete destruction upon itself.

Pride and hubris are set to be Disney's undoing. For more than half a century, Disney has been showered by state officials with special favors and privileges. Some of those favors are repayment for Disney's lucrative bipartisan campaign contributions. Other favors were given in an effort to please an iconic giant corporation. Like many spoiled children, however, Disney

now appears to believe it is entitled to do anything it wants without consequences. Disney is now learning the hard way that launching acerbic, high-profile political broadsides against state officials, and vowing to fund state officials' political opponents is not a smart way to keep the long-running gravy train rolling.

Make no mistake, Walt Disney World needs the symbiotic relationship it had with Florida policymakers more than Florida policymakers need the relationship with Disney. Disney cannot just abandon its multi-billion-dollar Walt Disney World properties in the Sunshine State.

Even if it could, where would Disney relocate? Disney profits greatly from an East Coast theme

park presence. Nowhere else in the eastern United States is there such favorable year-round weather, airport access, and available land as in Florida.

Florida elected officials, mean-

while, are finally learning that standing up for their constituents' interests is more important – and more politically popular – than simply being Disney's collective lap-dog.

## Constitution: Study information

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lawful. Source: Constitutional Lawyer Mark Levin's amendment to "limit the federal bureaucracy" (Page 99-100 The Liberty Amendments). He has five more in his book that do the op-

posite of what he claims. Some constitutional expert! For more on this, you can go here: <https://publiushuldah.wordpress.com/2014/04/25/mark-levins-liberty-amendments-legalizing-tyranny/>

## Byrd: Phonics improves reading

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has been new research that has come out that suggests that the way we have been teaching reading the last couple of decades is not the way kid's brains learn to read. This research is commonly called the Science of Reading.

With more advanced brain scans and other data, researchers have discovered that for many years teachers were taught a method of teaching reading that missed a key ingredient: systematic, explicit focus on phonemic awareness and decoding skills.

For years, teachers have been taught that a balanced literacy or "whole language" approach to reading was the way to teach kids to read. This method focused on comprehension and made the assumption that if kids understood what the author was trying to communicate, they could figure out the words.

Phonics and word decoding skills were inter-

mittenly taught, but there wasn't a systematic and consistent focus on it because the overall meaning of sentences was the focus based on what experts in the field were saying at the time.

The latest evidence shows that students have to be taught explicitly how to decode words, and that is what good readers do when they get to a word they don't know in a passage.

That doesn't mean that comprehension skills and language skills get ignored. It just means that phonemic skills have to play a bigger part and cannot be overlooked as a first line of attack when kids get to unknown words.

In an effort to embrace this new research, OCPS has just revealed a new approach to reading instruction district-wide that puts in place a more balanced approach to literacy with the incorporation of various programs that promote foundational skills in decoding as well as higher lev-

el skills in literacy. Another key component to this new process is that every student will be screened in grades K and 1 for early reading skills. These screenings will provide a Predictor of Significant

Reading Difficulties (PSRD) to include reading disabilities, such as dyslexia, if intervention does not occur; identify potential deficits in the areas of phonological awareness, phonemic awareness, phonics (letter/sound recognition), and word recognition; and provide next steps for reading instruction/intervention planning and support.

With early screening and intervention and implementation of research backed programs, the district hopes to make significant gains in literacy rates for our students. I'm thrilled that we have a school system that is open to learning right along with our students to find the best approaches to teaching our kids.

## Hayden: Carrying a grudge hurts

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twenty miles inside of a free state to catch run-away slaves and Cassopolis was just twenty-one miles from the Indiana border.

We could still see homes that had hideaway tunnels, and the whole town was inhabited by mostly black families. So, we were aware of the effects, and causes of slavery, but we were encouraged and motivated by most of the residents and their stories of courage and resolution displayed by many of their ancestors.

Even in Cassopolis, we were joined together by the bond of American Brotherhood. Many of the men had served in the two world wars, and even though their treatment wasn't always the best, on Veteran's Day they would march through Cass with pride in their nation, and utmost respect for their banner, Old Glory.

Where have we failed? Simply put, we have failed to show our children that everyone is someone to

learn from, and they need to respect everyone they meet. Somewhere along the line, we have stopped teaching the adage, "Live and let live." You have sovereignty over your choices of lifestyle, opinions, friends, etc., but we need to teach our kids that flaunting those choices to rupture society shows major disrespect to others and their sovereignty over their choices.

We have stopped teaching tolerance. Instead, we teach "My way or the highway!" There is no more discussing a problem. All that is shown by our actions is immediate retaliation, or revenge. We fly off the handle, and become judges, jury, and executioner without control of our own reaction.

This did not happen overnight. This has been festering in our midst for years. As a former "bar hopper" of years ago, we used to get into "knock down, drag out" fights over something that we used to manufacture to justify our

anger and our tussle, but no matter who won or lost, we would sit down together and laugh about how it all came about. No hard feelings, no grudge, it was over and forgotten.

The Bible says, "Be ye angry and sin not." It's not wrong to be angry. The Bible also says, "Let not the sun go down on your wrath."

The wrong comes from carrying a grudge. We need to lighten up and teach our kids to control their emotions.

I told my son, when he was having trouble controlling his anger in school settings, that when you feel your anger rising, stop just for a minute and think, "my daddy loves me." I know that he has overcome most of his anger problems (not all) and is making headway.

Oh, for the days of Yo-Yo performances, and Mumbly-peg competition again. It is up to you and me to teach and encourage by example.

Let us go out and buy a Yo-Yo!

## CITY OF APOPKA PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE ROAD IMPACT FEE UPDATE

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Secs. 163.3184 and 166.041(3) (a), Florida Statutes and the Apopka Code of Ordinances, Part III, Land Development Code, Article II, Section 2.4.7.B, that **The City of Apopka** is amending the Code of Ordinances to update its Road Impact Fees.

**ORDINANCE NO. 3001**  
**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF APOPKA, FLORIDA; AMENDING CHAPTER 22, ARTICLE III., SECTIONS 22-48 INTENT AND PURPOSE OF ARTICLE; 22-50. DEFINITIONS; AND 22-54 RATE SCHEDULE, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF APOPKA RELATING TO ROAD IMPACT FEES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTS AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Notice is given that the **City of Apopka City Council** will hold a public hearing for Ordinance Number 3001 at its regularly scheduled meeting in the City Council Chambers of the Apopka City Hall, 120 E. Main Street, Apopka, Florida on **Wednesday, April 19, 2023 beginning at 7:00 P.M.** AND Council Chambers of the Apopka City Hall, 120 E. Main Street, Apopka, Florida on **Wednesday, May 3, 2023 beginning at 1:30 P.M.**

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

April 14, 2023  
Publish: The Apopka Chief

173603

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or  
[www.floridapublicnotices.com](http://www.floridapublicnotices.com)

## ALL ABOUT APOPKA

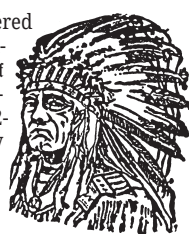
### The Apopka Chief

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 23, 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.theapokachief.com](http://www.theapokachief.com), [news@theapokachief.com](mailto:news@theapokachief.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. <a href="http://www.apopka.net">www.apopka.net</a>	

#### 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
<a href="http://www.orangecountyfl.net">www.orangecountyfl.net</a>	

#### Other Area Numbers of Note

<b>U.S. Senators</b>	
Rick Scott (Rep.)	202-224-5274
Marco Rubio (Rep.)	407-254-2573
<b>U.S. Representative</b>	
Maxwell Frost (Dist. 10)	202-225-2176
<b>State Representatives</b>	
Doug Bankson	407-476-6787
Carolina Amesty (Dist. 45)	unknown
<b>State Senators</b>	
Geraldine Thompson (Dist.11)	407-297-2045
<b>Orange County Commissioner</b>	
Christine Moore	407-836-7350
<b>Orange County Public Schools</b>	
Pupil assignment	407-317-3233
Bus routes	407-317-3800
Superintendent	407-317-3200
School Board	407-317-3200
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	
The Apopka Chief	407-886-2777
Museum of the Apopkans	407-703-1707
Chamber of Commerce	407-886-1441