





# Christmas parade theme is chosen and grand marshal named

Dear Editor,

The holidays are upon us, and the Foliage Sertoma Club of Apopka is gearing up for the 47th annual Apopka Christmas Parade! On December 9, hundreds of participants and thousands of spectators will line Park Avenue for one of Apopka's most iconic seasonal events. The parade theme this year is "A

Christmas Story in Apopka!" and we eagerly anticipate enjoying many creative entries and floats.

The grand marshal for this year is Apopka legend and radio show host Roger Franklin Williams. Many residents are familiar with Williams' show, featuring play-by-play broadcasts of Blue Darter sports, which is broadcast on AM 950 or

FM 94.9.

Judges invited to this year's parade include Samuel Davis Jr., the general manager and CEO of Lake Apopka Natural Gas District; Vicki Landon, the VP of development and community affairs for Central Florida Community Arts; and Matt Morgan, commissioner for the city of Longwood and former profes-

sional wrestler. Each of their unique perspectives are sure to be beneficial in the difficult job of judging all of the excellent parade entries.

The members of our club appreciate the continued support provided by *The Apopka Chief* and *The Planter* and from other loyal businesses and commu-

nity groups. Of course, we are always looking to improve the parade each year, so we would like to extend

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## CITY OF APOPKA PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE FUTURE LAND USE AMENDMENT AND CHANGE OF ZONING

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 **Bryan Potts, P.E.** has made application relating to the following described property.

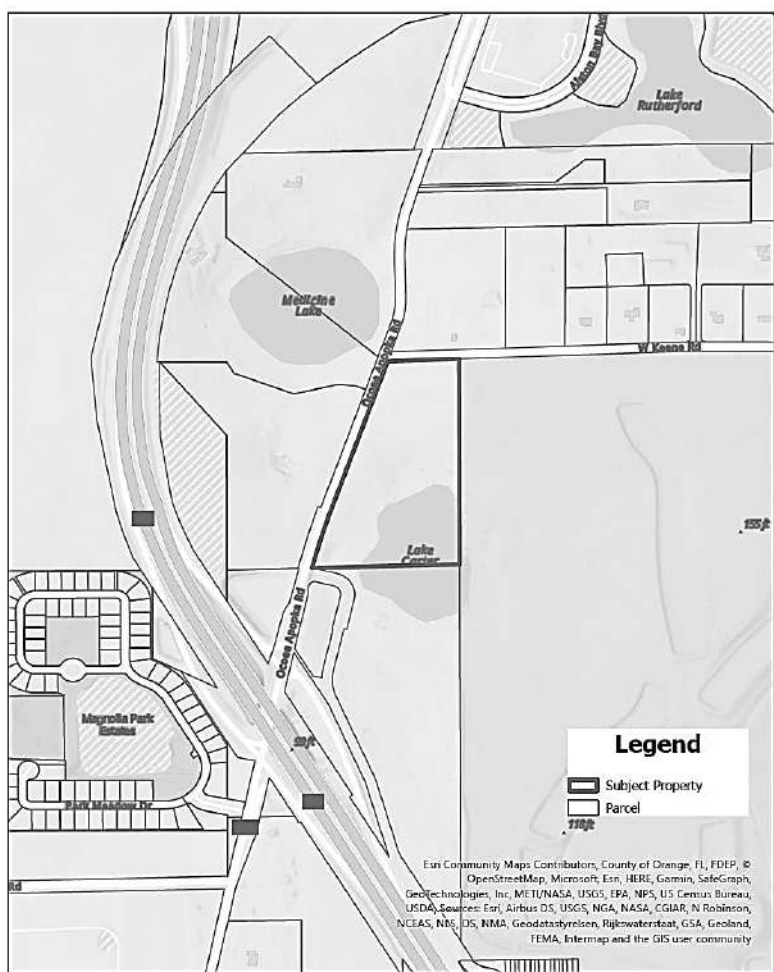
### ORDINANCE NO. 3034

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 OFFICE TO MIXED-USE FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1700 WEST KEENE ROAD, OWNED BY M.L. CARTER SERVICES, INC., TRUSTEE OF THE CARTER-KEENE ROAD LAND TRUST, COMPRISING 18.8 ACRES, MORE OR LESS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

### ORDINANCE NO. 3035

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF APOPKA, FLORIDA, CHANGING THE ZONING FROM O (OFFICE) TO MU-ES-GT (MIXED-USE EAST SHORE-GATEWAY), FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1700 WEST KEENE ROAD; OWNED BY M.L. CARTER SERVICES, INC., TRUSTEE OF THE CARTER-KEENE ROAD LAND TRUST COMPRISING 18.8 ACRES, MORE OR LESS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

### Location Map



Parcel Identification Number(s): 29-21-28-0000-00-003  
Contains: 18.8 +/- 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, November 14, 2023 beginning at 5:30 P.M.**, or as soon thereafter as possible.

FURTHER NOTICE is given that a public hearing for Ordinance Numbers 3034 and 3035 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, December 6, 2023 beginning at 1:30 P.M.** AND **Wednesday, January 3, 2024 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  
Apopka Planning Commission  
Community Development Department

November 10, 2023

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## Veterans: Live by the words you utter

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we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words but to live by them." - *John F. Kennedy in his 1963 Thanksgiving proclamation, issued before his death.*

"Homeless and at-risk veterans need more than just shelter. We must give them the tools to empower themselves and reclaim the self-worth and dignity which comes from occupying a place in the American dream.

"It is a dream they fought so hard to defend for the rest of us." - *Homelessness advocate and film producer Maria Cuomo Cole, 2015, in an editorial pointing out that tens of thousands of vets are homeless.*

As we express our gratitude,

"Whatever gains are secured, it is loss the veteran remembers most keenly. Only a fool or a fraud sentimentalizes the merciless reality of war." - *Senator John McCain, 2008, in a foreign policy speech.*

"How important it is for us to recognize and celebrate our heroes and she-roses!" - *Maya Angelou, writer and civil rights activist who received the 2010 Presidential Medal of Freedom.*

https://www.history.com/leaving-ae/wounded-warrior-project?referrerUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.woundedwarriorproject.org%2F

## Moore: Improvement plans needed

Continued from page 2A

which are barriers to more pedestrian activity. More pedestrian activity will reduce the crime and visibility of the homeless population. On a positive note, a few years back, the county sponsored new LED street lighting. Additionally, I would love to see the city erect a monument, add irrigation, and install landscaping at the northeast corner of Sheeler and Apopka Blvd. If we want more upscale establishments to choose to locate in the City Center, we reinvigorate gateways which are clean and inviting. The Southern Apopka Team has made a tremendous difference on the Apopka Blvd corridor.

The Clarcona-Ocoee Road Team has made great strides increasing neighborhood engagement, improving the quality of the HOAs, advocating for quality new development, and requesting improved city and county infrastructure. I advocated for a traffic study, special appropriations for pedestrian safety, speed reduction, and for the state to complete the Coast-2-Coast Trail gap, located along the corridor. Once the trail is construct-

ed, the plan is to apply for several AARP grants for erecting exercise equipment and public art. Once the transportation appropriation funding is received from the state, chicanes (serpentine curves), roundabouts, and "suicide" lane removal and replacement with landscaping beds will be completed. I have a five-improvement plan for all these improvements to become a reality. The work takes diligence and tenacity. I'm pleased the Clarcona-Ocoee Road Team has come together and is working collaboratively alongside of me.

Eden Park Road Lockhart desires to create a downtown mixed-use district on Edgewater Drive. Thus, cleaning up all their gateways to Edgewater Drive has been a necessity. Thus far, the Lockhart Team has cleaned up Magnolia Homes, West Beggs, and Eden Park roads. Trees have been trimmed, entrance-ways pressure-washed, and beds re-landscaped. Bob and Carol Tanner, however, have worked their hearts out on the roadway. The team has expressed a desire to select Rose Avenue as their entry for 2024. In the total picture, the Lockhart Team

has been a smashing success.

Votaw Road was a tremendous challenge for the People of Wekiwa Springs. This team won the inaugural year of the COY contest with Wekiwa Springs Road and the recruitment of Sprouts and improvements to the CVS.

However, Votaw Road has a different, more rural feel than Wekiwa Springs Road. Nevertheless, the Wekiwa Springs HOA has focused on HOA entrance-ways, pressure-washing sidewalks, and tree trimming. Additionally, the team sponsored painting a mural on a blighted gas station and the creation of a pop-up park area at Thompson and Votaw roads to host their inaugural Easter Egg Hunt. Moving forward, the ultimate goal for Team Wekiwa Springs is to create a suburban "center" at Thompson and Votaw roads. I'm working with the Orange County Planning Department to unveil some concepts this spring.

I hope you follow me on Facebook to see which team attains first place in the Corridor of the Year Contest. No matter who wins, the amount of work done makes every corridor

## Byrd: Explore magnet programs

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this magnet just attended a national FFA conference in Indiana.

Apopka High School boasts an outstanding Advanced Engineering Applications Magnet that is strongly grounded in mathematics and the physical sciences that can lead to students earning industry certifications and college credit for advanced studies while in high school.

Apopka High School

Apopka High School

is also home to the Medical Careers Magnet. This popular magnet prepares motivated students for a future in the dramatically expanding fields of medicine and healthcare-related careers.

I encourage parents and students to take some time to explore all the magnet options that OCPS offers. Sometimes a magnet program can be a great way to get a kid re-engaged and excited about the future.

## 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. <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>	
Daniel Webster (Dist. 11).....	352-241-9220
<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