

Vision: Integrating truths work

Continued from page 2A

Gospel and how to live out a personal relationship with Christ during two pre-season camp chapels each season. He then integrates the truths of the Scriptures with the challenges before the team and with life after practice each day. The sincere and widespread individual spiritual growth of the players allowed them to play free and full. Attempting to play for God’s glory, as one’s sole motivation, changes every-

thing. All of life is worship, and the players are encouraged to play confidently knowing God’s peace, presence, and power. The guys prepare and play for something bigger than themselves. They unearth God’s treasures by being a steward, to the fullest extent, of the gifts and abilities which the Lord has entrusted to them—and that wins ball games.

—Dr. Jim Thrasher is the Senior Advisor to the Vice President for Student Recruitment and the coordinator of the Institute for Faith & Freedom’s working group on calling.

CITY OF APOPKA PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE 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 **Lowndes Law Firm c/o Logan Opsahl, Esq.** has made application relating to the following described property.

ORDINANCE NO. 3041
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF APOPKA, FLORIDA, CHANGING THE ZONING FROM T (TRANSITIONAL) TO I-L (LIGHT INDUSTRIAL), FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 135 HERMIT SMITH ROAD; OWNED BY MARILYN S BOUGHAN TRUST COMPRISING 7.23 ACRES, MORE OR LESS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.



Parcel Identification Number(s): 01-21-27-0000-00-029
Contains: 7.23 +/- 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, January 9, 2024 beginning at 5:30 P.M.**, or as soon thereafter as possible.

FURTHER NOTICE is given that a public hearing for Ordinance Number 3041 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, February 7, 2024 beginning at 1:30 P.M.** AND **Wednesday, February 21, 2024 at 7:00 P.M.**

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

December 29, 2023

Publish: The Apopka Chief

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Everybody has an opinion. Why not share yours?

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

Rusty: Benefits reviewed yearly

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ly beyond 70 years of age yourself, you should not wait beyond age 70 to claim for the same reason – your benefit will reach maximum when you are 70. You can apply for your benefits up to 4 months in advance, and specify you want benefits to start in the month you turn 70. If you haven’t already done so, you may wish to create your own “my Social Security” online account now at www.ssa.gov/my-account, which will make it easier for you to apply online at www.ssa.gov/ap-ply when the time comes

next year. Applying online is, by far, the most efficient way, but you need to have your online account set up first to do so.

Just so you know, there is no need to worry that you won’t get credit for work income earned after you have applied for your benefits. Even after you are collecting benefits, Social Security will automatically review your earnings each year when that info is received from the IRS (after you file your income tax return). If your most recent earnings are higher than those in any of the 35 years of lifetime earnings used to calculate your ben-

efit when you claim, Social Security will automatically increase your monthly payment amount. In other words, you shouldn’t delay past age 70 to claim Social Security because you’re working – you’ll still get credit for those earnings, automatically.

So, I suggest that your wife take fast action to apply for her Social Security benefits to avoid losing any more money, and that you plan to apply for your benefits to start when you turn 70.

There is no financial advantage to waiting beyond age 70 to claim, even if you continue working.

Hayden: We choose what to believe

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global warming, there were to be more hurricanes!

Oh, by the way, in 1999, it was predicted that the Himalayan glaciers would be gone in ten years. In 2014 the prognosticators exclaimed the “Science is settled!” I wonder if any true scientists were asked their opinion?

My point in this diatribe is, we are starting a brand-new year and there are two things I can really get behind.

One is we need to realize that GOD is still in control, and if there is something on the horizon that seems ominous, and out of our control, (remember the ozone layer is dissipating and we will all burn up in five years?), let us trust GOD to protect His creation and take care of one another.

I know He is capable, (remember the predictions?) He gave us the

freedom of choice, and He also gave us wisdom and common sense on how to use those freedoms. I do not care what color you are or what part of the United States you come from, we are all on this little speck of a spaceship called earth, joined together as one in the name of *American*. Teach our children to love and respect life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

The second point is this – if you want to drive an electric vehicle, put solar panels on your house, throw out your gas stove for an electric one, promote fossil fuel eradication, or make any other donations to zero carbon by the year 2050, be my guest. Just do not expect me to get rid of my gas guzzling 3/4 ton truck, my gas propelled riding mower, or anything else that to me is absolutely necessary to my way of life.

I have solar panels on my house, and I receive

a monthly report on the amount of electricity saved by the usage of those panels, but I also get a report of the amount of carbon dioxide I have eliminated. It boggles my mind to think the carbon dioxide I have not used can be measured by the pound! Oh, the amount of carbon dioxide that is infused into our atmosphere is .04 percent. For you mathematicians out there, that is .0004 parts.

Human beings’ daily living contributes 3 percent of that .04 percent to our atmosphere.

Despite all the “Doom and Gloomers” out there, I am looking forward to a glorious, action-packed, fun-filled new year.

I would remind all of you, this editorial copy is my opinion, and if you have a differing opinion, let us know. We welcome such, and I thank you for this past year.

HAPPY NEWYEAR!!

Moore: Participation is needed

Continued from page 2A

safety technologies, such as intelligent speed assistance and automatic emergency braking systems that respond to people walking and biking, boosting transit access reliability to reduce vehicle travel, adding safe, connected walking and biking facilities to support alternatives to driving to discourage high speed travel, and lowering speed limits for safer travel.

The work is funded by a federal grant of \$3.79 million called Safe Streets and Roads for All. The program was established by the U.S. Department of Transportation. This first round of awards provides \$800 million for 510 projects throughout the United States.

The regional and local Vision Zero Safety Action Plans should be completed in the spring of 2024 and offered to the MetroPLAN Orlando Board to which I was just elected recently as the new secretary/treasurer, with the opportunity of be-

coming president in three years.

For those of you interested in accessing Vision Zero Central Florida data, it is available at VisionZeroCFL.gov. Located there is a comprehensive dashboard where you can create customized searches for your corridor or city.

I found viewing the top 30 high injury corridors instructive. There are numerous areas of concern in the Pine Hills area. These include portions of North Lane, Lee Road, and Edgewater Drive.

Safety scores were derived from the total number of crashes, the highest level of injury sustained in each crash, and the travel mode of victims. The roadway segment score was normalized on a per mile basis.

The study also looked at the top 30 high-injury intersection locations in the three-county area.

Again, you can see most of these intersections are in Pine Hills. They include Hiawassee at Silver Star Road, Pine Hills Road

at Silver Star Road, Pine Hills Road at North Lane, and Powers Drive at Silver Star Road.

How about this statistic: 41 percent of traffic deaths occur on 2 percent of Central Florida roads. The average prevailing speeds are 53 mph and 53 percent of the high injury roadways are in disadvantaged communities.

The next phase of the initiative encourages participation from people of all ages across the region, including community leaders, residents, and visitors. Please plan to attend our community meeting held on Wednesday, February 1st at 6:30 p.m. at the Bridges Center on 13th Street in South Apopka.

We can save lives when each of us does our part. This meeting is meant to build capacity in the community for safer driving practices.

I hope all of our neighborhood leaders attend this meeting, as well as anyone who is interested in safer roadways.

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
Daniel Webster (Dist. 11) 352-241-9220
State Representatives
Doug Bankson 407-476-6787
Carolina Amesty (Dist. 45) unknown
State Senators
Geraldine Thompson (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 Apopkians 407-703-1707
Chamber of Commerce 407-886-1441

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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SUDOKU ANSWERS: PAGE 10A

CITY OF APOPKA
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
SPECIAL EXCEPTION

NOTICE is hereby given that **CLARENCE ALMONOR** 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 THE USE OF A SELF STORAGE AS THE PRIMARY USE IN THE REGIONAL COMMERCIAL (C-R) ZONING DISTRICT.**

This application relates to the following described property located at 1619 McVilla Avenue:



Parcel Identification Number(s): 11-21-28-5602-01-000
Contains: 2.418 +/- acres

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, January 9, 2024, 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.

December 29, 2023

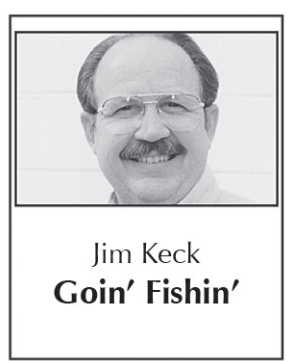
Apopka City Council
Community Development Department

Publish: The Apopka Chief

175508

Bass fishing slow, specks are really biting

Hello Folks,
I hope everyone had a Blessed Christmas and you and your family enjoyed your time together. My wife Shirley and I enjoyed our time with all of our family, friends, and acquaintances over the week-end. We were blessed to have everyone around us during Christmas.
Some folks were gettin' on the water last week and I got some good reports from the speck fishermen. One angler I talked to fished Lake Monroe last week twice and he caught 25 specks on one trip, and 50 specks on the next trip. This angler caught most of his specks on minners. So, if you want to catch some specks, you should get you a bucket of minners and go catch 'em in Lake Monroe.
Kyle at Bitter's Bait and Tackle reports that lots of folks were gettin' minners and goin' after those speckle perch. You can also try Lake Harney and Lake



Jim Keck
Goin' Fishin'

Jesup as well. Kyle is also reportin' some specks bein' caught in Lake Jesup under the Highway 417 bridge. The bass fishin' is a little slow – at least for me it was this past weekend.
I went to the Harris Chain with my grandson Brett and his buddy Josh on Saturday and we only caught one bass. I talked to folks at the ramp and there were not too many bass caught. The most one angler caught was two bass. I don't know what was goin' on that day, but the bass fishin' was a little slow. Kyle also confirmed it as well, by telling me that the

bass fishin' has been slow for other anglers as well, on the Harris Chain.
The bass fishin' on the Butler Chain was doin' quite a bit better. Some anglers I talked to are catchin' 20 to 30 bass on their trips to the chain. Most folks are catchin' their bass on swim-jigs, jerk-baits, and senko-type baits. You can also catch a few bass on plastic worms as well.
Well, we had a full moon on December the 26th. So, if you are off work this week, the fishin' should improve those three days after the full moon. We have some colder weather comin' into town later this week, so take advantage of the great weather this week and go fishin'.
The fishin' on West Lake has been good if you fish with shiners. Most of the big bass are bein' caught around the submerged hydrilla beds. The hydrilla has pretty much

taken over the lake. The reports that I'm gettin' tell me you need to get on plane as quick as you can, and run to where you are goin'. The hydrilla is so thick that once you get off plane, you are there for a while. So, just be careful if you are plannin' a fishin' trip to West Lake.
I wish I had more good news on the fishin', but unfortunately, that's how the fishin' is this week. You always need to remember that a bad day fishin', is still better than a good day at work.
I hope everyone has a great week and that you will enjoy the New Year's celebrations wherever you are. I don't know about you, but I'm ready for the new year to start.
See ya' next week.
Tip of the week: Happy New Year
Save a few and good luck.

Police Beat

If a law enforcement agency charges you with a crime and this paper reports that information, please notify us within 90 days if the charge is dropped, or if you are found not guilty by the court. After verifying the information, we will be happy to publish it. Please send notification to *The Apopka Chief*, P.O. Box 880, Apopka, 32704-0880.

In the period from December 17-December 23, the Apopka Police Department received 1,763 calls for service, responded to 38 crashes, issued 26 citations, and made 19 arrests. Juveniles were charged with battery on specified personnel; burglary-unoccupied conveyance unarmed; damage property-criminal mischief over \$200 and under \$1000; resist officer-obstruct without violence. The following adults were arrested and charged:

Sakeinah Alisha Burgess, 32, transient, Apopka, drug equipment-possession and/or use; obstructing justice-tampering with evidence in criminal proceeding.
Robert Ferguson, 38, confidential, Apopka, battery-cause bodily harm;

robbery by sudden snatching without firearm or weapon.
Michael Frett, 60, 3410 Janet St., Apopka, cocaine-possession of cocaine; drug equipment-possession and/or use.
Malachi Kenneth Greer, 24, confidential, Haines City, battery-touch or strike.
Qwintez Haynes, 36, 219 Lala Ln., Apopka, damage property-criminal mischief \$200 and under; Larceny-other theft.
Joseph Lamont Jenkins, 43, 122 W 10th St., Apopka, battery-touch or strike; resist officer-obstruct without violence.
Solita Seng Kim, 33, 1769 Strathmore Cir., Mt. Dora, DUI-unlawful blood alcohol, DUI breath, alcohol 0.08 or more per 210 liters.
Mary Elizabeth Martinez, 40, 5164 Kati Lynn Dr., Apopka, larceny-other theft.
Pascual Mendez-Gonzalez, 45, transient, Unknown, loitering or prowling.
Marvin Lisandro Mendez-Lopez, 38, confidential, Apopka, battery-touch or strike.
Jorge Luis Morales, 39, 3629 Hogshhead Rd., Apopka, drug equipment-

possession and/or use, drugs-possession controlled substance without prescription (methamphetamine)
George Anthony Norberg, 56, 3131 S Windchime Dr., Apopka, drugs-possession controlled substance without prescription (fentanyl)
Breyli Anahi Orozco-mendez, 21, confidential, Apopka, battery-touch or strike.
Gerica Denise Redding, 29, 7077 Willowwood St., Orlando, drugs-possession controlled substance without prescription
Franklin B. Ruhl, 57, transient, Apopka, crimes against person, harm to public servant or family; intimidation-threat law enforcement officer, family death/harm; trespassing-failure to leave property on order of owner.
Isaiah Joseph Ruiz, 26, confidential, Apopka, Battery-commit domestic battery by strangulation.
Wilson Naun Sanchez-Cantarero, 30, confidential, Apopka, battery-second or subsequent offense; escape, resist officer-obstruct without violence.
Stacy Dell Terrell, 31, 34 Davis Ct., Apopka, other agency warrant.
Megan Marie Thomas, 26, confidential, Apopka, Battery on person 65 years of age or older.

Need to send or receive a FAX?

Use our fax: 407-889-4121*
*There is a small fee for this service.

Apopka Office Supply
400 N. Park Ave.,
Apopka, FL 32712

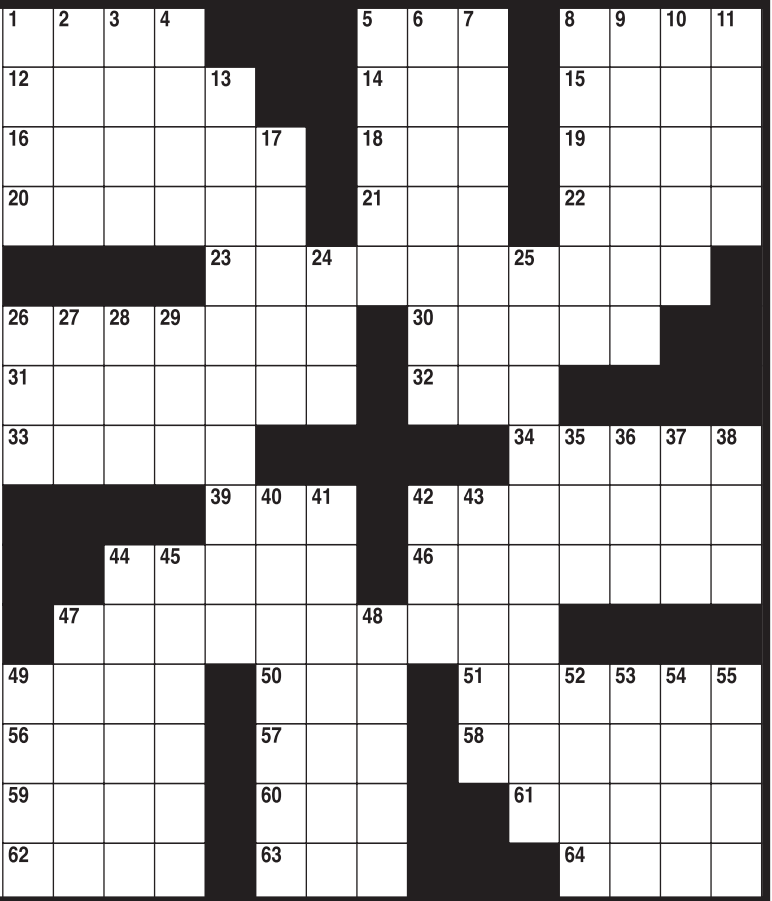
AOS
407-889-4455

CLUES ACROSS

1. Home of Iowa State University
5. -fi (slang)
8. Mottled green and yellow fruit
12. Capable of thinking and expressing oneself clearly
14. Sports broadcaster Eagle
15. Middyay
16. Kinsmen
18. Cable network
19. Simpleton
20. Brunch beverage
21. Fed
22. European capital
23. Native inhabitants
26. Mechanical device
30. Rare geese native to Hawaii
31. Bedroom furnishing
32. The products of human creativity
33. Mass transit option
34. Made a mistake
39. Sacred sound symbol
42. Large N. American reindeer
44. Dull and flat
46. Partner to huffing
47. Written works
49. Monetary unit of Serbia
50. Midway between east and southeast
51. Peninsula of southwestern Asia
56. Widely used multiuser OS
57. Aggressive dog
58. Varnished
59. Hindu queen
60. Time units, abbr.
61. Farm animals
62. Capital of Latvia
63. Where golfers begin
64. Takes to civil court

CLUES DOWN

1. One who graduated
2. An inspired holy person
3. Electronic counter-countermeasures
4. A place to store things
5. Indian instrument
6. Spanish saloon
7. Whole number
8. Not fastened
9. Gives a boost
10. Lounges about
11. Interested in
13. Remove salt
17. Type of sword
24. Naturally occurring solid material
25. Gets involved without being invited
26. Feline
27. Bobby __, NHL champ
28. "Kill Bill" actress Thurman
29. Hawaiian dish
35. Moroccan coastal region
36. Baseball statistic
37. Long period of time
38. Moved earth
40. Central Netherlands city
41. Take stock of
42. Central processing unit
43. Distinctive qualities one generates
44. Getting stuck
45. Loss of bodily movements
47. Veranda
48. Abrupt
49. What cats do
52. Expresses pleasure
53. Type of cheese
54. Professional STEM organization
55. Automatic data processing systems



Solutions can be found on page 10A of this newspaper.