

Bill includes updates on how Florida combats human trafficking

By Andrew Powell
The Center Square

Florida will beef up its efforts to stem human trafficking after legislation was signed into law on Monday.

Governor Ron DeSantis signed House Bill 7063, a bill that will make important updates on how Florida combats human trafficking and extends the lifetime of the statewide Council on Human Trafficking within the Department of Legal Affairs.

Under the new law, rest area service plazas, emergency rooms, massage parlors, strip clubs or other known human trafficking hotspots will be required to display human trafficking awareness signs with telephone numbers to both the national hotline and Florida's hotline. Penalties are also being increased for entities who fail to comply. The bill also requires entities with contracts

with the Florida government to provide assurances to the state that they do not use coerced labor and prohibits a minor from being employed by an adult entertainment establishment in any role.

"The Legislature has over the years I've been governor, worked with us to combat human trafficking, and this is a really serious scourge in our society, and because we're a state that's a destination state...unfortunately that attracts human trafficking," DeSantis said.

DeSantis said over the past three and a half years the Southern Border has been inundated with illegal migrants crossing into the U.S. Because of this, the Mexican drug cartels are using this as an opportunity to drive human trafficking.

"So, this is a big, big problem for the United States, and it's a problem that we have worked to tackle in Florida and are

continuing today with the announcement," DeSantis said.

DeSantis stated that since 2019, over 50,000 calls have been made to the National Human Trafficking Hotline. DeSantis pointed out that according to the Department of Justice, the average age of a trafficked individual is 13 years old.

"Eighty percent of those trafficked are girls, and of those girls, 80 percent are subjected to sexual exploitation," DeSantis said. "We know that that is unacceptable,

and we need to continue to work hard and today we're doing even more to uphold the law, and to go after those who are trafficking these children."

DeSantis noted that Florida has zero tolerance when it comes to the sexual exploitation of children, as the death penalty can now be given to those convicted of pedophilia in the state of Florida, even though the U.S. Supreme Court outlawed the practice in a 2007 decision in the Kennedy vs. Louisiana case.

Byrd: Bright futures are ahead

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mitted parents have the power to change a school and we appreciate you.

Finally, thank you to our amazing community who showed up in big ways for our local schools this year. I tell people all the time that we live in the best community and the way I know that is how the community supports the schools. Our schools could not do what they do without that support.

To all our graduating seniors: Congratulations! As our oldest students cross the stage this next couple of weeks, I hope you will reflect on everything you have accomplished with pride. Parents should feel proud as well, as we all know, it is not always easy to raise kids and get them to the finish line, so take a moment to congratulate yourselves also. You deserve it!

I wish each senior a fulfilling and bright future

full of possibilities. Remember, the world is there for you to explore. Don't be afraid to make bold choices and go for your dreams! Best of luck and I can't wait to shake hands with all of you on that stage!

May everyone have a restful summer. Spend time with family and friends, make some memories and have some fun!

See you all in August for the 2024-2025 school year!

Hayden: We need one another

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believe that the United States of America is flawed and without redemption. These rabble rousers have come onto our young people, and instead of emphasizing the greatness of our nation, they have centered their teaching on every negative part of our past.

Our nation has grown because of the lessons we've learned from the past. When you take the negatives out of our learning and use them as a tool to show our deficiencies, without the lessons being taught, you disgrace the sacrifices made by all men and women throughout the ages of the United States of America. I feel many times like Rodney King as he was being beaten by the officers when he asked the question, "can't we all just get along?"

It seems like a simple question, but when you stop and think about it, that's what we all need to do.

Just because your ideas are different than mine and you celebrate a different culture doesn't mean that we're not all Americans.

We need to be united against those that would divide us and destroy our blessed nation. Those that would destroy our Constitution *do not* have our nation's welfare in mind. The only ideology they subscribe to is *tyranny* in the form of socialism or communism. They talk a good talk, but they cannot show you a successful, contented, and satisfied people that are ruled by that ideology.

We, as the employers of those in Washington, need to take the reins in our hands and start steering our government into one formed *by the people* and *for the people*. I'm so tired of the hatred shown, and *sown* by those who, by all their rhetoric, prove that they are *not American*. If it is you this pertains to, by all means, pack your bag, choose where you wanna go, and we who love the United States of America and the people of America will take up our collection to send you to that location and give you a few bucks to spend when you get there!

Many have stated that if something went on in the government that they didn't like, they would leave the United States. *They were liars*. They're not gone, nor have they denounced their citizenship. It is time they put up or shut up! Our founding

fathers, in their wisdom, have set up, and *implemented a process* by which we can make changes to our Constitutional Republic if we deem it necessary for the good of the people.

In the 70s, our children were taught that they were individual entities and that they were to look inward for motivation. We invented words like self-assumption, self-ego, self-emotions, and everything was based on *self*. It's time we straightened out that kind of thinking. Our greatest achievements in life are those that have included doing good for others. We do not have one accomplishment that has not included someone else and their input.

I am not a deserted human being. I am not one who stands alone when it comes to making headway for others and their well-being. Nothing I have accomplished for good has been by my individual effort alone. Someone along the way taught me or encouraged me as to how to treat my fellow Americans.

I don't care how wealthy you are. I don't care how poor you are. You still have something to offer to the one who is waiting for your answer to their dilemma. Some of the best advice I've ever received has been from those, whom to look at, had nothing to offer but their experiences through hardships and losses. As a result of their hardships and their abilities to overcome, I learned to use them in my daily life.

We need to start looking toward others for understanding, learning, teaching, and loving. *None of us stands alone*. We need each other for support, for encouragement, and for the foundation for our children to learn from. Without our combined efforts, our cause for liberty, freedom, and the American way of life *will be lost*. Once lost, it will be lost forever.

Let's stand together to make a wall of love, peace, happiness and commitment against the haters of our nation. Dr. Martin Luther King said (my paraphrase) I am convinced that only unmitigated truth, and unconditional love will lead us into the unity of brotherhood.

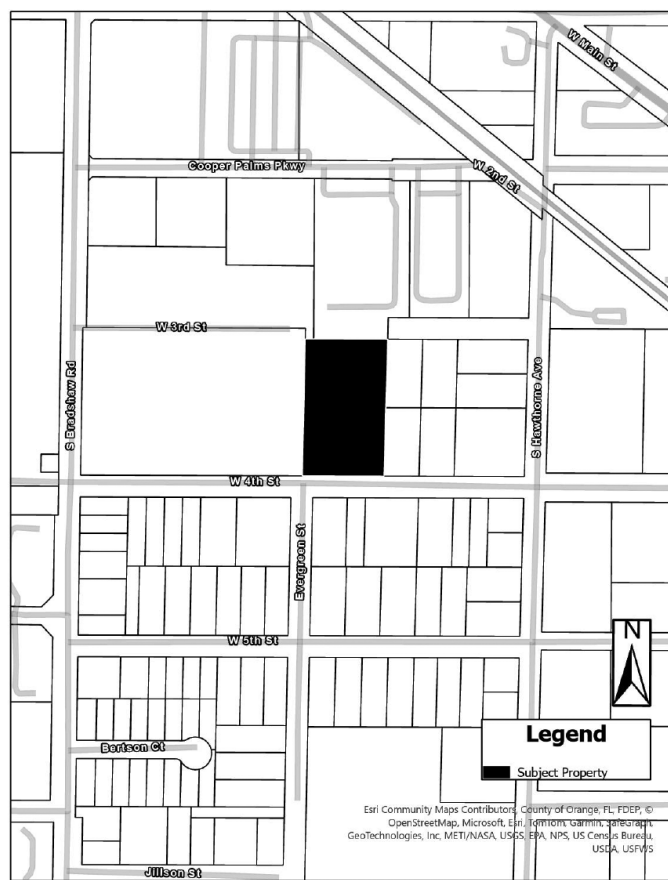
I believe we, as Americans, can gain our unity again, but we cannot do it without commitment.

Remember our nation's motto, "E Pluribus Union," (out of many one)!

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 **ALBERT IGLESIA** has made an application to the City of Apopka City Council for an **ANNEXATION** of a property located north of Fourth Street, east of Bradshaw Road and west of Hawthorne Avenue. This application relates to the following described property:

ORDINANCE NO. 3057
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 SFL PARTNERS LLC AND JFJ REAL INVESTMENTS, LLC; LOCATED NORTH OF FOURTH STREET, EAST OF BRADSHAW ROAD AND WEST OF HAWTHORNE AVENUE; COMPRISING 1.97 ACRES, MORE OR LESS; PROVIDING FOR DIRECTIONS TO THE CITY CLERK, SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.



Parcel Identification Number(s): 09-21-28-0868-01-510
Contains: 1.97 +/- acres

NOTICE is given that public hearings for Ordinance No. 3057 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, June 5, 2024 beginning at 1:30 P.M.** and **Wednesday, June 19, 2024 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

May 24, 2024

Publish: The Apopka Chief

176590

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	
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 Apopkans	407-703-1707
Chamber of Commerce	407-886-1441

Orange County will host hurricane expo

Orange County is hosting its annual Hurricane Expo, where residents will have the opportunity to learn storm preparedness and recovery tips and meet

in person with safety professionals. The 2024 Hurricane Expo will be on Saturday, June 15, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Evans High School, 4949

Silver Star Road, Orlando. Central Florida meteorologist Amy Sweezey will provide updates on this year's hurricane season. Free preparedness

items will be available for families to pick up while supplies last. For more information, email ocoem@ocfl.net.



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Sertoma presentation



Foliage Sertoma Club President Lorena Potter awards a \$250 donation check to Apopka High Beta Club sponsor Tracey Hough at the club luncheon on Tuesday, May 21, at Backroom Steakhouse on Rock Springs Road. The 300-member service club volunteered to setup, serve and clean-up at the April 10, Service to Mankind Dinner held at the Fran Carlton Center. The Beta Club members earn community service hours through their volunteer efforts. The donation will assist with costs for the club members to attend their annual convention coming up in Savannah, Ga.

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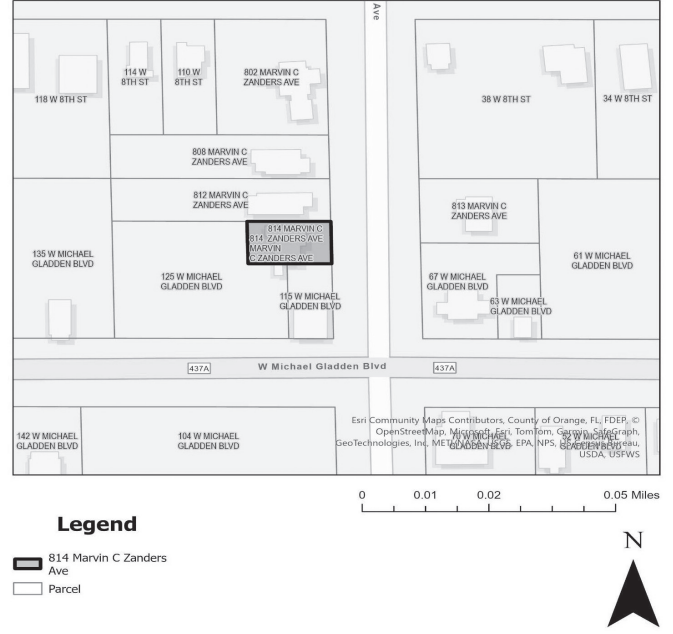
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

SMALL-SCALE FUTURE LAND USE AMENDMENT CITY OF APOPKA

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Secs. 163.3184 and 166.041(3) (c), Florida Statutes and the Apopka Code of Ordinance, Part III, Land Development Code, Article II, Section 2.4.7.B, that **CYNTHIA HENDERSON** has made an application to the City of Apopka Planning Commission and the City Council for a **CHANGE IN THE FUTURE LAND USE DESIGNATION FROM COMMERCIAL TO MIXED USE FOR 0.08 +/- ACRES**. This application relates to the following described properties:

ORDINANCE NO. 3506

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 COMMERCIAL TO MIXED USE FOR CYNTHIA HENDERSON GENERALLY LOCATED NORTH OF E MICHAEL GLADDEN BOULEVARD, OWNED BY CYNTHIA HENDERSON, COMPRISING 0.08 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.



Parcel Identification Numbers: 09-21-28-0196-70-384
Contains: 0.08 +/- acres

Notice is given that the **City of Apopka Planning Commission** will hold a public hearing to consider Ordinance No. 3056 at its regularly scheduled meeting in the City Council Chambers of the Apopka City Hall, 120 E. Main Street, Apopka, Florida on **Tuesday, June 11, 2024 beginning at 5:30 P.M.** or as soon thereafter as possible.

FURTHER NOTICE is given that a public hearing for Ordinance No. 3056 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, July 17, 2024 beginning at 7:00 P.M.** or soon thereafter.

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



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Email: herestoyourhealth1710@gmail.com

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