

# Orange County launches free financial counseling program

By Teresa Sargeant  
Apopka Chief Staff

Orange County became the first local government in the state to launch a Financial Empowerment Center (FEC), which offers one-on-one certified financial counseling as a free public service to everyone who lives and works in Orange County.

On Wednesday, January 8, the Financial Empowerment Center was officially kicked off at the John Bridges Community Action Center in Apopka. The Bridges Center will serve as one of Orange County's three in-person sites of the Financial Empowerment Center, along with the Hal P. Marston Community Action Center and the Pine Hills Community Action Center, both in Orlando. The county plans to expand FEC services to more sites this year.

Held in person as well as virtually, FEC sessions with professional financial counselors will focus on budgeting, increasing

personal savings, paying down debt, improving credit scores and more.

Ceremony speakers were Kate Wilson, the senior vice president for philanthropy and community impact at Wells Fargo; Catherine Steck McManus, president and CEO of Habitat for Humanity Greater Orlando & Osceola County; and Jerry L. Demings, Orange County mayor. Habitat Orlando & Osceola is the program's nonprofit provider.

The initiative is a partnership between Orange County Government, Habitat for Humanity Greater Orlando & Osceola County and the Cities for Financial Empowerment Fund.

The Orange County Financial Empowerment Center is an example of the county's ongoing efforts to help people who are struggling in the community, according to Demings. He cited that according to Heart of Florida United Way, 32 percent of Orange County households are As-

set Limited, Income Constrained, Employed, or ALICE.

"We will change it. We're going to lower that (percentage). We will work holistically every day to make sure the Financial Empowerment Centers provide the tools and the resources that can assist ALICE households as well as other families and individuals struggling to reach financing specifically," the mayor said.

Piloted in New York City in 2008, FECs across the nation have worked with nearly 173,000 clients. Through the FEC, clients have reduced their personal debts by over \$276 million and increased household savings by nearly \$54 million.

Wells Fargo collaborates with partners in developing and support of programs to help people improve long-term financial security.

"It's the way to create positive change and it's really at the core of what we do. We understand that financial health is a

continuum and we want to help people move from financial instability to financial security and wealth creation. We also believe that financial counseling and coaching can be instrumental in that journey," Wilson said.

Calling the launch of the Orange County Financial Empowerment Center "a truly historic day" and a "milestone," McManus explained how the financial empowerment center aligns well with Habitat Orlando and Osceola's mission. Habitat Orlando and Osceola has been building energy-efficient homes that local families purchased with an affordable mortgage. Homeowners involved in Habitat go through educational programs including helping homeowners keep their affordable mortgage through our home preservation program, including roof replacements and major home repairs.

"First, to Habitat Orlando and Osceola, we know that housing is the cornerstone of commu-

nity progress," McManus said. "Stable and accessible housing leads to better outcomes in education, health and more. But the system is broken, and we've long ago realized that we can't build our way out of the housing crisis. That's why our impact strategy to face the housing crisis focuses on two overarching goals: pioneer housing solutions and empower through knowledge."

In September 2024, Orange County Government announced that it received a \$150,000 grant to support the launch of the county's Financial Empowerment Center. The FEC movement is supported by seed funder Bloomberg Philanthropies, the Wells Fargo Foundation and other partners. The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 provided additional funding for the project's implementation.

For more information and to sign up for appointments at HabitatOrlando.org/FEC.

# Shelter: May be needed next week based on weather, pastor says

Continued from page 1A

open a cold weather shelter next week depending on the weather.

"If it looks like it's going to get back down near freezing next week, too, we will certainly work on doing the same thing again

next week," Schorejs said. In a Monday, January 6, email, community advocate Dr. Phyllis Olmstead expressed her support for the cold weather shelter.

"This has been a long time coming, and I was grateful for my in-person conversation with

Rev Melo [of One Family Church] and his love for his neighbors and eagerness [and] willingness to welcome them into his home with a smile on his face! This congregation and its

pastor is a great asset to our community," she wrote.

In her email, she also made the following recommendation: "I would like to suggest that since many of our local residents with

that limited heat and clothing, they are often also limited in nutrition and medical access. If we could have a person with medical credentials volunteer, it would be a phenomenal advantage

to the population."

To volunteer for a shift at the shelter or to donate food, email Schorejs at dndschorejs@gmail.com or text 407-334-5786.

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# CITY OF APOPKA

## OCOEE APOPKA ROAD COMPLETE STREETS PROJECT

### INFORMATIVE AND PUBLIC INPUT SESSION & SURVEY

## Monday, January 13, 2025

from 5:30 PM to 7 PM

in Apopka City Hall Council Chambers

Please join us for an informative and public input session covering the northern section of Ocoee-Apopka Road Complete Streets Project (OACSP). The OACSP proposes the widening of Ocoee-Apopka Road (CR) 437A from two to four lanes, beginning at Harmon Road to Hawthorne Avenue, increasing safety and capacity for current and future users. This is a "Complete Streets" project that will include enhancements to existing corridor drainage, as well as, roadway and multi-modal improvements.

The City of Apopka is committed to transforming this vital corridor using a Complete Streets approach to modernize the existing infrastructure assets. Lighting, signage, drainage systems, median islands, traffic signals, a shared-use path and sidewalks will all be improved, added (if lacking) and modernized to ensure all users feel safe and are safe using the improved corridor.

Take the survey by scanning the QR Code or visiting: <https://app.publiccoordinate.com/#/projects/oacsp/map>  
This public input tool will be open December 13, 2024, to January 15, 2025.

VICINITY MAP

SCAN  
ME!

January 10, 2025  
Publish: The Apopka Chief  
177815

# Byrd: Graduation time will be here on the 28th and 29th of May

Continued from page 2A

ing at times with the everyday demands on our time and energy as parents, but it is certainly much easier to correct a problem soon-

er rather than later and that is why mid-year is a good time to reassess and check in.

As we look forward to the end of the semester, it will be graduation time be-

fore we know it. The class of 2025 is ready and excited for what lies ahead. Graduation dates and times were announced over the break, so it's time to share those as well.

Our Apopka Blue Darters will be crossing the stage on May 28 at 2 p.m. at the Kia Center downtown, and our Wekiva Mustangs will graduate on May 29 at 8:30 a.m. at the Ad-

ditions Financial Arena at UCF. Both ceremonies will be a wonderful celebration of all that these young people have accomplished and all they have to look forward to in their bright fu-

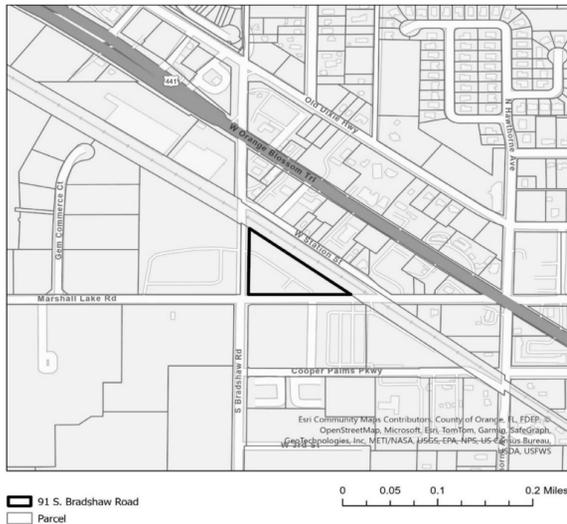
tures. I look forward to both the ceremonies and shaking all of our Apopka graduates' hands as they receive their diplomas.

## 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 **STEVEN ANDERSEN** 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 INDUSTRIAL FOR 2.28 +/- ACRES.** This application relates to the following described properties:

ORDINANCE NO. 3085

**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 INDUSTRIAL FOR STEVEN ANDERSEN GENERALLY LOCATED NORTH OF MARSHALL LAKE ROAD, OWNED BY ANDERSEN APOPKA LLC, COMPRISING 2.28 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**



Parcel Identification Numbers: 09-21-28-5451-01-000  
Contains: 2.28 +/- acres

Notice is given that a public hearing for Ordinance No. 3085 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 5, 2025 beginning at 1:30 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.

Apopka City Council  
Apopka Planning Commission  
Community Development Department

January 10, 2025

Publish: The Apopka Chief

177797

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# Moore: Tourism is very important

Continued from page 2A

to the grand opening early in 2025.

Affordable Housing has \$16.1 allocated for 2025 from the Affordable Housing Trust Fund. This brings the county's total investment in affordable and workforce housing to \$83.8 million over six years and \$160 million over 10 years. Several projects are in progress in the Apopka and Pine Hills communities.

Green PLACE Program is one of the most impactful conservation initiatives in the budget. In 2021 the board approved \$100 million to preserve our natural habitats. So far, the county has acquired 24,000 acres and opened more than 18,000 acres for public recreation.

Community and Family Services is part of the county's core mission. The adopted budget includes \$150 million which covers programs that address social challenges, child welfare, and services to preserve the high-quality of life to enrich a diverse population.

This includes after-school programs and summer youth programs that offer a haven, as well as community programs to provide outreach services.

As Parks & Recreation celebrates its 100th anniversary of serving residents

at 113 parks and trails, the division provides a host of your recreation programs and activities. We are looking forward to the renovation of the West Orange Trail Bridge across US 441 in downtown Apopka.

Mental & Health Services has been receiving \$49 million annually for mental and behavioral health services. The county is closing the gap by providing more than \$10 million additional county general fund dollars and using various federal grant sources.

The Economic Environment includes the Orange County Convention Center and the visitors and business it attracts. Over 1,200 local businesses depend on the center's events. Funding comes primarily from the fees the center collects for services and the Tourist Development Tax (TDT) proceeds are utilized for any operating shortfalls. No property taxes are used for the convention center.

I have not yet mentioned the great work of our Utilities Department with water, sewer, reclaimed water, and solid waste.

These are large operations which must meet all their operational and capital expenses by charges and impact fees.

They are often accounted for in what is known as enterprise funds.

One of the key components of Orange County's economic development is the Travel and Tourism Industry. In 2023, Orange County welcomed 74 million visitors, generating \$92.5 billion in economic impact. Nearly 43 percent of the region's workforce works in tourism. The county has made investments in accommodations, technology, and amenities to allow the area to remain one of the top convention destinations. TDT dollars were \$350 million in FY 2023.

Universal Studios is moving forward with "Epic Universe," a new theme park opening in 2025 that is expected to bring 14,000 new jobs to the region. In addition, the new Reedy Creek or Central Florida Tourism Oversight District recently approved a new development proposal by Walt Disney Companies to spend up to \$17 billion which may include an entirely new theme park at Disney World.

The county budget is large and complex. Rest assured that competent staff, the comptroller, and commissioners provide superior guidance and oversight. As many of you have seen, we have recently provided oversight and accountability for the Supervisor of Elections Office.

Happy New Year.

# Hayden: Share knowledge of Jesus

Continued from page 2A

begging for their daily sustenance, but I do know that throwing taxpayer money at the problem only makes it bigger, and many times it increases the size of government with all its' problems.

I believe most of the homeless need help getting their priorities right, but books, videos, and do it yourself programs seem to have no impact on the situation. We need to instill in people the understanding of their true worth and how they can be assured of the world's need of each one of them by finding their niche that GOD has ordained for them.

Our local government needs to find people who love one another and those that love their neighbors to go into the streets to talk, cry, rejoice, and give encouragement to those who have lost hope. We need to

support them so they can concentrate on their task. Yes, I'm talking about a department of Christian Outreach! We have departments now that are supposed to take care of those things, but they are dismal failures because most of the workers are looking for a paycheck and the benefits of government employment.

The workers for Christian Outreach would be working for the elimination of the homeless and allowing each individual to see their worth in the sight of their Creator, and His love for them by the giving of His only begotten Son, Jesus on the cross of Calvary. The only thing those workers would need is to be reimbursed for their vehicular usage. I know all the arguments against religion in our government, but has anything else helped?

I believe that one day (soon) our government - local, state, and federal - will

stand before the throne of GOD, and give an account about how we ignored the opportunity to give those street dwellers and the homeless the message of their immense worth, and importance to the GOD who knitted them in the womb and called them by name, at their conception.

We are all called to be ambassadors for Christ, but it's improbable to find a parking place, and also, it would be hard to find the time to spend talking instead of keeping appointments.

There was a time I felt it was me against everybody else, until I met my risen Savior, Jesus Christ, and He showed me my true worth.

Don't stop telling the story; i.e., Romans 1:16: For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

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## 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. <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

# Gas district pays tribute to late retired employee

By **Dahlia Rochell**  
Special to the Chief

When Everett Holmes first approached us about employment in 2006, he didn't know much about natural gas. He had experience in sales and as an account manager in other industries, but not gas.

When we interviewed him, however, he told us if we would just give him

the ground rules, he'd get the job done. He also added that he had *some* knowledge of gas because he had gas as a child in New York.

Everett didn't lack confidence, and his personality, charisma and ability to communicate well won him the job of the District's marketing representative, with his first date of employment being July 31,

2006.

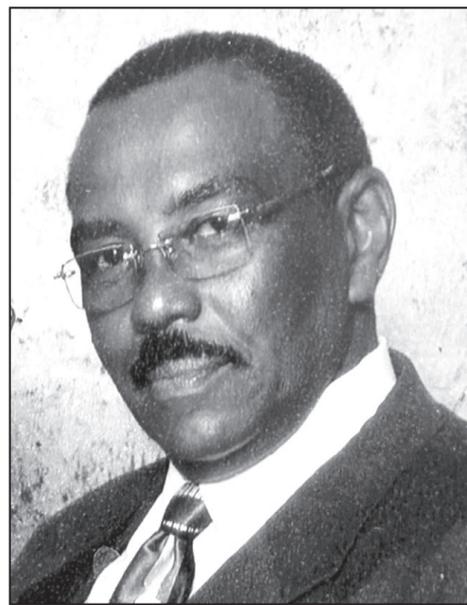
We found out fairly quickly that Everett meant what he said. He was eager to learn and he certainly did "get the job done!" And that's what he's been doing since 2006. He has won accolades from both his peers and industry associates for his ability to connect and communicate in such a positive manner. He has worked hard to learn the natural gas industry from the ground up and be able to talk to customers and builders about the advantages of natural gas and has been a strong advocate for putting natural gas into homes and businesses within our service area.

After 10 years as a marketing specialist, Everett was promoted to senior marketing specialist and

his enthusiasm for the natural gas industry, once ignited, remained strong. He has been a force to be reckoned with as he dealt with all who crossed his path with his engaging personality and his passion for people, his job, and, of course, natural gas.

Now, however, effective September 30th, Everett has decided it's time to retire. We will sure miss him, but he deserves a long, happy and healthy retirement and that's exactly what all Everett's friends at the District want him to have. Thanks, Everett, for gracing us with your presence the last 17 years!

*Dahlia Rochell is the director of human resources for Lake Apopka Natural Gas District.*



Everett Holmes was with the Lake Apopka Natural Gas District for 17 years before retiring in September 2024. He died on December 18, 2024, at age 80.

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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 **John Ryan Adams** has made an application to the City of Apopka City Council for an **ANNEXATION** of property generally located East of Plymouth Sorrento Road and North of W. Ponkan Road. This application relates to the following described property:

**ORDINANCE NO. 3089**  
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 GLOBAL INVESTMENTS VAULT LLC; GENERALLY LOCATED EAST OF PLYMOUTH SORRENTO ROAD AND NORTH OF W. PONKAN ROAD; COMPRISING 11.12 ACRES, MORE OR LESS; PROVIDING FOR DIRECTIONS TO THE CITY CLERK, SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.



Parcel Identification Number(s): 19-20-28-0000-00-006  
Contains: 11.12 +/- acres

NOTICE is given that a public hearing for Ordinance No. 3089 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, February 5, 2025 beginning at 1:30 P.M and Wednesday, February 19, 2025 beginning at 7:00 PM** or as soon thereafter as possible.

Affected parties and the public may appear at the above listed hearing 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  
Community Development Department

January 10, 2025

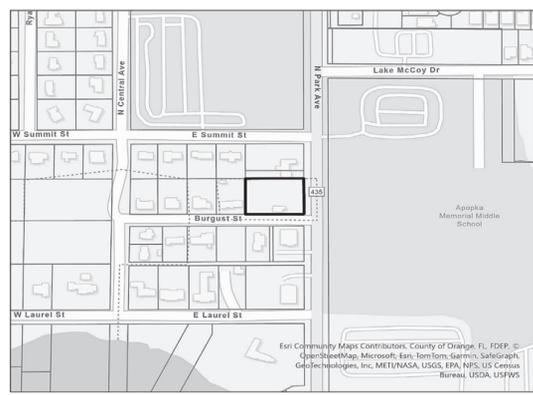
Publish: The Apopka Chief

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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 **Nick Diangelis** has made an application to the City of Apopka City Council for an **ANNEXATION** of property generally located on the Northwest corner of N. Park Avenue and Burgust Street. This application relates to the following described property:

**ORDINANCE NO. 3090**  
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 NICHOLAS DIANGELIS AND STEPHANIE DIANGELIS; LOCATED ON THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF N. PARK AVENUE AND BURGUST STREET; COMPRISING 0.66 ACRES, MORE OR LESS; PROVIDING FOR DIRECTIONS TO THE CITY CLERK, SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.



Parcel Identification Number(s): 04-21-28-2204-01-110  
Contains: 0.66 +/- acres

NOTICE is given that a public hearing for Ordinance No. 3090 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, February 5, 2025 beginning at 1:30 P.M and Wednesday, February 19, 2025 beginning at 7:00 PM** or as soon thereafter as possible.

Affected parties and the public may appear at the above listed hearing 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  
Community Development Department

January 10, 2025

Publish: The Apopka Chief

177799

# 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 29-January 4, 2025, the Apopka Police Department received 1,505 calls for service, responded to 25 crashes, issued 43 citations, and made 9 arrests. Juve-

niles were charged with loitering or prowling; resist officer-obstruct without violence; intimidation written/electronic threat mass shooting/terrorism act; probation violation-child in violation of imposed conditions.

The following adults were arrested and charged: Ivan Nicholas Barakoff, 39, Apopka, battery-touch or strike.

Rebecca Victoria Bowler, 33, 720 Mason Ave., Apopka, information only-other agency warrant.

DeMario Clady, 40, 251 E. 3rd Street, Apopka, out-of-county warrant; resist officer-obstruct without violence.

Linda Bowman Driggers, 67, Apopka, battery-touch or strike.

Anthony James Love, 42, general delivery, Apopka, trespassing-failure to

leave property on order of owner.

Neftali Alexander Miranda Matias, 30, 2265 Mayflower Ave., Apopka, moving traffic violation-operate motor vehicle without valid license 1st conviction.

Larry Antonioi Stanley, 45, Eatonville, damage property-criminal mischief over \$200 under \$1,000; larceny-other theft; burglary with assault

or battery; battery-touch or strike.

Courtney Marquis Steadman, 35, 7137 Holly Street, Mount Dora, DUI-unlawful blood alcohol 0.15 or higher or with person under 18 in vehicle.

Raynisha Antoinette Whittaker, 33, 12536 Bohnannon Blvd., Orlando, information only-other agency warrant.

## Fishing was starting to ramp up before cold front

Hello Folks,

I hope everyone is havin' a great start to the new year. We are startin' the new year off right with some cold weather, and more cold weather is comin' our way. The good news is we don't have to deal with any snow.

Before this latest cold front came to town, the fishin' wasn't too bad. Kyle at Bitter's Bait & Tackle reports that lots of folks were catchin' some specks in Lake Monroe and Lake Jesup.

Folks have been catchin' some specks in the Kissimmee Chain as well.



Jim Keck  
Goin' Fishin'

on Monday the 13th. If the weather settles down a little and we don't get too much wind, the specks should be bitin' this weekend.

The bass fishin' was doin' really good until this cold front came to town. Some bass were goin' on the beds to spawn, but I'm afraid these cold fronts will pull them off the beds. I'm sure there is goin' to be some beddin' goin' on, but usually our Florida bass are very susceptible to the weather. When those ole bass get on the beds and when these cold fronts come to town, they will pull off their beds in a heartbeat.

So, don't be afraid to see if they are on the beds while you are fishin'.

Folks were catchin' some bass in the Butler Chain and the Maitland Chain before these cold fronts. Most folks are draggin' shiners out the back of the boat over the submerged hydrilla and eelgrass beds. The bass fishin' has been hit or miss on the Harris Chain.

Folks are catchin' a few bass on shiners, but due to a fish kill on Lake Eustis, the bass fishin' has slowed down a little in there. Some folks are reportin' that the fish kill is

due to the sprayin' in the chain, and the FWC is claimin' the fish kill is due to the cold weather. The FWC is reportin' that the cold weather may be depleting the oxygen out the water, and that is causing the fish kill. Also, the FWC is reportin' that the fish kill may be due to algae blooms, extreme weather, or herbicides in the water.

If you want more information about what's goin' on in the Harris Chain, you can go to the FWC's website and see how the investigation is goin'. If you want to report dead fish sightings, the FWC has a

Fish Kill Hotline that allows the public to submit reports by calling 1-800-636-0511. You can also go to myfwc.com and fill out a report on the fish kills in your area.

Well, folks I don't know how these fronts are goin' to affect your fishin', but hopefully we can get a few days of good weather so we can get out there and catch a few fish.

See ya next week.  
Tip of the week: Full Moon on Monday.

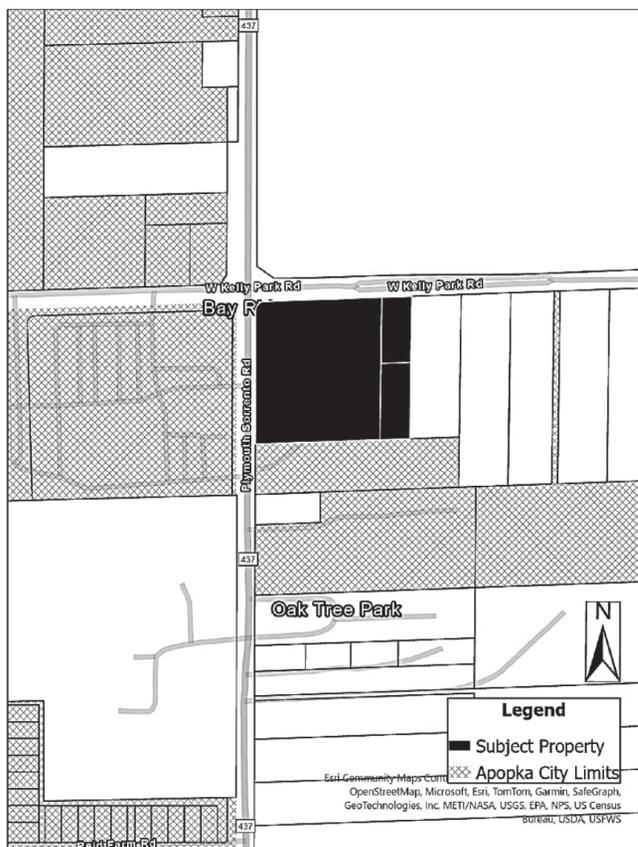
Save a few and good luck!

### CITY OF APOPKA PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE SMALL-SCALE 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 **Nathan Milch** has made application, on behalf of the property owner, relating to the following described property.

**ORDINANCE NO. 3095**  
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 RESIDENTIAL VERY LOW SUBURBAN TO MIXED-USE FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY OWNED BY ROSEVILLE FARMS, LLC; GENERALLY LOCATED ON THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF KELLY PARK ROAD AND PLYMOUTH SORRENTO ROAD; COMPRISING 5.56 ACRES, MORE OR LESS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**ORDINANCE NO. 3096**  
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF APOPKA, FLORIDA, CHANGING THE ZONING FROM T (TRANSITION) TO KPI-MU (KELLY PARK INTERCHANGE - MIXED-USE) FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY OWNED BY ROSEVILLE FARMS, LLC; GENERALLY LOCATED ON THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF KELLY PARK ROAD AND PLYMOUTH SORRENTO ROAD; COMPRISING 5.56 ACRES, MORE OR LESS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.



Parcel Identification Number(s): 18-20-28-0000-00-101, 18-20-28-0000-00-107 and 18-20-28-0000-00-120  
Contains: 5.56 +/- Acres

NOTICE is given that a public hearing for Ordinance Numbers 3095 and 3096 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 11, 2025 beginning at 5:30 P.M. and March 5, 2025 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

## TTO: APK's 20-point victory

OCPS METRO CONFERENCE					
METRO WEST	MASCOT		METRO EAST	MASCOT	
APOPKA	Blue Darters		BOONE	Braves	
DR. PHILLIPS	Panthers		CYPRESS CREEK	Bears	
EDGEWATER	Eagles		COLONIAL	Grenadiers	
EVANS	Trojans		EAST RIVER	Falcons	
HORIZON	Hawks		FREEDOM	Patriots	
LAKE BUENA VISTA	Vipers		JONES	Tigers	
OCOEE	Knights		LAKE NONA	Lions	
OLYMPIA	Titans		OAK RIDGE	Pioneers	
WEKIVA	Mustangs		TIMBER CREEK	Wolves	
WEST ORANGE	Warriors		UNIVERSITY	Cougars	
WINDERMERE	Wolverines		WINTER PARK	Wildcats	

Above is the collection of teams in the OCPS Metro Conference separated into Western and Eastern divisions.

Continued from page 1B

still huge as Apopka scored 68 points which is tied for the most points they have scored all season with another 68-point victory over BEST in a tournament in Gainesville. Apopka started with the lead and never gave it up outscoring Dr. Phillips in every quarter except the last one where Apopka cleared the bench (21-14, 14-9, 22-7, 11-18).

The Blue Darters outplayed the Panthers on both sides of the ball. Apopka shot better, shooting 45.3 percent as a team compared to Dr. Phillips' 35 percent. Apopka had more transition points (9-5), more second-chance points (13-4), more points

in the paint (22-10), more offensive rebounds (14-7), more defensive rebounds (20-16), more assists (18-10), more steals (14-7), and more blocks (2-0).

The team was led to victory by Jermichael Johnson, Noah Ferrer, and Jude Angervil. Johnson scored 15 points shooting 55.6 percent from the field, collected eight rebounds, two assists, two deflections, three steals, and one block. Angervil scored 13 points shooting 71.4 percent from the field, collected five rebounds, two deflections, two steals, and one block. Ferrer scored 11 points shooting 60 percent from the field, collected three rebounds, one assist, and two steals. Guards Jahi

Bowden and Rafael Betancourt also helped bring in the win combining for 11 points, 10 assists, six rebounds, three deflections, and four steals.

On Thursday in the western semifinals, Edgewater faced Evans and Apopka faced Windermere.

Windermere is a very strong program that defeated Ocoee 67-25. In early December of last year, Apopka beat Ocoee by just one point 57-56 so this was bound to be a tough game for Apopka. The game against Windermere happened after press time.

As of Tuesday, January 7, Windermere is 14-3, ranked 6th in Florida, ac-

See TTO Page 4B

## Advertise your legal notice in The Apopka Chief

Call 407-886-2777 or visit  
[www.theapokachief.com](http://www.theapokachief.com)  
Deadline for Friday's publication:  
Tuesday, 5 p.m.

Mail to  
PO Box 880, Apopka, Fl 32704  
or bring the notice to  
400 N. Park Avenue, Apopka,  
or fax 407-889-4121 or Email:  
[legals@theapokachief.com](mailto:legals@theapokachief.com)

Notices are also published online at  
[www.theapokachief.com](http://www.theapokachief.com) and  
statewide on [floridapublicnotices.com](http://floridapublicnotices.com)