

Apopka to help Emerson Park finance roadway improvements

HOA says city is not playing favorites

By Teresa Sargeant
Reporter

The Apopka City Council adopted two resolutions on April 16 to fund roadway improvements for the Emerson Park subdivision. The city will take out a loan on the subdivision's behalf to fund the project, which will cost around \$3 million.

"It's basically an opportunity for property owners who are subject to the proposed assessments to approach the dais and tell you whether they support the assessments, whether they object to the assessments or make no comment at all," said Christopher B. Roe, attorney for Bryant Miller Olive P.A., who presented the resolutions at the meeting. "But it has to be an opportunity for them to do so before you can levy the assessments."

The first resolution No. 2025-16, sets up a special assessment area for road and sidewalk improvements, with a total assessed cost of \$2,853,464. Per this resolution, the approved estimated project cost of the improvements is \$3,064,425. Out of this amount, the assessed cost is estimated to be \$2,853,464; the balance of the project cost will be paid by the HOA's contributions. The payment term is 15

See **IMPROVEMENTS** Page 5A

City's CRA Board adopts reallocated \$1.9 milion budget

April 23 meeting is continuation of April 16 CRA meeting

By Teresa Sargeant
Reporter

The Apopka Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Board adopted its reallocated budget of an estimated \$1.9 million, prioritizing projects that must start by Oct. 1 in case state legislation affecting CRAs



Photo by Marshall Tempest

Cliff Shepard speaks to the CRA Board.

is enacted. The Apopka CRA Board meeting on April 23 was

organized to get more community input on the CRA See **CRA** Page 4A

Middle school mentoring program grows

Apopka teacher's idea takes flight

By Marshall Tempest
Reporter

Over 12 years of teaching and coaching at Apopka Memorial Middle School (AMMS), Mel Bolden saw a need with the young people who came under his tutelage: They needed soft skills training and exposure to various experiences and career fields.

Seeing the gaps, Bolden stepped up to fill them. He founded the Preparing Our Leaders Organization (POLO) for both boys and girls in December, and the mentoring program has quickly grown to 185 combined students in just four months.

"I hope that the mentees I have today become tomorrow's mentors," Bolden said in an interview. "I hope they remember that somebody came into their life and poured great things into them. Then they do it to the next person's life."

Bolden is a grassroots Apopkan who is deeply involved in the community and invested in the success of the next generation of Apopkans. He is a graduate of Apopka High School and Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU) and has pursued a successful graphic design and photography career while teaching at



Photo courtesy of Mel Bolden

Eddie Pollock (right) gives Aiden Bolden, Mel Bolden's son, hands-on welding instruction during one of POLO's field trips.

See **POLO** Page 3A

Three more candidates launch campaigns for Florida Senate District 15

Anthony-Smith, Grayson, Montague will face off against Bracy siblings

By Teresa Sargeant
Reporter



Photo courtesy of Coretta Anthony-Smith

Coretta Anthony-Smith

Three more candidates have tossed their hats into the ring for the Florida Senate District 15 seat that was vacated when state Sen. Geraldine Thompson died in February.

Thompson died on Feb. 13 due to complications from knee replacement surgery. Being in Florida politics for almost two decades, Thompson won her last elected position as state senator in 2024.

She leaves behind a legacy as a civil rights champion who defended voters' rights and helped to maintain local African American history.

Attorney Coretta Anthony-Smith officially announced her campaign on April 17 at her law firm Anthony-Smith Law in Ocoee.

"Let me be clear — Senator Geraldine Thompson is a tough act to follow," Anthony-Smith said in a statement. "She was one of the greats. She was a servant throughout her entire career. Our communi-

ty loved her dearly and will never forget the work she has done for us."

If elected, Anthony-Smith said she will prioritize securing affordable property insurance for District 15 homeowners, strengthening public safety, and expanding affordable housing for constituents, according to her campaign website.

"In this race, we have to tune out the drama and the distractions and focus on the issues," she said in the statement. "Pine Hills, Washington Shores, Historic Parramore, Winter Garden, Ocoee, Gotha, parts of Oakland, the Dr. Phillips area, Historic Eatonville and Apopka residents are struggling to get the kind of public safety, affordable housing and affordable insurance that residents need to live comfortably. That's what we need to focus on."

See **CAMPAIGNS** Page 6A

City enters into agreement with FDOT on roads

State would pay Apopka \$175K per year

By Teresa Sargeant
Reporter

The Apopka City Council last week unanimously adopted a resolution authorizing Mayor Bryan Nelson to execute an agreement with the state for infrastructure maintenance costs totaling almost \$175,000.

Under Resolution No. 2025-18, the city of Apopka has put in place a Highway Maintenance Memorandum of Agreement with the Florida Department of

Transportation (FDOT) for the remaining term of one year. The state will pay the city \$43,724.25 per quarter, which totals \$174,897 per year.

The FDOT has agreements with local governments for infrastructure maintenance that sit within the local governments' jurisdictional boundaries.

"The types of highway maintenance covered under this agreement are primarily related to ongoing maintenance tasks such as mowing and ditch maintenance," city engineer Vladimir Simonowski said at the April 16 City Council meeting. "It also includes pot-hole and sidewalk repair in

the road rights-of-way that fall within the project limits. The agreement does not include large tasks such as resurfacing or capacity improvements."

The agreement does not include large tasks such as resurfacing or roadway capacity improvements because they're capital projects covered by the FDOT, so usually smaller governments are not involved in those projects, Simonowski explained.

Per the agreement, the project limits are S.R. 436 from the Seminole County line to U.S. 441, and U.S. 441 from Benbow Court to Orange Avenue, according to a city staff report.




Photo by Teresa Sargeant

The intersection of U.S. Highway 441 (northbound) and Benbow Court in Apopka.

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Opinion

The Apopka Chief

A weekly newspaper founded in 1923

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City communications staff helps keep residents safe

One of the unsung heroes of Apopka city staff, the Public Safety Telecommunication Professionals team, is the tip of the spear for any and all emergencies that happen in Apopka.

Our team of 23 dedicated professionals staff our call center 24/7, 365 days a year. They not only handle the calls for Apopka, but also the 911 calls for Maitland and Eatonville as well.

Last year, they received 180,000 calls, with 60,000 of them being classified as emergencies. To become a Public Safety Telecommunications Specialist, they are required to pass the state's 911 Public Safety Telecommunicator certification course, the Emergency Medical Dispatcher (EMD) certification course, and the Emergency Fire Dispatcher (EFD) certification course.

These rigorous training courses give the Public Safety Telecommunications team the ability to handle any crisis, especially the split-second, life-and-death decisions that they face each and every day.

As I was presenting a proclamation to the dispatch, I got a first-hand experience of what a typical day looks like for a Communications Specialist. A 911 call comes in about a possible attempted suicide for a male in his mid-20s. He has slit his wrist and is bleeding profusely.

The dispatcher had to give the caller instructions as to how to stop the bleeding and simultaneously keep her calm as she applied pressure with a towel.

In the meantime, the dispatch professional notified both the fire

Apopka Mayor



Bryan Nelson

and police departments to respond with a fire truck, ambulance and officers to document the incident and make sure each department has the correct address.

All this in real-time lasting less than five minutes.

I have always been impressed by their dedication, but to see the Communications Department actually preform under pressure was truly impressive. Although you might not have ever met a Communications Specialist, just realize that they are the first point of contact, and without their expertise, the rest of our first responders couldn't do their jobs effectively.

Since 2023, the Communications Center has been accredited by the Florida Telecommunications Accreditation Commission (FLA-TAC), which bestows the highest honor for excellence regarding the Communications Center's processes, policies and procedures. Please remember and congratulate the unsung Communications Center employees for their invaluable service to the residents of Apopka.



Photo by Marshall Tempest

Committee weighs how to divide Orange County into 8 districts

As we speak, a county committee is determining how to split Orange County into eight districts from six. This is due to the passage of a charter amendment last November. It is quite clear that District 2 will retain Tangerine, Zellwood, Apopka, Southern Apopka, Wekiwa Springs, Paradise Heights, Lockhart, and the northern part of Pine Hills.

I consider Southern Apopka anything south of US 441 and SR 436. I would like to report on five areas of improvement: infrastructure, trails, parks & recreation, community centers, and the People of Southern Apopka. Regular county services such as emergency management, animal and mosquito control, jail and convention services, and family or children's services, while robust, mainly continue without much oversight.

Infrastructure seems to get most of my attention as the county, in unincorporated areas, must maintain roadways, ponds, lighting, sidewalks and street lighting. The county installed LED street lighting along Piedmont Wekiva Road and Apopka Boulevard. in 2019. Every major street in South Apopka has LED lighting.

I prioritized installing new

County Commissioner
District 2



Christine Moore

sidewalks in southern, unincorporated Apopka along 13th Street, 18th Street and Sheeler Road. I'm still working to build more sidewalks along Apopka Boulevard where there are gaps. We also installed speed humps on most north-south streets. My biggest issue is getting compliance on proper waste disposal, so the rights-of-way look clean and pristine.

I have reported multiple times on Border Lake flooding. The city is waiting on Lumen to approve temporary passage of piping. Other than that, the county has installed gauges and completed the paperwork for submittal to St. Johns River Water Management District. The city staff will manage drawing down the lakes.

On the south side, the county invested millions of dollars into

Magnolia Park and Wheatley Park. I'm sure you would enjoy taking your family there for a visit. The John Bridges Center on 13th Street received painting upgrades and soon a new million-dollar playground to serve the community and Head Start students.

The county also resurfaced the West Orange Trail, added wayfinding signage, and refurbished the West Orange Trail Bridge across US 441. Please mark your calendar for the Grand Reopening on Saturday, May 31st at 9:30 a. m.

Finally, the new community organization, People of Southern Apopka, meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month at Brixton Landing on 13th Street. They offer informational speakers and organize events and clean-ups in the Southern Apopka area. For 2025, they are revitalizing Clarcona Road for the Corridor of the Year Contest. Please consider joining this vibrant organization.

I hope you enjoy reading about the stellar improvements in the Southern Apopka area. As always, I welcome your engagement and suggestions. Working together is how we make the most positive change!

OCPS faces funding shortfall due to declining enrollment, Legislature

This time of year is always a time of concern for local schools and school districts as discussions of next year's budget start happening. This year, though, the conversations are different and, to be frank, disturbing.

In my six years on the school board, I have not heard the kind of concern I have been hearing from our superintendent and school districts across the state before. The outlook for Florida public schools' funding next year is bleak.

Let me explain why this year will be different.

School districts are expecting cuts to funding because of declining enrollment. We have seen a steady drop in enrollment in our traditional public schools since the pandemic. We have had federal COVID relief dollars to help offset the drop in enrollment, but that funding sunsets at the end of this school year.

As I've explained before, the school district's operating budget is funded by the number of students who attend the schools. So

Orange County School
Board, District 7



Melissa Byrd

when enrollment drops, so does the funding. OCPS is expecting to lose 3,100 students next year, resulting in a \$27.8 million loss in state funding.

It's easy to assume that since there are fewer students, the cost of operating the schools goes down, but that is not necessarily true unless an entire school is closed. The schools still have to remain open, lights still have to be on and buses still have to run, among other things.

So why is enrollment in schools across the state declining?

There are two reasons: declining birth rates and a drastic

increase in participation in state-funded voucher programs. Enrollment in traditional public schools is expected to drop from about 2.81 million to 2.74 million by 2030. Voucher program enrollment is expected to grow from 457,000 to nearly 697,000 by 2030.

OCPS sent out a memo recently to employees explaining that the loss of funding will have major implications for our district, and all departments are being asked to reduce their operating budgets by 2%.

There are also the proposed cuts to Advanced Studies that I wrote about previously, which, if passed, would reduce our funding by an additional \$17 million.

Over the next few months, the district and board will be looking for ways to address this funding shortfall. While we work hard to be efficient, I encourage you to reach out to your legislators now and encourage them to increase and protect public school funding in the state budget they are currently crafting.

About The Apopka Chief

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Letters to the editor are welcome and encouraged, but they should be signed and include a daytime telephone number, address, or email address for verification. Management reserves the right to edit letters.

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ALL ABOUT APOPKA

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Mayor's Office	407-703-1701
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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	

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Other Area Numbers of Note

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U.S. Representative	
Daniel Webster (Dist. 11).....	352-241-9220
State Representatives	
Doug Bankson.....	407-476-6787
State Senators	
Geraldine Thompson (Dist.11)	407-297-2045
Orange County Commissioner	
Christine Moore.....	407-836-7350
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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

POLO

Continued from page 1A

AMMS. Bolden has always been a mentor to youth, even before becoming a teacher or founding POLO. His father was highly involved with the Apopka community and constantly gave back with his time. He said that growing up around that ingrained in him the importance of mentorship and giving back to the community.

In addition to teaching, Bolden is the athletic director and coach of all the sports teams at AMMS. It was during this time around Apopka students that he found the idea for POLO.

“Working with the youth, I’m always speaking to them,” Bolden said. “Just having that listening ear and having them share the things they want to do, the places they want to go, and just hearing some of the things that they never did — that I had the opportunity to do.”

The program aims to teach the next generation the importance of respect, listening and networking. While those are the main goals, POLO is also about providing the opportunity to learn and experience different activities and perspectives.

Bolden brings guest speakers to each POLO meeting who provide a look into a career. POLO has had guest speakers ranging from welders to military veterans to entrepreneurs and much more.

“I’m just getting them ready for the real world,” Bolden said. “I’m just trying to get them to see that there is more to life than the options they know about. We could get them into trade schools, colleges or careers. We’re just trying to expose them to different positive things and people.”

POLO also allows students to experience things that would enrich their lives and their pursuit of success. Bolden told me it was simple things at first, like students who had never been fishing. Fishing



Courtesy of Mel Bolden

The members of POLO sit and listen to a keynote speaker during one of their weekly meetings.

was something he grew up doing and didn’t see as a big deal, but seeing and hearing from kids who had never had that opportunity made him want to provide it for them.

The field trips POLO provides for its members are potentially life-changing, including a program favorite: a trip to EA Sports Headquarters. The trip happened over spring break, and the kids got to tour the facility and see how the multi-billion-dollar video game developer creates game franchises like Madden and NCAA College Football. EA Sports even let them play the unreleased Madden 26 before it releases later this year and guaranteed a free copy of either Madden 26 or NCAA College Football 26.

Since its inception in December, POLO has grown into a large program that is continuously expanding. POLO currently has 115 boys and 70 girls as members, ranging in ages from 8 to 17. The program provides a safe, like-minded, and community-driven environment for the Apopka youth to prepare for their future.

“I have a very positive view on the POLO mentoring program,” Nakhi Bell, a 14-year-old member, said. “Coach Bolden provides excellent guidance to young kids who are struggling or need help. He exposes them to var-

ious activities, organizes trips and teaches them valuable life skills to help them become respectful young adults.”

Bell said POLO has also helped her become a better person and friend. It has given her the confidence to advise her friends and others when they are making poor choices.

POLO meetings are held 6–7:30 p. m. each Thursday at One Family Church at 500 S Highland Ave in Apopka. POLO promotes good behavior and the rest of its core principles, such as accountability and supporting others, through meetings and a point system.

The point system is how the POLO members earn the ability to participate in fantastic field trips. Just being at meetings doesn’t guarantee you will be a part of the next excursion.

The point system works as follows: attending meetings and community events grants 10 points each, church events grant 20 points each, the A-B honor roll grants 10 points, all A’s grants 15 points, a good report from a teacher, parent or other grants five points and a good progress report grants 10 points.

But you can also be deducted points for bad behavior (–20 points), trouble in school (–20 points), trouble at home (–20 points), being late (–5 points), D’s or F’s on a report card (–10 points), foul



Courtesy of Mel Bolden

Jakyvion Kemp lights up the face of a resident at Solaris Healthcare in Apopka during a POLO field trip.

language (–10 points), a bad progress report (–10 points) and fighting (–50 points). It’s much easier to lose points than earn them.

Bolden created the point system because he was worried members would only show up to the fun events. He needed to create a system that kept them from abstaining from the events they didn’t think were fun.

“They don’t play around about their points — they are on top of their points,” Bolden said. “They know how many points they got and always ask me about their points. So, the system seemed to be working very well.”

Bolden says the response from the Apopka community has been immense and game-changing for the program. He

told me that most of the food for their meetings is provided or donated by those wishing to help the program. Bolden said that nearly all of the shirts purchased for the members were paid for by donations from the community.

Bolden said the biggest obstacle for him and POLO has been that he needs support. He is thankful for all the support he has received and keeps receiving, but he said administering the program by himself is not easy. Bolden told me that when people aren’t getting paid and the work is hard, people come and go.

Bolden points to obstacles like transportation. Finding a feasible and safe option to transport 185 kids is difficult, but Bolden has made it work. He said he has found a way to

borrow a bus at times to make transportation easier.

Bolden told me he sees a bright future for POLO and dreams of expanding far past Apopka.

“I see it growing, man, not just in Orange County, but I think different counties...” Bolden said. “I hope it’s just a chain reaction that just keeps going and going, spreading positivity. That’s how I’ll know I’ve got something that will outlive me. That’s the important thing.”

Bolden said he had doubts when he was thinking of starting the program, but he is glad he did it.

“Like Nike says — just do it,” Bolden said. “Because it’s never going to be the right time. Everything is never going to be all together.”

Bolden urged parents in the Apopka community to talk to their kids and give POLO a chance. He said that nine out of 10 kids who have come to a meeting have loved it and stayed to become part of the program. Even some of the program members urged fellow Apopka youth to come out.

“POLO mentoring is a great program, and I’m enjoying it,” Jakyvion Kemp, a 15-year-old Apopka High School student and POLO member, told me. “We learn a lot, meet new people and become better individuals. It would be beneficial for your child as it helps them stay away from negative influences and become successful.”

Bolden said if he could have the POLO members remember one thing about their time with the organization, it would be that he went all-out for them every day. He said he’s constantly working to improve POLO and its experiences.

“Life is short,” he said. “I know I won’t have them forever. I know they go and move on, but I want to give them the best experience ever so they can remember that for the rest of their lives.”

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City recognizes growth of special needs registry

Program aims to inform police interactions

By Teresa Sargeant
Reporter

At least 50 people are now registered in the Apopka Police Department’s special needs registry program since Officer Emmanuel Sosa launched it in April 2024, the officer said.

At the April 16 City Council meeting, Sosa accepted a proclamation after Mayor Bryan Nelson read it, declaring April 2025 as Autism Acceptance Month in the city of Apopka.

The proclamation also recognizes the city’s special needs registry program, which serves individuals with disabilities, including people with autism.

“While it doesn’t sound like a lot, it’s 50 people that we’re helping providing resources to and also gain that intelligence while we try to



Photo courtesy of city of Apopka

Officer Emmanuel Sosa receives the proclamation recognizing April 2025 as Autism Acceptance Month in the city of Apopka and the city’s special needs registry program that he founded last year. Pictured (l to r) are City Commissioner Nick Nesta, City Commissioner Nadia Anderson, Police Chief Michael McKinley, Mayor Bryan Nelson, Sosa, Vice Mayor Diane Velazquez and City Commissioner Alexander H. Smith.

focus on intelligence-based policing, which helps us with many calls for service in the future,” Sosa said.

Sosa thanked the City Council for inviting him to speak. He also thanked Quest Inc., and former Apopka City

Commissioner Kyle Becker, who serves as Quest Inc. Board of Directors chair and attended the meeting, for providing resources for people with developmental disabilities.

The special needs registry

program was launched to help the APD protect the community and cut down on miscommunication during emergency calls for service, according to the proclamation.

The APD manages a database to inform responding

officers on whether someone at a location or residence has a disability.

The program provides decals free of charge to people who register. These decals alert first responders that there is an individual in the home or vehicle that may have limited communication, may require additional time to process, respond to and/or comply with verbal commands, may hide, wander off, or may have no awareness of danger.

This program is not exclusive to individuals with autism. It’s available to anyone who may have special needs.

“He (Sosa) was very instrumental in bringing it forward to the police department, creating the policy and everything else,” Police Chief Michael McKinley told the City Council.

Autism Spectrum Disorder is a developmental disorder that starts before the age of 3 and progresses throughout one’s lifetime.

The disorder is consid-

ered a spectrum because it differs from one individual to another with a wide range of symptoms. Some people might have a hard time in social interactions. Others might have delayed language skills and might have limited and repetitive behavior.

Early intervention services can help an autistic child’s development, according to the Center for Disease Controls (CDC).

Right now, the CDC is doing a follow-up study on what the public health agency’s website says is one of the largest American studies to date on ASD, Study to Explore Early Development, which studies the risk factors and behaviors related to ASD among children ranging from ages 2 to 5 years in the United States.

Autism affects 1 in 36 children, according to the National Autism Association.

Visit apopka.gov/special-needsregistry to learn more about the city’s special needs registry program.

CRA

Continued from page 1A

projects. The board previously met on April 16 and reviewed almost a dozen projects that could potentially be impacted by the bills, if they become law.

House Bill 991 and Senate Bill 1242 would limit CRA powers after Oct. 1 and potentially phase out CRAs completely by 2045, but key differences remain in the bills. Apopka city attorney Cliff Shepard told the board that that the Senate bill is less restrictive and seeks to preserve CRAs, while the House bill is

“more draconian.”

“Our hope is that the Senate will stand fast,” Shepard said.

According to information in the CRA Board meeting packet, the following projects would need to be updated before Oct. 1:

- The Central Avenue portion of the Downtown Apopka Trail
- Construction of the City Hall Park
- Upgrades of Apopka Action Sports Park, Alonzo

Williams Park amenities and Edwards Field amenities

- Signal and pedestrian upgrades to Fifth and Central Avenue

- Property acquisitions for the expansion of Alonzo Williams Park and Kit Land Nelson Park

- Fifth Street gas lamps
- The Eighth Street and Highland Avenue homes and neighborhood park

Located downtown, the Apopka Community Redevelopment Area is comprised

of 633 acres and has a mix of residences, businesses and historic properties. The area is bound on the south by 10th and 11th Streets, Hawthorne Avenue to the west, Oak Street to the north, and sections of multiple streets to the east, including Highland Avenue, Monroe Avenue and Alabama Avenue.

The state Legislature created CRAs in 1969 to help local governments revitalize areas that become blighted. They use revenue from prop-

erty tax increases to fund improvements.

Supporters of the reform bills, including sponsor Rep. Mike Giallombardo, R-Cape Coral, say local governments have abused the original purpose of CRAs.

“CRAs are initially designed to help slum and blight areas, but again, what’s happening is they’re continuously moving the charter date, or the end date, of them and just paying for a bunch of other stuff,” Giallombardo said, according

to a WUFT report.

The City Council created the Apopka CRA Board to direct the agency. This board comprises Apopka City Council members, an Orange County Board of County Commissioners representative, and other individuals appointed by the local government.

The next CRA Board meeting is scheduled for 1 p. m. on May 7 at Apopka City Hall, followed by the City Council meeting, which starts at 1:30 p. m.



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New Apopka Chief logo looks to future with nod to past

Some things change, some remain the same

The last two months have flown by as The Apopka Chief team has implemented a variety of changes to better serve the community under new ownership. These include increasing circulation from 4,000 to 10,000 weekly print



editions, adding Publix inserts, moving the paper to full color, making the print edition free, and posting stories online

as they're ready — all while increasing our focus on local reporting. With this week's issue, you will also see a new flag atop the front of the newspaper. We wanted to give it a thoughtful refresh while staying true to our mission and rooted in our history, most notably with a tagline that keeps the Chief's storied past at the forefront. You will note the front-

page banner does not drop as deep on the page as the old one. Our goal was to bring more content above the fold, so that it's easily viewable at a glance. We want the most important stories to be immediately visible, so that even if you're simply walking by a rack or box, you can see the talk of the town. Emphasizing the trust Apopka has in its hometown

newspaper is important to us, because, while numerous things have changed, many important things have not changed. Chief among them (pardon the pun) is that The Apopka Chief is still committed to the same local journalism the community knows and appreciates. We will continue to show up at local events and meetings. We will continue to cov-

er local sports and community groups. We will continue to report on local government with accuracy and fairness. In short, we will continue to be the voice of Apopka, as we have been for the last 102 years. Look for more exciting announcements soon as we position the Chief for its second century of service to the community.

Improvements

Continued from page 1A

years, and each property in the subdivision owes \$5,707 per household, or \$591 per year based upon an interest rate of 5% per year and a share of collection costs. The second resolution, No. 2025-17, greenlights a funding agreement and easement with the Emerson Park Homeowners Association (HOA), contributing almost \$211,000. The resolution also approves construction easement and dedication documents. A bank loan and HOA contributions will finance this project, which will cost over \$2 million. The assessments will begin with this November tax bill, the first of 15 annual installments. Contractors said that roadway construction is anticipated to last six to 10 weeks, according to Roe. To date, the city staff and consultants have developed the project cost estimate and assessment methodology. On March 19, the City Council adopted the initial assessment resolution, which describes Emerson Park improvements and area to be

assessed. The council also established the amount to be funded by the assessments and approved the assessment methodology. A notice of public hearing was published in local newspapers and mailed to property owners. The city also received a signed funding agreement and construction easement and dedication documents from the Emerson Park HOA. Roe presented the timeline as follows:

- By April 18, a request for proposal was to be issued for a bank loan in the assessed amount of \$2,853,464
- By May 1, the HOA deposits cash contribution with the city
- By May 8, the city obtains bank loan proposals for financing project costs
- At the May 21 City Council meeting, a bank will be selected
- At the June 4 City Council meeting, the council will adopt a resolution approving a bank loan. That day, pre-closing loan documents will be presented to the council, and each member will sign the paperwork.



Photo by Teresa Sargeant

The entryway to Emerson Park, a 500-dwelling unit subdivision located near the S.R. 414/429 interchange. June 6 would be the closing on the bank loan, and the bank transmits loan proceeds to the city of Apopka to pay for project costs. When roadway improvements are completed, they'll be dedicated to the city, meaning that Emerson Park will have a fully public, open roadway system. The HOA will retain maintenance responsibility and ownership for the subdivision's alleyways, which service access points for certain areas of the residential properties. The HOA will also fully fund the cost


of improving the alleyways, Roe said. During public comment, residents said they don't object to the city assisting the Emerson Park HOA. However, they warned the city about giving the impression of favoritism of some subdivisions over others in financial assistance for infrastructure and construction projects and repairs. "I can think of numerous developments around the city just now who are suffering flooding and need financial assistance to resolve the problems," Albert McKimmie said. "Remember, you've now set that precedent, and you owe it to all city residents to deal with things in the same manner as you do tonight." Jennifer Hay, an Emerson Park HOA Board member, refuted that the city is not giving the subdivision any money, but is only acting as the middleman in helping the HOA solve its problem. "I do want to clarify, just for the public, that we initially came to the mayor with the problem because the prior administration had made a decision that impacted our community, and our community wasn't aware of it," Hay said. "So, we came to him with help for that solution. We are paying the total. The city is not giving any money to us." Emerson Park is located near the S.R. 414/429 interchange and along Harmon Road and Ocoee-Apopka Road, across the street from AdventHealth Apopka. It has been a struggle for Emerson Park homeowners themselves to pay for the infrastructure upkeep. Built in 2007, the subdivision was originally planned


as a mixed-use development of townhomes, single-family homes, and a public town center with public access roads. The infrastructure was built to support a town center, but the town center itself was never constructed. In December 2023, a 95% majority of the Emerson Park community voted in favor of establishing a roadway project in which the city would take on the subdivision's infrastructure cost and maintenance. On Oct. 16, 2024, the City Council unanimously approved to move forward with an assessment project that will help the Emerson Park subdivision with its request to have its roadways, curbs, gutters, and street signs transferred from private to public ownership and to create a funding source to bring this infrastructure up to city standards. On Nov. 6, 2024, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 2024-38 to officially declare the city's intent to repay a debt not expected to go over \$3 million for the Emerson Park roadway project.


You're Invited!

The 2025 Apopka Mayor's

Prayer Breakfast

 **Thursday, May 2nd**
6:30 am – 8:30 am

 **Apopka Community Center**
519 S Central Avenue, Apopka




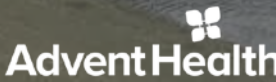



KEYNOTE SPEAKER: FORMER FLORIDA HOUSE SPEAKER, PAUL RENNER
Paul Renner was the Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives during the 2022-2024 term. He is a U.S. Navy veteran, former prosecutor, and business attorney. He began his legal career as an Assistant State Attorney, prosecuting serious felony offenses. Since 1998, Renner has represented individuals and businesses as their advocate in a broad range of commercial settings.
Renner was elected to the Florida House in 2015 and was term limited in 2024. Renner lives in Palm Coast, FL with his wife and two children.

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County conducts Lake Apopka tour to celebrate Earth Day

45-min tour
highlights wildlife,
Lake Apopka
history

By Teresa Sargeant
Reporter

In celebration of Earth Day on April 22, Orange County conducted a 45-minute tour of Lake Apopka at Magnolia Park, highlighting the area’s diverse wildlife and history, including the lake’s restoration.

Named after the land donor’s aunt, Magnolia — and not for the magnolia trees dotting the grounds — Magnolia Park is located at 2929 S. Binion Road, Apopka.

The park features various



Photo by Teresa Sargeant

Visitors enjoy the view of Lake Apopka from a deck that stretches out into the water at Magnolia Park in Apopka.

native plants like fire bushes, or hedges, depending on how they are trimmed. The park also has sabal palms, which are resilient to hurricanes.

In 2023, Orange Coun-

ty opened the Magnolia Park Eco Education Center, where visitors can learn more about Lake Apopka, its history and wildlife.

Woodpeckers, including red-bellied and pileated woodpeckers, are common in the region. Also populating the wildlife are American alligators, snakes, and birds like egrets and ospreys.

Lake Apopka, the body of water that Magnolia Park borders, was once Florida’s second-largest lake but was bumped down to the state’s fourth-largest because human activity reduced the lake’s size. The lake is now managed for fish populations.

Orange County is celebrating Earth Month throughout April to honor the planet, including many activities planned for Apopka.

This year’s Earth Month events and activities give people chances to explore and adopt more eco-friendly hab-

its as well as emphasize the countywide conservation and environmental efforts.

Scheduled activities throughout Earth Month include Earth Day celebrations, eco-tours and Adopt-A-Tree. The Orange County Extension Office for the University of Florida’s Institute of Food and Agriculture Sciences (UF/IFAS) is offering various classes and workshops where attendees can learn various skills such as vegetable gardening, how to grow oyster mushrooms and farming backyard chickens.

In addition to the Earth Day celebration, Apopka is hosting Alligator Arts and Crafts 11 a. m. —3 p. m. each day through Saturday at Magnolia Park.

Campaigns

Continued from page 1A

A native Floridian, Anthony-Smith is a graduate of Georgetown University and the University of Florida Levin College of Law. She began her legal career at firms across the state before launching her own practice in Orlando in 2007.

This week, Florida Politics reported that Anthony-Smith as well as Alan Grayson and Willie J. Montague have announced their Senate District 15 campaigns.

From 2009 to 2011, Alan Grayson served as the Democratic representative for the state’s 8th congressional district, and from 2013 to 2017, served in the state’s 9th congressional district.

“I’m declaring because it seems to me that I’m the only candidate who will be able to accomplish anything for the people in the district,” Grayson told Florida Politics. “I’m seeing a pervasive failure on

the part of Democratic candidates and elected officials to accomplish anything meaningful. In contrast, when I was in Congress, I got many, many good things done.”

Montague is the founder of Orlando-based House of Timothy, a residential generational program for adolescent boys that uses Christian principles.

“I am officially the Republican nominee for Senate District 15 — unopposed,” Montague posted on X on April 23. “Thank you to everyone who made this possible. Now let’s keep raising money and let’s WIN this together.”

Anthony-Smith, Grayson and Montague will face off against two Bracy siblings, who, over the course of two months, have separately announced their campaigns.

In February, Randolph Bracy III announced his cam-

paign for Senate District 15 in an Instagram video.

He held the Senate District 15 seat from 2016 to 2022 before leaving it for a congressional bid, but Rep. Maxwell Frost defeated him in the 2022 Democratic primary. Last August, Bracy lost a Senate District 15 primary race to Thompson, who garnered more than 60% of the vote.

Bracy’s sister is state House Rep. LaVon Bracy Davis, D-District 40, who announced her campaign launch in March. Earlier this month, she announced her resignation from her seat, effective Sept. 1, so she can run for Senate District 15.

Qualifying dates for the Senate District 15 special election were from April 21 through April 23. The primary will take place June 24, and the special election is set for Sept. 2.

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 April 13–19, 2025, the Apopka Police Department received 1,490 calls for service, responded to 34 crashes, issued 58 citations, and made 12 arrests. Burglaries: 1 vehicle, 1 resident, 3 businesses. Juveniles were charged with other agency warrant; battery-commit domestic battery by strangulation.

The following adults were arrested and charged:

Raul Barron Gonzalez, 35, 2829 Bon Air Dr., Orlan-

do, other agency warrant.

Juan Emilio Cucjuc, 20, 1250 Lucerne Way, Apopka, crash-driver license-no driver license-never had one issued.

Carlos Alberto Cuyuche, 20, 900 Alabama Ave., Apopka, robbery-no firearm or weapon; battery-touch or strike; battery-by strangulation.

Carlos H Garcia Vasquez, 45, 117 W. 1st St., Apopka, other agency warrant.

Willie Griggs, 38, 14310 Noto Ave., Clermont, burglary of occupied dwelling, unarmed; damage property-criminal mischief over \$200 under \$1,000; burglary dwelling/structure/conveyance, armed.

Miguel Guzman Perez, 26, 5313 SE106th St., Belleview, moving traffic violation-operate motor vehicle without valid license, 1st conviction.

Erion Cordell Lowe, 25,

512 Towne Square Way Apt 1812, Orlando, battery-touch or strike.

Jason William Scott, 47, general delivery, Orlando, trespassing-trespassing occupied structure or conveyance.

Kenisha Andrea Stone, 25, Apopka, damage property-criminal mischief \$1,000 or more; assault-aggravated with intent to commit a felony; aggravated battery with a deadly weapon; cruelty toward child-abuse without great bodily harm.

Rhonda Vaught, 48, 555 W. SR434, Longwood, damage property-criminal mischief over \$200 under \$1,000.

Froilan Saqueo Velasquez, 37, 4926 Sadler Rd., Apopka, DUI-unlawful blood alcohol, DUI-breath alcohol 0.08 or more per 210 L.

Jayvon Woods, 39, 1960 Aspenridge Ct., Ocoee, other agency warrant.

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REGAL

Fri., April 25, 2025 thru Sun., April 27, 2025

THE KING OF KINGS (PG) 11:50; 3:10; 6:30; 9:30

STAR WARS: REVENGE OF SITH - 20TH ANNIV. RE-RELEASE (PG-13) 12:00; 3:40; 7:10; 10:20

THE ACCOUNTANT 2 (R) 12:10; 12:40; 3:30; 4:10; 7:00; 7:30; 10:10; 10:40

THE AMATEUR (PG-13) 12:20; 3:20; 6:40; 10:00

SINNERS (R) 12:30; 4:00; 7:20; 10:30

A MINECRAFT MOVIE (PG) 12:50; 3:50; 6:50; 9:40

UNTIL DAWN (R) 1:20; 4:20; 7:40; 10:50

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King Crossword Answers

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The Crossword Puzzle is found on page 4B

SUDOKU PUZZLE

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.

SUDOKU ANSWERS: PAGE 4B

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DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

7	5	3	9			4		1
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Try true Maryland Crab Cakes, Cheesy Baked Grits and Ree’s Crazy Brownies

According to Robert, the contributor to AllRecipes.com, “This crab cake recipe is the true crab cake with no fillers and no heavy spices, all crab meat. It has been in my family for generations.” A reviewer observed, “I used Old Bay seasoning instead of parsley and didn’t use mayo and it still came out great!”



Jennifer Broussard’s Honey Glazed Chicken from Treasures and Pleasures cookbook looks to be quite simple, ideal for the busy homemaker. Stick the dish in the oven and go about your other chores. Or... put your feet up and relax!

From Jane Bradley’s cookbook called Southern Style, Volume 23 from the Collector’s Series of The American Cooking Guild, copyrighted 1987, we have Cheesy Baked Grits. Jane says, “This much-maligned product needs some understanding to be appreciated. Grits are never too tasty when simply boiled and served ‘au naturel.’” These dressed-up grits will be a real treat!

Whitney Bennett, Wiregrass EC, was Cook of the Month in December of 2016 Alabama Living Magazine. Here is her recipe for Chicken, Corn and Bacon Chowder.

From FoodNetwork.com, we have a recipe from Ree Drummond for Crazy Brownies. They are rated 4.6 out of 5 stars. These are easy, and yield 18 brownies. A note from one of the bakers: Delicious! Note to self... parchment your pan after your spray! I couldn’t get it out of the pan without making a mess!

TRUE MARYLAND CRAB CAKES
BY ROBERT ON ALLRECIPES.COM
Ingredients:
3 tablespoons pancake mix
1 tablespoon prepared yellow mustard
3 tablespoons mayonnaise, or to taste

1 egg beaten
1 tablespoon chopped fresh parsley
1 pound cooked crabmeat, flaked
3 cups vegetable oil for frying
Directions:
1) In a medium bowl, stir together the pancake mix, mustard, mayonnaise, egg and parsley until well blended. Fold in the crabmeat. Form into 3-inch patties. 2) Heat the oil in a large skillet over medium to medium high heat. There should be enough oil to reach halfway up the sides of the crab cakes. When the oil is hot, carefully place the patties in the pan. Fry until golden brown on each side, about 8 minutes per side. If patties are browning too fast, reduce the heat. Drain on paper towels, and serve immediately. Yield 8 crab cakes, about 4 servings.

JENNIFER BURGUST BROUSSARD’S HONEY GLAZED CHICKEN
Recipe from 1990 Presbyterian Women First Presbyterian Church of Apopka, *Treasures and Pleasures* cookbook
1 whole chicken, cut up
1/2 cup butter, melted
1/4 cup mustard
1/2 cup honey
Mix butter, mustard and honey. Pour over chicken in baking dish. Cover and bake at 350 degrees for one hour. Bake uncovered for an additional 15 minutes.

CHEESY BAKED GRITS
Recipe from *Southern Style* by Jane Bradley
4 cups boiling water
1 teaspoon salt
1 cup quick grits
8 tablespoons (1 stick) butter, cut into pieces
2 cups (8 ounces) cheddar cheese, grated
3 eggs, beaten
1/4 teaspoon dry mustard
1/4 teaspoon Tabasco sauce
1/8 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
2 tablespoons freshly grated Parmesan

cheese (optional)
Additional butter for dish
Preheat oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit. Butter a 1-1/2-quart baking dish and set aside (Jane says, “I use a porcelain quiche dish and cut grits into wedges for serving.”)
Using a large, heavy saucepan, bring water and salt to a boil. Slowly add grits and stir till well blended. Reduce heat and simmer for 3 to 5 minutes. Remove pan from heat and add butter and cheese, stirring to melt. When melted, add beaten eggs, dry mustard, Tabasco, and freshly ground black pepper, blending well. Pour into prepared baking dish. If desired, sprinkle with Parmesan cheese to aid in browning. Bake for 45 to 55 minutes or until grits are golden brown. Serve piping hot. Serves: 6 to 8.

WHITNEY BENNETT’S CHICKEN, CORN AND BACON CHOWDER
Wiregrass EC Alabama Living Magazine
1 pack of bacon
2 cans of whole kernel corn
3 boiled chicken breasts
1 clove garlic, minced
1/2 chopped onion
4 cups of chicken broth
2 cups of heavy cream
1/4 cup all-purpose flour
Salt and pepper to taste
Cayenne pepper, optional, to taste
1) Cut bacon into small pieces and fry, reserving the grease for later. 2) Drain and set aside. In reserved bacon grease, cook chopped onion and minced garlic until transparent, about 2-3 minutes. Drain and set aside. 3) In a stock pot, heat 2 tablespoons of bacon grease and add 1/4 cup of all-purpose flour, mixing well to create a roux. 4) Once the mixture has thickened, gradually whisk in chicken broth. Add onion, garlic, corn, chicken, bacon and spices. 5) Let it simmer for 15-20 minutes on low heat. 6) Once it is warmed through, add heavy cream and simmer an additional 5-10 minutes. Add

water if the chowder becomes too thick. Cook’s Note: 1 rotisserie style chicken may be used in place of boiled chicken.

REE DRUMMOND’S CRAZY BROWNIES
Recipe courtesy of Foodnetwork.com
1 stick (8 tablespoons) butter, melted, plus more for greasing pan
1 box chocolate cake mix (18 ounces)
1/3 cup evaporated milk
9 peanut butter cups
12 chocolate-covered caramels, such as Rolos
1/2 cup finely chopped pecans
1/3 cup candy-coated chocolates, such as M&Ms
1/4 teaspoon salt
Powdered sugar, for sprinkling
1) Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Grease an 8-by-8-inch baking pan. Put the dry cake mix in a large bowl and stir in the evaporated milk. (The mixture will still be dry.) Next, pour in the melted butter, stirring gently until the mix just comes together (don’t over-mix). 2) Divide the mixture in half and press half of it in the bottom of the prepared pan. Lay the peanut butter cups over the top. Peel the caramels and place them in the spaces between. Sprinkle the nuts into the cracks, followed by the chocolate candies. Finally, sprinkle the salt all over. Put the other half of the batter on a cutting board and press it into a square a little smaller than the pan (it will be very sticky). Transfer it to the pan and lightly press it to cover all the ingredients.3) Bake until the batter is fully baked, 22 to 25 minutes. Allow to cool completely, then place the pan in the fridge, covered in foil, for a couple of hours. 4) Remove the brownies from the pan in one piece, then sprinkle on plenty of powdered sugar. With a sharp serrated knife, cut into small squares. 5) Gobble ‘em up!

View Kitchen Kapers by Nancy online at www.theapopkachief.com/recipes

... CALENDAR OF EVENTS ...



To submit an event, you can email them to news@theapopkachief.com.

...
Monday, April 28, 10 a.m., in person Documentary Cinema –
Join us as we show Amber: The Girl Behind the Alert. Amber Hagerman’s mother details her daughter’s shocking murder and shares chilling documentary footage that captures the 9-year-old’s final days. Amber’s legacy is an alert system that has saved over 1,000 children. Presented by the University Club of Winter Park History Group. Location: 841 N. Park Avenue, Winter Park. Free.

...
Thursday, May 1, 1:30 p.m., in person Foreign Affairs –
Join us as we show a video on India: Between China, the West, and the Global South. India’s population size, economy, and geopolitical location ensure that it will be an influential voice in debates and political struggles over global order. Presented by the University Club of Winter Park History Group. Location: 841 N. Park Avenue, Winter Park. Free.

...
Friday, May 2, 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m., 1-day in person class in English How to Grow Oyster Mushrooms –
Join us to learn about the basics of fungi and how to make an oyster mushroom grow bag! Presented by Orange County Extension Agent Calvin Gardner, this hands-on class will cover fungi anatomy, growth habits, and edible uses, plus participants will make a mushroom grow bag to take home. Cost: \$20. Registration is required at <http://ocextension.eventbrite.com> or call 407-254-9200.

brite.com or call 407-254-9200.
...
Friday, May 2 & Friday, May 9, 2-part online classes, at 9 a.m.-1 p.m. First Time Homebuyer Workshop –
English, Learn the steps to home ownership and how to obtain an affordable mortgage in this 2-part class offered via Zoom - in ENGLISH by a team of UF/IFAS Extension Agents, including Orange County Extension Agent Jenny Rodriguez. The homebuyer workshop meets the education requirements for down payment assistance programs. Cost: \$10. Registration is required at <http://ocextension.eventbrite.com> or call 407-254-9200.

...
Friday, May 2, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., 1-day in-person class in Bushnell The Central Florida Livestock Agents Group (CFLAG) –
Join us as CFLAG is hosting a Beginner Beekeeper Workshop at the Sumter County Extension in Bushnell. Presented by Orange County Extension Agent J.K. Yarborough, this one-day class is designed for those interested in starting beekeeping, covering topics such as hive structure, startup costs, Florida beekeeping laws, and honey bee biology. The workshop will conclude with a live hive inspection, giving participants a hands-on experience with beekeeping. No prior experience is required. Cost: \$40. Registration is required at <http://ocextension.eventbrite.com> or call 407-254-9200.

...
Saturday, May 3, 2 p.m.-4 p.m.,

1-day in-person class Grilling for Beginners –
Join us as we get summer-ready with this sizzling intro to fire-based cooking! Orange County Extension Agents Hillary MacMichael and J.K. Yarborough will conduct a hands-on class covering grill setup, meat selection, flavor tips, and safety – plus tasty samples! Perfect for new grillers and backyard BBQ dreamers. Cost: \$30. Registration is required at <http://ocextension.eventbrite.com> or call 407-254-9200.

...
Tuesday, May 6, 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m., in-person tour Garden Tour –
Grab your gardening hat, sunglasses, and some comfy shoes and join us and our Orange County Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Extension Agent Dr. Heather Kalaman for a guided tour through our Exploration Gardens! See unique plants in our 12 themed gardens and learn about Florida Friendly Landscaping™ principles, smart irrigation, vegetable gardening, and flower species to attract bees, butterflies, and beneficial insects. The tour includes an FFL book and pollinator seed packets. Loca: UF/IFAS Extension Orange County, 6021 S. Conway Road, Orlando. Cost: \$10 fee. Registration required at <http://ocextension.eventbrite.com> or 407-254-9200.

...
Wednesday, May 7, 2 p.m.-5 p.m., 1-day online Zoom class Take Control of Your Money, for Renters –

Money management, renters’ rights, eviction prevention, and more! Offered via Zoom by a team of UF/IFAS Extension Agents, including Orange County Extension Agent Jenny Rodriguez, this class is for residents looking for income-based assistance programs or anyone wanting to become a more savvy renter. Free. Registration required at <http://ocextension.eventbrite.com>. 407-254-9200.

...
Month of May - City of Apopka Meetings at the Apopka City Hall Council Chambers, 120 East Main Street, Apopka. Development Review Committee Meetings – every Monday : 9:00 a.m.-12 noon
City Council Meetings – at 1:30 p.m. on the 1st Wednesday of each month and at 7 p.m. on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m.
At the Apopka City Hall Council Chambers, 120 East Main Street, Apopka.
The City of Apopka live streams the Apopka City Council and Apopka Planning Commission Meetings on the City’s YouTube Channel. View City Council page to learn more about our members and meetings. Regular Meetings are held the 1st Wednesday of the month at 1:30 PM and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7 PM. Visit our meeting calendar for a list of meetings.

...
Tuesdays, every week - Plant Clinic - From 9 a.m. to 12 noon, you can get answers for your problem plants and yard from experts at the UF/IFAS Extension Master Gardener Volunteers program at the UF/IFAS Mid-

Florida Research Education Center (MREC), 2725 Binion Road, Apopka, 32703. Let a Master Gardener help. Orange County residents can bring your questions and samples from your plants or lawn. More info at 407-254-9200 or email your questions and photos to orangecomgv@ifas.ufl.edu to be answered by Master Gardeners. A free plant clinic for Commercial Growers is also open Tuesdays from 1 to 4 p.m. at the same location. Free.

...
MISCELLANEOUS: VITAS Innovative Hospice Care of Central Florida needs volunteers in this area who can befriend terminally ill patients, provide relief for weary caregivers, accompany their pet on Paw Pals visits, visit with veterans, and much more, or help with administrative work. Info: email.central.floridavolunteers@vitas.com or call 407-691-4541.

...
Round robin tennis for women of older ages. All levels of players are welcome. Loca: The Winter Park Tennis Center, 1075 Azalea Lane, Winter Park. Time: Sundays, from 9:30-11 a.m. Call ahead because only 24 players are accepted. Cost: \$7. Info: call 407-599-3445.

...
O-Town Sound Chorus, a local chapter of Sweet Adelines International, invites women of all ages to join them. Women from 12 countries participate in this chorus. They also offer a free voice lesson. Time: every Monday, from 7-10 p.m. Loca: Pine Ridge Presbyterian Church, 3900 S. Hiawasee Road, Orlando. Info: or to book a performance, visit www.otschorus.com or call 407-415-1939.

Zellwood senior warns locals of downtown robbery

Woman urges residents to be alert

By Teresa Sargeant
Reporter

An elderly woman who was the victim of a robbery last summer is warning locals that there may be an international robbery ring whose members are using aliases in each town they target.

Boatwright, 94, of Zellwood, has been a 30-year customer of Bank of America and holds a credit card and two bank accounts with the institution. Usually, she only withdraws a few hundred dollars from an ATM. However, because she needed a larger sum of cash — \$1,000 — to pay for help that was visiting her home later that day on June 26, 2024, she visited the Bank of America in downtown Apopka.

Once Boatwright reached home, she discovered her money — which was in an envelope — had disappeared. Believing she must have



Photo by Teresa Sargeant

The Bank of America in downtown Apopka was the site of a robbery last summer.

dropped her cash somewhere, she phoned the Apopka bank to check its whereabouts.

The following day, the bank manager called Boatwright with surprising news: She didn't misplace her money — it was stolen. The manager advised that she file a police report.

"He said two people followed me in. One went to the teller a couple windows from me so he could hear what I was doing, and then the other one waited," Boat-

wright said. "Then when I got the money, the teller put it in an envelope. I put it in my purse, and I walked out to the car, and they followed me out. Somewhere between the bank and my car, the money disappeared."

The bank manager told Boatwright the thieves were "very slick" in their actions, and that they were members of an international ring whose members change their names in every city. The bank captured the suspects' images on

video and showed them to all the bank employees and the police.

The bank staff and the police confirmed to Boatwright that it was her on the surveillance video as well. Yet she couldn't remember anyone following her because she was too focused on what she called her "bad feet" and maneuvering her walker to pay attention.

At first, Boatwright wasn't going to file a police report, calling the situation "hopeless," but her granddaughter, a bank manager, convinced her otherwise.

"They've got the picture of their faces, and she said they might be able to find them," Boatright said. "So, we decided to go to the police department."

Boatwright filed a police report on July 4, 2024. Since reporting the crime, Boatwright called the police for updates on the investigation.

In an April 2 message to The Apopka Chief responding to a public records request, Sgt. Kim Walsh con-

firmed that the robbery did take place last summer at the Apopka Bank of America.

"I can confirm the Apopka Police Department documented via report 202441002073 taken on 07/29/2024 a Grand Theft occurred at Bank of America, 33 E Main St. Apopka, on June 26, 2024, at approximately 2 p.m.," she wrote. "The victim in this case has enacted Marsy's Law. This case is an active investigation."

Boatwright never recovered her money. Despite police involvement, the incident has been a hard case to solve due to the suspects using aliases as they travel, she said.

"As far as the \$1,000, I don't ever expect to see that again, because the bank was not responsible, they said, for anything outside [the building], even though they [the thieves] had followed me inside," Boatwright said. "I felt like the bank should have reached out a little bit more to me than what they did, but

that's their rules."

The robbery heightened her awareness of her being a potential target again and therefore changed the way she does her banking.

Boatwright mentions that her daughter, Karyn Boatwright, now accompanies her to the bank for safety.

"My daughter always goes with me (now)," Boatwright said. "She always goes with me because she's living with me now. So, she always takes me to the bank. She won't even let me drive there."

Boatwright said she doesn't know of anyone who may be getting robbed by the same suspects.

Boatwright carries a handbag over her neck and keeps it in front of her instead of her side, making it more difficult for any thief to steal from her person. She offered a final piece of advice on safeguarding oneself from robbers: "I would just say for people to beware of their surroundings."

Gracework

Community Church

SATURDAY SERVICES

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Worship - 11:30 AM

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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 **APPIAN ENGINEERING, INC. C/O LUKE M. CLASSON, P.E.** has made an application to the City of Apopka City Council for an **ANNEXATION** of a property located on the southwest corner of the northwest corner of Ondich Road and SR 453/SR 429. This application relates to the following described property:

ORDINANCE NO. 3107

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 PM S-1 REO, LLC; HMF, LLC; CHARLES P. STALLINGS; KIM L. STALLINGS; EUELL E. STALLINGS, JR.; AND CRYSTAL DENISE STALLINGS; LOCATED ON THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF ONDICH ROAD AND SR 453/SR 429; COMPRISING 199.46 ACRES, MORE OR LESS; PROVIDING FOR DIRECTIONS TO THE CITY CLERK, SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.



Parcel Identification Number(s): 01-20-27-0000-00-007, 01-20-27-0000-00-034, 01-20-27-0000-00-053, 02-20-27-0000-00-010, 02-20-27-0000-00-011, 02-20-27-0000-00-020
Contains: 199.46 +/- acres

NOTICE is given that public hearings for Ordinance No. 3107 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, May 7, 2025 beginning at 1:30 P.M. and Wednesday, May 21, 2025 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

April 25, 2025

Apopka volleyball dominates Ocoee in 3 straight sets

Blue Darters defeat Sanford, prepare for district tournament

By Marshall Tempest
Reporter

The Apopka volleyball team dominated the Ocoee Knights in three straight sets during senior night this week. With the win, the Blue Darters snapped a six-game losing streak, moving to 5-11 and ranked 100th in the state, according to MaxPreps.

The Blue Darters made quick work of the Ocoee Knights, with their seniors handling the floor all night. Apopka has eight se-

niors: Logan Rogers, Victor Parra-Ramirez, Jahn Carlos Gonzalez, Luis Lora, Carter White, Luis Rivera Agosto, Holden Powell and Aaron Hernandez. Apopka won the first set 25-18, the second 25-13 and the third 24-17.

“The seniors played really well,” head coach Brian Mater said. “They stayed in for nearly the whole game, and we had around four players that never played on the floor.”

Mater said he hopes the win gave his seniors some valuable playing time before the district tournament next week. He said he saw the bench come alive a little bit more in this win than normal, which gave him some hope going

into the tournament. Mater said they need that kind of energy on the bench to keep the guys’ morale up on the floor.

“We had guys that normally start on the bench, and guys normally on the bench starting,” Mater said. “The boys were still having fun with it, supporting their teammates.”

After snapping the six-game losing streak with the win over Ocoee, Mater told me it was time for the team to get back to what they should be. Last year, the team finished the season with a 23-5 record, a district championship, and a trip to the state championship tournament.

At the beginning of the sea-

son, Mater said he and the team had even bigger dreams for this season than last year. But plans and dreams don’t always work out, with Apopka sliding to 5-11 this year at the end of the season.

“I hate losing,” Mater said. “I didn’t have expectations of this team losing at all this year. We still get to compete in districts and have a chance for a title. We’ll get something going there, and we can kind of regroup.”

Mater and the team don’t believe their record accurately reflects their abilities on the court. He said avoiding mistakes would make the squad a state tourna-

See **OCOEE** Page **3B**



Photo by Marshall Tempest

Apopka’s Logan Rodgers, one of the team’s senior leaders, gets up high during a serve in the Blue Darters’ win over Ocoee.

Apopka crushes Horizon, wins 10 straight

Taylor Smith carries Apopka to victory with two home runs

By Marshall Tempest
Reporter

The Apopka softball team defeated the No. 46 Horizon Hawks, 8-1, and the Sanford Seminoles, 12-7, this week after beating the Timber Creek Wolves, 10-9, last week. With the three wins, the Blue Darters have finished the regular season 20-4 and riding a 10-game winning streak. They are ranked 68th in the state, according to FHSAA on Wednesday, April 23.

Apopka vs. Timber Creek

This was a close one for Apopka as the Blue Darters gave up six runs in the second inning and had to fight to get back in the game. The Blue Darters scored three runs in the first, two in the second, four in the fourth, and one in the sixth.

The three runs in the first came in on a two-run double from Sydney Bartkin, followed by an RBI single from Alicia Lopez.

A single, two doubles and a triple from Timber Creek sent in the six runs at the top of the second, turning Apopka’s three-run lead into a three-run deficit. Apopka’s ace pitcher, Ava Millspaugh, started for the Blue Darters and had a tough inning on



Photo by Marshall Tempest

Taylor Smith is all smiles after carrying her team in the win over Horizon, belting two homers and accounting for six of the eight runs scored.

the mound. Mia Aeschilman came on in relief and ended the inning with a strikeout on the first batter she faced.

Now trailing 6-3, Apopka was in an unusual place as the team hadn’t been trailing

in a game since their loss to Horizon at the start of April. But the Blue Darters got right to work, putting up two runs in the bottom of the second inning on a Shylah Pino single and a Taylor Smith sacri-

fice fly that closed the gap to 6-5.

The next three innings were a battle. The Wolves scored two more runs in the

See **SOFTBALL** Page **4B**

Apopka football team preps for spring game

Blue Darters will hit the road to face Jones

By Marshall Tempest
Reporter

We are just a month away from seeing the new look of the Apopka Blue Darter football team during the spring football game. The Blue Darters will face the Jones Tigers on Friday, May 23 at Jones.

This week head coach Jeff Rolson told The Apopka Chief the team is focused on getting their minds and bodies right. Rolson is all about finding the guys who want to be Blue Darters and putting everything they have into being successful on the field.

Rolson said that replacing many players comes with bringing in new faces. With those new faces, he says everybody says they are ready to work and put the effort in, but not everyone shows it on the practice field.

“We need to drill down on the guys that really want to be out here and do the things they need to do to succeed,” Rolson said.

During the offseason, Apopka has lost a lot of personnel on the player and coaching sides. With players graduating and transferring and coaches retiring

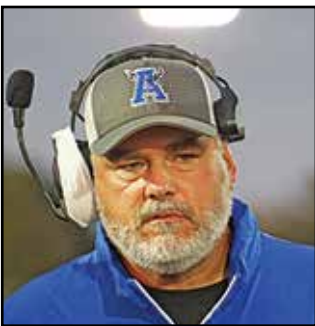


Photo by Marshall Tempest

Head coach Jeff Rolson

and transferring, this year will bring a whole new look for Apopka football. However, he also emphasized that transfers are not a massive loss for the team.

“We didn’t lose anyone with huge productive numbers,” Rolson said. “We’re all about coaching the guys that want to be here. If they want to go somewhere else — godspeed, we wish them the best.”

Rolson said that the team is without an offensive coordinator but hopes to find one by the time the fall season starts. He said that he would be the pseudo-offensive coordinator for now, calling the offense during the spring game.

A big thing Rolson has been discussing since last season’s end is simplifying the offense and getting back to what he knows works. The famous Blue Darter single-wing formation will return in the upcoming season.

See **FOOTBALL** Page **3B**

Wekiva to face Innovation ahead of district tournament

Mustangs most likely to face Liberty in first round

By Marshall Tempest
Reporter

The Wekiva boys volleyball team has a 3-9 record this season with just one win in their last six games, a 3-2 victory over West Port on April 15. The Mustangs are ranked 194th in the state and fourth in Class 2A District 6, below Innovation, Lake Buena Vista and Gateway but above Liberty and Jones.

The Mustangs are 2-4 at home, 1-3 in away games and lost their only neutral

game. Wekiva has also won just 10 sets while losing 29. The team has just one more game in the regular season before the start of the district tournament.

Wekiva’s only win in their last six games was a 3-2 win over West Port, which was not easy. The Mustangs had to earn this win as the match went on to five sets. West Port took set one 25-23, Wekiva took set two 25-20, Wekiva took set three 25-16, West Port took set four 25-22 and Wekiva took set five 15-6.

The Mustangs have not entered any stats for the season, including in their win against West Port.

If the Mustangs win the district tournament and take

home the title, they will earn an automatic bid into the state championship tournament. But, before the district tournament, Wekiva had to prepare for Innovation High School for a district matchup in their final regular season game on Wednesday.

Innovation has an 8-11 record this season and was ranked 131st in the state coming into the game. Innovation is also first in Class 2A District 6 with a 3-0 record in district matchups compared to Wekiva’s 1-1 record.

While Innovation is a stronger program than Wekiva, it has fallen to many of the same teams this season, including Olympia twice and

See **WHS** Page **2B**

Wekiva softball steamrolls Evans, 21-6, to finish regular season

Mustangs prepare for district tournament

By Marshall Tempest
Reporter

This week, the Wekiva Mustangs defeated the Evans Trojans, 21-6, after losing to the Dr. Phillips Panthers, 14-4, last week. The team finished the regular season with a 5-11 record and is now ranked 475th in the state, according to MaxPreps. With the regular season over, the Wekiva softball team is preparing for next week’s district tournament.

Wekiva vs. Dr. Philips



Photo by Marshall Tempest

Senior Tiqueshia Thomas steals and slides into home plate and is called safe on a wild pitch in Wekiva’s 21-6 win over Evans on senior night.

The Mustangs opened the game up with some great at-bats and a three-run first inning. The first two runs came in courtesy of a

line-drive triple to center from Camilla Delgado that cleared the bases. Arian-

See **SOFTBALL** Page **2B**

The best action has been around the pads



GOIN' FISHIN'

Jim Keck
Correspondent

Hello Folks,
I hope everyone is enjoyin' this weather and y'all are gettin' out and catchin' some fish.
I'm gettin' reports that folks are still catchin' their limits of bluegills and shell-crackers in Lake Kissimmee.

Most everybody is catchin' em on red worms and large grass-shrimp.
Again this week, the best action has been around the pads. The folks that are fishin' for panfish are gettin' on the water early and catchin' their limits by 9:30 or 10 a. m. If you want to catch a mess of panfish, now is the time to go get 'em.
The bass fishin' has been pretty good in most of the chains in our area. Folks are catchin' big numbers of bass in the Butler Chain. The water is warmin' up, so it won't be long before those big-

wake boats are on the water. The best time to catch some bass will be early in the mornin' durin' the week, if you can get out there then. I've been out there when those big-wake boats are on the water, and you just bob-around like a bobber on a cane pole.
Most of the bass bein' caught in the Butler Chain are bitin' on lipless crank-baits, chatter-baits, and slow-sinkin' Senko type baits. The best colors to use has been watermelon-red, Junebug, and green-pumpkin.
The X-treme Bass Se-

ries held their tournament on the Harris Chain over the weekend. Congrats to Pete Roberson and Rob Roberson on their win. They brought five bass to the scales that weighed in at 25.00 pounds. They also had a 7.66-pound kicker bass in their limit.
Chris Hamlin and David Figueroa came in second place, and they had a big bass that weighed 8.38 pounds. So, it's safe to say the bass fishin' on the Harris Chain is still doin' real good.
The bass fishin' on the Kissimmee Chain has been

pretty good, as well. Most of the bass are through spawnin' and they have moved back out to deeper water to feed.
The post-spawn time is when bass will be on a feedin' frenzy. They'll be schoolin' and feedin' on bait-fish throughout the chain. Lip-less crank-baits, chatter-baits, top-water, early in the mornin' will work best.
Once that ol' sun gets up, try fishin' the submerged hydrilla and eel-grass with speed worms for some good results.
Folks, we need some rain and we need it real bad!

Please pray for rain in your quiet time this week.
I want to let everyone know that I will be out for at least two weeks due to my back surgery this week. Please keep my family and my wife in your thoughts and prayers this week. I'm not the most compliant patient, so my wife needs all your prayers.
I hope y'all get out and do some fishin' this week. I'll see ya when I get back.
Tip of the week: We need Rain! Pray hard!
SAVE A FEW AND GOOD LUCK!

Softball

Continued from page 1B

na Garcia brought home the third run with a sacrifice fly.
The Dr. Phillips Panthers responded with three runs of their own in the bottom of the first inning to tie the game at 3-3.

Wekiva then couldn't get anything going at the plate in the second and third innings, with Dr. Phillips retiring the side in order in both innings. But the Panthers did not have the same problem at the plate. Dr. Phillips put up four runs in the second and seven in the third to take a 14-3 lead heading into the fourth inning.
Wekiva was able to send in one more run at the top of the fourth inning, coming on a groundball double from Tiqueshia Thomas. The Mustangs kept the Panthers scoreless at the bottom of the fourth before the game ended in the fifth inning, with Dr. Phillips taking home the victory 14-4.

Wekiva vs. Evans

It was Wekiva's senior night when they hosted the Evans Trojans, dominating in a 21-6 win. Wekiva opened up the game with two runs on a ground-out RBI from Garcia. The Mustangs kept the Trojans off the scoreboard in the first and second innings, putting up a whopping 10 runs in the bottom of the second.
The 10-run second inning started with Thomas stealing home on a wild pitch, followed by a two-run triple from Delgado that stretched the lead to 5-0. A single by Kimber sent in run six, and a home run belted by Janelle Rodriguez sent in the seventh and eighth runs of the night.
A walk with the bases



Photo by Marshall Tempest

The Wekiva softball team stand with their seniors, their families and the coaching staff during senior night.

loaded sent in the ninth and tenth runs of the game, followed by Maci Fix scoring on a passed ball. The last run of the inning was sent in on a walk with the bases loaded, as Wekiva took the field at the top of the third, up 12-0.
Evans scored six runs in the top of the third, but Wekiva was able to stop the bleeding before they were in danger of losing the lead. In the bottom of the third, Mix sent in a run on a groundout to up the lead to 13-6.
When Wekiva took the field again, they made quick work of the Evans' batters, retiring the side in order. To end the game, the Mustangs exploded for eight more runs in the bottom of the fourth to win the game.
A passed ball started the rally, sending Thomas home for a run, followed by Jahliyah McCoy, who sent in run 15 with a single. McCoy scored 16 on a wild pitch, Delgado scored 17 on a passed ball, and Rodriguez followed up with a triple that sent in 18.
Garcia was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded to send in run 19, a walk with the bases



Photo by Marshall Tempest

Arianna Garcia started and finished the game on the mound for the Mustangs giving up five hits, six runs (six earned), four walks and struck out seven.
es loaded sent in the 20th run, and Emely Varela was hit by a pitch to send in the 21st and final run of the game as the Mustangs run-ruled the Trojans in four innings.
The Mustangs had a fantastic night at the plate with Rodriguez, Delgado and

the plate collecting four runs, one RBI and one stolen base.
In four innings of work Garcia gave up six runs on five hits and four walks. She also struck out seven and threw 85 pitches.
In the field, Wekiva had a near perfect fielding percentage of .938. The Mustangs gathered 12 putouts, three assists and only one error.
District Tournament
The Wekiva Mustangs will compete in the Class 6A District 5 Tournament, which starts next week. As of Tuesday, April 22, Lake Howell sits atop the standings, followed by Oviedo, Wekiva and Evans.
The Lake Howell Silverhawks currently lead the district with an 18-4 record and are 2-0 in district matchups. But Wekiva should be the second seed, as the team is 5-11 overall but 3-1 in district. The Oviedo Lions have a 3-21 record this season and are 1-2 in district, while Evans is 3-8 and 0-1 in district.
If nothing changes, the seeding will be Lake Howell first, followed by Wekiva, Oviedo, and then Evans.

The bracket for Class 6A District 5 will be just two rounds, with the one-seed matched up against the four-seed in the first round and the two-seed matched up against the three-seed. That would mean Lake Howell would face Evans, and Wekiva would face Oviedo in the first round of the district tournament.
The first round will be the first matchup between all four teams, as Wekiva has not faced Oviedo this season, and Lake Howell has not faced Evans.
In Wekiva's matchup against Oviedo, the Mustangs are slightly outgunned on paper. Wekiva has scored 115 runs this season and allowed 204 for a negative scoring differential of 89 runs in 15 games. Oviedo scored 100 runs and allowed 192, for a negative scoring differential of 92 runs in 24 games. Wekiva is averaging more runs a game, with 7.66 per game, compared to Oviedo's 4.16. But Oviedo allows fewer runs per game (eight) than Wekiva (13.6).
Wekiva has the advantage at the plate, batting .300 this season compared to Oviedo's .227. In the field, though, Oviedo is just as far ahead of Wekiva at the plate with a .913 fielding percentage compared to the Mustangs' .792. Oviedo has averaged 2.58 errors per game, while Wekiva has averaged 3.57. Finally, on the mound, Oviedo's ERA this season is 6.23, while Wekiva's is 18.49.
If the Mustangs prevail, they will proceed to the district championship, where they will likely play Lake Howell.

WHS

Continued from page 1B

Oak Ridge once. But while Wekiva fell to East River 3-0, Innovation won both of its matchups against East River, 3-2 and 2-0.
The Mustangs' matchup against Innovation will be important. Wekiva needs to try to get a win before the end of the regular season to gain some momentum and prepare

for the district tournament, where they may see Innovation again.
Even if Wekiva loses in its matchup against Innovation in the final game of the regular season, it will still most likely be sitting fourth in the district. If the standings were to stay as they are now, Wekiva would most

likely be the fourth seed going against the fifth seed Liberty.
The district's number one and two seeds will get first-round byes, while the three, four, five, and six seeds battle in the first round. Wekiva going against Liberty is the best thing that could happen to them in the tournament.

This season, Wekiva defeated Liberty 3-1, one of its only victories. This should bode well for the Mustangs in their matchup in the tournament. Liberty had a 2-9 record and was ranked 224th in the state with two games left in their season as of Tuesday, April 22.
On paper, Wekiva is the

better team, and they showed it when they beat Liberty 3-1 earlier this season. If Wekiva beats Liberty, the Mustangs will move on to the second round, where they will face the one seed, either Innovation or Lake Buena Vista.
Innovation currently leads the district, but when the tournament brackets

come out next week with adjusted rankings, Lake Buena Vista may jump above Innovation, as the team is 9-13 and ranked 84th in the state. The only reason they may not is that Innovation has three district matchup victories this season, with a fourth possible in the game against Wekiva this week.




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SE HABLA ESPAÑOL

Ocoee
Continued from page 1B

ment-caliber team.

“We’ve just got to limit our errors,” Mater said. “Our errors killed us this season — with hitting out of bounds, over and over and over, serves just absolutely destroyed us as a team. We’ve just got to build confidence. I feel like that that’s coming. But with two new coaches coming into this program and rebuilding — We’ve got to get some wins under the belt. We’ve got to build the foundation.”

After the win over Ocoee, Apopka hosted Sanford Seminoles for their final game of the regular season defeating them 3-0. Sanford had a 10-13 record this season and had just snapped its own losing streak coming into the game.

As of Thursday, April 24, Apopka sits third in Class 3A District 4, below the Windermere Wolverines and the West Orange Warriors but above Ocoee and Evans. In the district tournament, the top three seeds have first-round byes, while the four and five seed will face off.

West Orange has an 18-3 season record, is 2-1 in district matchups and is ranked 27th in the state. Windermere has a 13-11 record, is 3-1 in district matchups and is ranked 59th in the state.

If West Orange ends the season as the one seed, then Apopka would face Windermere in the second round of the district tournament. Apopka has faced West Orange

once and Windermere twice this year, losing all three contests. In their matchup against the Warriors, the Blue Darters fell 3-2 in a very tight game, and Apopka almost stole the win. In the matchups with the Wolverines, Apopka lost 3-0 and 2-1.

West Orange was able to surpass Windermere in the rankings by the time the brackets for the tournament were announced this week. West Orange is the one-seed followed by Windermere, Apopka, Ocoee and Evans. Apopka would get a first-round bye as the third seed and have to face the two-seed in the second round, Windermere.

Even though West Orange is the better team on paper, the Blue Darters have shown they can compete against the Warriors, unlike against Windermere.

“We played West Orange a couple of weeks ago in the metro tournament,” Mater said. “That night we had 22 errors, and we ended up losing by three or four that set. We went into our second set, limited our errors, and were within two points. The next set after that, we were within two points again. So, if we can limit our errors, we could be competitive, and that’s what it takes.”

Mater said he is trying to impress upon his team the importance of going for the easy points. He said not every play needs to be a highlight real slam dunk, even though



Photo by Marshall Tempest

The Apopka volleyball team stand with the Ocoee Knights after defeating them in three straight sets.

it’s much more fun that way for his players. He likened it to taking a free layup during a fast break instead of stooping at the three-point line to jack up a deep shot.

“If we can limit our errors and play together as a group, we can be great,” Mater said. “My favorite thing I tell my freshman girls or when I was coaching our juniors is, ‘If we play together, we’ll win. When we come to practice, there shouldn’t be a difference between who is starting and who is not. We should be one team, all united together, and if we can play together, we’ll win together without limiting each other.’”



Photo by Marshall Tempest

Senior Carter White goes up for a kill with two Ocoee defenders still on the floor.

Football
Continued from page 1B

son. Apopka fans will see it in the spring game. Rolson told me he wants to return to that brand of smash-mouth football focused on physicality and wearing down the opposing defense. But he also said the team would still throw the ball quite a bit.

“I think we’ll throw the ball more than people think. I think we’ll throw the ball a lot more than our kids think, too,” he said. “But we’ve got to be able to be successful in the passing game. We got to be efficient throwing the football. So, we’re going to find things that we throw well, and we read well, and we are not going to take or give up sacks and get our quarterback beat up.

Rolson told me that the team has obviously had its deficiencies on offense recently. Still, he hopes that simplifying the playbook will help. He also said that he has tailored their offense to their players instead of trying to tailor their players to the offense.

“Simplification and old school physical football,” Rolson said. “In these first couple weeks, we are just trying to see what we have and what we can do. We’re not going to try to do things



Photo by Marshall Tempest

In Apopka’s final game of the 2024 season Tyson Davison makes a throw while pressure closes in from both sides of the pocket.

that we don’t have guys to do.”

When Rolson discussed the Apopka backfield, he said he hadn’t found their No. 1 guy yet. They are still looking for a running back who is not only capable and

skilled but also embraces the physical nature of the position, especially in the new offensive scheme Rolson has drawn up.

“We’ll find the guy — we’ve got to find several,” Rolson said. “We’re going

to have a bunch of different packages. We’re going to play a bunch of guys this spring and try to figure out what we got.”

When Rolson talked about matching up with Jones, he pointed out that

they may be more athletically or physically gifted than Apopka, so they’ll mostly stick to the run. He said that the team may not match up against their coverage, given that the Jones perimeter guys are very skilled.

“They’re going to have elite skill,” Rolson said. “We may be really physical and heavy on the run because we may not match up perimeter-wise. We’ll just have to see. But we’re going to take some shots.”

Rolson hopes the spring game will give the coaching staff a thorough look at the team’s capabilities. He thinks that no matter the game’s result, seeing guys in actual game scenarios will be good. From the game, he and the other coaches should be able to narrow down what works and what doesn’t and how to coach up the players to improve in the areas they need to.

“I think after spring, we’ll have a really good idea of what we can do,” Rolson said. “Summer will be all about modifying that, seeing what we can do to improve, trimming stuff, whatever we’ve got to do.”

Rolson said the summer will pass quickly.

“Summer is only six weeks of workouts,” Rolson said. “That’s 18 workouts at three a week. So, we are going to try and make the most of them and try to grow closer as a unit and as a team.”



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Softball

Continued from page 1B

top of the third to stretch their lead to 8–5, then kept Apopka off the board in the bottom of the inning. Apopka then came alive in the fourth when Smith delivered a three-run homer to tie up the game, 8–8. Ava Gonzalez then sent in the go-ahead run on a hard ground ball single.

But the Wolves answered again, this time with a home run of their own in the fifth inning to tie up the game again at 9–9.

Apopka came to bat in the bottom of the sixth with the game still tied. Skylia Durand went on to deliver the game-winning run on a groundout to push Apopka ahead 10–9. The Blue Darter defense controlled the Wolves at the plate in the top of the seventh to secure the victory and keep their win streak intact.

Smith and Bartkin led Apopka at the plate in the win. Smith went 2-for-3 at the plate, bringing in two runs, four RBIs, a double and a home run. Bartkin went 1-for-3 with two runs, two RBIs and a double.

Apopka vs. Horizon

Earlier this season, the Blue Darters fell to the Horizon Hawks 7–5 in extra innings. In this matchup, they were out to prove that they were one of the best teams in Central Florida against a top-50-ranked program in the state. They did just that by defeating the No. 47 Hawks, 8–1, at Horizon.

Apopka started early, with Smith opening the game with a home run at the top of the first to put Apopka up 1–0. A single from Lopez sent in the second run, and a



Photo by Marshall Tempest

Sydney Bartkin went 1-for-3 with a run scored and an RBI in Apopka's win over Horizon.

wild pitch allowed Lopez to scamper home for the third run.

In the top of the third, Apopka put up two more runs on a Bartkin sacrifice bunt and a Riley Ford single.

In the fifth, Smith extended the Blue Darter lead when she smashed a solo homer over the left field wall to make it 6–0. It wasn't until the bottom of the sixth when Horizon got its first and only run of the game. But Apopka still had something in the tank to finish the game.

In the top of the seventh it was once again Smith who sent in the final two runs on an attempted sacrifice bunt. But the Horizon defense committed an error allowing two runners to score.

Smith stood out at the plate for the Blue Darters in the win, finishing 2-for-3 with three runs scored, three

RBIs, and the two home runs.

"She put us on her shoulders and brought home the win," head coach Mike MacWithey said after the game. "That girl [Horizon's pitcher] is committed to Penn State, and she was doing pretty good. So, you know, we said at the end of the game, we'll take a North Carolina Tar Heel over a Penn State Nittany Lion because it was toe to toe, and our girl won."

Apopka vs. Sanford

The Blue Darters beat the Sanford Seminoles, 12–7, to close out the regular season on Wednesday, April 23.

Apopka opened up the game with an incredible seven-run first inning. An RBI double from Smith started the rally. Lopez, Braylyn Pirillo and Pino followed with RBI hits, and Alezia Hatcher contributed an RBI groundout.

Apopka added a run in the second, three in the third and one in the fourth, keeping ahead of a feisty Sanford offense that scored one run in the second, two in the third, one in the fifth and three in the sixth.

Even with Sanford attempting to mount a comeback, the Blue Darters shut the Seminoles down with great at-bats, great defense and great pitching to finish the season strong.

Pino, Smith and Gonzalez stood out at the plate for Apopka in the win. Pino went 2-for-3 with two runs and two RBIs. Smith went 1-for-2, scored once and had two RBIs and a double. Gonzalez went 1-for-3, tallying one run and two RBIs.

7A District 3 Tournament

The Blue Darters are now preparing for the Class 7A



Photo by Marshall Tempest

Ava Millspaugh gave up just one run in her six innings of work against one of the best teams in the state.

District 3 Tournament starting next week. As of Thursday, Lake Brantley was in first place in the district, followed by Apopka, Seminole, Ocoee and Lake Mary.

The district tournament bracket has the one, two, and three seeds getting a first-round bye, with the fourth and fifth seeds facing off in the first round. With Apopka at second in the district, they will have a first-round bye and face Seminole again in the second round of the district tourna-

ment. That game will take place at Apopka on Tuesday, April 29.

MacWithey said his and the team's mentality going into the playoffs is about believing they can do it.

"I will keep repeating that Lake Brantley has made it very far, and we're in their district, and we're as good as they are," Macwithey said. "Seminole went very far last year, and we're as good, if not better than them. So why not you? Why not you? It's your turn."

SUDOKU ANSWERS

7	5	3	9	6	2	4	8	1
8	4	9	3	5	1	6	7	2
1	2	6	4	8	7	5	9	3
9	8	2	1	7	4	3	6	5
4	7	1	6	3	5	8	2	9
3	6	5	2	9	8	7	1	4
2	3	4	8	1	6	9	5	7
5	9	8	7	2	3	1	4	6
6	1	7	5	4	9	2	3	8

PUZZLE CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 6A

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VERSE OF THE WEEK

The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it;

Psalm 24:1

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King Crossword

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Solutions can be found on page 6A of this newspaper.

ACROSS

1 Persian Gulf emirate
6 Little lie
9 Chances, for short
12 Winner's gesture
13 "All bets — off"
14 Haw preceder
15 Thesaurus compiler
16 Bach's "Coffee —"
18 Deserves
20 Legal document
21 Salonga of "Miss Saigon"
23 Commotion
24 Deli array
25 Arsenal supply
27 Wear down
29 "Othello" character
31 Indian instruments
35 Mea —
37 Coin aperture
38 Be buoyant
41 — out a living
43 Glacial

44 Hoops great Monroe
45 Ornamental beetle
47 Cheery refrain
49 Arcade pioneer
52 Revue segment
53 Prohibit
54 Serious
55 That lady
56 Walgreens alternative
57 On mom's side

DOWN

1 TiVo, for example
2 Mil. morale booster
3 "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof" role
4 Baseball's Tommie
5 Office leader?
6 Element
7 401(k) relatives
8 London's Big —
9 Butler's love
10 — four (small cake)

11 Plane assignments
17 Chirps
19 Perfect
21 Science room
22 Brit. record label
24 1501, in Roman numerals
26 Available for work
28 Japanese seaport
30 Snip
32 "Open sesame" speaker
33 Sinbad's bird
34 Pigs' digs
36 Praline nuts
38 Greek cheeses
39 Coniferous tree
40 Emulate
42 Douglass
43 Obliterate
45 Serb or Croat
46 Heaps
48 "Shark Tank" network
50 Emeritus, briefly
51 Hot temper

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11
12						13				14		
15						16			17			
			18			19				20		
21	22			23				24				
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29				30			31			32	33	34
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38	39	40				41		42		43		
44					45				46			
47				48				49			50	51
52				53				54				
55				56				57				

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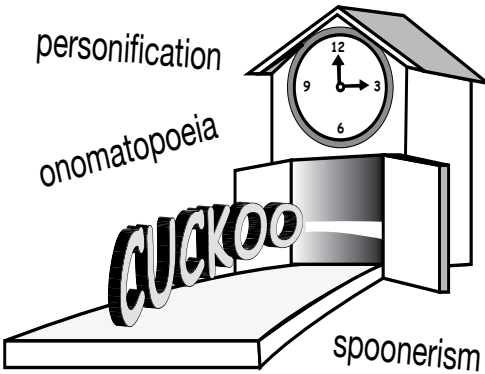
Kids: color stuff in!



Animills LLC © 2025 V15

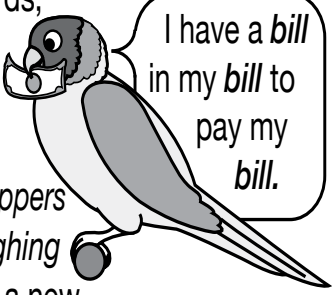
We use words when we speak or write. We use them in songs, stories, poems, letters and speeches! We use words to tell others what we are thinking, how we are feeling or how things work. We use words for fun too! We love to “play” on words in jokes and riddles, and in other ways.

Don't be chicken! Some of the words are long, but I sprinkled in letters to help you fit them into the crossword!

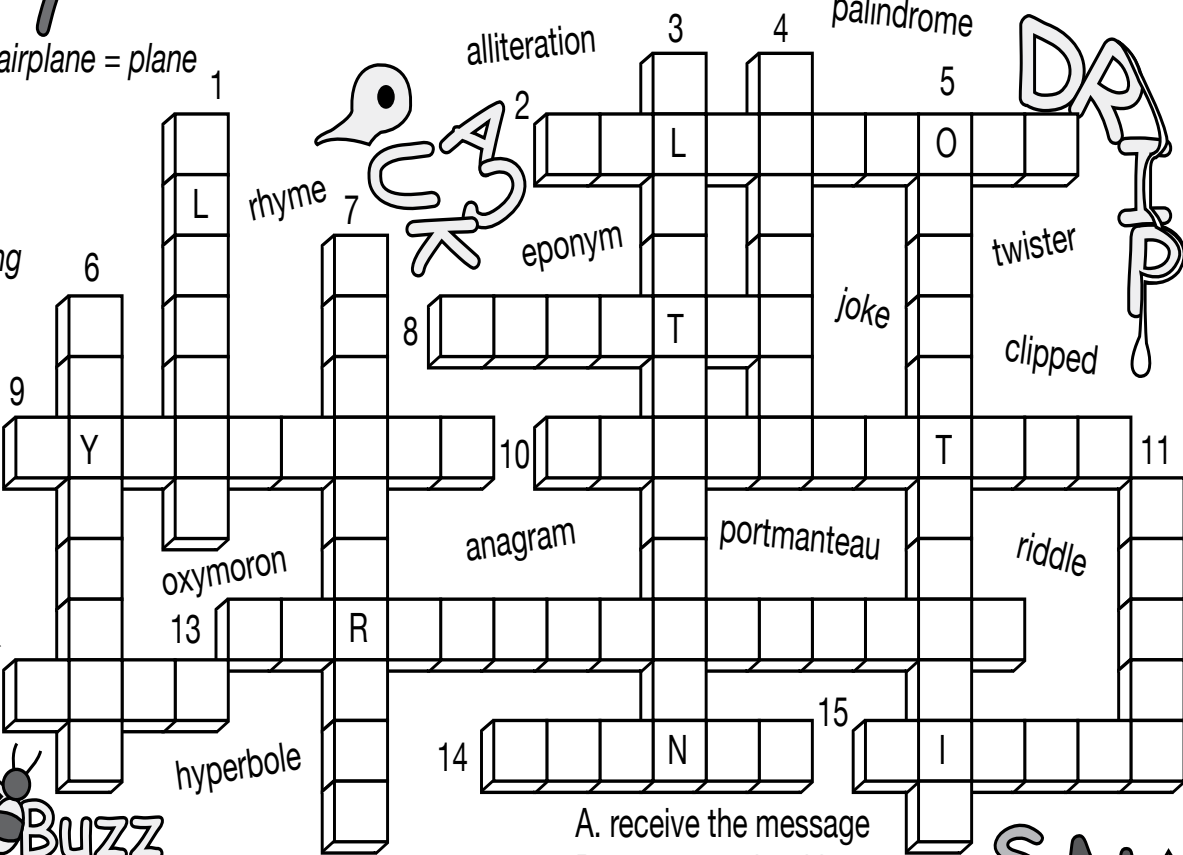


Read the clues to fill in the crossword puzzle with different kinds of word play that we have fun with:

- 1. a _____ word shrinks a word, making it easier to say; *airplane = plane*
- 2. word that is spelled the same backwards and forwards; *kayak*
- 3. series of words with the same starting sound; *big bad boy*
- 4. words with the same letters, but moved around; *cat - act*
- 5. words that resemble the sound they are talking about; *whiz, bang*
- 6. set of “opposite” words; *jumbo shrimp, small crowd*
- 7. swapping of letters or syllables in words; *bunny rabbit = runny babbit*
- 8. a tongue _____ puts together words that are hard to say in a row; *Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers*
- 9. an exaggerated statement; *I died laughing*
- 10. putting two words together to make a new word; *squeeze + crunch = scrunch*
- 11. words that have the same ending sound; *very cherry*
- 12. a humor-filled story or trick; *knock, knock!*
- 13. giving human-like abilities to something non-human; *the wind howled, time marches on*
- 14. a word named after a real person; *teddy bear* (Theodore Roosevelt)
- 15. a clever question that needs thought to be answered; *What loses its head each morning, and gets it back in the evening? A pillow!*



Play On Words

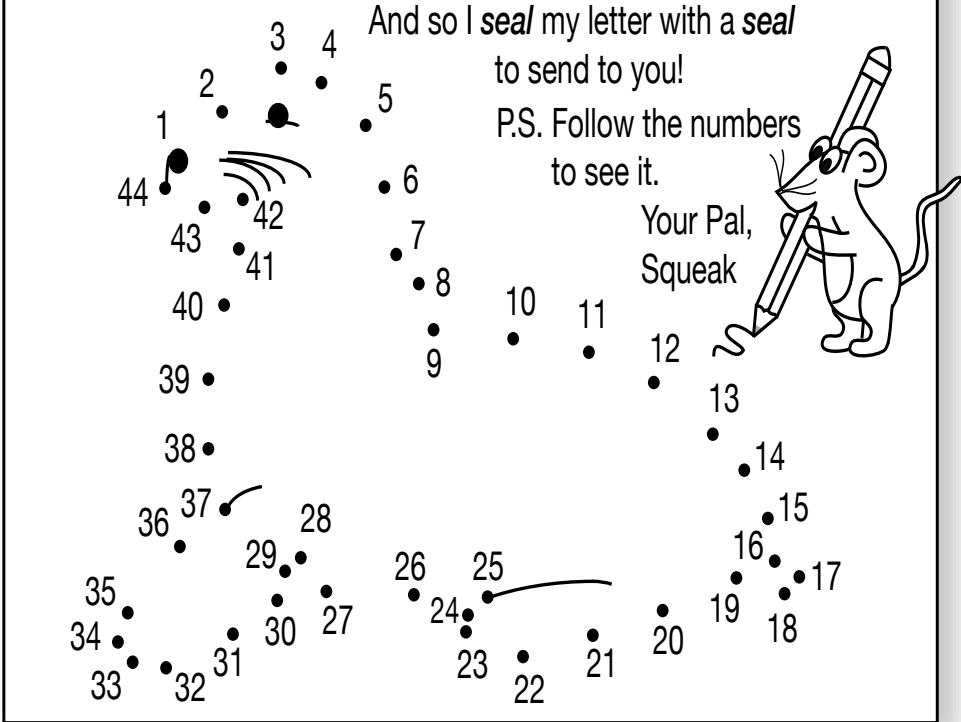


Match each expression to its meaning:

- 1. man of few words
- 2. man of his word
- 3. get the word
- 4. play on words
- 5. mum is the word
- A. receive the message
- B. to use words with more than one meaning in a joke
- C. to keep quiet, secret
- D. keeps his promise
- E. doesn't talk very much

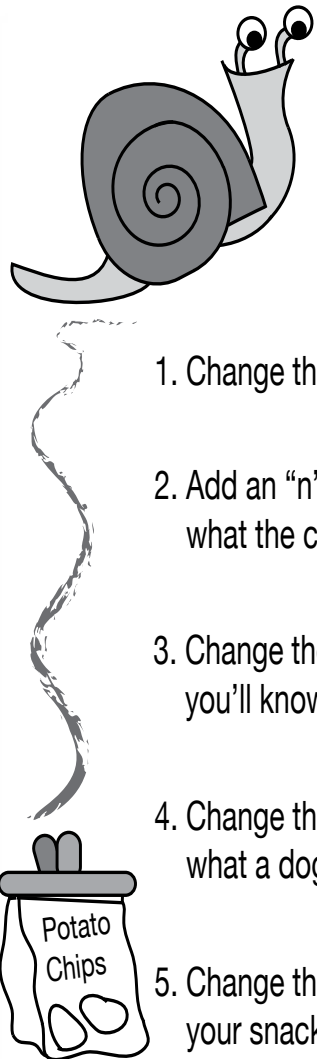
Dear Forest,

At the picnic today, a fast *pitch* from the baseball *pitcher* broke a *pitcher*, and the pieces flew into a warm *pitch* patch that sealed a hole in the walkway! A bowl of *squash* skidded off the table and *squashed* tomatoes in a basket. After I clean the mess and the *rest* I will need a *rest*!



And so I *seal* my letter with a *seal* to send to you!
P.S. Follow the numbers to see it.

Your Pal,
Squeak



Word Ex-Change!

You can make a play on words just by exchanging letters in words. After you finish the activity below, try to write one of your own and share it with a friend.

- 1. Change the “sn” to “tr” and see the “goo”. _____
- 2. Add an “n” to this word and you’ll know what the cow said and what she jumped over. _____
- 3. Change the first letter to “b” and you’ll know what happened to my car. _____
- 4. Change the “k” to “t” and you’ll see what a dog gave me as I was riding by. _____
- 5. Change the “ch” to “cl” and it will close your snack bag. _____

Too Hot to Hoot!

A ‘*palindrome*’ is a word that can be read forward and backward. Sometimes a person thinks up a sentence that can be read forward and backward too! Read these words and sentences, then find them in the puzzle!

- mom noon
- dad deed level sees
- pop peep racecar kayak
- did toot madam radar
- eve
- dud Step on no pets.
- nun Was it a rat I saw?
- eye No lemon, no melon.
- bob Too hot to hoot!
- tot



IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

PROBATE MENTAL HEALTH DIVISION
CASE NUMBER: 2009-CP-000024-O
DIVISION Probate
IN RE: ESTATE OF SANTOS HERNANDEZ
Deceased
NOTICE
Notice is hereby given that on 08/31/2020, MARGARITA HERNANDEZ, as personal representative of the Estate of SANTOS HERNANDEZ, deceased, did deposit with me as Clerk of the Circuit Court, Ninth Judicial Circuit, Orange County, Florida, the sum of \$19,737.47, the same being the distributive share of the estate to: MIKEL WAYNE CARPENTER. All of the foregoing is pursuant to Section 733.816, Florida Statutes, 1989.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the official seal of this Court, on this the 25th day of March 2025.
Tiffany Moore Russell
Clerk of the Circuit Court
/s/ Mayra I Cruz
Deputy Clerk
CIRCUIT COURT SEAL
Publish: The Apopka Chief
March 28, April 25, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

PROBATE MENTAL HEALTH DIVISION
CASE NUMBER: 2010-CP-000250-O
DIVISION Probate
IN RE: ESTATE OF ANNIE MAE SMITH
Deceased
NOTICE
Notice is hereby given that on 01/14/2019, NATHAN D SMITH II, as personal representative of the Estate of ANNIE MAE SMITH, deceased, did deposit with me as Clerk of the Circuit Court, Ninth Judicial Circuit, Orange County, Florida, the sum of \$52,896.54, the same being the distributive share of the estate to: LEGAL HEIRS OF ANNIE MAE SMITH. All of the foregoing is pursuant to Section 733.816, Florida Statutes, 1989.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the official seal of this Court, on this the 25th day of March 2025.
Tiffany Moore Russell
Clerk of the Circuit Court
/s/ Mayra I Cruz
Deputy Clerk
CIRCUIT COURT SEAL
Publish: The Apopka Chief
March 28, April 25, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

PROBATE MENTAL HEALTH DIVISION
CASE NUMBER: 2016-CP-003022-O
DIVISION Probate
IN RE: ESTATE OF VERNONER ALMETA HERRING
Deceased
NOTICE
Notice is hereby given that on 12/22/2021, KRISTEN M JACKSON, as personal representative of the Estate of VERNONER ALMETA HERRING, deceased, did deposit with me as Clerk of the Circuit Court, Ninth Judicial Circuit, Orange County, Florida, the sum of \$56,767.69, the same being the distributive share of the estate to: LEGAL HEIRS OF VERNONER ALMETA HERRING. All of the foregoing is pursuant to Section 733.816, Florida Statutes, 1989.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the official seal of this Court, on this the 25th day of March 2025.
Tiffany Moore Russell
Clerk of the Circuit Court
/s/ Mayra I Cruz
Deputy Clerk
CIRCUIT COURT SEAL
Publish: The Apopka Chief
March 28, April 25, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

PROBATE MENTAL HEALTH DIVISION
CASE NUMBER: 2017-CP-001772-O
DIVISION Probate
IN RE: ELIGA DAVIS
DECEASED
NOTICE
Notice is hereby given that on June 14, 2024, JENNIFER ANN ENGLERT, Esquire, as attorney for the Estate of ELIGA DAVIS, deceased, did deposit with me as Clerk of the Circuit Court, Ninth Judicial Circuit, Orange County, Florida, the sum of \$24,423.16, the same being the distributive share of the estate to: SERJEVAH DAVIS and VOTAVIA DAVIS All of the foregoing is pursuant to Section 733.816, Florida Statutes, 1989.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have

hereunto set my hand and the official seal of this Court, on this the 25th day of March 2025
Tiffany Moore Russell
Clerk of the Circuit Court
/s/ Mayra I Cruz
DEPUTY CLERK
CIRCUIT COURT SEAL
March 28, April 25, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

PROBATE MENTAL HEALTH DIVISION
CASE NUMBER: 2001-CP-001140-O
DIVISION Probate
IN RE: ESTATE OF MARGARET H SOLOMON
Deceased
NOTICE
Notice is hereby given that on 07/16/2019, GINGER R LORE, as personal representative of the Estate of MARGARET H SOLOMON, deceased, did deposit with me as Clerk of the Circuit Court, Ninth Judicial Circuit, Orange County, Florida, the sum of \$2,887.48, the same being the distributive share of the estate to: GINGER R LORE. All of the foregoing is pursuant to Section 733.816, Florida Statutes, 1989.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the official seal of this Court, on this the 25th day of March 2025.
Tiffany Moore Russell
Clerk of the Circuit Court
/s/ Mayra I Cruz
Deputy Clerk
CIRCUIT COURT SEAL
Publish: The Apopka Chief
March 28, April 25, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

PROBATE MENTAL HEALTH DIVISION
CASE NUMBER: 2022-CP-002287-O
DIVISION Probate
IN RE: JUDSON I DEACON
DECEASED

NOTICE OF UNCLAIMED PROBATE FUNDS DEPOSITED IN COURT REGISTRY

Notice is given that, pursuant to section 733.816, Florida Statutes, unclaimed probate funds of \$977.50 are being held for JUDSON I DEACON, JR in the registry of court, deposited per order of 01/20/2023 in the Estate of JUDSON I DEACON, deceased; case number 2022-CP-002287- O. The Clerk of the Circuit Court will deposit these funds with the Department of Financial Services no less than six months after the posting or the first publication of this notice, after deducting fees and any costs of publication. Any person or entity entitled to such funds may obtain them by compliance with applicable provisions of Section 733.816, Fla. Stat., within 10 years from the date of deposit with the Department of Financial Services, after which time the funds will escheat to the state.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the official seal of this Court, on this the 22nd day of April 2025.
Tiffany Moore Russell
Orange County Clerk of the Circuit Court
425 N. Orange Ave., Ste. 335
Orlando, FL 32801
By: /s/ Mayra I Cruz
Deputy Clerk
CIRCUIT COURT SEAL
April 25, May 23, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

PROBATE MENTAL HEALTH DIVISION
CASE NUMBER: 2022-CP-003214-O
DIVISION Probate
IN RE: ALVESTER MILLER, JR
DECEASED

NOTICE OF UNCLAIMED PROBATE FUNDS DEPOSITED IN COURT REGISTRY

Notice is given that, pursuant to section 733.816, Florida Statutes, unclaimed probate funds of \$8,678.15 are being held for HEIRS OF ALVESTER MILLER, JR in the registry of court, deposited per order of 07/02/2024 in the Estate of ALVESTER MILLER, JR, deceased; case number 2022-CP-003214-O. The Clerk of the Circuit Court will deposit these funds with the Department of Financial Services no less than six months after the posting or the first publication of this notice, after deducting fees and any costs of publication. Any person or entity entitled to such funds may obtain them by compliance with applicable provisions of Section 733.816, Fla. Stat., within 10 years from the date of deposit with the Department of Financial Services, after which time the funds will escheat to the state.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the official

seal of this Court, on this the 22nd day of April 2025.
Tiffany Moore Russell
Orange County Clerk of the Circuit Court
425 N. Orange Ave., Ste. 335
Orlando, FL 32801
By: /s/ Mayra I Cruz
Deputy Clerk
CIRCUIT COURT SEAL
April 25, May 23, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

PROBATE MENTAL HEALTH DIVISION
CASE NUMBER: 2023-CP-001109-O
DIVISION Probate
IN RE: DERRICK RHODES
DECEASED

NOTICE OF UNCLAIMED PROBATE FUNDS DEPOSITED IN COURT REGISTRY

Notice is given that, pursuant to section 733.816, Florida Statutes, unclaimed probate funds of \$7217.16 are being held for ESTATE OF ANTHONY RHODES in the registry of court, deposited per order of 05/15/2024 in the Estate of DERRICK RHODES, deceased; case number 2023-CP-001109-O. The Clerk of the Circuit Court will deposit these funds with the Department of Financial Services no less than six months after the posting or the first publication of this notice, after deducting fees and any costs of publication. Any person or entity entitled to such funds may obtain them by compliance with applicable provisions of Section 733.816, Fla. Stat., within 10 years from the date of deposit with the Department of Financial Services, after which time the funds will escheat to the state.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the official seal of this Court, on this the 22nd day of April 2025.
Tiffany Moore Russell
Orange County Clerk of the Circuit Court
425 N. Orange Ave., Ste. 335
Orlando, FL 32801
By: /s/ Mayra I Cruz
Deputy Clerk
CIRCUIT COURT SEAL
April 25, May 23, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

PROBATE MENTAL HEALTH DIVISION
CASE NUMBER: 2023-CP-001311-O
DIVISION Probate
IN RE: ALMONORD FRANCOIS
DECEASED

NOTICE OF UNCLAIMED PROBATE FUNDS DEPOSITED IN COURT REGISTRY

Notice is given that, pursuant to section 733.816, Florida Statutes, unclaimed probate funds of \$1,023,238.20 are being held for EDNORD FRANCOIS in the registry of court, deposited per order of 02/09/2024 in the Estate of ALMONORD FRANCOIS, deceased; case number 2023- CP-001311-O
The Clerk of the Circuit Court will deposit these funds with the Department of Financial Services no less than six months after the posting or the first publication of this notice, after deducting fees and any costs of publication. Any person or entity entitled to such funds may obtain them by compliance with applicable provisions of Section 733.816, Fla. Stat., within 10 years from the date of deposit with the Department of Financial Services, after which time the funds will escheat to the state.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the official seal of this Court, on this the 22nd day of April 2025.
Tiffany Moore Russell
Orange County Clerk of the Circuit Court
425 N. Orange Ave., Ste. 335
Orlando, FL 32801
By: /s/ Mayra I Cruz
Deputy Clerk
CIRCUIT COURT SEAL
April 25, May 23, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

PROBATE MENTAL HEALTH DIVISION
CASE NUMBER: 2023-CP-000633-O
DIVISION Probate
IN RE: CLARA RICHEY
DECEASED

NOTICE OF UNCLAIMED PROBATE FUNDS DEPOSITED IN COURT REGISTRY

Notice is given that, pursuant to section 733.816, Florida Statutes, unclaimed probate funds of \$66,108.39

are being held for ARTINA RICHEY in the registry of court, deposited per order of 06/19/2023 in the Estate of CLARA RICHEY, deceased; case number 2023-CP-000633-O. The Clerk of the Circuit Court will deposit these funds with the Department of Financial Services no less than six months after the posting or the first publication of this notice, after deducting fees and any costs of publication. Any person or entity entitled to such funds may obtain them by compliance with applicable provisions of Section 733.816, Fla. Stat., within 10 years from the date of deposit with the Department of Financial Services, after which time the funds will escheat to the state.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the official seal of this Court, on this the 22nd day of April 2025.
Tiffany Moore Russell
Orange County Clerk of the Circuit Court
425 N. Orange Ave., Ste. 335
Orlando, FL 32801
By: /s/ Mayra I Cruz
Deputy Clerk
CIRCUIT COURT SEAL
April 25, May 23, 2025

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF INTENDED DISPOSITION OF FOUND/ABANDONED PROPERTY

The Apopka Police Department is intending to dispose of found/abandoned property & currency currently being held in the property room. Lawful owners who believe that the property belongs to them must appear at the Apopka Police Department, 112 E. 6th Street by **May 2nd** . Contact may be made between the hours of 9am and 5pm, Monday through Friday to claim ownership. After **May 2nd**, the Apopka Police Department will retain the items for its own use, donate the property to charity, give the property to the finder, or auction off the property. Property and Evidence Unit 407-703-1669
Publish: The Apopka Chief
April 18, 25, 2025

BARTLETT TOWING, INC

gives notice that on **05/15/2025** at 08:30 AM the following vehicle(s) may be sold by public sale at 2252 APOPKA BLVD, STE B, APOPKA, FL 32703 to satisfy the lien for the amount owed on each vehicle for any recovery, towing, or storage services charges and administrative fees allowed pursuant to Florida statute 713.78.
1998 Chevy
1GCEK19RXWE108371
Publish: The Apopka Chief
April 25, 2025

NOTICE UNDER FICTITIOUS NAME LAW PURSUANT TO SECTION 865.09 FLORIDA STATUTES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned, desiring to engage in business under the Fictitious Name of Dream Trip Co, with a mailing address of 10016 Gannon Lane, Orlando, FL 32821 and a principal office located in Orange County, intends to register the said name with the Florida Dept. of State, Division of Corporations, Tallahassee, Florida. Owner: Sourced Locally LLC
April 25, 2025

NOTICE UNDER FICTITIOUS NAME LAW PURSUANT TO SECTION 865.09, FLORIDA STATUTES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of **Calloway Lu Specialties** located at 1233 Winter Green Wy, in the County of Orange in the City of Winter Garden Florida 34787, intends to register the above said name with the Division of Corporations of the Florida Department of State, Tallahassee, Florida. Dated at Apopka Florida, this 21st day of April, 2025.
Luther Calloway JR
April 25, 2025

NOTICE UNDER FICTITIOUS NAME LAW PURSUANT TO SECTION 865.09, FLORIDA STATUTES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of **OnlyTipTop** located at 5401 S Kirkman RD, STE 700, in the County of Orange county, FL, in the City of Orlando Florida 32819 intends to register the above said name with the Division of Corporations of the Florida Department of State, Tallahassee, Florida. Dated at Orlando, Florida, this 22nd day of April, 2025.
GR.FAMILY STORE LLC
April 25, 2025

FICTITIOUS NAME

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, PATCE ENTERPRISES LLC, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name "**ChiroX Clinic,**" with the subtitle: "Elite Chiropractic Care," intends to register the said

name with the Florida Department of State, Division of Corporations, pursuant to section 865.09, Florida Statutes. The business will be located in Orange County, Florida. Dated at Orlando, Orange County, Florida, 04/21/2025
PATCE ENTERPRISES LLC
April 25, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No: 2024-CA-007585-O
CITY OF WINTER PARK, FLORIDA, v. UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES OR OTHER CLAIMANTS CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST LUCY W. MOORE, DECEASED; GARY MOORE; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF GARY MOORE; UNKNOWN TENANT #1; and UNKNOWN TENANT #2, Defendants.

NOTICE OF ACTION

TO: UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES OR OTHER CLAIMANTS CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST LUCY W. MOORE, DECEASED
1260 Whitesell Drive
Winter Park, FL 32789
YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following property in Orange County: LOT 8, BLOCK C, TUSCANIA SUBDIVISION, ACCORDING TO PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK T, PAGE 60, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA. also known as **1260 Whitesell Drive, Winter Park, FL 32789.** has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Eric B. Jontz, the plaintiff's attorney, whose address is Fishback Dominick LLP, 1947 Lee Road, Winter Park, Florida 32789, on or before 30 days from the first date of publication, and file the original with the clerk of this court either before service on the plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition. DATED ON: 04/16/2025
TIFFANY MOORE
RUSSELL
Clerk of Court
By: Naline S. Bahadur
Deputy Clerk
Civil Division
425 N. Orange Avenue
Room 350
Orlando, Florida 32801
CIRCUIT COURT SEAL
April 25, May 2, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No: 2024-CA-007585-O
CITY OF WINTER PARK, FLORIDA, Plaintiff, v. UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES OR OTHER CLAIMANTS CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST LUCY W. MOORE, DECEASED; GARY MOORE; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF GARY MOORE; UNKNOWN TENANT #1; and UNKNOWN TENANT #2, Defendants.

NOTICE OF ACTION

TO: UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF GARY MOORE
1260 Whitesell Drive
Winter Park, FL 32789
YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following property in Orange County: LOT 8, BLOCK C, TUSCANIA SUBDIVISION, ACCORDING TO PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK T, PAGE 60, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA. also known as **1260 Whitesell Drive, Winter Park, FL 32789.** has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Eric B. Jontz, the plaintiff's attorney, whose address is Fishback Dominick LLP, 1947 Lee Road, Winter Park, Florida 32789, on or before 30 days from the first date of publication, and file the original with the clerk of this court either before service on the plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition. DATED ON: 04/16/2025
TIFFANY MOORE
RUSSELL
Clerk of Court
By: Naline S. Bahadur
Deputy Clerk
Civil Division

425 N. Orange Avenue
Room 350
Orlando, Florida 32801
CIRCUIT COURT SEAL
April 25, May 2, 2025

IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CASE NO.: 2024-CC-020359-O
CARPRO LLC, Plaintiff, v. PETER RISTICH and WESTLAKE SERVICES, LLC d/b/a WESTLAKE FINANCIAL SERVICES, Defendants.

NOTICE OF ACTION

To: **PETER RISTICH**
7347 Curry Ford Road
Orlando, FL 32822
YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action for breach of contract and to recover on bond has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it, on John A. Morey, Esq., of the Morey Law Firm, P.A., the Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 250 N. Orange Ave., Suite 1220, Orlando, FL 32801, on or before June 3, 2025, and file the original with the clerk of this court either before service on the plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition.
Tiffany Moore Russell,
Clerk of Courts
Civil Division
425 N Orange Ave
Room 350
Orlando, Florida 32801
Dated: April 14th, 2025
By: /s/ Lauren Scheidt
Deputy Clerk
April 18, 25, May 2, 9, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

File No. 2025-CP-358
Division: Probate
IN RE: ESTATE OF KAY ADELE ACKER
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of Kay Adele Acker, deceased, whose date of death was January 10, 2025, is pending in the Circuit Court for Orange County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 425 N. Orange Ave., Orlando, FL 32801. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.
All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.
The personal representative has no duty to discover whether any property held at the time of the decedent's death by the decedent or the decedent's surviving spouse is property to which the Florida Uniform Disposition of Community Property Rights at Death Act as described in ss. 732.216-732.228, Florida Statutes, applies, or may apply, unless a written demand is made by a creditor as specified under s. 732.2211, Florida Statutes. The written demand must be filed with the clerk.
All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.
ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.
NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.
The date of first publication of this notice is April 18, 2025.
Personal Representative: K. Jerome Sanford
5916 N.W. 91st Blvd.
Gainesville, Florida 32653
Attorney for Personal Representative: /s/Marynelle Hardee, Esq.
Florida Bar Number: 937789
SALTER FEIBER, PA
3940 N.W. 16TH Blvd., Bldg. B
GAINESVILLE, FL 32605
Telephone: (352) 376-8201
Fax: (352) 416-0401
E-Mail: marynelleh@salterlaw.net
Secondary E-Mail: jordang@salterlaw.net
April 18, 25, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

PROBATE DIVISION
File No. 2025-CP-001025
IN RE: ESTATE OF
JOSEPH L. MOLINARO, JR.
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of JOSEPH L. MOLINARO, JR., deceased, whose date of death was August 25, 2024, is pending in the Circuit Court for Orange County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 425 North Orange Avenue, Room 335, Orlando, Florida 32801. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below. All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

The personal representative has no duty to discover whether any property held at the time of the decedent's death by the decedent or the decedent's surviving spouse is property to which the Florida Uniform Disposition of Community Property Rights at Death Act as described in ss. 732.216-732.228, Florida Statutes, applies, or may apply, unless a written demand is made by a creditor as specified under s. 732.2211, Florida Statutes. The written demand must be filed with the clerk.

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first publication of this notice is April 25, 2025.
Personal Representative:
MARY LEE MOLINARO
3104 Harrison Avenue
Apartment C 21
Orlando, Florida 32804
Attorney for Personal Representative:
DANIELLE WHITE,
ESQUIRE
Florida Bar Number:
1035906
Veliz Katz Law
630 North Wymore Road
Suite 330
Maitland, FL 32751
Telephone:
(407) 849-7072
Fax: (407) 849-7075
E-Mail:
velizkatz@velizkatzlaw.com
Secondary E-Mail:
jearle@velizkatzlaw.com
April 25, May 2, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

PROBATE DIVISION
File No. 2025-CP-001215-O
Division
IN RE: ESTATE OF
DALE B. CROFT,
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of DALE B. CROFT, deceased, whose date of death was March 7, 2025; File Number 2025 CP-001215-O, is pending in the Circuit Court for Orange County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 425 N. Orange Avenue, Orlando, FL 32801. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate, on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served, must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIOD SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first publication of this notice is: April 25, 2025.
Signed on April 14 2025.
Laura Cristine Croft
Personal Representative
1932 Bel Air Avenue
Orlando, FL 32812
John L. Thomas, II
Attorney for Personal Representative
Florida Bar No. 80836
611 N. Wymore Road,
Suite 105
Winter Park, FL 32789
Telephone: (407) 843-1290
Email: john@jlthomaslaw.com
April 25, May 2, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

PROBATE DIVISION
File No. 2025-CP-001084-O Division 9
IN RE: ESTATE OF
SHIRLEY NATHANIEL
HARVEY
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS (SUMMARY ADMINISTRATION)

TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS OR DEMANDS AGAINST THE ABOVE ESTATE:
You are hereby notified that an Order of Summary Administration has been entered in the estate of Shirley Nathaniel Harvey, deceased, by the Circuit Court for Orange County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 425 N. Orange Avenue, Suite 335, Orlando, Florida 32801; that the decedent's date of death was November 11, 2024; that the total value of the estate is \$900.00 and that the names and addresses of those to whom it has been assigned by such order are:

Name	Address
Barbara Carby,	Trustee of the Shirley N. Harvey Revocable Living Trust Agreement, dated May 3, 2017, as amended
420 Roper Road, Unit 248	Winter Garden, FL 34787
ALL INTERESTED PERSONS ARE NOTIFIED THAT:	
All creditors of the estate of the decedent and persons having claims or demands against estate of the decedent other than those for whom provision for full payment was made in the Order of Summary Administration must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702. ALL CLAIMS AND DEMANDS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER APPLICABLE TIME PERIOD, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.	

The date of first publication of this notice is April 25, 2025.
Person Giving Notice:
BARBARA CARBY
420 Roper Road, Unit 248
Winter Garden, FL 34787
Attorney for Person Giving Notice:
RICHARD R. MATTHIAS
Florida Bar No.: 51092
Matthias & Matthias, PL
700 West Morse Blvd.
Suite 201
Winter Park, FL 32789
Telephone: (407) 691-3300
Primary E-mail:
rrmatthias@matthiaslaw.com
Secondary E-mail:
dlorenz@matthiaslaw.com
April 25, May 2, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

PROBATE DIVISION 02
CASE NO.
2025-CP-000802-O
IN RE: ESTATE OF
SHIVANAND RAMPERSAD,
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The Florida administration of the estate of SHIVANAND RAMPERSAD, deceased, whose date of death was December 9, 2024, is pending in the Circuit Court for Orange County, Probate Division, the address of which is 425 N. Orange Ave., Room 355, Orlando, FL 32801. The name and address of the Personal Representative and the Personal Representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM. All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court

WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first publication of this notice is April 18, 2025.
Personal Representative:
CHARMAINE P. HARRYPERSAD
P.O. Box 770670
Winter Garden, Florida 34777
Attorney for Personal Representative:
KATHRYN C. PYLES
Florida Bar No. 1002555
The Pyles Law Firm, P.A.
P.O. Box 770670
Winter Garden, Florida 34777
Telephone: (407) 298-7077
E-Mail: kathrynpyles@pyleslaw.com
Facsimile: (407) 264-6224
April 18, 25, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION

File No. 2025-CP-1169
IN RE: ESTATE OF
PATRICIA DUNN LITTLE,
AKA PATRICIA D. LITTLE,
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of PATRICIA DUNN LITTLE AKA PATRICIA D. LITTLE, deceased, whose date of death was September 16, 2024, is pending in the Circuit Court for Orange County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 425 N. Orange Avenue, Orlando, Florida 32801. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate, on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served, must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIOD SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED. The date of first publication of this notice is: April 25, 2025. Signed on this 18th day of April, 2025.

ALBERT M. LITTLE, III
Personal Representative
308 Forest Avenue
Altamonte Springs, FL 32701
AMY R. STEINER, ESQUIRE
Florida Bar No. 10875
Email:
ARS@AttorneySteiner.com
LAWRENCE R. STEINER, ESQUIRE
Florida Bar No. 202738
Email:
LRS@AttorneySteiner.com
STEINER & STEINER, P.A.
797 Douglas Avenue
Altamonte Springs, Florida 32714
Telephone: (407) 774-7500
Facsimile: (407) 774-6422
Attorneys for Personal Representative
April 25, May 2, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION

File No. 2025-CP-000438
Division Probate
IN RE: ESTATE OF
SAUNDRA MILLS
TRULOVE
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of SAUNDRA MILLS TRULOVE, deceased, whose date of death was December 12, 2024, File Number 2025-CP-000438, is pending in the Circuit Court for Orange County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 425 North Orange Avenue, Orlando, FL 32801. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below. All creditors of the decedent and

other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate, including unmaturred, contingent or unliquidated claims, on whom a copy of this notice is served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate, including unmaturred, contingent or unliquidated claims, must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. ALL CLAIMS NOT SO FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS POR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The personal representative or curator has no duty to discovery whether any property held at the time of the decedent's death by the decedent or the decedent's surviving spouse is property to which the Florida Community Property Rights at Death Act as described in ss. 732.216-732.228 applies, or may apply, unless a written demand is made by a creditor or a beneficiary as specified under s. 732.2211. Personal Representative:
Laura Markman
727 Oak Street
Orlando, FL 32804
Attorney for Personal Representative
Timothy C. Wilson, Esquire
Florida Bar No. 0935344
Timothy C. Wilson, Esquire Glicklen & Wilson Law Firm 1803 Edgewater Drive Orlando, Fl 32804
Telephone: (407) 325-7924
The date of first publication of this Notice is April 18, 2025.
April 18, 25, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CASE NUMBER:
2025-CA-003214-O
DIVISION NUMBER: 37
IN RE: FORFEITURE OF
\$11,505.00 IN U.S.
CURRENCY
NOTICE OF FORFEITURE COMPLAINT
TO: ANGEL A. RODRIGUEZ
2065 GREAT FALLS WAY
ORLANDO, FL 32824
and all others who claim an interest in \$11,505.00 in U.S. Currency, which was seized on or about the 26th day of February, 2025, at or near 2065 Great Falls Way, Orange County, Florida. Said property is in the custody of the Sheriff of Orange County. A Complaint for forfeiture has been filed in the above-styled Court. I HEREBY CERTIFY that this Notice is being served pursuant to the notice provisions of Florida Statutes 932.701-707, this 14th day of April, 2025.
/s/ Dezirée T. Elliott
Dezirée T. Elliott, Esq.
Assistant General Counsel Florida Bar No.: 92739
Orange County Sheriff's Office
Legal Services
P.O. Box 1440
Orlando, FL 32802
(407) 254-7170
Deziree.Elliott@ocsoff.com
April 18, 25, 2025

IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CASE NO.: 2024-CC-023085
DIVISION: 74
DAICIA RUSSELL, an individual, and DAVE HENRY, an individual, Plaintiffs,
V.
BEN MCCOY CONSULTING LLC, a Florida limited liability company, and BENJAMIN D. MCCOY, an individual, Defendants.

NOTICE OF ACTION

TO: BENJAMIN D. MCCOY
1830 BRYAN AVENUE
WINTER PARK, FLORIDA 32789
YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on, John R. Samaan, Esquire of John R. Samaan, P.A., the plaintiffs' attorney, whose address is 1600 E. Robinson Street, Suite 100, Orlando, Florida 32803, on or before 30 days from the first date of publication, 2025, and file the original with the clerk of the this court either before service on the plaintiffs' attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. DATED on this 20th day of March

2025.
Tiffany M. Russell
Clerk of the Circuit Court
BY: /s/ Lauren Scheidt
As Deputy Clerk
April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2025

NOTICE UNDER FICTITIOUS NAME LAW PURSUANT TO SECTION 865.09 FLORIDA STATUTES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned, desiring to engage in business under the Fictitious Name of Be Well & Co. Financial Consulting, with a mailing address of 1317 Edgewater Dr #6378, Orlando, FL 32804 and a principal office located in Orange County, intends to register the said name with the Florida Dept. of State, Division of Corporations, Tallahassee, Florida. Owner: BE WELL & HEAL LLC. April 25, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No. 2024-CA-009982-O
U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, not in its individual capacity but as trustee for NRZ Pass- Through Trust XVI-B, Plaintiff,
v.
GGG INTERNATIONAL LLC, a Florida limited liability company, Defendant.

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to the Summary Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered on April 9, 2025, in Case No. 2024-CA-009982-O, in the Circuit Court of the Ninth Judicial Circuit in and for Orange County, Florida, that the clerk of this court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash on-line at <https://www.myorangeclerk.realforeclose.com> on **June 3, 2025**, at the **hour of 11:00 A.M.**, in accordance with Chapter 45, Florida Statutes, the real property, improvements, fixtures, and personal property being located in Orange County, Florida, and being more particularly described as:

Lot 13, Block D, HIAWASSA HIGHLANDS THIRD ADDITION UNIT ONE, according to the map or plat thereof, as recorded in Plat Book 4, Page(s) 5, of the Public Records of Orange County, Florida. Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim before the clerk reports the surplus as unclaimed.

Dated at Orange County, Florida, this 11th day of April, 2025.
/s/ David E. Peterson
David E. Peterson
Florida Bar No. 0373230
Lauren E. Beames
Florida Bar No. 1040341
Lowndes, Drosdick, Doster, Kantor & Reed, P.A.
215 North Eola Drive
Orlando, Florida 32801
Telephone: 407-843-4600
Facsimile: 407-843-4444

david.peterson@lowndes-law.com
lauren.beames@lowndes-law.com
anne.fisher@lowndes-law.com
litcontrol@lowndes-law.com
Attorneys for Plaintiff
NOTICE PURSUANT TO AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons with disabilities who require special accommodations are entitled to certain assistance.

•If you are a party to a court proceeding and have a visual disability that requires court documents be made available in a specific format, email the Clerk of Courts' ADA Coordinator or call (407) 836-2215.
•If you are required to participate in a court proceeding and need special assistance, please contact the Ninth Circuit Court Administration ADA Coordinator at the address or phone number below at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance or immediately upon receiving an official notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days. If you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711. Ninth Circuit Court Administration ADA Coordinator
Orange County Courthouse
425 N. Orange Avenue, Suite 510, Orlando, Florida, 32801
(407) 836-2303
April 18, 25, 2025

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given that North-west Orlando Storage at 5330 N Pine Hills Rd Orlando, Fl 32808 will sell the contents of the units listed below at a public auction to satisfy a landlord's lien (pursuant to Chap-

ter 83 of the Florida Statutes). The sales will be held online at StorageTreasures.com on 05/19/2025 at approx. 9:00 am. Contents will be sold for cash only to the highest bidder; subject to add'l terms noted on the website. The property to be sold is described as "general household items" unless otherwise noted.
#C056 – Ascania Dumitru/ Ascanio Dumitru – :
#D008–Roland Johnson,
#E057–Anthony D Green,
#1033-Melissa Rodriguez...
April 18, 25, 2025

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

PERSONAL PROPERTY OF THE FOLLOWING TENANTS WILL BE SOLD FOR CASH TO SATISFY RENTAL LIENS IN ACCORDANCE WITH FLORIDA STATUTES, SELF STORAGE FACILITY ACT, SECTIONS 83.806 AND 83.807. CONTENTS MAY INCLUDE KITCHEN, HOUSEHOLD ITEMS, BEDDING, TOYS, GAMES, BOXES, BARRELS, PACKED CARTONS, FURNITURE, TRUCKS, CARS, ETC. THERE IS NO TITLE FOR VEHICLES SOLD AT LIEN SALE. VEHICLES SOLD "AS IS" AND FOR PARTS ONLY. OWNERS RESERVE THE RIGHT TO BID ON UNITS. LIEN SALE TO BE HELD ONLINE ENDING **TUESDAY May 6, 2025** AT TIMES INDICATED BELOW. VIEWING AND BIDDING WILL ONLY BE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT www.storage treasures.com BEGINNING 5 DAYS PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED SALE DATE AND TIME! ALSO VISIT www.personalministorage.com/orlando-fl-storage-units/ FOR MORE INFO.
PERSONAL MINI STORAGE APOPKA - 1365 E SEMORAN BLVD., APOPKA, FL 32703 - AT 10:30 AM : UNITS: #311 Marie Mesidor; #420 Robert Ramsey; #602 Charles Burgis; #603 Jovanie Aviles Ortiz; #611 Edwin Herrera; #1029 Kendra Moore
April 18, 25, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CASE NO.:
2023-CA-015668-O
ALTA CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT FLORIDA, LLC., a foreign limited liability company, Plaintiff,
vs.
KING DREAM HOMES, LLC, a Florida limited liability company and ADEILSON REIS, individually, Defendant

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that I, JOHN W. MINA, as Sheriff of Orange County, Florida, under and by virtue of a Judgment and Writ of Execution, therein issued out of the above entitled Court in the above styled cause, dated the 12th day of August, 2024, and have levied upon the following described real property, situated, lying and being in Orange County, Florida, to-wit: Any and all of the right, title and interest of KINGS DREAM HOMES, LLC , in and to the following described real property, to-wit: Lot 9, Block 1, Cape Orlando Estates Unit 31A, according to the Plat thereof, recorded in Plat Book 3, Page(s) 110 and 111, of the Public Records of Orange County, Florida; with a physical address of Cartwright Court, Orlando, Florida 32833. **SUBJECT TO ALL TAXES, JUDGMENTS, LIENS OF RECORD OR OTHER ENCUMBRANCES. PURCHASER TO PAY FOR DEED.**

as the property of the above named defendant, of KINGS DREAM HOMES, LLC, and that on the 14th day of May 2025, beginning at ten thirty o'clock in the forenoon or soon there-after on said day at **Civil Process Unit, 425 North Orange Avenue, Room 240, Orlando, Florida 32801**, in Orange County, Florida. I will offer for sale and sell to the highest bidder at hand for cash on demand the above described property of said defendant, to satisfy said Judgment and Writ of Execution. Prospective bidders may register the day of the sale between the hours 10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at Civil Process Unit, 425 North Orange Avenue, Room 240, Orlando, Florida 32801.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact Eric Nieves, Civil Process Sales Coordinator not later than seven days prior to the proceeding at Orange County Sheriff's Office, at the address given on notice. Telephone: (407)836-4570; If hearing impaired 1-800-955-8771 (TDD) or Voice (V) 1-800-955-8770, via Florida Relay Service. JOHN W. MINA, as Sheriff Orange County , Florida BY: Sgt. Norberto Gonzalez As Deputy Sheriff April 11, 18, 25, May 2, 2025

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JT 0404-0425 TFN COM 21

Call: 407-886-2777
or email us: classifieds@theapokkachief.com

32. HELP WANTED

LAWN MAINTENANCE help needed. Must have experience. Must be ready to work. 407-880-8048

CC 0328-0425 TAY 32

52. PETS

15 month old AKC female boxer, up to date on shots. \$500. 407-312-5439.

CC 0411-0502 YEA 52

61. APPLIANCES, LARGE

IN HOME SERVICE on washer, dryers, stoves, refrigerators installed. \$50 off service calls with installation. All help vaccinated for virus. Be safe! Free haul away (No matter where you bought new one.) Used appliances available. Service call \$39.99 with repairs. 407-886-2255, 407-497-7458.
CC 0425-0516 APO 61

69. SPORTING GOODS

Golf cart repairs all makes & models. I come to you. 321-356-5669
CC 0328-0418 HON 69

70. MERCHANDISE-MISC.

TRAILER PARTS for sale. Largest stocking dealer in NW Orange County (Apopka). 407-293-5788. www.surplus-steel.com.
B 0404-0425 SUR 70

Chain link dog pen, 10ft. long, 5.9ft wide, 6ft high, front gate. \$50. You must transport. Dog house approx. 4ft long 3ft wide 3ft high, free. 407-886-0127 leave a message with name & number.
CC 0418-0509 THO 70

81. AUTOS FOR SALE

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JT 0418-0509 MUL 81

1983 BMW 320i 1978 Datson Z, 917-561-8308 0404-0425 BER 81

2016 Hundai Sonata 2020 engine \$5,775 negotiable. 1986 Mercedes Benz, \$7,000 negotiable. Both good running condition. 321-318-3102
CC 0425-0502 STE 81

84. RECREATIONAL VEHICLES FOR RENT

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CC 0411-0425 MOR 84

89. TRAILERS FOR

TRAILER NO LONGER NEEDED? Call 407-886-2777 to place the advertisement here. Ask about our 3/4 special.
0 0425-0516 OFC 89

114. PROFESSIONAL

Registered Nurse seeking employment. Adult day & wound care available. All my Sons home remodeling & construction clean-up. Tree removal. 352-910-6527 or 407-715-9010
CC 0411-0502 JAM 114

130. REAL ESTATE

131. VACANT LAND

5 Acre plot, 541 E. Osceola Rd., \$300k "no realtors" financing available. Leave message 407-682-7898
CC 0411-0425 IRV 131

133. HOMES FOR SALE

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CC 0418-0509 ROG 133

133. HOMES FOR SALE

3511 Fox Lake Dr., Apopka 32712. 4 bed/2 bath, 1.3 acres. Barbera DeLoach, Rawls Realty 321-229-5968
B 0425-0516 DEL 133

136. MOBILE HOMES / RV'S FOR SALE

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CK 0404-0425 DEM 136

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CC 0411-0502 KEL 136

140. HOMES / DUPLEXES FOR RENT

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B 0425-0516 DEL 140

141. MOBILE HOME OR LOT FOR RENT

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142. ROOMS FOR RENT

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CC 0418-0509 HUR 142

142. ROOMS FOR RENT

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CC 0411-0502 JAM 142

Room-mate wanted, furnished room, \$615 monthly. One car covered parking. Non-smoker. Apopka/Mt. Dora line 407-747-4410
B 0418-0509 MAR 142

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CC 0425-0516 PAS 142

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