

Saluting APOPKA'S BEST

2025

BEST *of* APOPKA

READER'S CHOICE AWARDS



Supplement to The Apopka Chief | Friday, October 3, 2025



The Apopka Chief

TRUSTED LOCAL NEWS SINCE 1923

Dear friends and readers,

A lot has happened since 2021. That’s the last time The Apopka Chief held the Best of Apopka Reader’s Choice Awards, and the world is now a different place.

From lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and economic shutdown to supply chain issues and persistent inflation, the last four years have brought many challenges—particularly for local businesses. We are proud to bring back this Apopka tradition to recognize the businesses that have survived and thrived under the most difficult circumstances many have ever faced.

While we congratulate the businesses highlighted in this special section, we also thank the thousands who cast votes in the contest. The Apopka Chief staff didn’t pick these winners. You did. And nothing means more to an establishment than knowing the people it serves are pleased with the goods and services it provides.

As you flip through this special section, we hope you’ll appreciate what this recognition means for each business and that you will support them. They are the Best of Apopka.

Extended information will be available at www.bestofapopka.com and will remain online for our community’s convenience through next June.

Sincerely,
J.C. Derrick, Publisher

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The business profiles and advertisements found in the 2025 Best of Apopka Reader’s Choice Awards are those finalists that want to go the extra mile to welcome you to their business. For a full list of all of the finalists by rank, please see pages 14-16 or visit www.bestofapopka.com.
Congratulations to all of our area winners!

A

AC2 HVAC Services

590 Live Pine Circle #1705
 Apopka, FL 32703
 407-561-7036
 ac2hvac.com

AC2 HVAC Services is a family owned and operated Florida licensed HVAC contractor located in Apopka. Offering an extensive range of residential and commercial HVAC quality services. Our technicians have years of experience handling all aspects of HVAC service, installation, and maintenance. Our staff is dedicated to ensuring we provide the highest level of service and value to our customers. AC2 HVAC Services is a Trane authorized dealer. We accept calls 24 hours a day.

Apopka Pack & Ship

2246 E. Semoran Blvd.
 Apopka, FL 32703
 407-220-0410
 apopkapackandship.com

Apopka Pack & Ship is the go-to resource for packing, shipping, printing, and business service needs for everyone in Apopka. We focus on saving you time and money by ensuring you get the right products and services at the right price. We can pack and ship [almost] anything to [almost] anywhere in the world. In addition, we offer many business products and services including document printing, notary, scanning, shredding and mailbox rentals.

“

“Success is not final, failure is not fatal: It is the courage to continue that counts.”

– Winston S. Churchill

“

“If you want to be successful, it’s just this simple. Know what you are doing. Love what you are doing. And believe in what you are doing.”

– Will Rogers



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Essential Eye Care & Optical's entire team loves caring for our community! From thorough eye exams for every age and vision testing to contact lens fittings, designer eyewear, and treatment for eye conditions, our skilled team provides the care your eyes deserve.



Our Apopka clinic is equipped with the latest technology to ensure accurate diagnoses and advanced treatment options. We also accept many insurance plans to make quality care accessible and affordable.

See the difference with Essential Eye Care & Optical

📍 108 S Park Ave, Suite 100

📞 407-893-2733

www.essentialeyecareoptical.com

“I didn’t see it then, but it turned out that getting fired from Apple was the best thing that could have ever happened to me. The heaviness of being successful was replaced by the lightness of being a beginner again, less sure about everything. It freed me to enter one of the most creative periods of my life.”

– Steve Jobs

“The secret of success is to do the common thing uncommonly well.”

– John D. Rockefeller Jr.

Apopka Self Storage

2106 Plymouth-Sorrento Rd.
Apopka, FL 32712
407-652-9190
apopkastorage.com

Looking for secure, affordable storage in Apopka? Here at Apopka Self Storage, we take pride in offering top-notch security to keep your belongings safe, paired with exceptional customer service that puts your needs first. Our friendly team is dedicated to making your storage experience stress-free, with clean, well-maintained units at the best prices in town. When you choose us, you’re choosing peace of mind, outstanding value, and the best storage experience Apopka has to offer!

Apopka Vape

216 N. Park Ave.
Apopka, FL 32703
407-703-2021

The Original since 2020, Apopka Vape is proud to serve as your go-to source for Top Quality Smoke Shop Items, Anime Novelties & Collectibles, Custom T-Shirt Printing & Design, Beer, Wine & Lottery, Cold Drinks & Snacks, Glass Art Novelties & Accessories. Family-owned and operated, we’re committed to great prices, top-quality products, and friendly knowledgeable service. We’re sincerely honored to be recognized as a Best of Apopka Finalist. Thank you for supporting our local business!



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the Best of Apopka and
hope to see you soon!



Thank you for voting for us!

GFWC Apopka Woman's Club, Inc.

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community
for 68 years



Monthly
Meetings:
3rd Tuesday
At 6:30 pm
First Methodist
Church

www.apopkawomansclub.org

Join us at the 65th Apopka Art and Foliage Festival April 25th & 26th
At Kit Land Nelson Park

Arrowsmith Realty, Inc.

72 E. Main St., #600
Apopka, FL 32703
407-992-8955
arrowsmithrealty.com

Whether you're moving to a newer home or planning on moving into the area, Arrowsmith Realty, Inc. aims to provide the highest level of service to all their clients and fosters a culture of efficiency, open communication, and complete dedication to their clients' needs. Since the beginning, their success has been the result of the work performed by their dedicated and experienced team. They represent the best Apopka has to offer and embody the spirit of teamwork and professionalism.

C**C.S. West & Associates**

109 S. Park Ave.
Apopka, FL 32703
407-886-4331
apopkacpa.com

Sophia West, CPA, CDFA, and Cedrick West, CPA, lead a skilled team of CPAs and dedicated support staff who are passionate about providing customized financial solutions tailored to your unique goals. We focus on building lasting client relationships grounded in trust, transparency, and stability and appreciate our community's votes for Best of Apopka! Our core services include tax preparation, accounting, payroll, financial audit and agreed-upon procedures (AUP), personal finance planning and divorce financial services.

66

"The competitor to be feared is one who never bothers about you at all but goes on making his own business better all the time."

– Henry Ford

"Behind every successful man stands a surprised mother-in-law."

– Hubert H. Humphrey

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**Shren Yeager, Agent**

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www.theyeagerbomb.com

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Voted Best of Apopka across many categories, Apopka's newest food destination, Hall's on 5th, invites the community to experience a dynamic new take on dining. Open Tuesday through Sunday, the hall brings together six chef-driven concepts, each offering a diverse menu of flavors, alongside a full craft cocktail bar. Guests can enjoy both spacious indoor seating and an inviting outdoor patio, making it the perfect setting for everything from casual bites to lively gatherings.

Visit www.hallson5th.com or @HallsOn5th on social media for more details.

“For a successful entrepreneur it can mean extreme wealth.

But with extreme wealth comes extreme responsibility. And the responsibility for me is to invest in creating new businesses, create jobs, employ people, and to put money aside to tackle issues where we can make a difference.”

– Richard Branson

“Even if you are on the right track, you’ll get run over if you just sit there.”

– Will Rogers

Cohil Family Dentistry

2525 E. Semoran Blvd.
Apopka 32703
407-889-9682
cohilfamilydentistry.com

Dr. Kirk Cohil has been a top-rated, practicing dentist, in the Apopka area, for over 26 years. He is a “one-stop” dental office that offers high-quality, comprehensive dental care for the entire family. He has had extensive training in dental surgery and cosmetic dentistry, so you know you are in good hands when it comes to properly restoring your mouth. Trust your mouth to Dr. Cohil and staff, where attention to detail, comfort and technology are unsurpassed.

Culver's

1616 E. Semoran Blvd.
Apopka, FL 32703
407-703-3697
culvers.com/restaurants/apopka-fl-semoran-blvd

At Culver's in Apopka, serving friends and neighbors is our passion. Beyond offering the best burgers in town, the Bowe Business Group, owner/operators of eighteen Culver's across three states, is proud to support education, smart farming, and community-building programs that strengthen our friends and neighbors today - and tomorrow. The entire team is committed to Culver's mission to ensure every guest who chooses Culver's leaves happy. It all goes back to our small-town Wisconsin roots.



Propagate Social House

Where coffee, cocktails, and community grow. Sip on thoughtfully crafted specialty coffee, small-batch cocktails, and savor elevated breakfast, brunch, and lunch plates—all in a cozy, plant-filled space. The pet-friendly deck offers plenty of sunshine, power, and WiFi, making it the perfect spot to linger.



Propagate Social House

40 East 5th Street ~ Downtown Apopka
(407) 703-2696



Hours

Mon - Thurs: 7:00 am - 6:00 pm
Friday: 7:00 am - 10:00 pm
Saturday: 8:00 am - 10:00 pm
Sunday: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm



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“The price of success is hard work, dedication to the job at hand, and the determination that whether we win or lose, we have applied the best of ourselves to the task at hand.”

– Vince Lombardi

“Even if I knew that tomorrow the world would go to pieces, I would still plant my apple tree.”

– Martin Luther

E

Essential Eye Care & Optical

108 S. Park Ave.
Apopka FL 32703
407-893-2733
essentialeyecareoptical.com

The eye care services at Essential Eye Care & Optical go way above and beyond routine check-ups and updated vision prescriptions. Whether you visit us for a visual acuity test, comprehensive eye exam, contact lens fitting, designer glasses or eye disease treatment, you'll benefit from our expert skill and excellent patient service. Our eye care center is fully equipped with the latest optometric technology to give you accurate diagnoses and advanced treatments.

F

FASTSIGNS of Apopka

3030 E. Semoran Blvd. #156
Apopka, FL 32703
407-774-0003
fastsigns.com/apopka-fl/

We deliver fast, in-house sign solutions and expert installation services designed to stand out. Our team of experienced sign professionals provides heroic customer service and consultative, end-to-end support from concept to completion. We focus on building long-term partnerships with organizations that value quality, speed, and reliability. By combining expertise with a commitment to excellence, we help clients showcase their brand with confidence, achieve results that last, and rise above the competition every time.

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“

“The man who will use his skill and constructive imagination to see how much he can give for a dollar, instead of how little he can give for a dollar, is bound to succeed.”

– Henry Ford

“If you work just for money, you’ll never make it, but if you love what you’re doing and you always put the customer first, success will be yours.”

– Ray Kroc

Freedom Tire

1440 E Semoran Blvd. Ste 101-102
Apopka, FL 32703
407-886-0031
freedomtireandautomotive.com

Freedom Tire & Automotive opened its doors three years ago with the goal of being the best tire and automotive company in the area. Every day we strive to deliver on that goal. We offer nationwide warranties on all repairs and offer all major tire brands. Our ASE certified technicians are experts on all makes and models of vehicles including hybrids. We strive to be your one stop shop for all your tire and automotive needs!

G

GFWC Apopka Woman’s Club

apopkawomansclub.org

The GFWC Apopka Woman’s Club is proud to celebrate 68 years of service in Apopka. Women of all ages and backgrounds come together to share their experience, knowledge and interests, while helping to make their community a better place in which to live. Our club strives to promote civic, cultural, educational and social welfare. We support a variety of local organizations in Apopka and offer scholarships each year to deserving high school students. Learn more at www.apopkawomansclub.org.

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www.opticaleylend.com



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“

“I never did anything worth doing by accident, nor did any of my inventions come indirectly through accident, except the phonograph. No, when I have fully decided that a result is worth getting, I go about it, and make trial after trial, until it comes.”

– Thomas Edison

H

Hall’s on 5th
15 E 5th St
Apopka, FL 32703
407-886-3181
hallson5th.com

Apopka’s newest food destination, Hall’s on 5th, invites the community to experience a dynamic new take on dining. Open Tuesday through Sunday, the hall brings together six chef-driven concepts, each offering a diverse menu of flavors, alongside a full craft cocktail bar. Guests can enjoy both spacious indoor seating and an inviting outdoor patio, making it the perfect setting for everything from casual bites to lively gatherings Sign up for our event & specials newsletter!

K

Kizer Air Conditioning & Heating
1430 Plymouth Sorrento Road
Apopka, FL 32712
407-467-9561

Kizer Air Conditioning and Heating is an independently owned air conditioning and heating company serving the greater Apopka area for the last 36 years. Kizer A/C is committed to enhancing the comfort of your home. From air conditioning installations to heating repair services, they have the tools, skills, and experience that are necessary to make your home as comfortable as possible. Call them today to see why they have been voted as one of the Best of Apopka 13 years in a row!



Thanks for Welcoming Us Apopka!

Looking for secure, affordable storage in Apopka? Here at Apopka Self Storage, we take pride in offering top-notch security to keep your belongings safe, paired with exceptional customer service that puts your needs first. Our friendly team is dedicated to making your storage experience stress-free, with clean, well-maintained units at the best prices in town. When you choose us, you’re choosing peace of mind, outstanding value, and the best storage experience Apopka has to offer!



www.apopkastorage.com | 407-652-9190
2106 Plymouth-Sorrento Rd., Apopka, FL 32712

M

Maltby's Tree Service & Landscaping
321-689-5866
maltbytreeservice.com

Maltby Tree Service & Landscaping has been delivering safe and effective tree trimming and landscaping services to the people of Apopka, Windermere, Winter Garden, Longwood, and Orlando. They tackle any tree related issue you may be facing, including tree trimming, removal of problematic trees, and stump grinding. Working with you to ensure your property is safe and beautiful, approaching every job with precision and understanding that only comes from years of experience. Whatever the job may be, they do things the right way, the smart way, the Maltby's way.

“Success consists of going from failure to failure without loss of enthusiasm.”

– Winston Churchill

“

“If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.”

– John Quincy Adams

“

“The successful warrior is the average man, with laser-like focus.”

– Bruce Lee

The Apopka Chief

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Website: www.mcleodlawfirm.com

The hiring of a lawyer is an important decision
that should not be based solely upon advertisements.

McCoy Federal Credit Union

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407-855-5452
mccoyfcu.org

Since 1954, McCoy Federal Credit Union has been a source of financial strength through innovative products and exceptional services. McCoy is one of Central Florida's largest credit unions with \$1 billion in assets and 15 branches serving over 80,000 members. At the heart of everything McCoy does is the belief that giving back is an essential part of doing business. The McCoy Cares program supports schools, churches, and charities through hundreds of events and sponsorships.

McLeod Law Firm

48 East Main Street
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407-886-3300
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The McLeod Law Firm believes in a traditional 'hands-on' law practice, with attorneys and staff working with clients to resolve their legal issues. The McLeod Law Firm is proud to have long-time business clients, and regularly represents the second and third generation of individual clients' families. Areas of practice include Estate Planning, Probate, Real Estate, Business Organizations, and Business Transactions.

“

**“There are no secrets to success.
It is the result of preparation,
hard work, and learning from
failure.”**

– Colin Powell

“

**“Success seems to
be connected with
action. Successful
people keep moving.
They make mistakes,
but they don't quit.”**

– Conrad Hilton



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First Place	Scott & Associates
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Third Place	C.S. West & Associates

Bank

First Place	One Florida Bank
Second Place	Chase
Third Place	Bank of America

Credit Union

First Place	Fairwinds Credit Union
Second Place	Addition Financial
Third Place	McCoy Federal Credit Union

Insurance Agency

First Place	GEICO - Zachary Ingram
Second Place	DeClue Brothers a CF Insurance Company
Third Place	State Farm - Shren Yeager

Investment Services

First Place	Primerica - Bill Spiegel, Jr.
Second Place	Fischer Wealth Management
Third Place	Edward Jones - Byron Tobias

Law Firm

First Place	McLeod Law Firm
Second Place	George C. Kelley
Third Place	SLF Smothers Law Firm, P.A.
Third Place	Young's Law Firm

Automotive

Automotive Parts

First Place	O'Reilly Auto Parts
Second Place	Napa Auto Parts - Glenn Joiner & Son
Third Place	AutoZone Auto Parts

Automotive Services

First Place	Freedom Tire & Automotive
Second Place	Sheeler Auto Repair
Third Place	A/C Action Automotive

Car Wash & Detailing

First Place	Vision Car Wash
Second Place	Waters Car Wash
Third Place	Bonita's Car Wash & Detailing

Pre-Owned Sales

First Place	Mullinax Ford of Central Florida
Second Place	Owens Used Cars
Third Place	Cancun Auto Sales & Repair
Third Place	Cars Cars Cars, Inc.

Tires

First Place	Discount Tire
Second Place	AOK Tire Mart
Third Place	Freedom Tire & Automotive

Event & Guest Services

Banquet & Event Facilities

First Place	Highland Manor
Second Place	Hidden Barn Venue
Third Place	Apopka Community Center

Catering

First Place	Beef 'O' Brady's
Second Place	Dubsdread Catering
Third Place	The Nauti Lobstah

DJ / Audio-Visual Services

First Place	The NotePadd
Second Place	DJ's Unlimited
Third Place	Missing Link Events

Hotel / Motel

First Place	Hilton Garden Inn Apopka City Center
Second Place	Hampton Inn & Suites
Third Place	Holiday Inn Express & Suites

Photography

First Place	DJ's Unlimited
First Place	Photography by Lena
Third Place	Charles LeRette Photography

Food & Drink

Bakery

First Place	Aunt Gingibread's Bakery
Second Place	Doughlicious Donuts
Third Place	Publix Supermarket

BBQ

First Place	Sonny's BBQ
Second Place	Papa Diesel's BBQ
Third Place	Miller's Ale House

Breakfast

First Place	Propagate Social House
Second Place	Eggs Up Grill
Third Place	Robinson Family Restaurant

Burger

First Place	Culver's
Second Place	Rock Springs Bar & Grill
Third Place	Chili's

Chicken Wings

First Place	Cafe Verona
Second Place	Frogger's Grill & Bar
	Apopka
Third Place	Gator's Dockside

Chinese / Japanese / Asian

First Place	Fancy Q Sushi & Thai
Second Place	Chung Xiang Chinese Food
Third Place	Sweet & Salty Island Grindz @ Hall's on 5th

Coffee Houses

First Place	Propagate Social House
Second Place	Canon Coffee
Third Place	True Coffee

Full-Service Restaurant

First Place	The Backroom Steakhouse
Second Place	The Nauti Lobstah
Third Place	Garibaldi

Ice Cream / Frozen Treats

First Place	Parlor Kitchen @ Hall's on 5th
Second Place	Snowie of Central Florida
Third Place	Culver's

Italian & Pizza

First Place	Caffe Positanos
Second Place	Cafe Verona
Third Place	Apopka Pizza

Lunch

First Place	Soulcious Vegan Kitchen
Second Place	Beef 'O' Brady's
Third Place	Butcher's Nook Cuts & Deli Shop
Third Place	The Nauti Lobstah

Mexican / Caribbean / Latin

First Place	Garibaldi Mexican Restaurant & Bar
Second Place	El Potro
Third Place	Cielito Lindo Mexican Grill

Sandwich / Wrap

First Place	Butcher's Nook Cuts & Deli Shop
Second Place	Cafe Verona
Third Place	Chick-fil-A
Third Place	Propagate Social House

Seafood

First Place	The Nauti Lobstah
Second Place	The Backroom Steakhouse

Soul Food

First Place	Soulcious Vegan Kitchen
Second Place	Just Like Momma's Soul Food
Third Place	Lula Mae's Eatery

Specialty

First Place	Sweet & Salty Island
	Grindz @ Hall's on 5th
Second Place	Stephies Irish Pub & Eatery
Third Place	Butcher's Nook Cuts & Deli Shop @ Hall's on 5th

Sushi

First Place	Fancy Q Sushi & Thai
Second Place	Thrive Eatery @ Hall's on 5th
Third Place	Tokyo Sushi Apopka

Veggie Forward

First Place	Soulcious Vegan Kitchen
Second Place	Propagate Social House
Third Place	Grain and Berry

Health & Beauty

Barber Shop

First Place	Downtown Barbers Apopka
Second Place	Tuto's Barber Shop
Third Place	Randy Hernandez

Day Spa

First Place	Hand & Stone Massage and Facial
Second Place	The Salt Room Apopka
Third Place	Serenity Spa and Salon

Hair Salon

First Place	Urban Glow - Larri Brown
Second Place	Great Clips
Third Place	Serenity Spa and Salon

Home & Garden

Air Conditioning & Heating

First Place	Kizer Air Conditioning & Commercial Refrigeration
Second Place	Rooster's Heating & Air Conditioning
Third Place	Cee Bee Air Systems

Carpet Cleaning

First Place	Stanley Steemer Apopka
Second Place	Mazol's Carpet Care
Third Place	Ronny's Carpet Cleaning

Electrician

First Place	Carter Electric
Second Place	Bowman Electric
Second Place	Cable Electrical Services

Exterior Services (Keeping Your Lot Pristine)

First Place	NUGS Property Washing
Second Place	Shelly's Environmental & Septic Tanks

Second Place Krazikleen Pressure Cleaning

Garage Doors

First Place Florida Door Solutions
Second Place Total Garage LLC
Third Place Advanced Door Solutions Inc.
Third Place Rolando's Garage Doors

Landscape / Lawn Maintenance / Irrigation

First Place Maltby's Tree Service & Landscaping

Second Place JD Shelley's Tree Service
Third Place Amigo Lawn Care

Plumbing

First Place Shelly's Environmental & Septic Tanks

Second Place A1 Plumbing, Inc.
Third Place Apopka Plumbing Service

Pool Services

First Place Pinch a Penny Apopka/Rock Springs #158

Second Place Pinch a Penny Apopka/Wekiva #58
Third Place Peter's Pool Services LLC

Roofing

First Place Stanley's Roofing
Second Place Castle Roofing Group
Third Place Allegiance Roof Restoration & Coatings

Solar Panels

First Place Solar Tech Electrical
First Place WattSun Solar and Roofing
Third Place Star Solar Wholesale

Medical / Dental

Aesthetics

First Place Florida Institute of Dermatology
Second Place Associates In Dermatology
Third Place Mid Florida Dermatology & Plastic Surgery

Assisted Living

First Place Brookdale Wekiwa Springs
Second Place Solaris Healthcare
Third Place Wellsprings Residence Assisted Living

Audiology

First Place Central Florida Audiology
Second Place TruEAR

Chiropractor

First Place St. Germain Chiropractic
Second Place Dr. Mark Boylan - Injury to Health

Third Place Apopka Wellness Center

Dental Office

First Place A Soft Touch in Family Dental Care

Second Place All Smiles Family Dental Care

Second Place Cohil Family Dentistry

Home Health / Nursing

First Place Heart and Hands on-Deck Care Support

Second Place MediPro Home Care Services

Medical Office

First Place Aegis Medical Group
Second Place AdventHealth Medical Group Family and Internal Medicine
Third Place Drs. Elias & Oakley, PA

Opticians / Ophthalmology

First Place Essential Eyecare & Optical
Second Place Optical Eyeland of Apopka
Third Place Magruder Eye Institute

Orthodontic

First Place Baptiste Orthodontics
Second Place Modern Orthodontics
Third Place Schroeder Dental Group

Pediatrics

First Place AdventHealth Medical Group - Pediatrics

Second Place Hunt Club Pediatrics
Third Place All My Kids Pediatrics
Third Place Emily R. Wolfe, MD - Pediatrics

Rehabilitation

First Place Hohman Rehab
Second Place So To Speak Therapies
Third Place SpeechBuilders Speech and Occupational Therapy

Pets

Kennel Services

First Place Park Avenue Animal Hospital
Second Place North Orange Animal Hospital
Third Place Pet Care Center of Apopka
Third Place Sheeler Road Animal Hospital VCA

Pet Grooming

First Place Woof Gang Bakery & Grooming
Second Place Bow Wow Pet Salon
Third Place Pet Supermarket

Pet Stores

First Place Petco
First Place Woof Gang Bakery & Grooming
Third Place Pet Supermarket

Veterinarian Office

First Place Park Avenue Animal Hospital
Second Place North Orange Animal Hospital
Third Place Pet Xpert Animal Clinic

Real Estate / Housing

Apartments

First Place Verandahs at Hunt Club
Second Place The Oasis at Wekiva
Third Place Willow Lake Apartments

Builders

First Place RL Gordon Contractors
Second Place D.R. Horton
Third Place Florida State Construction

Realtors

First Place Rock Springs Realty - Joe Bornstein, Broker

Second Place Arrowsmith Realty
Third Place Michelle Chase Team

Storage

First Place Rock Springs RV & Boat Storage
Second Place Apopka Self Storage
Third Place Extra Space Storage

Recreational Activities

Country Club

First Place Zellwood Station Golf & Country Club

Second Place Sweetwater Golf & Country Club

Second Place Wekiva Golf Club

Golf Course

First Place Zellwood Station Golf & Country Club

Second Place Wekiva Golf Club
Third Place Sweetwater Golf & Country Club

Gym / Fitness Club

First Place Planet Fitness
Second Place Crunch Fitness
Third Place The Hit Fit Gym

Rec Sports Club

First Place Apopka Run Club
Second Place Bowlero
Third Place City of Apopka Athletics Complex

Retail

Eyewear

First Place Essential Eyecare & Optical
Second Place Optical Eyeland of Apopka
Third Place America's Best Eyewear

Flooring

First Place Home Outlet - Kitchens, Baths, Floors & More

Second Place Flooring Master of Apopka
Third Place Stag Flooring

Furniture & Mattresses

First Place Box Drop Apopka Mattresses & More

Second Place Hobby Lobby
Second Place Trader Mae's Furniture & Decor Market

Hardware

First Place Carter's Ace Hardware
Second Place Lowe's Apopka
Third Place Harbor Freight

Nursery & Garden Center

First Place Lowe's Apopka
Second Place Lee's Trees & Landscaping
Third Place Roedell's Landscaping

Smoke Shop

First Place The Smoke Exchange
Second Place Apopka Vape Shop
Third Place Dat Hoot Smoke Shop
Third Place Horizon Smoke Shop

Supermarket / Groceries

First Place Publix Supermarket
Second Place ALDI
Third Place Sprouts Farmers Market
Third Place Winn Dixie

Thrift Shop

First Place St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Stores
Second Place Goodwill Industries
Third Place Trendy Kids

Special Services

Alarms and Security

First Place Brewer Security Solutions
Second Place Tactical Hawkeye Security
Second Place Up 2 Code Systems

Locksmith

First Place Active Lock & Key
Second Place AA-Abra-Key-Dabra Locksmith
Third Place Electronic Locksmith

Marketing / Design

First Place Fast Signs of Apopka
Second Place Creative Signs Inc.
Third Place Apopka Plaque & Trophy, LLC

Pest Control

First Place All Season Pest Control
Second Place Mercer Pest Control
Third Place Massey Services Apopka

Pool Cleaning

First Place Pinch a Penny Apopka/Wekiva #58

Second Place Pinch a PennyApopka/Rock Springs #158

Third Place Sea Breeze Pool Services

Printing & Signs

First Place Fast Signs of Apopka
Second Place Creative Signs Inc.
Third Place Apopka Pack & Ship

Community Leadership Finalists
December Chamber Announcement

**Apopka Chamber
Businessman of the Year**

Bill Friedrich - Hilton Garden Inn Apopka
City Center
Essential Eyecare & Optical - Dr. David Dada
State Farm - Shren Yeager

**Apopka Chamber Businesswoman
of the Year**

AC2 HVAC Services - Rosa Cortes
All Seasons Pest Control - Terry Levesque
Scott & Associates - Angela Scott

Chamber Member of the Year

Fast Signs of Apopka - Charles Chambers
Scott & Associates - Angela Scott

Community Champion

Bahia Shriners
Julie Bayly Optical Eyeland
Loaves and Fishes
Patmos Chapel at The Well Activity Center

Community Focused Restaurant

Beef 'O' Brady's
Halls on 5th
The Back Room Steakhouse

Legacy Award

Apopka Woman's Club
Duke Energy
Mullinax Ford of Central Florida

Rookie of the Year

Apopka Pack & Ship
Gallo's Pollo & Grill
Heart and Hands on-Deck Care Support

Young Entrepreneur

Jaison Harris
Adam Morris

The finalists within the Community Leadership category are listed in alphabetical order. The first-place winner for each of the categories will be announced at The Apopka Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards Celebration in December. For more information about the Apopka Area Chamber of Commerce, please visit www.apopkachamber.org.

“

“There is only one boss. The customer. And he can fire everybody in the company from the chairman on down, simply by spending his money somewhere else.”

– Sam Walton

“

“All mankind is divided into three classes: those that are immovable, those that are movable, and those that move.”

– Benjamin Franklin

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“No matter how carefully you plan your goals they will never be more than pipe dreams unless you pursue them with gusto.”
– W. Clement Stone

“If you read history you will find that the Christians who did most for the present world were precisely those who thought most of the next.”
– C.S. Lewis



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Propagate Social House is a vibrant community hangout in the heart of downtown Apopka, offering a unique blend of specialty coffee, craft cocktails, wine, and delicious breakfast, brunch, and lunch options. Our pet-friendly space features a cozy patio and deck with plenty of outdoor seating. Whether you're looking for a productive workspace with fast internet, a relaxing spot to unwind with friends and family, or a lively venue for local events, we've got you covered.

“

“Hold yourself responsible for a higher standard than anybody expects of you. Never excuse yourself.”

– Henry Ward Beecher

“Good management is the art of making problems so interesting and their solutions so constructive that everyone wants to get to work and deal with them.”

– Paul Hawken



Soulicious Vegan Kitchen is the soulful experience of plant-based food. Family owned and run, we're transforming favorite comfort classics, vegan style. From crispy fried chick'n and brisket sliders to creamy mac and cheese, our bold flavors bring nostalgia with a twist, right here in the heart of Apopka. With new lunch and brunch additions launching this fall, whether you're a seasoned vegan, just exploring, or transitioning to a plant-based lifestyle, you'll find something to love.

My name is Tiffany. My journey to starting Soulicious Vegan Kitchen began with faith and one step of obedience. I faced miscarriages and the pain of not carrying them full term. In that season, the Lord led me to nourish myself with better choices. As I began to change what I put into my body, I saw a transformation, not just in my health, but in my ability to bring life into this world.

I didn't walk this journey alone. My husband, Dejon, encouraged me and committed to the change right alongside me. His belief in God's plan led him to quit his job and even step away from something he loved, mentoring kids, to serve full-time in our restaurant. To be honest, it was rough in the beginning. Challenges grew, and everything felt new.

That's why Soulicious Vegan Kitchen is more than just a restaurant, it's a ministry. It's a place where we serve, uplift, and plant new seeds, ones that nourish the body, the mind, and the soul. We're not here just to cater to the vegan or plant-based community. My focus is on the curious, the hesitant, or those who may have had a bad first experience with vegan food and wrote it off completely.

I completely understand a bad first experience with food, it's like a bad first date, it can turn you off completely. My mission is to change that by offering something familiar, flavors, textures, and dishes people already know and love. I guess you can say we're meeting people where they are. If I can earn their trust by creating a great experience with food, then I can open the door to something better, refreshing, and more sustaining.

Too often, the transition to plant-based eating feels discouraging. There's so much guidance, and sometimes not enough good food encounters to match it. That's why Soulicious Vegan Kitchen exists. We believe that if people enjoy the food, they'll be more open to trying new things.

At Soulicious Vegan Kitchen, our mission is simple: to create a space where comfort food feels like home, where nourishment meets flavor, and where faith is the foundation. Every dish we serve is more than just a meal, it's an embrace to God's goodness, one soulful bite at a time.

R

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“

“Try not to become a man of success. Rather become a man of value.”

– Albert Einstein

“

“There are two ways of spreading light: to be the candle or the mirror that reflects it.”

– Edith Wharton



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Soulicious Vegan Kitchen is the soulful experience of plant-based food. Family owned and run, we're transforming favorite comfort classics, vegan style. From crispy fried chick'n and brisket sliders to creamy mac and cheese, our bold flavors bring nostalgia with a twist, right here in the heart of Apopka, FL. With new brunch additions launching this fall, whether you're a seasoned vegan, just exploring, or transitioning to a plant-based lifestyle, you'll find something to love.

“Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time.”

– Thomas A. Edison

“All our dreams can come true, if we have the courage to pursue them.”

– Walt Disney



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“I never dreamed about success.
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– Estee Lauder

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– Colin Powell

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“Without continual growth and progress, such words as improvement, achievement, and success have no meaning.”

– Benjamin Franklin

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“Success is not the key to happiness. Happiness is the key to success. If you love what you are doing, you will be successful.”

– Albert Schweitzer

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