

Council approves first reading of employees’ pension increase

Increase is first in a decade

By Teresa Sargeant
Reporter

The Apopka City Council on Wednesday approved the first reading of an amendment to the general employees’ retirement system, which would increase the retirement benefit multiplier from the current 2.75% to 3%.

Mayor Bryan Nelson

recused himself from the vote because he was “a part of this,” he said. The final vote was 4-0.

General employees will see their contribution rates rise from the current 4.9% to 5.5% of their salary, said Frank Mega of HY Consulting, the city pension plan administrator for general employees, police and fire.

John Hanson, a city building official who sat on the Pension Plan Board for 12 years, said the time has

come for employees to receive a raise in their pension plan. He said general employees never had a pension plan increase, but police and fire did.

“I think there’s a heck of a deal for the employees. I mean, we’ve been wanting this since the last administration,” Hanson said. “It’s been a long time... Let’s get it done.”

The boost in pension pay is the result of a year-long initiative driven by

the employees themselves, Mega said. The Pension Board conducted a benefit impact study, which included many options, their costs, and the cost to the city. The Pension Board recommended a few options for presentation to the membership, then to the City Council.

An online vote was held among the approximately 260 active general employees, but only 187 par-

PENSIONS, A7



Photo by Teresa Sargeant
John Hanson, city building official and Pension Plan Board member, addresses the City Council as city workers watch.

Wekiva High receives pivotal community school designation

UCF awards approximately \$7M to OCPS for holistic neighborhood wellness

By Sarah Merly
Reporter

Wekiva High School has received the university-assisted community school (UACS) designation, unlocking millions in funding to transform the campus into a hub for a variety of student services.

The Full-Service Community Schools Program federal grant awarded UCF \$50 million toward its Unlimited Potential Initiative (UPI) grant. UCF then awarded approximately \$7 million to community schools within OCPS as part of its UPI grant.

So what is a community school?

“This community school model is more like a strategy that helps boost academic success and strengthen our communities by making that connection so that the schools can be a hub for health and social services, youth programs, family engagement, academics — all those things that kind of focus on the whole child,” said Alina Davis, UPI community schools senior ad-



Photo by Rey Villavicencio
Johnny Outing holds up products that will stock the Mustang Market, a food pantry set to open next spring at Wekiva High School.

ministrator for Orange County Public Schools (OCPS).

For the first phase of Wekiva’s transformation, community school director Johnny Outing aims to officially open the Mustang Market — a food pantry — and a clothing outlet for families in need around the end of the school year. Wekiva is also renovating a space to reopen as a multi-purpose family resource center.

“That will be utilized for organizations who come in and want to teach things like

resume building and how to have a proper interview,” Outing said. “We’ll also use that space for a Zen room for emotional health support, where they can come in and they can talk to a therapist, talk to a counselor.”

Although he graduated from Southeastern University with a bachelor’s degree in pre-law, Outing said he found his “passion and purpose” in education. He taught English language arts at three elementary schools before arriving at Wekiva in March. Since then,

he’s spent most of his time building relationships with local nonprofits and businesses.

“It’s a lot of mobilizing and organizing work, of explaining what a community school is to people who are in close proximity to the school, and then trying to convince them that what you do would be beneficial for our school, and what we do would be beneficial to you,” Outing said. “It’s a lot of that,

UACS DESIGNATION, A7

HOA weighs legal action over fiber installation damage

Metronet says it is addressing issues

By Teresa Sargeant
Reporter

In late October, Timothy Ondrey saw small flags planted in the easements around Rock Springs Ridge, first outside the subdivision on Rock Springs Road and then moving their way into the community. Eventually, they reached Ondrey’s neighborhood.

Ondrey, who lives on Rock Hill Loop, is one of several Apopka homeowners who say they’ve sustained property damage to their easements because of a fiber network installation

by Metronet, prompting the homeowners association (HOA) to retain a lawyer in preparation for potential legal action.

Although Rock Springs Ridge is within city limits, Orange County is overseeing the rollout.

Ondrey described a “good amount” of his neighborhood as being impacted by the installation, with the most significant damage occurring to his easement.

“The grass was torn up and then, I’ll say, hastily put back down, or it wasn’t remediated the same day that the work was done,”

INSTALLATION DAMAGE, A5



Photo by Teresa Sargeant
Flags and markings on the sidewalk and grass, seen here in a Rock Springs Road neighborhood, are part of the fiber optics installation.

Apopka finance department collaborating with Eatonville

Partnership to address auditor general’s findings

By Sarah Merly
Reporter

Representatives from the town of Eatonville met with Mayor Bryan Nelson on Monday and announced a new collaboration between the municipalities.

EATONVILLE, A6



Courtesy of the city of Apopka
Representatives from Eatonville and Apopka, including Mayor Bryan Nelson and Eatonville city administrator Marlin Daniels, meet in a conference room at Apopka City Hall.

Latest Jersey Mike’s shop opens on Rock Springs Road

New location marks sub shop’s third in Apopka

By Sarah Merly
Reporter

Jersey Mike’s franchisees Eli Johnson, Joseph Fischer and Julio Cayo opened the sub sandwich chain’s third Apopka location Wednesday at 1637 N

JERSEY MIKE’S, A5



Photo by Sarah Merly
Franchisees Julio Cayo, Joseph Fischer, and Eli Johnson pose in front of the new location.

Opinion

The Apopka Chief Trusted local news since 1923

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Orange County weighing sales tax ballot initiative

Orange County Mayor Jerry Demings recently invited mayors and city managers to a meeting to discuss the possibility of putting a sales tax initiative on the ballot in November 2026.

Orange County hired GreatBlue Research to understand residents’ priorities for transportation and broader infrastructure investments. The last initiative, which failed in 2022, did not include a broader infrastructure investment component that would have aligned it more with the sales tax Seminole County enacted years ago.

GreatBlue looked at quality of life, transportation behaviors, roadways, bus and rail systems, stormwater management, natural resources, infrastructure priorities and trust and communication.

They had over 1,000 completed questionnaires from residents answering questions about quality of life. According to the survey, over 82% of residents feel positive about life in Orange County; 56.4% say it’s easy to maintain a standard of living; and 75.7% of residents trust Orange County to manage funds responsibly.

Roadway maintenance is viewed favorably by 78.9% of residents, although 56.8% believe road maintenance could be improved, and 48.7%

Apopka Mayor



Bryan Nelson

believe intersection improvements are needed. As to bus service, 27.7% of residents want long travel times to be reduced. Almost 80% of residents want expanded SunRail service to the airport and key employment centers.

Flood and stormwater are important to almost 90% of residents, and 76% of residents feel confident that the county can handle flood related events. Improving drainage in older neighborhoods is a top priority of 67.4% of respondents, and flood vulnerability upgrades are next at 50%.

Protecting and preserving natural lands was important to an overwhelming 92.9% of residents. Parks, trails, and greenspace are just as important to the county’s residents.

Road maintenance was the top overall priority for 1/3 of residents, followed by 22.3% for intersection improvements, and stormwater upgrades in older neighborhoods was the top priority for 18.7% of respondents.

The County Commission has a fairly short timeframe to have the sales tax initiative on the ballot for November 2026. If the initiative is to be on the ballot, the County Commission will need to begin the process soon after the first of the year.

The entire 27-page Orange County PowerPoint should be available for more details about the study.

Infrastructure needs bust county budget

Orange County government maintains over 3,000 miles of roadway, enough to take a trip to California. Imagine being responsible to resurface at a cost of \$250,000 per lane mile all this county infrastructure.

Resurfacing, with only two-lane roads, while many roadways are four and five lanes, requires \$1.5 billion every 12–15 years. The county public works budget is only \$250 million annually. Thus, the county is behind by over \$5 billion.

Recently, the county resurfaced West Ponkan Road from US441 to Plymouth Sorrento Road with the price tag of \$2 million. A wise CFO, Randy Singh, told me upon my election to the County Commission in 2019 that the public works budget must allocate sufficient funds to maintain roadways before contemplating any additional capacity. It costs around \$5.5 million per lane mile to expand roadways.

Last summer, the commission hired Urban 3 to help develop a financial tool for evaluating the feasibility of new suburban neighborhoods. While developers, and of course homebuyers, pay for the initial road infrastructure,

County Commissioner
District 2



Christine Moore

the long-term maintenance falls to county government and taxpayers.

As a side note, most of you desire a developer to pay for upgrading non-subdivision or county or city roadways. However, the Florida Legislature does not allow developers to be forced to expand roadway capacity. That is why you see roadways and sidewalks improved only on portions abutting a new subdivision.

You can quickly see from this information that widening or increasing capacity on Ponkan, Plymouth Sorrento, Kelly Park, Sadler, and Round Lake roads is so challenging. Between the Legislature’s prohibition on requiring the developers to add the extra capacity, counties and cities often get beat up unfairly.

At the root of our challenge in Northwest Orange

County was the extension of SR429 or beltway around Orlando. I believe the Legislature should have required the toll agencies to fund additional improvements directly around these new interchanges. Central Florida Expressway Authority brings in \$800 million annually — this is four times what the county is currently able to budget.

Also, if you recall, our leaders back in the early 2000s negotiated the Wekiva Parkway deal to have limited access. The city of Apopka rezoned the entire area, creating a “new urban” city at the interchange. However, no infrastructure funding was provided for Kelly Park or Plymouth Sorrento roadway expansions. The intent was for the increased tax revenue to provide needed infrastructure funding.

You know the problem here. The impact fees and taxes do not make it to county or city coffers until a Certificate of Occupancy is issued. Herein lies the answer to the gentleman who comes to complain at almost every council meeting about why infrastructure lags new development.

Editor’s note: This is the first in a two-part series.

‘The Amazing Shake’ teaches valuable life skills

I recently had the opportunity to participate in “The Amazing Shake” competition at Dream Lake Elementary School as a judge. This is the second time I have been able to take part in this tremendous event, and once again, I was not disappointed.

The Amazing Shake is an annual contest that was developed by the well-respected Ron Clark Academy in Atlanta. The competition emphasizes teaching students manners, discipline, respect, and how to conduct themselves in a professional environment.

Essentially, these young students learn how to “work a room” almost as well as a young adult twice their age. Local schools around the country that want to participate and send a team to compete in Atlanta, hold smaller competitions at their home school to find their top students. That is what we did at Dream Lake.

The event started with all the competitors networking in a

Orange County School
Board, District 7



Melissa Byrd

room with community members and local leaders. Here they were rated on how they introduced themselves, how well they made eye contact or shook a hand and how well they engaged in two-way communication.

Then the students visited the media center, which was transformed into a circus theme, where they had to complete challenges at each station with a guest judge. The stations were meant to challenge their quick thinking, communication skills and problem-solving.

Every student walked up to

me and introduced themselves with a handshake and asked how I was doing or thanked me for being there. The students had to do things like calm an angry customer or introduce performers as a ring master.

Each challenge was met with a young student who was engaged, poised and mature. To say that all the adults in the room were impressed is an understatement. As one judge commented, these kids are heads and tails ahead of the game of life, learning these important skills this young.

The winning team at Dream Lake has been chosen, and I am happy to be able to sponsor part of their trip to Atlanta as they head to The Amazing Shake competition in March. I’m so excited that they are prepared for this opportunity and are set up for success in the future thanks to the incredible program. Another great opportunity for our students provided by our local public schools.

APOPKA HISTORICAL NOTES

Attributed to Treasures and Pleasures Cookbook
Published 1990 by: First Presbyterian Church
Apopka, Florida

Bay Ridge, an early community about three miles northeast of Zellwood, came into existence almost overnight in 1885-86. About 30 families settled there and began farming. One of these early settlers was Henry Schopke, a general merchandiser.

About The Apopka Chief

The Apopka Chief is published every Friday and entered as Periodicals, postage paid at Apopka Post Office, under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879 (USPS545–440). The Apopka Chief newspaper is published by Mainstreet Daily News from 400 North Park Avenue, Apopka, Fla., 32712–3417. Phone 407–886–2777.

The Apopka Chief is an award-winning community weekly newspaper and a member of the Florida Press Association. Email news tips to news@theapokkachief.com.

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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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

In this world of chaos and untamed rhetoric over political differences, I want to claim a time-out and share an uplifting episode that makes me so proud to be a part of the American culture.

I am relegated to a power wheelchair, and it becomes a chore sometimes to do my grocery shopping. I was in Winn-Dixie two days before Thanksgiving and, as expected, it was full-up of people shopping for items needed for their Thanksgiving meals.

I dragged that little basket (I could not find one of the small buggies) through the aisles as carefully as possible for fear I would mortally wound someone

by striking them. As I endeavored to reach different products, I found I was a little short in one end. The number of people who took time out of their busyness to come to my rescue was absolutely mind boggling! I was so grateful for the kindness, consideration, and assistance I received.

When I finished my shopping and approached the cashier, I found it impossible to retrieve the groceries out of the basket (short in the other end), but kindness again raised its beautiful head and the lovely lady behind me lifted my items to the cashier’s counter.

She noticed my cap and asked if I was a veteran. After ac-

knowledging I was, she thanked me for my service, and I started the process of checking out. But when I tried entering my card, the cashier and the bagger told me it was already paid for. I was amazed!

No one would let me in on who had paid, so I left Winn-Dixie rejoicing in the fact that our nation, the United States of America, is still full of people of unbelievable grace and love for their fellow countrymen and women. To whomsoever you are, THANK YOU and GOD bless you for your concern for others (and my groceries too)!

Ike Hayden,
Apopka

Moore officially secures number of petitions to run for mayor

She is the first candidate to complete this process

By Teresa Sargeant
Reporter

Christine Moore has officially secured the necessary number of petitions to run for mayor of Apopka, her campaign announced Nov. 26.

She is the first mayoral candidate to successfully complete this process, gathering the required certified signatures from at least 1% of registered voters from the latest election, according to a statement released by



Photo by Teresa Sargeant

Orange County District 2 Commissioner Christine Moore is the first mayoral candidate to secure enough petitions.

Moore's campaign. "Qualifying by petition is a testament to the strong grassroots support behind our message," Moore said in the statement. "I'm grateful to

every Apopka resident who opened their door, signed a petition, and encouraged our effort, as well as hardworking volunteers like Carl and Suzanne Engelmeier. Qualifying by petition reflects our commitment to a community-driven campaign from day one."

The Moore campaign is now pivoting its efforts to connect with Apopka residents, concentrating on community gatherings, local engagement and continuous dialogue.

Her platform includes breathing new life into downtown Apopka, managing residential expansion, upgrading crucial public works, expand-

ing protected environmental lands, and fostering a more respectful atmosphere during council sessions and on digital platforms.

"What the city of Apopka needs most now is the ability to have trust and confidence in city government," Moore said in an interview. "I'm a straight shooter, and they can always count on me including them, letting them know what's going on. This town has to work for everyone. It has to work for everyone and we want people to love our town."

Moore is the first woman elected as Orange County District 2 commissioner.

Prior to that, she represented District 7, which includes Apopka, on the Orange County School Board.

She holds both the Advanced Certified County Commissioner and Certified Board Member designations.

Moore is running against two-term incumbent Mayor Bryan Nelson and challengers Matthew Aungst and two-term City Commissioner Nick Nesta.

The Apopka municipal election, which will consist of the mayoral race and City Council Seats 1 and 2, will take place on March 10, 2026.

Seminole County Chamber announces new Apopka council

By Sarah Merly
Reporter

The Seminole County Chamber announced its new Apopka area council, the West Seminole Council, in a Nov. 24 press release.

"We've had a lot of businesses from the Apopka area over the past year looking for just another way for them to connect with more businesses and community leaders," Rebekah Arthur, Seminole County Chamber president and CEO, said in an interview.

The new council will serve the Semoran Boulevard corridor, from downtown Apopka to

the State Road 434/436 intersection. According to the Seminole County Chamber, more than 20,000 people and 1,600 businesses reside between those two local landmarks.

Seminole County Chamber, five-star accredited chamber and current Florida Chamber of the Year, has seven other councils throughout the county, with the common goal of uniting local business leaders. The West Seminole Council will meet on the first Monday of every month for lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Bahia Shrine, located at 3101 E. Semoran Boulevard. Its first meeting is currently set for Feb. 2, 2026, with Seminole



Courtesy of Seminole County Chamber

The committee for the West Seminole Council poses at Bahia Shrine, the council's chosen meeting venue.

State College Center of Business Development's Jessica Rosario-Fortis serving as guest speaker.

"One thing as business owners we sometimes forget to

do is our continuing education," Collette Rance, West Seminole Council chair and A-HA! Insurance president, said in an interview. "Unless there's some sort

of industry requirement, people don't do it. They just kind of plod along and do what they know. So it's good, I think, from an educational standpoint, but [also] from a business standpoint, to do this sort of format."

Rance said her current job is to teach seniors about Medicare, but one of her most significant ties to Apopka started when she was a schoolteacher.

"I'm an old teacher — I spent 22 years teaching," Rance said. "My first gig after my master's degree was [at] Apopka Middle School, and I spent a lot of years there. And then I moved to Piedmont, so I have a lot of ties to Apopka,

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Council denies land use change for M A Board Street townhomes

Opponents say new units out of place

By Teresa Sargeant
Reporter

The Apopka City Council voted 4–1 to deny a future land use amendment for a proposed development of three townhomes at 155 M A Board Street, ultimately supporting residents’ concerns that the townhomes would be a detriment to the surrounding community.

Commissioner Nick Nesta cast the sole vote in favor of the application, which, had it passed, would have changed the future land use designation for the 2.7-acre vacant property from Residential Medium



Photo by Vincent Cammarano

Commissioner Nadia Anderson opposes the three townhomes proposed for construction on M A Board Street.

to Mixed Use.

Such a change would have permitted the owner, Magic Houses LLC, to build the three townhomes, increasing the permitted

density from 10 to 15 units per acre.

Amr Gawad, representing the developer, defended the proposal by stating that the application aligned

with the city’s comprehensive plan. He referred to the city’s 2004 joint planning agreement with Orange County, which focused on revitalizing downtown.

Gawad argued that the new townhomes would increase the city’s tax base and help renew Apopka’s downtown area.

Commissioner Nadia Anderson opposed the project, stating that based on communications from several residents, the community was against the project because it didn’t align with the area, which is comprised of single-family homes, and would likely decrease property values.

“Ideally, our job is to make sure that we are protecting the community — protecting the values in that community — and throw-

ing in three townhomes is not in the best interest of the community,” she said.

During public comment, resident Francina Boykin highlighted this opposition. She called the townhome development a potential “eyesore” that would also create “traffic clutter” due to the anticipated number of vehicles per unit.

“This is not small scale,” she said. “It is the beginning of gentrification of a very quaint, historical community.”

Boykin added that if Mildred A. Board — a lifelong resident, educator and community advocate for whom the street is named — were alive today, she would object to the townhomes.

Gawad told the council

that a community meeting for the townhome development, mandatory as part of the application process, “was attended, [and] it was very positive.”

However, Commissioner Alexander H. Smith countered this, noting that according to the meeting summary he read, only one person attended.

“I brought it up because when you were asked ‘was community meeting held,’ you said ‘yes, and everybody was pleased,’” Smith told Gawad. “So, it made it appear that there was a group of people there, when it was actually only one person there.”

Gawad maintained that the low attendance did not negate the fact that the development team had properly advertised the meeting.

EATONVILLE FROM A1

“The City of Apopka will help Eatonville address the recent findings of the Auditor General regarding Eatonville’s debt covenant compliance, financial reporting, and CRA budget administration matters,” an Apopka press release said. “The City’s Finance Department staff will assist Eatonville’s staff in an effort to meet compliance requirements mandated by the State.”

According to the release, the auditor general is legally required to audit entities such as school boards and state universities, but the office also audits counties, municipalities and special districts upon request

from the Florida Legislature’s Joint Legislative Auditing Committee.

Eatonville’s annual financial report for the fiscal year that ended on Sep. 30, 2024, said in its schedule of findings that many transactions were recorded improperly, that Eatonville had not met its “pledged revenue coverage covenant required by its [State Revolving Fund] loan agreements” and that some deposits were made to incorrect bank accounts, which were unreconciled.

“The Town’s financial statements were materially misstated prior to audit adjustments in the amount of \$672,000,” the report

said on page 68. “Deposits were made to incorrect bank accounts and the monthly bank reconciliation process showed large unreconciled balances that were not further looked into.”

Interim Eatonville CAO Marlin Daniels said his town reached out to Apopka since both share the same strong mayor form of government and attorney.

“We already have an interlocal agreement with them with 911 and all that,” Daniels said in a phone interview.

Daniels said the purpose of the open forum meeting was not to go in-depth on the auditor gen-

eral’s findings, but instead “to look at systems and processes and how we can improve.”

“Right now, we’re in the fact-finding — we’re collecting information, reaching out to experts [and] other people — and we’re getting ideas in all of these departments,” Daniels said.

In a separate interview, Nelson said the team from Eatonville wanted advisement on ordinances, utility back billing, grant applications and more.

“They’re looking to do some kind of a community center, so they wanted to see how we did that,” Nelson said. “So we helped

them with that, and then additional forms that they wanted and procedures that we enact. It was a real good meeting.”

Eatonville lies within the Orange County Commission’s second district, which Nelson represented from 2014 to 2018, when he stepped down to serve as mayor in Apopka.

Nelson said the partnership will last as long as it needs to.

“There’s no reason to reinvent the wheel if somebody’s already got the wheel figured out,” Nelson said. “We always have an open door, and we’re willing to help where we can and help every city be

more successful. I think that should always be our role and our goals.”

Daniels hopes to have similar meetings and events with other municipalities. He also plans to create a timeline of Eatonville’s transformation within the next one or two months.

“We’re grateful for Mayor Nelson and his leadership team for their openness and support of the historic town of Eatonville,” Daniels said. “We’ll just keep communicating simple, practical and result-oriented things to move the town of Eatonville forward in our collaboration efforts.”

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Fri., Dec. 5, 2025 thru Sun., Dec. 7, 2025

ZOOTOPIA 2 (REALD 3D)(PG) 4:20; 10:10

ZOOTOPIA 2 (PG) 10:50 am; 12:20*; 1:20; 3:20; 6:30; 7:10; 9:20

JUJUTSU KAISEN: EXECUTION (SUB) (NR) 10:55 am; 4:10; 9:50

FIVE NIGHTS AT FREDDY'S 2 (PG-13) 11:00 am; 1:30; 4:30; 7:20; 10:20

NOW YOU SEE ME: NOW YOU DON'T (PG-13) 11:10 am; 2:00; 4:50; 7:30; 10:30

PREDATOR: BADLANDS (PG-13) 11:20 am; 1:50; 4:40; 7:40; 10:40

JUJUTSU KAISEN: EXECUTION (DUB) (NR) 1:40; 7:00

WICKED: FOR GOOD (PG) 12:10; 3:30; 6:50; 10:00

ETERNITY (PG-13) 12:30; 3:40; 6:40; 9:40

HS25: NATIONAL LAMPOON'S CHRISTMAS VACATION (PG-13) 12:20**

HS25: THE GRINCH (PG) 12:20***

NOTE
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THEME: DISNEY CHARACTERS

- ACROSS**

1. Imperfections

6. Part of T.G.I.F.

9. Stark daughter on “Game of Thrones”

13. Kind of print, for short

14. Hula dancer’s flowers

15. Kitchen tear-jerker

16. Viva voce

17. Draft beer container

18. Confused

19. *Irreverent Disney nanny

21. *Scar’s older brother

23. Famous T-Rex

24. Gardening tool

25. Louisville Slugger

28. Stallion’s mate

30. Famous ciphering machine

35. D’Artagnan’s weapon of choice

37. Essence

39. Gloomy and drab

40. Containing limestone

41. Scrawny one

43. Purse to match a gown

44. Spot for boutonniere
46. John Oates’ partner Daryl

47. Prepare for a rainy day

48. Catch in a snare

50. Rapper LL ____ J

52. ____ Aviv

53. Wholly engrossed

55. Call to Bo Peep

57. *Shere Khan’s sworn enemy

60. *Marie’s and Toulouse’s younger brother

64. Beneficiary

65. Opposite of nothing

67. Pancho’s last name

68. Weasel’s aquatic cousin

69. “New” prefix

70. *Like Iago in “Alladin” or Laddy Kluck in “Robin Hood”

71. Karate blow

72. Not safe in baseball

73. Like salad greens
- DOWN**

1. Part of an envelope

2. *Nani Pelekai’s little sister and new pet owner

3. At the summit of
4. Beats, slangily
5. Hypertension sufferer’s dietary concern
6. Sorts
7. Driver’s aid
8. Fraternity letter
9. Dwarf buffalo
10. Oil field structures
11. Moving meditation practice
12. “____ day now”
15. Hurt or upset
20. Some tides
22. Israel Kamakawiwo’ole’s strings
24. Take back
25. *Beast’s love interest
26. Bee-related
27. Act like a siren
29. Macaulay Culkin’s “Richie ____”
31. Wraths
32. Gain access to (2 words)
33. Shade of violet
34. *a.k.a Little Mermaid
36. Ogler
38. Angel’s headgear
42. Geography class prop
45. “____ than life”
49. Chum
51. Immature, as an undeveloped insect
54. Baby grand
56. Full of pep
57. It’s drawn to light
58. “I’m ____ you!”
59. Shed tears
60. Soak some ink
61. Hipbones
62. *I am ____, and I like warm hugs”
63. Goofy or silly
64. *Leader of the seven dwarfs
66. Romanian money

LAST WEEK’S PUZZLE ANSWERS

ACROSS

1. GLOB

2. SPA

3. HIP

4. BLOB

5. OTIC

6. ARENA

7. TOLD

8. CALM

9. BURNS

10. PEARTREE

11. ODDS

12. MAORI

13. ADO

14. CATNIP

15. SWELLER

16. EGO

17. SIMIAN

18. POGO

19. LANGE

20. ILK

21. SHORN

22. EPEE

23. ILLEST

24. FED

25. BEDROCK

26. POTATO

27. MAY

28. STILE

29. ALAS

30. CLARENCE

31. ACINI

32. AURA

33. DEAR

34. PREYS

35. PEEL

36. ORSO

37. RED

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UACS DESIGNATION
FROM A1

and then the building out of our spaces, and conversations with graphic companies and paint companies of what does it look like to redo these spaces.”

According to Tarcha Rentz, UPI director of sustainability at UCF, community schools receiving the UPI grant are usually Title I feeder schools for UCF and its three UPI university partners — Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU), Florida International University and the University of South Florida.

Rentz said UCF oversees two kinds of community schools: community partnership schools and UACS schools like Wekiva. Orange County’s only other UACS school is Colonial High School in east Orlando.

“The first community partnership school in Orange County and in the state is Evans High School — it’s considered the flagship,” Rentz said in an interview. “It started this journey a little over 14 years ago.”

UCF calls community partnership schools “enhancement sites,” since these were already community schools before UCF’s involvement. OCPs currently



Photo by Rey Villavicencio

Personal care packs for students.

has four enhancement sites. As UACS schools, however, Colonial and Wekiva are just beginning their community school journeys and their involvement with UCF.

“With UCF, because we’re such a great big institution with so many students and colleges, we have this huge potential to really meet the needs of the community, the teachers [and] the students,” UCF’s Stella Cervantes, the Toni Jennings Exceptional Education Institute program coordinator, said in an interview.

Cervantes said UCF provides workshops for teachers on topics ranging from AI implementation to de-escalating relationships and con-

flicts with students. UCF is also working on providing internships at UPI schools for students pursuing bachelor’s and master’s degrees in social work.

“We know those are high-need schools, and the students at the schools could use some counseling,” Cervantes said.

Rentz also said UCF may place work study students at Wekiva next semester. An initiative led by UCF clinical associate professor of physical therapy Jennifer Tucker may also arrive at Wekiva in the near future.

“One of our faculty members is actually preparing to bring in one of her programs called Go Baby Go!,

where students will learn how to wire cars for children with disabilities, to be able to make those cars accessible and useful for young children to be able to just have some normalcy in their lives,” Rentz said.

Amid all the features of the school’s new designation, Wekiva principal Anthony Russell said it boils down to helping students who struggle with basic needs to thrive.

“This means the systematic removal of non-academic barriers, such as food insecurity or chronic social needs, that currently hinder learning,” Russell said. “By addressing these foundational needs in partnership with the community, we free our stu-



Photo by Rey Villavicencio

Wekiva will soon have a clothing outlet.

dents to focus entirely on academics, ultimately leading to improved attendance, greater family engagement, and significantly stronger educational outcomes, securing a more supported and brighter future for every Mustang.”

Outing said that the community school concept is over 100 years old — but that time period was vastly different from today.

“If we lived in the same community, that means we go to the same grocery store, go to the same library, go to the same school,” Outing said. “Now, we have globalization, and we have just the mere fact that students go off to college, and then sometimes, they don’t come home.”

Outing said community schools are about adding a system to what was once “organic.”

“That is the beauty of the work,” Outing said. “We’re trying to fight against the things that have created the separation.”

Outing believes the key to this “fight” is building relationships, which is part of what drew him to the role of community school director in the first place. And those relationships start with those

between older, wiser adults and the student body.

“I get excited for anything that has to do with students receiving outside services and/or help with other adults who are pouring into them, not just academically — there’s a component to that — but just who they are as a person,” Outing said. “Numbers don’t lie; they tend to be more successful. And I don’t even mean ‘successful’ in a production standpoint of job and money earned, but just successful in their humanity, the type of person that they become.”

Outing uses this more holistic vision as the foundation for the relationships he builds with potential community partners, as he believes it is crucial to the longevity of Wekiva’s community school status.

“If you don’t have the people that you work with willing to do the work of deconstructing the traditionalism that we’ve lived in for so long, then it won’t matter,” Outing said. “It’ll be a nice, cool thing that will fade and become a fad. It won’t be sustainable. And that’s the goal — to try to create something that lives a lot longer than you.”

PENSIONS
FROM A1

ticipated. The outcome was that 185 votes favored increasing the multiplier over an alternative provision for early retirement based on years of service, according to Mega.

As a result of the proposed general employees’

pension benefit increase, the city and employees will share the cost. The city will contribute \$240,000, while employees chip in \$82,500. Mega told the City Council that this would be prorated for this year, based on when the ordinance’s sec-

ond reading is adopted.

Commissioner Nadia Anderson said the increase was important for employee retention.

“Our employees work hard for the city,” she said. “We appreciate what you guys do. We want to make

sure that we actually retain good employees. So, I’m definitely in favor of the increase.”

In two separate votes, the City Council unanimously approved the first reading of non-financial changes to the police and

fire retirement systems.

The change was to update the required minimum distribution age from 77 to 73 to align with the SECURE2.0 Act, a federal law created to improve retirement savings by making changes to retirement plans.

According to Mega, the plan has been operating since 2023, but the amendment must be done by 2027.

No set date has been made for the second reading and adoption of all three amendment ordinances.


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* Comparison based on a study published by the Oxford Academic in June 2023 stating that the average primary care exam was approximately 21 minutes. Times vary based on services performed.
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POLICE BEAT

APD arrests 30 Nov. 23-29

If a law enforcement agency charges you with a crime and this news outlet 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 dhayden@theapokkachief.com.

In the period from November 23–29, 2025, the Apopka Police Department received 2,060 calls for service, responded to 25 crashes, issued 52 citations, and made 30 arrests. Burglaries: 1 vehicle, 0 residence, 2 businesses. Juveniles were charged with

Probation violation-child in violation of imposed conditions; damage property-criminal mischief, damaged property \$1,000+; tampering with electronic monitoring device.

The following adults were arrested and charged:

Meagan Leigh Beaudoin, 27, 502 Sharp Ct., Eustis, probation violation.

Shadine Sabrena Bessentie Graham, 28, Apopka, battery-touch or strike (domestic battery).

Freddie J. Briggs, 30, 4395 Pine Gold Ave., Apopka, flee/elude police, flee/elude law enforcement officer with lights, siren active, other agency warrant.

Danielle Sevista Brown, 42, 6730 Merlin Ct., Orlando, moving traffic violation-drive while license suspended, habitual offender.

Vicent Calabrese, 66, 2058 Sue Ellen Ct., Apopka, DUI-unlawful blood alcohol, DUI-influence of alcohol or drugs.

Kezia Liandra Chrisp-George, 19, 4451 Scenic Lake

Dr., Orlando, larceny-other theft.

Shane Michael Cooper, 46, general delivery, Apopka, other agency warrant; larceny-other theft.

Heather C. Crouso, 38, general delivery, Altamonte Springs, trespassing-failure to leave property on order of owner.

Carlos Daniel Cruz-Garcia, 27, 120 W. Pennsylvania Ave., Winter Garden, battery by strangulation; battery-touch or strike; kidnap-false imprisonment of person; drugs-possession of controlled substance without prescription; indecent exposure-exposure of sexual organs, 1st offense.

George Willie Curtis Jr, 18, 4212 Colony Way, Orlando, larceny-other theft.

Kristine Annette Fluker, 60, 1214 Northcrest Dr., Apopka, other agency warrant.

Charity Grace Fotheringham, 43, 5212 Eggleston Ave. Apt 313, Orlando, moving traffic violation-drive while license suspended, habitual offender; drugs-possession of controlled substance without prescription; drug equipment-possession and/or use.

Timothy Scott Gasaway, 58, 15111 Lake Claire Overlook Dr., Winter Garden, DUI-unlawful blood alcohol 0.15 or higher.

Juan Gabriel Gonzalez Nunez, 28, 602 Woodlane Cir. #1, Apopka, DUI-unlawful blood alcohol, DUI-breath alcohol 0.08 or more per 210L.

Marshall Mustaine Guin, 18, 6750 Dudley Ave., Mt. Dora, aggravated assault-with deadly weapon without intent to kill.

Tashirra Ciara Henderson,

36, Apopka, battery-touch or strike.

Cassandra Elnora Lucienne Laguerre, 28, 1876 Star Anise Cir. #302, Apopka, damage property-criminal mischief, damage property less than \$200.

Alejo Leija-Navarro, 41, 10637 2nd Ave., Ocoee, drug equipment-possession and/or use; drugs-possession of controlled substance without prescription.

Andrew Leonard Lewis, 63, 1209 S. Central Ave., Apopka, larceny-petit theft merchandise farm transit 2+ prior conviction.

Samuel Martinez-Ramirez, 18, 2001 Lauren Rd., Apopka, firing weapon-discharge firearm/weapon on public/residential property; larceny-grand theft of firearm.

Daniel Jedidiah Maynard, 44, 25835 Vero St., Sorrento, battery-touch or strike; robbery with no firearm or weapon; larceny-petit theft merchandise farm transit 2+ prior conviction; resist officer-obstruct without violence.

Christian Rashaud Oliver, 25, 240 W. Grossenbacher Dr., Apopka, burglary of unoccupied dwelling unarmed; larceny-grand theft \$100,000 or law enforcement officer semi cause damage.

Jamarco Tornell Simons, 39, 505 S. Washington Ave., Apopka, resist officer-obstruct without violence.

Dianna Michelle Winters, 45, 3627 Grice St., Apopka, drugs-possession of controlled substance without prescription.

Tyler Cain Worrick, 27, 19023 Park Pl Blvd. A, Eustis, drugs-possession of controlled substance without prescription.

Police announce road closures for Apopka Christmas Parade

Parade is set for Dec. 13 on Park Avenue

Staff Reports

The Apopka Police Department (APD) has informed businesses in the city about road closures and detour routes for the Apopka Christmas Parade, which will take place 10 a.m.-noon on Saturday, Dec. 13, along Park Avenue.

The Foliage Sertoma club organizes the Apopka Christmas Parade. Its theme this year is “Miracle on Park Avenue.”

Road closures from 8 a. m. until 12 noon will be on Forest Avenue between Main Street and Third Street.

Road closures from 9 a. m. until noon will be on the following streets: Park Avenue between Main Street and Martin Street, Votaw Road between Park Avenue and Christiana Avenue, Third Street between Park Avenue and Forest Avenue, Second Street between Park Avenue and Highland Avenue, First Street between Park Avenue and Highland Avenue, Forest Avenue between Third Street and Oak Street, Orange Street between Park Avenue and Forest Avenue, Summit Street between Park Avenue/Central Avenue, and Central Avenue between Summit Street/Martin Street mid-block of Central Avenue.



Apopka Chief file photo

Santa Claus waves to the crowd from a fire engine in the 2024 Apopka Christmas Parade.

Uniformed officers from the Apopka Police Department will be posted at these locations for assistance if needed.

The times that the APD has listed are approximate and could be shorter or longer depending on the parade’s duration.

Police will attempt to restore normal traffic flow as soon as practicable.

In a Monday email to the Chief, Foliage Sertoma Club parade chair Lorena Potter cautioned entrants about a new concrete traffic control island recently constructed at the Third Street/Park Avenue intersection, which may affect entrants’ entry turns onto Park Avenue to start the parade route.

Volunteers will be on the premises to warn entrants and help them with

this change, she said.

The Chief is participating in this year’s parade lineup.

The parade grand marshal is former Orange County Commissioner Tom Dorman, an Apopka resident.

The parade judges are Carol Stein, a musician and creator of the Steinway Society of Central Florida, which gives piano lessons to underprivileged youth; Dr. Michael Armbruster, a retired teacher, coach and administrator for Orange County Public Schools; and Connie Gelner of Stanley Steemer, who leads the company’s public involvement committee.

Contact Police Lt. Timothy Crutcher at 407–703–1771 with any questions.

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

CENTRAL FLORIDA EXPRESSWAY AUTHORITY, a body politic and corporate, and an agency of the state under the laws of the State of Florida,
Petitioner,
v.
JOSEPH GUADALUPE; LAND TRUST SERVICE CORPORATION AS TRUSTEE OF TRUST NO. 1209 DATED JUNE 20, 2006; UNKNOWN BENEFICIARIES; UNKNOWN TENANTS AND OTHER PARTIES IN POSSESSION; UNKNOWN HEIRS OR BENEFICIARIES; SCOTT RANDOLPH, ORANGE COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR,

Respondents.

CASE NO.: 2025-CA-010944-0
Parcels: 31-203

NOTICE OF ACTION IN EMINENT DOMAIN AND NOTICE OF EVIDENTIARY HEARING FOR CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE OF PROCESS

TO: All Respondents named in Exhibit A, attached; all parties claiming interests by, through, under, or against the named Respondents; and all parties having or claiming to have any right, title, or interest in and to the property described in Exhibit B.

A Petition in Eminent Domain has been filed to acquire property interests in Orange County, Florida.

Each Respondent is required to serve written defenses to the Petition on Petitioner’s attorney, whose name and address are shown below, on or before January 19, 2026, and to file the original of the defenses with the Clerk of this Court either before service on the Petitioner’s attorney or immediately thereafter, showing what right, title, interest, or lien respondent has in or to the property described in the Petition, and to show cause why that property should not be taken for the uses and purposes set forth in the Petition. If any Respondent fails to do so, a default will be entered against that Respondent for the relief demanded in the Petition.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that an Order of Taking Evidentiary Hearing is currently set before the Honorable Michael Deen on the 22nd day of January, 2026, beginning at 10:30 a.m. in Hearing Room 17-A of the Orange County Courthouse, 425 N. Orange Avenue, Orlando, Florida 32801.

At that time, an Order of Taking will be entered. All Respondents in this action may file a request to be heard at that hearing. Each party to be heard at that hearing shall notify the Court of the specific issue(s) to be addressed at the Order of Taking Hearings, and shall identify any exhibits, motions needed, and the time requirements for the presentation of their case. Any Respondent failing to file a request for hearing shall waive any right to object to the Order of Taking.

WITNESS my hand and seal of this Court this 21st day of November 2025.

TIFFANY MOORE RUSSELL, ESQUIRE
ORANGE COUNTY CLERK OF COURTS
(COURT SEAL)

By: /s/ Rasheda Thomas
As Deputy Clerk
*See Americans with Disabilities Act Notice.

NOTICE
If you are a person with a disability who needs accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact Ninth Circuit Court Administration ADA Coordinator, Orange County Courthouse, 425 North Orange Avenue, Suite 510, Orlando, Florida 32801 (407) 836-2303. If you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711 to reach the Telecommunications Relay Service within 2 working days of your receipt of this document.

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(407)849-7273 (fax)
Attorneys for Petitioner, OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA

ORLDOCS 23403745 I

OWNERS AND ENCUMBRANCES
PARCEL 31-203

I, Joseph Guadalupe
5036 Dr Phillips Boulevard
Orlando, Florida 32819-3310
Fee Owner by virtue of Trustee’s Deed with Lien dated July 1, 2013 and recorded August 19, 2013 in OR Book 10621, Page 2938 of the Official Records of Orange County, Florida

2. Land Trust Service Corporation as Trustee of Trust No. 1209 dated June 20, 2006
1901 West Colonial Drive, First Floor
Orlando, Florida 32804
SERVE: L.T.S.C., LLC
Registered Agent
1901 W Colonial Dr., First Floor
Orlando, FL 32804
Trustee’s Lien for Unpaid Trust Fees of \$951.70 as recorded in Trustee’s Deed with Lien dated July 1, 2013 and recorded August 19, 2013 in OR Book 10621, Page 2938 of the Office Records of Orange County Florida
3. Unknown Beneficiaries
Plat of West Orlando Subdivision, recorded at Plat Book J, Page 114 of the Official Records of Orange County, Florida
4. Unknown Tenants and Other Parties in Possession
Interest, if any
5. Unknown Heirs or Beneficiaries
Interest, if any
6. Scott Randolph
Orange County Tax Collector
200 South Orange Avenue
16th Floor
Orlando, Florida 32801
Real Property Taxes

ORLDOCS 23320345 I

EXHIBIT A

EXHIBIT B

Apopka boys basketball blows past Davenport



Photo by Vinnie Cammarano

Rafi Betancourt introduced in the starting lineup.

Blue Darters defense leads team to 47-38 victory

By Vinnie Cammarano
Reporter

In the 15th annual Earl Graham Metro vs. Florida Challenge, the Apopka boys basketball team proved that even without a key starter, defense and discipline travel. Missing guard Zee Davis due to injury, the Blue Darters leaned on pressure defense

and balanced scoring to pull out a 47-38 win over Davenport on Saturday afternoon.

Apopka fell behind 5-0 as its offense stalled for the first six minutes. Finally, Jarquavion McClain broke the drought with a mid-range jumper, sparking some rhythm against a Davenport team clinging to the free-throw line. McClain used a strong finish to pull Apopka within a point, and the momentum finally swung in the closing seconds of the quarter.

With Apopka's defense going into a tighter press, Rafi Betancourt jumped a passing lane and finished in transition. Seconds later, another pressured pass floated into the hands of Xavier Bell, who pushed ahead to Betancourt for a pull-up three that beat the buzzer and stole the quarter, giving Apopka an 11-9 edge at the first break.

The Blue Darters carried the momentum into the second. Off the bench, Jaden Andino fought for an offensive rebound and kicked

out to Trent Jean for a clean wing 3. Jean followed with a smooth hop-step finish on the next trip, then he whipped a pass to Jacques Evariste for another 3, building a 19-13 lead.

Davenport countered with its own full-court press, but Apopka's ball movement cracked it. Multiple quick passes led to open looks, including a deep 3 from Betancourt to extend the lead to nine.

BLUE DARTERS WIN, B3

Wekiva boys go down in overtime thriller against Timber Creek

Game stays within two possessions from start to finish

By Vinnie Cammarano
Reporter

The Wekiva boys basketball team's undefeated start came to a dramatic end Monday night, as Timber Creek escaped Mustang Arena with a 73-71 overtime win in a back-and-forth thriller that never saw either team lead by more than two possessions.

From the opening tip, the pace was frantic, and the momentum swung on every trip down the floor. Timber Creek struck first with an and-one, but Wekiva's Louvens Saint-Pierre immediately answered with one of his own, then added an elbow jumper to take an early 8-7 lead.

Jasen Francillon provided a spark inside with four straight points to break an 11-11 tie, but the Wolves responded by busting Wekiva's press for a wing 3 and a strong finish at the rim. Off the bench, Kaiden Jean-Louis buried a catch-and-shoot 3 from a Saint-Pierre assist, but Timber Creek's Ethan Espinal finished the quarter with back-to-back contested 3s, giving the Wolves a 22-18 lead after a high-tempo first eight minutes.

The second quarter slowed dramatically. Two minutes passed before Wekiva scored on a baseline cut by Jean-Louis off a feed from Kenny Diejuste. Khai



Photo by Dana O'Connor

Khai Orr blows by a Timber Creek defender.

Orr checked in and immediately delivered a steal and a smooth reverse lay-in to tie it up. As Timber Creek continued attacking the rim, Francillon racked up second-chance points to keep Wekiva level.

With under a minute left, Eric Nichols drilled a pull-up elbow jumper to put the Mustangs ahead 32-31. But in the final seconds, after Francillon floated in his 11th point of the half, the Wolves raced up the court and Espinal drilled a buzzer-beating 3 to tie it 34-34 at halftime.

MUSTANGS BASKETBALL, B2



Photo by Dana O'Connor

Jasen Francillon finishing through contact.

Apopka girls split blowouts in Metro West Tournament



Photo by Vinnie Cammarano

Destiny Gelin playing defense at mid court.

Blue Darters dominate Evans, get it in return against Ocoee

By Vinnie Cammarano
Reporter

The Apopka girls basketball team (1-3) entered the Metro West Conference Tournament after dropping its first two games to tough competition in Leesburg and Colonial.

In the first game of the tournament, Apopka was clicking on all cylinders against the Evans Trojans (0-3). The Blue Darter defense was the fuel, causing a ton of turnovers and not letting the Trojans score double digits in any quarter. They dominated from start to finish, 47-22.

Mikayla Wiggins gave an outstanding performance. She finished with 21 points, six rebounds, and three steals. Abigail Henry added seven points while dominating on the glass with 12 rebounds. Elyse Pringle had

the claw on defense, swiping six steals out of Apopka's 19 total.

The script flipped just one night later against the Ocoee Knights. The Blue Darters were without their head coach, Brittany Hardy, and struggled tremendously, losing 62-15. They were unable to score in the first quarter en route to a season-low score of 15 for the game.

Destiny Gelin had the highlights for her team off the bench, nailing two deep 3s. She finished with seven points, three rebounds and an assist.

The Ocoee depth and energy visibly outmatched the Blue Darters. Eleven different Knights scored, and only Gabriella Fortius reached double digits in scoring, proving how much Ocoee spread the wealth.

After losing game two of the Metro West tournament, the Blue Darters dropped to the consolation bracket. They were scheduled to play a third game Thursday night after press time.

Wekiva wrestling ready to run in 2025-26 season

Captains carry high hopes

By Vinnie Cammarano
Reporter

The Wekiva Mustangs wrestling team is coming off their greatest season, capturing the first Metro West Championship in school history. They went 8-3 last year and ran through everyone in their Metro tournament. Three individuals were medalists in their respective weight classes.

Now, it's time for an encore.

Head Coach Lenin Vazquez is in his 12th season at Wekiva, 24th overall. He coaches with his old head coach,



Photo by Vinnie Cammarano

Elijah Jean taking down Coach Lenin in live drill.

Tony Imbriani, who has coached the sport for 42 years. They bring championship experience, and a tough mentality off which their wrestlers feed.

Vazquez is drilling three important traits into his wrestlers to get

back to the top of their division.

"Consistency, discipline, focus," he said.

"Consistency, discipline, focus is what brought us the title last year, and we're gonna see what happens with this group. But I

feel good about the way they're wrestling and practicing right now."

The coaches are amped for their 215-pound captain, Elijah Jean, to excel past what he's already accomplished. Jean is also hyped for the season, with his sights set on his best showing.

"I want to go undefeated," Jean said "This season I want to win it all. I don't care about revenge. Going undefeated and pinning every opponent I go against this season is all I want."

After wrestling varsity for the past three years, Jean is excited to go up against both the new and old foes his weight class has to of-

fer.

Last season he was first team all-Metro, an overall Metro silver medalist, district bronze medalist, and earned medals in other important tournaments throughout the year. He is the seventh ranked 215-pounder in the state of Florida.

Senior co-captain Jeremiah Demosthene wrestles at 113 pounds. Last season, he earned all-team honors as the Metro West champion in his class. He said he just wants to work harder after falling short in the overall Metro Conference tournament.

"I definitely want to be Metro champ," he said. "I want to get

a spot in regionals and qualify for states this year."

Senior Samuel Pierre is another co-captain and one to look out for this season. In the 150-pound weight class, he earned a silver in the Metro West and placed fourth overall in the Metro.

"My main goal right now is to win metros and make it to the state tournament for sure," he said.

Junior, Alina Quinde Rivera earned her stripes as the girls captain and is highly respected for her strong mentality and great wrestling ability.

Coach Imbriani said she beat some of the

boys around in practice last season and dominated in competition whenever she had the chance. She loves wrestling and is excited for the season ahead.

"I want to win as many matches as I possibly can," Rivera said. "I love the drive that wrestling brings me. What excites me is the fight in each match and seeing how much I work towards. Also, getting the win of course!"

Coach Vazquez emphasized the importance of both developing the young and inexperienced wrestlers on the roster, while also focusing on his top three senior captains'

WRESTLING, B3

Anglers report shiners bring in big bass

Hello Folks,

By the time the paper hits the stands, it will only be 20 days until Christmas! The older I get, the faster Christmas comes every year. I remember when I was growin' up, I thought Christmas would never get here, or it sure seemed like forever.

The weather has been great for fishin', and, yes! I did get on the water over the Thanksgiving Holidays. I was able to fish with my soon-to-be grandson-in-law. We fished the Harris Chain, but it was a slow day on the water for us. We only caught three bass, but I sure enjoyed just bein' on the water. The fishin'



GOIN' FISHIN'

Jim Keck
Correspondent

on the Harris Chain has been pretty good for most folks, it just happened to be a slow day for us.

Kyle at Bitter's B&T reports that folks are startin' to catch some specks in the Harris Chain. Most folks are trollin' with jigs tipped with a minner. The best lake to catch a mess of specks in has been

Lake Eustis.

Folks are catchin' some specks in Lake Monroe and Lake Jesup, as well. Most folks are trollin' with jigs tipped with a minner. The hot spot for specks has been up near Highbanks Marina and in Lake Woodruff up on the St. Johns River. Folks are trollin' for specks and catchin'em on jigs tipped with a minner.

Kyle fished Johns Lake on Monday of this week. He reports that he caught 12 specks and 10 bass. Congrats, Kyle. Sounds like a good day on the water.

The Wednesday Night Shootout on Johns Lake will be holdin' their championship

on Johns Lake this weekend, Saturday, Dec. 6. So, if you're plannin' a trip to Johns Lake, I would go durin' the week.

The bass fishin' on Lake Fairview is still producin' some nice stringers of bass. The Wednesday night tournament on Lake Fairview is takin' about 15 to 16 pounds to win. You're only allowed to weigh-in three bass, so those are some good weights for three bass.

The bass fishin' on West Lake Toho is doin' good right now. Most of the bass are bein' caught on shiners. Many of the guide trips are catchin 20 to 30 bass per trip. Most of those bass are bein' caught

around the submerged hydrilla beds.

The specks are bitin' pretty good in Lake Kissimmee these past couple of weeks. Folks are driftin' with minners and jigs tipped with a minner. You can also catch some specks just off the grass-line with minners.

The bass fishin' on the Headwaters Lake is doin' real good. I'm gettin' plenty of reports that folks are catchin' some very nice bass on shiners. You can catch some bass on artificials, too. If you don't want to use shiners, you can try fishin' a chatter-bait or a spinner-bait. Also try fishin' a swim-jig in certain areas of

the lake.

We had a full moon this week on Thursday, Dec. 4. The fishin' should be really good this week and into the weekend. The weather could factor into your time on the water. They are callin' for rain showers on Saturday and Sunday. As long as the lightning isn't around; you might get a little wet, but folks have caught some big bass on days like that.

Well, that's it for this week. I hope to see you on the water real soon.

Tip of the week: Full Moon.

SAVE A FEW AND GOOD LUCK!

MUSTANGS BASKETBALL

FROM B1

The third quarter also started slowly, with neither team scoring a field goal until Timber Creek broke through at the six-minute mark. Wekiva stayed afloat at the line until Darion Thomas buried a 3, giving the Mustangs their first basket three minutes into the period.

Nichols later tied it 43-43 with a deep left-wing 3, then hit another moments later after Francillon muscled in an and-

one opportunity. But once again, the Wolves stole the final moment. Timber Creek's Noah Taylor launched and hit a heave from the opposite 3-point line to steal the quarter up 49-48.

Saint-Pierre opened the fourth with a wing 3, and Nichols continued his hot shooting with two more triples, pushing Wekiva ahead 62-58 with two minutes left. Espinal, who poured in 29 points,

traded big shots with Nichols down the stretch.

With 30 seconds remaining, Taylor hit a heavily contested corner three to make it 64-63. After Wekiva split at the line, Espinal raced up court and drilled a deep tying 3 with 18 seconds to go. Saint-Pierre was fouled with three seconds left but missed both free throws, and Francillon's putback rimmed out, sending the game to overtime.

Francillon opened OT with a free throw, but Chase Hibbard answered with a spinning layup that sparked a brief Timber Creek surge. The Wolves inched ahead 69-65 with a minute remaining before Orr hit two free throws. After a technical foul on Timber Creek, Thomas calmly sank two free throws, then danced on the baseline and pulled a spinning 'Kobe-like' baseline fadeaway, making it 71-

71 with 24 seconds left.

Wolves Hibbard delivered again, scoring the go-ahead putback with eight seconds remaining. Wekiva pushed the ball quickly, but Orr's contested floater at the horn fell short.

Nichols led the Mustangs with 19 points and five threes, Francillon scored 17, Thomas added 11, and Saint-Pierre and Orr each finished with eight.



Photo by Dana O'Connor

Kaiden Jean-Louis finishes strong against a Wolf in the paint.



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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

VERSE OF THE WEEK

“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace..”
—Isaiah 9:6

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Apopka girls soccer edges Olympia in dramatic finish

Jillian Kurz gives Apopka 3–2 win at buzzer

By Vinnie Cammarano
Reporter

Apopka sophomore Jillian Kurz buried the game-winner with eight seconds left as the Blue Darters stunned Olympia 3–2 on the road Wednesday night, capping one of their most thrilling performances of the season.

After a scoreless first half in which Apopka controlled possession but managed only three shots on goal, head coach Tino Sangster urged cleaner decisions in the attacking third. The message landed immediately. Just 1:40 into the second half, sophomore Navaeh Nguyen capitalized on a rebound and fired a shot into the open right side of the net for a 1–0 lead.

Olympia responded a minute later with a top-corner strike to even the match, and momentum shifted into



Photo by Vinnie Cammarano

Navaeh Nguyen battles for a loose ball.

a back-and-forth stretch as both sides found space in transition. The Titans broke the tie 11 minutes into the half, after a turnover in the neutral zone led to a near-post finish.

Apopka’s resilience took over from there. With just under 20 minutes left, Robyn Pickard created her own moment, tracking down a deflected pass and ripping a high shot over the goalkeeper to tie the match at 2.

The Blue Darters pushed hard in the closing minutes, generating repeated chances for Nguyen and Pick-

ard. Their pressure finally cracked the Titans’ back line. A late pass forward deflected off an Olympia defender and rolled to Kurz in stride. The junior blasted a shot from the right side of the box with eight seconds left, delivering Apopka its most emotional win of the young season.

“They show resilience, they show grit, and I’m super excited for them,” Sangster said. “The biggest thing I see so far is the willingness to learn.”

Sangster praised the team’s dominance in the final third and credited second-



Photo by Vinnie Cammarano

Robyn Pickard celebrates after tying the game.

half adjustments, including moving Pickard up top and shifting Kurz between two positions.

“The players are so versatile,” he said. “If something isn’t working, we always have something extra — another rotation, another switch. The girls definitely step up when they need to.”

The win snapped a two-match skid in district play. Apopka had been shut out 6–0 by West Orange and fell 4–1 to Lake Brantley after trailing only 2–1 at halftime.

Before that stretch, the

Blue Darters put together their strongest offensive showing of the season with an 8–0 mercy-rule win over Freedom on Nov. 17. Nguyen recorded a hat trick, Kurz added two, while Ariana Obregon, Addison Kramer and Ava Croeze each scored. Pickard finished with two assists.

“We’ve been making sure everyone understands their roles,” he said. “It’s looking good so far. We just have to keep building.”

Apopka (3–3) returns home for the first time this season, Friday at 7:30 p.m. to host Windermere.

WRESTLING

FROM B1



Photo by Vinnie Cammarano

Lenin Vazquez guiding Jeremiah Demosthene through a hold.

success.

“We have a lot of guys with no experience, so we want them to learn the sport and earn some success, especially towards the end of the season,” Vazquez said. “The main focus is to get our top three seniors to state and get them to place as high as they can.”

Vazquez circled the FH-SAA District Duels on Jan. 10, and the Metro Tournament on Feb. 2 as the highlight events for his team that he wants to do well in. Their first action will take place in the Golden Triangle Tournament on Saturday, Dec. 13, in Mount Dora.

BLUE DARTERS WIN

FROM B1

After the Broncos trimmed it to five in the closing seconds, Apopka again executed a quick offense, swinging the ball around the arc to find Bell open for a wing 3 that sent the Blue Darters to halftime leading 27–19.

The Broncos opened the third quarter with a layup, a transition dunk and four straight second-chance

points, completing an 8–0 run to tie the game. Betancourt briefly halted the surge with a floater, but Davenport continued attacking inside, eventually taking a 31–29 lead.

Jean set up Bell for his second 3, igniting another Apopka response. After some back-and-forth scoring, Jean found Evariste again for his second corner triple, giv-

ing Apopka a 37–33 lead heading into the fourth.

McClain opened the final quarter with a crafty finish high off the glass, which pushed the lead back to five. Shortly after, Betancourt nailed a pair of free throws, something Davenport struggled with all game. The Broncos shot just 10-for-28 from the free-throw line, leaving points scattered

across the floor.

Needing more separation, Apopka ramped up its pressure again. Noah Ferrer jumped a pass, sprinted the length of the court and scored to make it an eight-point game with under five minutes left. From there, the Blue Darters bled clock with long possessions, forcing Davenport to chase.

Bell closed the afternoon

with a free throw and a late layup, cementing both the win and his selection as the Earl Graham Player of the Game. The Apopka guard came off the bench and finished with 9 points, 3 rebounds and multiple forced turnovers in a do-it-all performance.


Betancourt led Apopka with 12 points, while Jean added 7 points and 7 assists.

On Tuesday, Apopka hit the road to Edgewater and ran into a buzzsaw. The Eagles (5-0) kept their record unblemished with a 62-43 win. They were able to break through against an Apopka defense that hadn’t given up 50 points yet this season.

Apopka (3-2) was slated to face Evans (4-1) on Thursday night after press time.

In Loving Memory

Mary Schutt
1940 - 2025



Mary Schutt, born in Tampa, Florida, was the beloved wife of Daniel Schutt for 65 years. She had a lifelong love of animals, doll collecting, and was a talented floral designer. Mary especially enjoyed welcoming company and talking with people.

Mary is survived by her husband, Daniel, and their sons, Duane, Danny, and Tony.

A service in her memory will be held on December 9, 2025, at 6 p.m. at Plymouth-Sorrento SDA Church, 2844 W. Ponkan Rd, Apopka

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Some important warning signs of potential tree trouble can include dead, hanging, or broken branches and possibly branches that are too close to a house or structure or even utility wires. Proper pruning can reduce the risk of damage, and crown reduction or thinning could reduce any wind or storm damage, because wind resistance is important for a tree to simply remain standing.

If the tree’s structure is found to be damaged or unsound, the team at Maltby’s Tree Service & Landscaping can determine whether mitigation with cabling and/or bracing is warranted. They can also evaluate the impact of removal should it become necessary.

Remember to leave the trimming up to the experts. Trees can be very dangerous to remove or trim, but prompt trimming of any overgrown branches or injured limb(s) will help encourage healthy growth. The experts at Maltby’s Tree Service & Landscaping can assist in performing the job in a safe and timely manner, while reducing further risk of damage to the tree itself or your property.

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Jose Estrella , MD

The backyard spread: smoked brisket, roasted sides, and easy biscuits

From the website Heygrillhey.com, we have instructions that will enable you to prepare *Texas Style Smoked Beef Brisket* - with that authentic Texas taste - right in your own backyard! Susie Buloch and her husband Todd own a family business that sells BBQ paraphernalia, and Susie founded *Hey Grill Hey* in 2015, with the sole desire to help people make better BBQ! When she's not grilling, she's hanging out with Todd and their three kids, preferably outdoors! She says, "Texas Style Smoked Beef Brisket is more than a simple recipe, it's a process for melt in your mouth smoked brisket! All you need is salt, pepper, smoke, and time, and you're on your way to eating the best beef brisket of your life."

Ree Drummond of ThePioneerWoman.com website says, "There's a reason why potatoes are found in cuisines around the world. They may just be one of the most versatile foods out there... you can mash 'em, smash 'em, fry 'em or roast 'em. You can use whatever herbs (fresh or dried) or spices you have on hand to make a different side dish every time you turn on your oven. The possibilities are endless. One of the key things to keep in mind when roasting potatoes is that you don't want to crowd the pan. Use a large baking sheet and leave a little room around each chunk to let the heat circulate and allow the potatoes to really crisp up. And don't forget to toss them in oil for an optimal golden hue and sprinkle with salt along with your other seasonings. Potatoes are basically a sponge for flavor."

Copycat Red Lobster biscuits are loaded with Cheddar cheese and brushed with seasoned butter in this easy copycat recipe. No kneading is required — just drop the gently mixed dough directly onto a prepared baking sheet and your warm, freshly baked, bite-sized biscuits will be ready to enjoy with dinner in 15 minutes. The Allrecipes Test Kitchen staff is a team of culinary pros who make and vet recipes using only equipment you'd find in a home kitchen. Staff credentials vary but include training at the Culinary Institute of America; kitchen stints in fine dining restaurants; and countless hours in the test kitchen itself. Making copycat Red Lobster biscuits from scratch is actually quite easy. You'll find



the full recipe below. From Robyn Stone of AddAPinch, we have a list of vegetables and their preparation along with grilling times. This is ideal for the grill-master who needs a little instruction on how to prepare and cook vegetables on the grill. You'll need to drizzle your vegetables with EVOO (extra virgin olive oil) and season them with salt, pepper, and garlic powder... unless you hate garlic. You can easily marinate them in a bowl. Of course, you probably won't want garlic on the corn; corn is a food that is so good by itself, that it needs NO added seasoning except a little salt and EVOO to keep it moist! You can also put oiled and seasoned Brussels sprouts on a skewer; it will take around 10 minutes, flipping it halfway through. In a foil pack, Brussels sprouts will take about 20 minutes; fingerling or chunk potatoes in a foil pack will take around 20 to 25 minutes to cook.

TEXAS STYLE SMOKED BEEF BRISKET

From HeyGrillHey.com / Susie Bulloch

EQUIPMENT:
1 smoker
Chef's knife
Butcher paper
Large cutting board
INGREDIENTS:
1 each 12-14 pound whole packer brisket
2 tablespoons coarse Kosher salt
2 tablespoons coarse black pepper
2 tablespoons garlic powder (optional)
INSTRUCTIONS:

1) Prepare and trim the brisket: Store your brisket in the refrigerator until you are ready to start trimming. Cold briskets are much easier to work with. Flip your brisket over so the point end is underneath. *Remove any silver skin or excess fat* from the flat muscle. Trim down the large *crescent moon shaped fat section until it is a smooth transition between the point and the flat*. Trim any excess or loose meat and fat from the point. Square the edges and ends of the flat. Flip the brisket over and *trim the top fat cap to about 1/4 of an inch thickness* across the surface of the brisket. 2) Season the brisket: In a mixing bowl or empty spice container, mix the salt, pepper, and garlic. Check over the brisket and evenly *distribute the spices on all sides*. 3) Smoke the brisket: Preheat your smoker to 225 degrees F using indirect heat and hardwood smoke. Place the brisket on

the smoker with the *point end facing your main heat source*. This is a thicker part of the brisket and it can handle the additional heat. Close the lid and smoke until an *internal meat thermometer reads 165 degrees F* (usually takes around 8 hours). 4) Wrap the brisket: On a large work surface, roll out a *big piece of butcher paper (or foil)* and center your brisket in the middle. Wrap the brisket by folding edge over edge, *creating a leak proof seal* all the way around. Return the wrapped brisket to the smoker, *seam side down* so the weight from the brisket crimps the edges of the paper wrap down tight. 5) Smoke the brisket again: Close the lid on the smoker and, maintaining 225 degrees F, continue cooking until the *internal temperature of the brisket reaches 202 degrees F in the thickest part of the meat* (takes anywhere from 5-8 hours). 6) Rest the brisket, then slice and serve: Remove the brisket to a large cutting board and *allow to rest for 1 hour before slicing*. Slice both the point and the flat *against the grain* with a sharp knife and serve immediately.

ROASTED POTATOES FROM REE DRUMMOND

Ree Drummond, ThePioneerWoman.com
INGREDIENTS:
6 medium Yukon Gold potatoes (about 1-1/2 pounds), peeled (optional) and cut into chunks
3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
Kosher salt and freshly ground pepper
Desired seasonings (such as garlic cloves, herbs (fresh or dried), spices, grated cheese, or lemon juice).
DIRECTIONS:

1) Preheat the oven to 425 degrees F. 2) Toss the potatoes with the olive oil and any desired seasonings on a baking sheet; season with salt and pepper. Arrange the potatoes cut side down and roast until fork tender, 20 to 25 minutes. Serve warm.

COPYCAT RED LOBSTER CHEDDAR BISCUITS

Submitted by cookingmaniac
INGREDIENTS:
2 cups all-purpose flour
1 cup shredded Cheddar cheese
1 tablespoon baking powder
1 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon garlic powder

2/3 cup milk
1/3 cup butter, softened and cut into pieces
1 large egg
Butter topping:
2 tablespoons butter, melted
2 teaspoons dried parsley (Optional)
1 teaspoon garlic powder (Optional)
MAKING THE DOUGH:

In one bowl, combine the dry ingredients. In another bowl, combine the wet ingredients. Then add the dry ingredients to the wet ingredients and lightly mix. The mixture is meant to be chunky, so be careful not to overmix. Drop the dough onto a baking sheet and bake for 10 minutes.

MAKING THE BUTTER TOPPING:
Melt the butter and stir in garlic powder and parsley (if you're using it). Then brush the butter topping onto each biscuit. Bake for another 5 minutes, until the biscuits are golden brown. Original recipe yields 12 servings.

NOTES:
All-purpose flour will work best for these biscuits. A cup of shredded Cheddar is the key to making the biscuits extra flavorful and cheesy. Milk will moisten the dough. The egg will bind your ingredients together. Butter goes into the dough, and it is also the main ingredient in the topping. Baking powder will help the dough rise without yeast. This recipe calls for salt and garlic powder in the dough plus optional garlic powder and parsley in the butter topping.

LIST OF GRILLED VEGETABLES

From Robyn Stone of AddAPinch
Approximate grill times at medium to high heat:

- Asparagus, whole spears, 4 to 8 minutes
- Bell Peppers, halved or quartered, 8 to 10 minutes
- Corn, in or out of husk, 15 to 20 minutes
- Eggplant, 1/2-inch slices, 5 to 7 minutes
- Mushrooms (Portobello), whole, 8 to 10 minutes, flip halfway through
- Onion, thick rounds or wedges, 8 to 10 minutes, flip halfway through
- Zucchini and yellow squash, 1/2-inch slices or strips, 5 to 8 minutes, flip halfway through.

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for damages and interests against you personally and that may affect your assets. DONE AND ORDERED this, 5th day of November, 2025.

JAMES A. CRANER
Circuit Court Judge
November 14, 21, 28, December 5, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO. 2025-CA-009168-O
DIV NO.: 40

MARRIOTT RESORTS HOSPITALITY CORPORATION, a South Carolina Corporation, Management Agent on behalf of GRANDE VISTA OF ORLANDO CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, INC., a Florida not for profit corporation, and All Owners as Agent, Plaintiff,

vs.
EARL F. JACOBS AS INDIVIDUAL AND AS TRUSTEE OF THE SEPTEMBER 7, 2004 EARL F. JACOBS AND CHRISTINE K. JACOBS INTER VIVOS REVOCABLE TRUST, et. al., Defendants,

NOTICE OF ACTION BY PUBLICATION AS TO COUNT VI TO THE FOLLOWING DEFENDANT WHOSE RESIDENCE IS UNKNOWN: TO: LINDA AUDLEY BOWEN

LIRO DOVER TERRACE CHRIST CHURCH 00000 BARBADOS

The above named Defendant is not known to be dead or alive and, if dead, the unknown spouses, heirs, devisees, grantees, assignees, lienors, creditors, trustees, or other claimants, by, through under or against said Defendant and all parties having or claiming to have any right, title or interest in the property described below.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED OF the institution of the above-styled foreclosure proceedings by the Plaintiff, MARRIOTT RESORTS HOSPITALITY CORPORATION, upon the filing of a complaint to foreclose a lien and for other relief relative to the following described property:

COUNT VI
Unit Week 42 in Unit 6423, in GRANDE VISTA CONDOMINIUM, according to the Declaration of Condominium thereof, as recorded in Official Records Book 5114 at Page 1488 in the Public Records of Orange County, Florida, and any amendments thereof.

AND you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any to the complaint, upon EDWARD M. FITZGERALD, ESQUIRE, Holland & Knight LLP, 200 S. Orange Avenue, Suite 2600, Orlando, Florida 32801, attorneys for the Plaintiff, on or before thirty (30) days from the first day of publication herein and file the original with the Clerk of the above-styled Court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter, otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.

DATED on this 12th day of November, 2025.

Tiffany Moore Russell
Clerk of the Court
By: //S Gre
Deputy Clerk
Civil Division
425 N. Orange Avenue
Room 350
Orlando, Florida 32801

CIRCUIT COURT SEAL
CONFORMED COPY TO:
EDWARD M. FITZGERALD
HOLLAND & KNIGHT, LLP
200 S. Orange Avenue, Suite 2600
Orlando, Florida 32801
Ph. (407) 244-5198

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator, Human Resources, Orange County Courthouse, 425 North Orange Avenue, Suite 510, Orlando, Florida, (407) 836-2303, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711. THIS DOCUMENT IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
HK#110523.2009/GV240
November 28, December 5, 2025

A-AAA Key Mini Storage
1001 S Semoran Blvd
Orlando FL 32807
407-401-9422

M30@trustedstoragepros.com
NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

In order to satisfy a contractual landlord's lien, under the provisions of the Florida Self Service Storage Act, public notice is hereby given that the following described property located at A-AAA Key Mini Storage 1001 S Semoran Blvd Orlando FL 32807, will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder for cash only at www.storageauctions.com on December 18, 2025 at 11:30AM.

ISAIAIS BAUTISTA LOPEZ:

Buckets, contractor materials

DEWEY SHAWN HARDESTY:

Boxes, computer monitor, bags, toys

SHAWN HARDESTY:

Boxes, computer monitor, bags, toys

LESGABRIAN ACOSTA VELAZQUEZ:

Boxes, totes, storage

drawers, luggage, stool

Publish: The Apopka Chief
November 28, December 5, 2025

IN THE COUNTY COURT, IN AND FOR BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO: CONO-14-12827
REMY SIMEON,
Plaintiff,
vs.
JIMMY DORVILUS and
BELKAY CONSTRUCTION, LLC,
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 8th day of August, 2025, 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 BELKAY CONSTRUCTION, LLC, in and to the following described real property, to-wit: PINES OF WEKIVA SECTION 1 PHASE II TRACT D. Also known as 1288 Falconcrest Blvd, Apopka, FL 32712. SOLD AS IS AND WITH NO WARRANTY. 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 BELKAY CONSTRUCTION, LLC, and that on the 7 th day of January 2026, 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: A/Sgt. Jesse Corrales
As Deputy Sheriff
November 21, 28, December 5, 12, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO. 2025-CA-009168-O
DIV NO.: 40

MARRIOTT RESORTS HOSPITALITY CORPORATION, a South Carolina Corporation, Management Agent on behalf of GRANDE VISTA OF ORLANDO CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, INC., a Florida not for profit corporation, and All Owners as Agent, Plaintiff,

vs.
EARL F. JACOBS AS INDIVIDUAL AND AS TRUSTEE OF THE SEPTEMBER 7, 2004 EARL F. JACOBS AND CHRISTINE K. JACOBS INTER VIVOS REVOCABLE TRUST, et. al., Defendants,

NOTICE OF ACTION BY PUBLICATION AS TO COUNT VIII TO THE FOLLOWING DEFENDANT WHOSE RESIDENCE IS UNKNOWN: TO: CORNELIUS HOUARIHANE

GALLARAS

BALLYSILLAGH OYLEGATE

WEXFORD

IRELAND

AND

CLIODHNA MAIRE

KENNEDY

GALLARAS

BALLYSILLAGH OYLEGATE

WEXFORD

IRELAND

The above named Defendants are not known to be dead or alive and, if dead, the unknown spouses, heirs, devisees, grantees, assignees, lienors, creditors, trustees, or other claimants, by, through under or against said Defendant and all parties having or claiming to have any right, title or interest in the property described below.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED OF the institution of the above-styled foreclosure proceedings by the Plaintiff, MARRIOTT RESORTS HOSPITALITY CORPORATION, upon the filing of a complaint to foreclose a lien and for other relief relative to the following described property:

COUNT VIII

Unit Week 20 in Unit 7448, in GRANDE VISTA CONDOMINIUM, according to the Declaration of Condominium thereof, as recorded in Official Records Book 5114 at Page 1488 in the Public Records of Orange County, Florida, and any amendments thereof.

AND you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any to the complaint, upon EDWARD M. FITZGERALD, ESQUIRE, Holland & Knight LLP, 200 S. Orange Avenue, Suite 2600, Orlando, Florida 32801, attorneys for the Plaintiff, on or before thirty (30) days from the first day of publication herein and file the original with the Clerk of the above-

styled Court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter, otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.

DATED on this 12th day of November, 2025.

Tiffany Moore Russell
Clerk of the Court
By: // S Gre
Deputy Clerk
Civil Division
425 N. Orange Avenue
Room 350
Orlando, Florida 32801

CIRCUIT COURT SEAL
CONFORMED COPY TO:
EDWARD M. FITZGERALD
HOLLAND & KNIGHT, LLP
200 S. Orange Avenue, Suite 2600
Orlando, Florida 32801
Ph. (407) 244-5198

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator, Human Resources, Orange County Courthouse, 425 North Orange Avenue, Suite 510, Orlando, Florida, (407) 836-2303, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711. THIS DOCUMENT IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
HK#110523.2011/GV240
November 28, December 5, 2025

IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE 17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO: 06-04804
TRANS VOICE LLC,

as assignee of
US BANK N.A., a foreign limited liability company, Plaintiff(s)

vs.
ALIX DUQUE and MARIA S DUQUE, individually, jointly, and severally, Defendant(s),

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 17th day of September, 2025, 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 MARIA S DUQUE, in and to the following described real property, to-wit: **Lot 108, Laurel Hills Subdivision Unit 2, according to the Plat thereof, as recorded in Plat Book 4, Page(s) 118, of the Public Records of Orange County, Florida; with a physical address of 7221 Willowood Street, Orlando FL 32818. 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 MARIA S DUQUE, and that on the 6th day of January 2026, 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: A/Sgt. Michael Rowland
As Deputy Sheriff
November 21, 28, December 5, 12, 2025

STORAGE SENSE SELF STORAGE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Storage Sense Apopka Located at 2208 Stillwater Ave., Apopka, Florida 32703 Phone 407-703-8854 intends to sell the personal property described below to enforce a lien imposed on said property Under the Florida Facility Act Statutes. The Sale shall take place online at www.lockerfox.com and closes on the **17th Day of December, 2025 at 10:00 AM** Property will be sold for cash only. Unit must be cleaned out within 72 hours of purchase with a \$100 cash cleaning Deposit.
6048 – Anthony Jones – Personal Property
November 28, December 5, 2025

IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO: 2024-CC-024495-O
ADVANCED CONSTRUCTION

& RENOVATION INC.
D/B/A WATER MOLD
INSURANCE REBUILD,
a Florida Profit Corporation,
Plaintiff,

v.
WYNNETTE HINKLE and
LEOLA BRYANT,
Defendants.

NOTICE OF ACTION
TO: LEOLA BRYANT
YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a suit was instituted in the above-captioned action to foreclose a construction lien in the Ninth Judicial Circuit, in and for Orange County by Advanced Construction and Renovation, Inc. d/b/a Water Mold Insurance Rebuild against the above-named Defendant.

The property involved is that certain parcel of land situated, lying, and being in Orange County, Florida, more particular described as follows:

RICHMOND ESTATES
UNIT TWO
2/64 LOT 7 BLK 10
Street address:
2522 Willie Mays Pkwy,
Orlando, FL 32811

Suit has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, on Plaintiff's attorney, Michael J. Friedman, Friedman Legal, whose address is 1001 Yamato Road, Suite 311, Boca Raton, FL 33431, on or before 30 days after the publication date of this notice of action, 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.
DATED on November 5, 2025.
Tiffany Moore Russell,
Clerk of Courts
/s/ Sandra Jackson
Deputy Clerk
Civil Division
425 N Orange Ave
Room 350
Orlando, FL 32801
CIRCUIT COURT SEAL
November 14, 21, 28, December 5, 2025

IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO: 2024-CC-024495-O
ADVANCED CONSTRUCTION
& RENOVATION INC.
D/B/A WATER MOLD
INSURANCE REBUILD,
a Florida Profit Corporation,
Plaintiff,

v.
WYNNETTE HINKLE and
LEOLA BRYANT,
Defendants.

NOTICE OF ACTION
TO: WYNNETTE HINKLE
YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a suit was instituted in the above-captioned action to foreclose a construction lien in the Ninth Judicial Circuit, in and for Orange County by Advanced Construction and Renovation, Inc. d/b/a Water Mold Insurance Rebuild against the above-named Defendant.

The property involved is that certain parcel of land situated, lying, and being in Orange County, Florida, more particular described as follows:

RICHMOND ESTATES
UNIT TWO
2/64 LOT 7 BLK 10
Street address:
2522 Willie Mays Pkwy,
Orlando, FL 32811

Suit has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, on Plaintiff's attorney, Michael J. Friedman, Friedman Legal, whose address is 1001 Yamato Road, Suite 311, Boca Raton, FL 33431, on or before 30 days after the publication date of this notice of action, 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.

DATED on November 5, 2025.

Tiffany Moore Russell,
Clerk of Courts
/s/ Sandra Jackson
Deputy Clerk
Civil Division
425 N Orange Ave
Room 350
Orlando, FL 32801
CIRCUIT COURT SEA;

November 14, 21, 28, December 5, 2025

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, MECKLENBURG COUNTY IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE
DISTRICT COURT DIVISION
MILADY SANTOS

vs.

MICHAEL JAMAINA JACKSON
FILE# 25CV052737-590

TO: Michael Jamaine Jackson
1356 Anna Catherine Drive
Orlando, FL 32828

Take notice that an action seeking relief against you, has been filed in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, Civil District Court, File #: 25CV052737-590. A responsive Pleading is required to be filed no later than December 31, 2025. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: **Absolute Divorce.**

You are required to make a defense of such pleading no later than December 31, 2025 to Mecklenburg County Clerk of Superior

Court, 832 East Fourth St., Charlotte, NC 28202; and upon your failure to do so the party seeking relief against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought.

Dated: November 21, 2025.

Jessica Shaddock
Tom Bush Law Group
821 East Blvd.
Charlotte, NC 28203
November 21, 28, December 5, 12, 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 **IFA ESHU Music** located at 2335 Green Bush Ct in the County of Orange in the City of Orlando, Florida 32837, 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 2nd day of December, 2025.
Amaury Leyva Valdes
December 5, 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 Bashore Consulting, with a mailing address of 14007 Snowy Owl Lane, Winter Garden, FL 34787 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: Rachel Bashore
December 5, 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 Leaf & Lush Cleaning, with a mailing address of 1621 N Hudson St, Orlando, FL 32808 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: Zavanah Nikole Rodriguez
December 5, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, STATE OF FLORIDA CIRCUIT CIVIL Case No. 2024-CA-005753-O

Division. 36
FLORIDA REGIONAL CENTER, LP I, a Delaware limited partnership, Plaintiff

v.

LAKE BENNETT VILLAGE -OCOE, LLC, a Wyoming limited liability company, and MAINE BOULEVARD II, LLC, a Florida limited liability company, Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered on February 10, 2025, and that certain Order Granting Plaintiff's Motion to Reschedule Foreclosure Sale entered on November 20, 2025, in the cause pending in the Circuit Court, in and for Orange County, Florida, Civil Case No. 2024-CA-005753-O, wherein Florida Regional Center, LP I, is the Plaintiff and Lake Bennett Village - Ocoee, LLC, and Maine Boulevard II, LLC, are the Defendants, the Office of Tiffany Moore Russell, Orange County Clerk of Court, will sell the property situated in said County described as:

PARCEL NO. 1A; 1B; and 1C: (Parcel ID# 17-22-28-6144-06-250 & 17- 22-28-6144-06-260 & 17-22-28-6144-06-261)

All of Lots 25, 26, 27 and 28 and a portion of Lots 22, 23 and 24, Block 6, Map of Ocoee, Section 20, Township 22 South, Range 28 East, according to the plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book A, Pages 100 and 101, Public Records of Orange County, Florida. Together with that portion of vacated Maine Street as recorded in Official Records Book 4926, Page 3959, Public Records of Orange County, Florida. Being more particularly described as follows:

Begin at the Southwest corner of said Lot 26; thence North 00° 06'25" East, 617.49 feet; thence South 88°39'20" East 1268. 75 feet; thence South 00°19'08" West, 640.61 feet; thence North 88°57'53" West, 434.74 feet; thence North 01 °02'07" East, 30.00 feet; thence North 88°57'53" West, 832.00 feet to the Point of Beginning.

Together with: Begin at the Southwest corner of said Lot 25; thence North 00°16'25" East, 617.48 feet; thence South 88°20'50" East, 317.85 feet; thence South 00°09'34" West, 360.00 feet; thence South 62°11'42" East, 169.88 feet; thence South 88°39'19" East 219.93 feet; thence South 71 °54'35" East, 277.84 feet; thence South 61 °11'42" East, 222.66 feet; thence North 88°39'21" West, 1148.92 feet to the Point of Beginning. Said lands lying in Orange County, Florida.

Less that part of said Lots 22, 23 and 24 lying North of the center line of Creek as shown on the plat of Shoal Creek, recorded

in Plat Book 33, Pages 73 through 75, Public Records of Orange County, Florida. Together with the West 1/2 of the vacated California Avenue as described in the Resolution No. 2003-11 recorded in Official Records Book 6936, Page 2686; Public Records of Orange County, Florida, lying East of the above described property. Together with that portion of vacated Georgia Street as described in Resolution No. 2017-004 recorded in Official Records Document No. 20170191465, Public Records of Orange County, Florida.

AND

PARCEL NO. 2: (Parcel ID# 17-22-28-6144-05-080 and 17-22-28-6144-05152)

A portion of Block 5, Map of Ocoee, as recorded in Plat Book A, Pages 100 and 101, of the Public Records of Orange County, Florida, and that part of the vacated Georgia Avenue, being more particularly described as follows:

Begin at the Southwest corner of Block 5, Map of Ocoee, as recorded in said Plat Book A, Pages 100 and 101; thence South 88°58'45" East, along the South line of said Block 5, a distance of 604.78 feet; thence North 00°06'18" East, 420.00 feet; thence South 88°58'45"

East, 240.00 feet; thence South 00°06'18" West, 420.00 feet; thence South 88°58'45" East, along the South line of said Block 5, a distance of 424.78 feet; thence North 00°04'44" East, along the East line of said Block 5, a distance of 375.59 feet; thence North 88°10'48" West, 308.34 feet; thence North 00°04'44" East, 406.39 feet; thence South 88°10'48" East, 308.34 feet; thence North 00°04'44" East, along the East line of said Block 5, a distance of 513.67 feet; thence North 88°22'32" West, along the North line of said Block 5, a distance of 951.49 feet; thence South 00°07'05" West, along the

West line of said Lot 10, Block 5, a distance of 652.83 feet; thence North 88°40'39" West, along the centerline of vacated Georgia Street, as shown on the Plat, 317.27 feet; thence South 00°07'51" West, along the West line of said Block 5, a distance of 654.50 feet to the Point of Beginning.

And (Parcel No. 17-22-28-6144-05-141)

The North 210 feet of the South 420 feet of the West 210 feet of Lot 141 Block 5, Town of Ocoee, according to the Plat thereof, as recorded in Plat Book A, Pages 100 and 101, Public Records of Orange County, Florida; and the East 30 feet of South 420 feet of Lot 13, Block 5, Town of Ocoee, according to the Plat thereof, as recorded in Plat Book A, Pages 100 and 101, Public Records of Orange County, Florida.

(Parcel No. 17-22-28-6144-05-150)

Commence at the Northeast corner of Lot 151 Block 5, Town of Ocoee, according to the Plat thereof, as recorded in Plat Book A, Pages 100 and 101, Public Records of Orange County, Florida; thence South 00°06'25" West, 99.24 feet, along the East line of said Lot 15, to the Point of Beginning; thence continue South 00°06'25" West, 143.00 feet; thence North 88°09'07" West, 308.34 feet; thence North 00°06'25" East, 143.00 feet; thence South 88°09'07" East, 308.34 feet to the Point of Beginning.

(Parcel No. 17-22-28-6144-05-151)

A parcel of land being a portion of Lots 8 and 15, Block 5, and vacated Georgia Avenue, Town of Ocoee, according to the Plat thereof, as recorded in Plat Book A, Pages 100 and 101, Public Records of Orange County, Florida, more particularly described as follows:

Begin at the Northeast corner of Lot 15, Block 5, Town of Ocoee, as shown in said Plat; thence South 00°06'25" West, 99.24 feet, along the East line of said Lot 15; thence North 88°09'07" West, 308.34 feet; thence North 00°06'25" East, 263.39 feet; thence South 88°09'07" East, 308.34 feet; thence South 00°06'25" West, 164.15 feet to the Point of Beginning.

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