

City Council races begin to take shape

Velazquez, Smith file for re-election

By Teresa Sargeant
Reporter

Vice Mayor Diane Velazquez filed to run for re-election Monday, one of several recent filings for City Council seats up for grabs in the March municipal election.

Velazquez, who holds Seat 2, is a familiar face in the community, not just as a public figure but as someone who frequents community



Photo by Marshall Tempest

Vice Mayor Diane Velazquez has filed to run for reelection. events and sits on several organization boards.

missioners be very involved, very visible and accessible, not just to the residents, to the businesses, to the schools,” Velazquez said in a Tuesday interview with The Apopka Chief.

Velazquez’s priorities for her campaign are to keep serving and supporting the community, one way being in educating people about land development issues.

“A lot of those developments aren’t going to become a reality for another three to 10 years,” Velazquez said. “I think that’s one of the things that’s important,

to kind of assure our community, is that a lot of these developments that we are approving because housing is a necessity right now. We have such a shortage of housing. It’s just that when people hear these developments coming, in their mind, they think they’re coming with in next year or the year after, but when I speak to the developers, I’ve always asked for a timeframe.”

Velazquez was first elected to the Apopka City Council in 2014 and has held it since that year, except for 2018 to 2020, when she was

appointed planning and zoning commissioner for Orange County District 2. She was elected to Apopka City Council Seat 2 again in 2020.

Seat 1

On Dec. 3, former City Commissioner Sam Ruth announced his campaign for City Council Seat 1, currently held by Alexander H. Smith.

In a Facebook post, Ruth said his campaign will focus on three priorities he believes Apopka currently needs: infrastructure before expansion, restoring profession-

COUNCIL RACE, A8

Errol Plaza Winn-Dixie to close, convert to ALDI

By Sarah Merly
Reporter

The Winn-Dixie grocery store in Errol Plaza is set to close in early March, according to a statement from parent company Southeastern Grocers.

“We can confirm the Winn-Dixie grocery store located at 1565 W. Orange Blossom Trail in Apopka will close in early March to convert to ALDI,” said Meredith Hurley, senior director of communications and community for Southeastern Grocers. “The adjacent Winn-Dixie Beer, Wine & Spirits store will remain open.”

Winn-Dixie team members received advance notice of the closing.

“Associates will have the first opportunity to apply for roles at the newly converted ALDI store or may choose to continue their careers with Winn-Dixie at another location,” Hurley said.

ALDI purchased Southeastern Grocers in March 2024.

“In addition to organic growth through new store openings, a significant

NEW ALDI, A7

CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING



Photo by Gigi Cohen

The annual tree lighting took place at Kit Land Nelson Park last Saturday. The event included holiday music, vendors, photos with Santa, and other children’s activities.

Rock Springs Ridge HOA acquires golf course for \$7.3M



Photo by Teresa Sargeant

The Rock Springs Ridge golf course operated from 1997 to 2014.

Contract ensures land won’t be sold for development

By Teresa Sargeant
Reporter

After years of uncertainty and debate over the future of a defunct golf course, the Rock Springs Ridge homeowners association (HOA) has inked a deal to acquire the land, ensuring it will not be sold to developers.

The HOA and the golf course’s current owner, known as the Golf Group, signed a 15-year lease-to-own contract at a Tuesday night HOA meeting, which finalizes one of three options the HOA had presented to residents during a July town hall.

“We now have an interest in the land, so it can’t be

developed,” HOA president Simon McKenna said in a Wednesday phone interview. “When the final payment is made, we, the Rock Springs Ridge Homeowners Association, will own the land. So it won’t be developed.”

Unlike the initial options of a municipal bond — which McKenna said the city was unfavorable toward — or a land swap deal with Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission (FWC), the HOA opted for a direct 15-year lease-purchase agreement with the Golf Group.

The total cost of the purchase, including interest payments, is set at \$7.3 million. The original purchase price was \$5.5 million. This deal will be financed entirely through a roughly \$370

ROCK SPRINGS, A6

Traffic is top concern about Paulucci Acres at meeting

Developer to fund infrastructure without impact fees credit, attorney says

By Teresa Sargeant
Reporter

The 1,034-unit Paulucci Acres development continues to move forward, but not without city discussion centered on its potential impact on the surrounding area, in-

cluding traffic and roadway capacity.

At the Tuesday Planning Commission meeting, the board voted to recommend approval of Paulucci Acres’ rezoning and the planned development master plan. The City Council will review these in a first reading at its Dec. 17 meeting, with a second reading to follow Jan. 7.

City traffic coordinator Bill Wharton said the city’s traffic analysis shows near-

at a satisfactory level of service” with the Paulucci Acres project, with safety supported by new turn lanes and multiple access points.

Paulucci Acres is a 618-acre property proposed for construction east of Vick Road and north of Ponkan Road. The Pulte Homes development proposal includes 1,034 residential units, two non-residential lots, and an estimated 146-acres dedicated to parkland.

This summer, the Apop-

ka City Council approved the annexation of 39 acres of land for Paulucci Acres.

Mike Woodward, the city’s consultant from Kimley-Horn, said that Ponkan Road would carry about 10,000 vehicles a day once Paulucci Acres is fully built, still well below the roughly 15,000-vehicle threshold where the road would be considered at capacity.

Board members ques-

PAULUCCI ACRES, A5



Courtesy of city of Apopka

Paulucci Acres, outlined in red, is proposed as a 618-acre property comprised of over 1,000 homes located east of Vick Road and north of Ponkan Road.

Opinion

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City staffers give back in many ways

The city has a dedicated team of true professionals who not only keep Apopka running at top notch efficiency but also give back to our community in many ways.

Just last month our Police Department put on a car show at Kit Land Nelson Park called Horsepower for Heroes. The event raised money to benefit Honor Flight Central Florida, a non-profit that provides flights to Washington, D.C., for veterans to visit the memorials at no cost.

Not to be outdone, our Fire Department put on the Phil the Boot fundraiser for Phil Faro, who is an Apopka fire engineer and Marine Corps veteran who had a severe medical issue. We had eight-man teams from all over Central Florida pulling a 40,000-pound fire engine 100 yards for bragging rights – with all the proceeds to benefit Phil.

I would also like to brag on your city staff as we enter the Christmas season. As many families are struggling to make ends meet, our dedicated employees have stepped up to the challenge to help. At Thanksgiving, our team donated 714 boxes of macaroni and cheese – far exceeding our goal of 300 boxes. They also donated 122 miscellaneous boxes of addition-

Apopka Mayor



Bryan Nelson

al food for a grand total of 836 boxes of food to help Loaves and Fishes meet community needs.

In the spirit of the Christmas season, our Police Department just completed the Shop with a Cop program giving 160 kids the opportunity to shop at Walmart with a police officer. Each child got a

\$125 gift card to spend on toys, along with their own personal police officer to help them shop for the best bargains.

The Shop with a Cop event would not have been possible without the help of our Citizens Police Academy and our financial sponsors, which included Walmart, Apopka Christian Ministerial Alliance, Circles of Care, Sam's Club, Lou Haubner Realty, ACPAAA, the Picerne Family, Synergy Electrical, Shren Yeager Insurance, Orange Lodge 36, Marc Shore Associates, Electronic Locksmith, Apopka Woman's Club, GeoWell Construction, John Land Community Trust, One Florida Bank, Vision Car Wash and Victoria Plaza.

Along with the Shop with a Cop, we also collected Christmas toys for Apopka Middle School, including 20 bikes, games, toys and books. Our city staff have always been generous with their time, talents and treasure and are a true asset to our great city.

6 ways to improve local infrastructure

I wrote in last week's column about Orange County government's job of maintaining more than 3,000 miles of roadway. And, as we know, that's enough mileage to cover a trip to California.

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 over \$5 billion dollars.

To reiterate, before providing solutions, consider that the county resurfaced West Ponkan Road from US 441 to Plymouth Sorrento with a price tag of \$2 million. A wise former county 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.

What are the solutions for addressing lagging infrastructure improvements?

Lobby the Florida Legislature effectively so they pass

County Commissioner
District 2



Christine Moore

fewer developer-friendly, last-minute laws. The Legislature does not allow developers to be forced to expand roadway capacity.

Stop building suburban sprawl neighborhoods; keep things compact, protecting rural areas. For this I borrow from Charles Marohn, founder and president of Strong Towns, an organization I have studied with and benefitted from in policymaking decisions.

In an essay published last May, Marohn writes: "When you sprawl outward, every new house adds more to the public obligation to maintain. More pipes, more roads, more services. But there's no corresponding bump in tax productivity. Instead, you create... a place where every new resident con-

sumes more than they contribute. It may start out exciting, but eventually the community is stretched too thin."

Work with CFX on contributing toward improvements near major highway entranceways.

Continue to seek federal money through membership in MetroPlan. I will serve as Chairperson of MetroPlan beginning February 2026. While on the MetroPlan board, I secured \$5 million for Rock Springs and Welch roads improvements. Design begins in 2026.

Seek additional state and federal grant funding.

Strike better road deals with developers who cause the increased need for capacity.

(For example, I lobbied for \$5 million for Ponkan Road improvements on the Paulucci project over and above the regular transportation impact fees.)

I hope this column and last week's give you a better idea of the challenges local governments face in maintaining and funding new roadway infrastructure. Let's solve our infrastructure woes together.

AI holds much promise for educators

Last week, I attended the annual winter conference for the Florida School Boards Association, spending several days learning from industry leaders in education research and policy.

These conferences are always valuable, but this one seemed even more so than usual, as every session I attended focused on a very timely topic: AI and its use in education.

It seems we are hearing a lot about AI these days because it is everywhere, in everything we do, and the technology shows no signs of slowing down. That leaves school board members and administrators on a steep learning curve for the opportunities it can provide, as well as the challenges that need to be addressed.

What was impressed upon me most was that this is not something to be afraid of. For generations, teachers have worked miracles with limited time and wide-ranging student needs. As a board member, I often hear from teachers that they have so much on their plates

Orange County School
Board, District 7



Melissa Byrd

and the demands on their time are vast.

AI can give teachers the gift they need most — time. Teachers today juggle instruction with grading, paperwork, reports, lesson planning and data analysis. AI can help handle routine tasks such as generating practice activities, organizing student feedback, and identifying learning trends.

When teachers regain those hours, they reinvest them where they matter most: building relationships, supporting students emotionally, and designing engaging lessons.

AI also holds a powerful

promise for students who need extra support. From translation and speech-to-text tools to reading support tools, there are many ways it can be used.

Used well, AI does not replace teachers — it extends their reach to students who need more attention than the traditional system can always provide.

None of this potential happens without responsibility. Schools must lead with clear expectations about ethical use, privacy protection and academic integrity. Students must be taught not just how to use AI, but how to question it, verify information, and understand its limits.

AI should never replace thinking — it should strengthen it.

As we move into the new frontier of learning for this generation, I am grateful I had the opportunity to learn so much at the conference. It has inspired me to research more and learn more so I can help ensure that our district is on the right path moving into this.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

On behalf of the members of VFW Post 10147 Apopka/Altamonte Springs, I want to extend our sincere thanks to The Apopka Chief and its advertisers for the exceptional Veterans Day sections. Your dedication to honoring veterans is deeply appreciated by our entire organization.

As I reflected on the importance of recognizing veterans, John and Eileen Ricketson and their family immediately came to mind. John was a veteran who consistently supported his fellow veterans in countless ways. His commitment and generosity made a lasting impact on our community, and I am certain he would be proud to see The Apopka Chief continuing its tradition of celebrating Veterans and Veterans Day.

Commander Loretta Forlaw
VFW Post 10147 Apopka/Altamonte Springs

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A white Christmas like the ones I used to know? No thanks

The best way to ruin a song is to live through it. Old Bing wouldn't sing so sentimentally about a White Christmas if he'd ever spent 10 hours of one in a Toyota with no heater, a dying battery and a disappointed woman.

I was working in Georgia in the mid-1970s, and it looked like I might be spending the second Christmas of my life away from home. The first had been overseas in the Army. Somehow, Tennessee seemed less accessible this time, even though I didn't have a Pacific Ocean and North America to cross.

This is when Carole, a young reporter, dropped by



OPINION
Jake Vest
Columnist

my desk and said she was going to drive through Knoxville on the way to her home in Kentucky and invited me to ride along and share the driving.

Well, she was much more the stuff of dreams than any snowy holiday would ever be, so the deal was sealed. She would pick me up after my shift ended at 2 a.m. and I would drive through

the night while she rested up. My arrival would be a surprise gift for my parents. Carole would drive on, all rested up, have her holiday and then pick me up two days later to reverse the trip. In my version, I would charm her, and we would return a couple.

It was all visions of sugar plums and tidings of good joy — until I got behind the wheel. I didn't know she had a stick shift, and she didn't know I couldn't drive one. That poor little car died at least a thousand deaths as we went grinding off into the night.

It was not a well-rested, cheerful woman who dropped me off the next morning. The

surprise visit wasn't so cheerful either. I arrived to find my parents walking toward their car with packed suitcases, heading off to Nashville to spend Christmas with my older brother's family.

My younger brother picked me up to spend the holiday at his house with half a dozen fellow bartenders and three or four cocktail waitresses and former and current girlfriends. That could have been festive except that White Christmas everybody dreams about arrived.

This wasn't fluffy Bing Crosby flakes, either. It was good old Northern Southern icy slush. Everybody went to work at various night-

clubs and got weathered in. Nobody could come get me, so I was stuck playing backgammon with an Amy Winehouse look-alike who asked me about once every 15 minutes if I was sure I hadn't brought any whiskey.

The song “(There's No Place Like) Home for the Holidays” still makes me wince.

The weather got better just in time for me to rendezvous with my ride home. We met at a service station near the interstate, and I found her bundled up and shivering. The heater was out and the battery was so close to dead that she didn't dare turn the car off. None of the accesso-

ries worked. The windshield was like frosted glass, and I could see her breath when she said, “Dad told me it was probably because we had to restart so many times.” She didn't mention that this was due to me stalling it out so much. She didn't have to. The glare said it all.

We pulled out onto the highway just as the snow started again. The trip takes less than five hours these days. We did it in a little over 10 with no radio and hardly a word exchanged.

It was a silent night. And, yeah, that song is pretty much ruined for me, too.

Apopka seniors donate Christmas gifts to 131 children

Head Start children received gifts from Santa Tuesday

By Sarah Merly
Reporter

The Apopka Progressive Seniors Club delivered Christmas joy to 131 Head Start children Tuesday at the John H. Bridges Community Center.

“The Christmas toy giveaway hosted by the Apopka Progressive Seniors is an

annual event that spreads Christmas joy and love to children and their families that are less fortunate,” center supervisor John Latimer Jr. said. “Santa Claus makes a point to come to John Bridges early in the month so the kids can receive one gift from them in person.”

David Rucker, who performed as Santa Claus, delivered the toys during the club's Christmas celebration, attended by over 100 guests. Williams and the drive co-chair, Van Carter, had en-

couraged each senior to donate a toy or a gift card to purchase a toy.

“We tried to purchase one toy — at least one toy — for each student in the Head Start program ages 3 to 5, a unisex educational toy, just to make sure that each child has a gift for Christmas,” toy drive co-chair Yvonne Williams said.

Carter said this is the seventh or eighth year the seniors club has organized a Christmas toy drive.

“It just gives you a good

feeling to be able to do something for someone during Christmas time, and the kids are such a joy,” Carter said.

According to the Head Start website, Head Start is a federal program designed for preschool children from low-income families. Head Start children receive meals and health care while developing social skills.

“The children and families get in the Christmas spirit because of the love they receive before Christmas Day,” Latimer said.



Photo by Sarah Merly
David Rucker (right) delivers Christmas cheer.



Photo by Sarah Merly
Santa Claus gives a young girl a toy.

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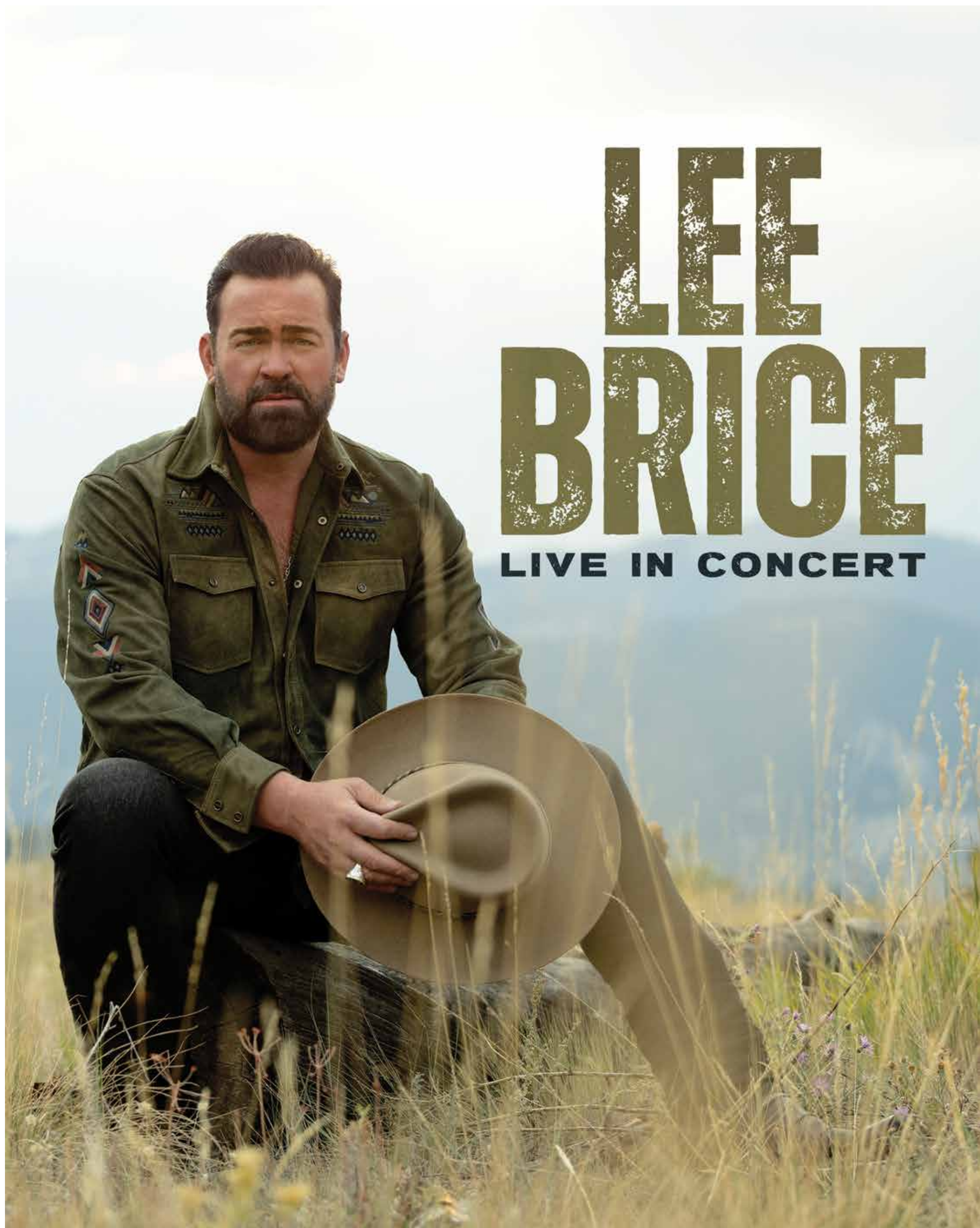
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City Council greenlights Kelly Park Road agreement

Agreement budgets \$15 million so far to finance project

By Teresa Sargeant
Reporter

The Apopka City Council approved on Dec. 3 a second amendment to the Kelly Park Road funding agreement, officially adding RCS Construction Company of Central Florida to the list of approved contractors for the interchange’s construction.

Also known as the pioneering agreement, the road-way funding agreement leverages contributions of developers known as pioneers, who put money into work on Kelly Park Road Interchange.

“We’ve been asked to add to the list of approved contractors a company called RCS because apparently, there’s been some good experiences with the company,” city attorney Cliff Shepard told the City Council. “They’ve been low bidder in a number of jobs, and they do quality work.”

The current pool of funds is at an estimated \$15 million, with



Photo by Teresa Sargeant

Professionals, business owners and community leaders pose on the construction site of the Wyld Oaks development in this August 2025 photo.

the agreement allowing for the total to climb up to \$20 million if more properties are added.

The city and co-developers executed the pioneering agreement in June 2023 and amended it in early 2025.

Commissioner Nick Nesta asked about the acquisition of rights-of-way, specifically bringing up the privately-owned “RJR parcel.” Shepard explained that the RJR already closed, while another will soon close with final title work wrapping up.

A third parcel, which Shepard said all parties involved call “the dentists,” remains unresolved due to con-

cerns about road configuration.

On Dec. 4, Shepard met with one of the property owners, who operates under an entity called “Kelly Park Self Storage,” whose land is needed for the Kelly Park Road expansion. No building exists on the property, but a storage facility is planned for it.

No outcome came from that meeting, and further meetings would be required between the property owners and their representatives, and the road designers, contractors and engineers, according to Shepard.

“The outcome is still up in the air because there will be more meetings required with

the people who are designing the road and the property owners’ representatives to determine whether they can come to an adequate solution that satisfies the property owners’ concerns,” Shepard said in a Monday interview.

Only after a design-related agreement is reached could Shepard prepare a contract to acquire the portion of the property needed for the road, including the payment amount. Shepard said the parties were trying to schedule a follow-up meeting to resolve that matter, but he does not have a timeline for when an agreement may be reached.

“I hope it’s soon, because we obviously need to get this done one way or the other,” Shepard said.

During the council meeting, Nesta also asked about the provision in the pioneering agreement regarding more funding if costs go past expectations of the project.

Shepard said that the \$9.7 million in impact fees collected may be used to cover any shortfalls, but only if the pioneers agree to it. He added that he, Mayor Bryan Nelson and city

staff met with the pioneers several weeks ago about the impact fees used for this purpose. Afterward, Shepard said, the pioneers separately dispatched their own written communication to the city saying they’re okay with the usage of impact fees if necessary.

The Kelly Park Road Interchange is a major road construction project around Kelly Park Road, meant to improve traffic movement, support continuing development in the area, and satisfy future transportation needs.

Joseph Beninati, developer and founder of the Wyld Oaks development, said at the City Council meeting that the Kelly Park Road Interchange project is now fully funded, a fixed-price contract with RCS has been proposed, and the bidding process was thorough and competitive. The project has a \$1.8 million contingency fund, according to Beninati.

Wyld Oaks is a 215-acre mixed-use development currently under construction, located off the 429 Beltway and the West Kelly Park Road Interchange.

“We have to amend this agreement, because when we

signed the pioneering agreement, there were other pre-approved vendors that had also earned a solid track record in Apopka for site work,” Beninati said. “So, we wanted to give them [RCS] the opportunity to bid on this project.”

During public comment, resident Albert McKimmie pointed to what he observes as the city’s lack of transparency and the likelihood that delays and increasing costs on Kelly Park Road will take away funds from Golden Gem Road and other infrastructure projects. McKimmie said the city must address Golden Gem Road as a whole infrastructure, not just in sections.

“They’ve not been forthcoming with information, and there’s a lot of questions that I have that remain unanswered,” he said.

Resident Rod Olsen pointed out how per the first pioneering agreement no certificates of occupancy would be issued until Kelly Park Road was brought up to standard, yet certificates of occupancy have been given to new developments despite the lack of Kelly Park Road improvements.

PAULUCCI ACRES

FROM A1

tioned several aspects of Paulucci Acres, including access to Rogers Road, the possible vacation of Pittman Road, wetland maintenance, the relocation of gopher tortoises, and the development’s impact on existing residents.

Planning Commissioner Eric Mock asked city staff for clear, printed before-and-after traffic counts related to Paulucci Acres.

“The average person’s not going to go through that

process. They’ll just basically come up and say, ‘This is a traffic nightmare,’” Mock said. “I think those of us in positions of responsibility, we need to step that game up and have that information available.”

Commissioner Howard Washington was skeptical of another roundabout, comparing it to a “horror story” circle on Binion Road and urging the designer to ensure drivers can slow down without having to nearly stop in moving traffic.

Community meetings for Paulucci Acres were held four times this year: January, March, August and most recently, Dec. 2.

At the August community meeting, residents expressed concerns about what they saw as significant traffic and safety issues related to West Ponkan Road. They also sought additional information about the proposed roundabout and detailed plans for the 145-acre city park, such as its access,

fencing and trail system, according to the meeting summary notes. Attendees also questioned Paulucci Acres’ impact on surrounding communities, commercial parcel restrictions and the pricing and nature of the new homes.

The development is envisioned to take about a decade to build out and involves seven different phases, according to Mohammed Abdullah, the developer’s traffic consultant for Paulucci Acres. He also

said that major Ponkan Road work will come before the neighborhood fills in, noting that no homes north of Ponkan can be sold until the road upgrades are built under conditions written into the planned development.

Attorney Eles Sowell, representing the developer, said the Paulucci Acres project would not only bring new housing but also “enable a solution” to existing safety problems on Ponkan Road, with Pulte Homes



Photo by J.C. Derrick

Eric Mock

committing to pay millions for road, lighting and roundabout improvements without seeking impact fee credits.

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WICKED: FOR GOOD (PG) 12:30; 3:30; 6:40; 9:55

NOT WITHOUT HOPE (NR) 12:40; 4:00

ZOOTOPIA 2 (PG) 1:00; 3:50; 6:50; 9:40

SILENT NIGHT (NR) 7:40; 10:20

ETERNITY (PG-13) 1:10****; 4:30; 4:50***; 7:10; 10:00

ELLA CRAY (PG-13) 1:20; 4:20; 7:20; 10:15

JUJUTSU KAISEN: EXECUTION (DUB) (NR) 1:30; 7:30

JUJUTSU KAISEN: EXECUTION (SUB) (NR) 4:40*; 10:10

HS25: THE POLAR EXPRESS (G) 12:20**

DICK VAN DYKE 100th CELEBRATION (NR) 4:00**

HS25: ELF (SING-A-LONG) (PG) 12:20***

DAVID - EARLY ACCESS (PG) 2:00***

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THEME: AT A BAR

ACROSS

- Slovenly ones
- To do this is human?
- Not flip
- Mistress or lover, arch.
- Precedes de Rivoli
- Lift a hefty load
- Sheep-like
- Invoice qty.
- Republic on Arabian Peninsula
- *Aromatic additives
- *Beer with Bloody Mary, e.g.
- Major Uziel Gal-designed gun
- Clarified butter
- Although, for short
- Distressed cry
- Bamboozled
- What a willow did?
- J in B. J. King
- Raspberry drupelets
- Pelvic bones
- Birch family tree
- Banned apple spray
- Impolite dinner sound

DOWN

- #1 Across, sing.
- Jeans maker Strauss
- Leave out
- Swahili and other languages
- Left, Latin prefix
- Dissenting clique
- a.k.a. chickadee
- Four seasons
- Abode for #1 Down
- Do, re or mi
- Buddy Holly's "Peggy ____"
- *Measuring tool at a bar
- *Not shaken
- Dough or cabbage
- "Gross!"
- Lacking guile
- "The Day the World ____ Still"
- Intelligence org.
- Ruhr's industrial center
- Job for a body shop
- Finish
- Condemn

- One of the seven dwarfs
- Victorian one and Elizabethan one, e.g.
- *Liquor in Hurricane and Painkiller
- *Verb related to hangover
- Fine print add-ons
- Feeble
- Above and beyond
- Mightier than sword
- Shenzi of "The Lion King"
- *Spanish dry red wine
- "For ____ a Jolly Good Fellow"
- Seductive stare (2 words)
- *Citrus peel
- Greeting
- Laudanum ingredient
- *Same as rail at a bar
- South American wood sorrels
- Trickeries
- Roleplay
- *Like martini with olive brine
- Queen of Hearts' pastry
- Campbell of "Scream" fame
- Cook in the oven
- Sent a modern message
- Ballerina's support
- Decayed or disintegrated
- Cease-fire
- Use other end of pencil
- Burlap fiber
- Desktop picture
- Small cave
- Herring's cousin
- Microprocessor design, acr.
- "____ and anon"
- Controvert
- Psychedelic drug
- *Liquor in Tom Collins and Gimlet

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F	L	A	W	S		I	T	S		A	R	Y	A
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8	5	1	7	3	2	4	6	9
9	7	6	8	5	4	3	2	1
4	3	2	6	9	1	7	8	5

Orange County approves \$787K sleeper bus program for homeless

Matthew’s Hope created initiative as temporary shelters

By Teresa Sargeant
Reporter

The Orange County Board of County Commissioners (BCC) unanimously approved on Dec. 2 a one-year contract totaling more than \$787,000 for a nonprofit to set up a sleeper bus program to help people who are experiencing homelessness get back on their feet.

The sleeper bus program is organized by Matthew’s Hope, a nonprofit outreach organization located in Orange and Brevard counties.

District 1 Commissioner Nicole Wilson introduced pastor Scott Billue, Matthew’s Hope founder and CEO, to the BCC. Wilson said she visited Matthew’s Hope emergency shelter buses in September in Brevard County, where the facilities currently operate. She encouraged people to visit the buses since “these shelters are already changing lives.”

The BCC’s vote to approve the sleeper buses is a “meaningful” day for Billue, Wilson told the board.

“It [the buses] will serve



Courtesy of Matthew’s Hope

By establishing a sleeper bus program using a refurbished transit bus such as this one pictured, Matthew’s Hope is seeking to help people experiencing homelessness get back on their feet.

residents all over west Orange County in an effort many have worked tirelessly to bring today,” Wilson said. “I am so thrilled to support him in the homeless outreach efforts of Matthew’s Hope and the unbelievable dedication he has to improving people’s lives.”

Billue launched Matthew’s Hope in 2010 as a way of temporarily housing the homeless population from the cold weather.

Matthew’s Hope mobile teams are assisting homeless men, women and chil-

dren throughout the county, from I-4 west into Clermont “before the sun rises” and as the cold weather approaches. Billue said state legislation has caused anxiety and tension among the homeless, motivating them to “do desperate things.”

“Don’t buy into the false narrative [of] what homelessness looks like,” Billue said. “The truth is that many are elderly, some very ill, while others are physically and or mentally disabled. And then there are those young families with children with no

understanding how they are supposed to survive on our streets due to the increased law enforcement of new laws coming out of Tallahassee, basically making it illegal to sleep outside — illegal to be homeless.”

In 2024, Gov. Ron DeSantis signed House Bill 1365 into law, which requires counties to make sure that homeless people get the necessary drug addiction and mental health services while staying in a designated location off public streets.

According to a March

20, 2024, press statement from the governor’s office, this law is aimed at prioritizing public safety.

“Florida will not allow homeless encampments to intrude on its citizens or undermine their quality of life like we see in states like New York and California,” DeSantis said in the statement. “[This] legislation upholds our commitment to law and order while also ensuring homeless individuals have the resources they need to get back on their feet.”

A sleeper bus is a refurbished bus used as a mobile temporary homeless shelter. Each bus can accommodate up to 20 people overnight for up to three days. These vehicles serve as a way of providing sleep and comfort, security, and connection to resources, including medical support and mental health care.

Orange County anticipates that the sleeper bus program will serve about 2,000 people every year, Mayor Jerry L. Demings said.

After voting, Demings highlighted other consent agenda items the board had passed that will serve communities throughout Orange County including the sleeper bus program.

“Almost all those issues that you bring to us require some type of financial solution,” Demings said. “This is where, within our budget, where we have flexibility to address these myriad issues, this is how we do it. So keep that in mind as you hear some other narratives that sometimes come out, or other reasons.”

In June, the Apopka City Council approved the Matthew’s Hope sleeper bus program.

At the Dec. 3 City Council meeting, Mayor Bryan Nelson said Billue contacted him about news of Orange County’s approval of the sleeper buses.

Nelson said he will reach out to some of the area churches to provide a parking area for the vehicles, and that electricity can be provided to run the sleeper buses.

“It might be six months before we get the sleeper bus, but it’s on its way and so we just want to make sure we’ve got the location,” Nelson said during his report. “If you’ve got any locations that people would [think] make sense, feel free to give us a call because we’ve got to get with Duke Energy to make sure we’ve got the power needed to run the sleeper bus.”

ROCK SPRINGS

FROM A1

increase in HOA annual dues per household, with no city funding or external borrowing involved, McKenna said.

The closing date for the deal is set for Jan. 5. Deposits have been exchanged, and the 15-year payment plan

will begin shortly thereafter.

The purchase marks a victory for residents who have long sought to protect the property from being converted into new housing developments.

“We’ve taken a mas-

sive step to protect the future development within Rock Springs Ridge,” said McKenna, who became HOA president in April and who has been involved in efforts to protect the land since 2009.

Homeowners have been kept informed through two in-person town halls, a virtual town hall, and the Tuesday HOA meeting, where the resolution to sign the contract was passed.

As for the status of the

50-acre gopher tortoise area, which the HOA already owns outright, remains an “ongoing situation” as the association continues to pursue options with the FWC, McKenna said.

The golf course, which

opened in 1997, meandered through the 1,320-home Rock Springs Ridge. The Golf Group purchased the golf course in 2005, but the course permanently closed in 2014 due to financial issues.



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Apopka Chamber presents 11 awards at annual dinner

Six recipients determined by Best of Apopka voters

By Sarah Merly
Reporter

The Apopka Area Chamber of Commerce presented 11 awards to community leaders at its 112th Anniversary Awards Dinner Dec. 4 at Highland Manor. The chamber used the results from Best of Apopka, The Apopka Chief’s annual reader’s choice awards contest, to determine six of the 11 winners.

“This gathering reflects what makes Apopka extraordinary — people coming together to recognize those who serve, lead and inspire,” Latonya McCoy, chief nursing officer at AdventHealth Apopka, said as a representative of dinner sponsor AdventHealth. “For more than a century, the chamber has united businesses [and] civic leaders in shaping Apopka’s growth and vi-



Photo by Ralo Flores

City officials join the award winners for a group photo at Highland Manor.

tality.”

After a buffet dinner, the chamber recognized its 2025 honorees with letters from U.S. Rep. Daniel Webster, R-Clermont, and plaques.

“America is the land of opportunity, where we are free to think big thoughts and aspire to great accomplishments both personally and professionally,” Webster said in a letter to Rookie of the Year Apopka Pack and Ship. “May you continue to achieve success as you pursue your dreams and re-

main committed to enhancing the lives of those around you.”

The first two honorees, Marine Corps veteran Lou Boria (Lifetime of Service) and Apopka parks and rec facilities administrator Alan “AJ” Jewel (Community Champion) were unable to attend.

“This year, he has donated about 500 hours of his time to Apopka Serves, along with many other things that he does to serve the community,” Chad Creech of the Apopka Serves Foundation said of Jewel.

“One of the reasons he is not here tonight is he is actually at another volunteer thing that he’s doing tonight.”

The chamber also recognized three of Apopka’s first responders: Earl Hines (Firefighter of the Year), Devin Dixon (Paramedic of the Year) and Emmanuel Sosa (Police-man of the Year).

“Most recently, over the last year, he’s created a special needs registry for the city of Apopka,” Captain Christopher “Chris” Hanstein said of

Sosa. “This registry is intended and aimed for residents to allow for tracking purposes for wandering children and adults who suffer from autism and other disabilities[.]”

Other honorees included Hall’s on Fifth as Restaurant of the Year and the GFWC Apopka Woman’s Club, which received the Legacy award.

“The Legacy Award from the Chamber of Commerce was a wonderful surprise!” club president Diane Harrison said in a statement to the Chief. “The half century of club activity by the ladies who came before us bestow our current membership the strong heritage of giving back to the community. We strive to maintain their tradition.”

The night concluded with a recognition of business leaders Charles Chambers (Chamber Member of the Year), David Dada (Businessman of the Year) and Rosa Cortes (Businesswoman of the Year).

“I was very humbled by the award,” said Cortes, vice

president of AC² HVAC Services, in a statement to the Chief. “I truly don’t believe I deserve it. I hope to do more for the community in 2026.”

List of Award Winners: (winners determined by Best of Apopka voters in bold)

- Lifetime of Service: Lou Boria
- Community Champion: Alan “AJ” Jewel
- **Legacy: GFWC Apopka Woman’s Club**
- **Rookie of the Year: Apopka Pack and Ship**
- **Restaurant of the Year: Hall’s on Fifth**
- Firefighter of the Year: Earl Hines
- Paramedic of the Year: Devin Dixon
- Policeman of the Year: Emmanuel Sosa
- **Chamber Member of the Year: Charles Chambers**
- **Businessman of the Year: David Dada**
- **Businesswoman of the Year: Rosa Cortes**

NEW ALDI

FROM A1

number of Winn-Dixie and Harveys Supermarkets will convert to the ALDI format over the next several years,” a March 7, 2024, ALDI press release said. “ALDI anticipates that approximately 50 stores will begin the conversion process during the latter half of 2024, with the majority of these stores reopening as ALDI in 2025.”

Even after private investors announced their purchase of Southeastern Grocers from ALDI in February, ALDI still intended to complete its conversion plans, which included reopening an estimated 220 Winn-Dixie and Harvey Su-

permarket stores as ALDI’s by the end of 2027.

“ALDI and SEG leadership will continue to work together closely to ensure a smooth transition, with dedicated leaders overseeing the store conversion and hiring process,” a Feb. 7 press release from Southeastern Grocers said. “SEG will continue to operate the remaining stores identified for conversion in the normal course of business, with the same level of care and focus on quality and service, up to and until each respective store is closed for conversion.”

Apopka resident Lucius Rackard-Williams shared the news of Winn-Dixie’s upcoming closure in a one-sentence Facebook post Tuesday. Community members then took to the comments section to share their thoughts.

“Aldis having control of 436 thru 414 all the way thru to Lake County is smart,” user Alfonso Bogie Villarroel said.

Group members praised ALDI’s comparatively low prices, while others said they would miss Winn-Dixie.

The Errol Plaza Winn-Dixie is open 7 a.m. -11 p.m. daily.



Photo by Sarah Merly

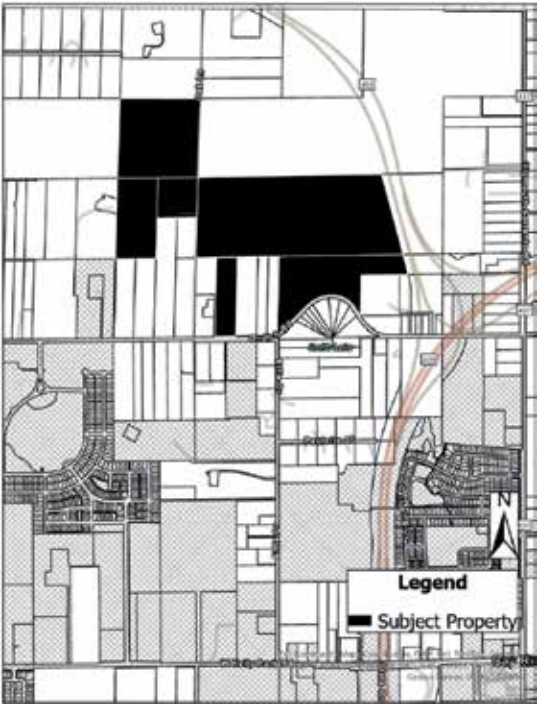
ALDI will replace the current Winn-Dixie at Errol Plaza after Winn-Dixie closes in March.

CITY OF APOPKA PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE CHANGE OF ZONING

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Secs. 163.3184 and 166.041(3)(a), Florida Statutes and the Apopka Code of Ordinances, Part III, Land Development Code, Article II, Section 2.4.7.B, that **PULTE HOMES COMPANY, LLC C/O AARON STRUCKMEYER, P.E.** made application relating to the following described property.

ORDINANCE NO. 3117

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF APOPKA, FLORIDA, CHANGING THE ZONING FROM COUNTY A-1 (CITRUS RURAL) TO PD (PLANNED DEVELOPMENT), FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY OWNED BY OWNED BY PM S-1 REO, LLC; HMF, LLC; CHARLES P. STALLINGS; KIM L. STALLINGS; EUELL E. STALLINGS, JR.; AND CRYSTAL DENISE STALLINGS; LOCATED ON THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF ONDICH ROAD AND SR 453/SR 429; COMPRISING 196.83 ACRES, MORE OR LESS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.



Parcel Identification Number(s): 01-20-27-0000-00-007, 01-20-27-0000-00-034, 01-20-27-0000-00-053, 02-20-27-0000-00-010, 02-20-27-0000-00-011, 02-20-27-0000-00-020 (portion of) Contains: 196.83 +/- acres

NOTICE is given that a public hearing for Ordinance Number 3117 will be held by the **City of Apopka City Council** at its regularly scheduled meeting in the City Council Chambers of the Apopka City Hall, 120 E. Main Street, Apopka, Florida on **Wednesday, December 17, 2025 beginning at 7:00 P.M. and Wednesday, January 7, 2026 at 1:30 P.M.**

Affected parties and the public may appear at the above listed hearings to speak. The proposed Future Land Use and Rezoning Applications can be inspected at the Apopka Community Development Department located at Apopka City Hall on weekdays between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 4:30 P.M. City Hall address shown below. Please be advised that, under State law, if you decide to appeal a decision made with respect to this matter, you will need a record of the proceedings and may need to ensure that a verbatim record is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), persons with disabilities needing assistance to participate in any of these proceedings should contact the City Clerk’s Office at 120 East Main Street, Apopka FL 32703, Telephone: 407-703-1704, no less than 48 hours prior to the proceeding.

**Apopka City Council
Apopka Planning Commission
Community Development Department
December 12, 2025**

CITY OF APOPKA PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE TEXT AMENDMENT TO THE APOPKA LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE

NOTICE is hereby given that **TARA L. TEDROW, ESQ.** proposes to amend the Land Development Code of the City of Apopka, Florida in accordance with Florida Statutes 166.0413(3)(c) and the Apopka Code of Ordinances, Part III, Land Development Code, Appendix A Mixed Use Kelly Park Interchange (MU-KPI) Form-Based Code, to revise a section of said Land Development Code as specified within the Ordinance title and within Ordinance Number 3118. The proposed amendment affects or may affect the use of property, the development of building and structures, and the development review process for land located within the jurisdiction of the City of Apopka, Florida.

ORDINANCE NO. 3118

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF APOPKA, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF APOPKA BY AMENDING PART III, APPENDIX A MIXED USE KELLY PARK INTERCHANGE (MU-KPI) FORM-BASED CODE, APPENDIX C; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

NOTICE is given that a public hearing for Ordinance Number 3118 will be held by the **City of Apopka City Council** at its regularly scheduled meeting in the City Council Chambers of the Apopka City Hall, 120 E. Main Street, Apopka, Florida on **Wednesday, January 13, 2026 beginning at 7:00 P.M. and Wednesday, January 21, 2025 beginning at 7:00 P.M.** or as soon thereafter as possible.

Affected parties and the public may appear at the above listed hearings to speak. The proposed Annexation can be inspected at the Apopka Community Development Department located at Apopka City Hall on weekdays between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 4:30 P.M. City Hall address shown below. Please be advised that, under State law, if you decide to appeal a decision made with respect to this matter, you will need a record of the proceedings and may need to ensure that a verbatim record is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), persons with disabilities needing assistance to participate in any of these proceedings should contact the City Clerk’s Office at 120 East Main Street, Apopka FL 32703, Telephone: 407-703-1704, no less than 48 hours prior to the proceeding.

**Apopka City Council
Apopka Planning Commission
Community Development Department
December 12, 2025**

John Bridges Center to donate 400 meals in inaugural holiday ham giveaway

Center requesting donations, volunteers

By Sarah Merly
Reporter

John H. Bridges Community Center, as part of the Orange County Community Action Division, will donate 400 hams and side dishes in a drive-thru giveaway next week.

“Orange County Government and my office partner with the Second Harvest Food Bank to bring holiday cheer and a healthy meal for Apopka’s neediest families,”



Courtesy of the John H. Bridges Community Center
Volunteers hand out bags at last month’s Thanksgiving turkey giveaway.



Photo by Sarah Merly
Catherine Le, aide for Commissioner Christine Moore, and John Latimer Jr. pose with bags for the giveaway.

The giveaway will take place from 11 a. m. to 2 p. m. and from 4 p. m. to 7 p. m.

registration for the first annual holiday ham giveaway was closed as of Monday.

“At this point, all the slots have been signed up for, and we’ve only been open for one week,” Latimer said. “We opened up registration on December the first, and as of December the eighth, the registration is closed. So we’ve been blessed.”

The giveaway’s structure will mirror that of last month’s Thanksgiving turkey giveaway. Guests will receive their holiday boxes with their sides at building A and receive their hams at building D.

Although giveaway registration has closed, the center is still searching for grocery store gift card donations and volunteers. Volunteers will receive a free lunch from Chick-fil-A.

“The affordability in the country is tough at this point in time, and again — the less fortunate, the [underserved], they want to have a good Christmas, good holidays, too,” Latimer said. “I’m just happy that we’re here to help.”

Gift card donations may be dropped off at the center at 445 W. 13th Street. Those wishing to volunteer may contact the center at 407-254-9449.

COUNCIL RACE

FROM A1

alism on the dais, and clearing up Apopka’s boundary confusion.

“Apopka is worth fighting for,” Ruth said. “I love this city, and I believe in its future — but only if we have leadership committed to transparency, responsible planning, and a genuine respect for the people who live here.”

A lifelong Apopka resident, Ruth said the city has shaped him into the person he is today. He is calling on residents to get engaged in the process of the city’s direction and to work together for its future.

Ruth previously served from April 2014 to April 2016 in Seat 3, which he won in a runoff election in April 2014 against Linda Laurendeau. He lost to Doug Bankson in his bid for re-election in the 2016 runoff.

Smith told the Chief on Dec. 5 that after the City Council meeting on Dec. 3, he filed paperwork to run for his third term in Seat 1. He was first elected to Seat 1 in 2018. In 2022, he won his second term,

which is set to expire in 2026.

Looking “at the glass as being half full instead of half empty,” Smith said in a Tuesday press release that the council has accomplished a lot over the years. Such achievements include opening the permanent Fire Station No. 6 on Harmon Road, upgrading Alonzo Williams Park and setting up new traffic signals.

A retired public educator, Smith is married with five children and 13 grandchildren. He is the pastor of New Hope Missionary Baptist Church in Apopka.

Smith said he’s committed to seeing workforce and affordable housing increase for Apopka residents and workers, continue to advocate for more educational opportunities for residents, the annexation of unincorporated South Apopka and to address and resolve the unhoused issue.

Seat 4

On Monday, Yesenia Baron, a retired law enforcement officer, former small business owner and com-

munity advocate, announced her bid on Facebook to run for Seat 4, currently occupied by Commissioner Nick Nesta.

Nesta must step down as Seat 4 commissioner to run for mayor in the 2026 race.

“I am running since I believe we can move [the] City of Apopka forward with purpose by planning growth responsibly, investing in our downtown and creating opportunities for families and small businesses to thrive right here in the beautiful City of Apopka,” Baron said in her Monday Facebook post announcing her campaign.

This is not Baron’s first bid for a council seat. In 2020, she ran for Seat 2, which Velazquez won in a runoff. Since then, Baron has seen the same challenges but “in a more pronounced state,” she said in her post.

Baron said the city “is saturated with growth and the growth hasn’t been managed responsibly. Our infrastructure has not caught up (and



Courtesy of Yesenia Baron
Yesenia Baron (L) files to run for Seat 4, currently held by Commissioner Nick Nesta, who is running for mayor.



Courtesy of Sam Ruth
Former Commissioner Sam Ruth files to run for Seat 1.

we’re paying the price) housing has become unaffordable and we are losing opportunities to build on the kind of city our residents want.”

Baron said that city-formed partnerships and ecotourism promotion can help small business growth, maintain the local economy, and increase a live, work and play environment in Apopka.

The municipal election will take place March 10, 2026, and will include races for mayor, Seat 1 and Seat 2. Incumbent Bryan Nelson is running against three challengers, including District 2 County Commissioner Christine Moore, attorney Matt Aungst and Nesta.

CITY OF APOPKA PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE TEXT AMENDMENT TO THE APOPKA COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

NOTICE is hereby given that **TARA L. TEDROW, ESQ.** proposes to amend the Future Land Use Element (FLUE) of the City of Apopka Comprehensive Plan, including updates to policies, tables, map references, and supporting text related to the Kelly Park Interchange Form-Based Code and the Town Center Overlay District. The proposed amendment may affect the use and development of land, buildings, and structures within the jurisdiction of the City of Apopka.

ORDINANCE NO. 3150

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF APOPKA, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF THE CITY OF APOPKA BY AMENDING THE FUTURE LAND USE ELEMENT (FLUE) TO UPDATE POLICIES, TABLES, MAP REFERENCES, AND SUPPORTING TEXT RELATED TO THE KELLY PARK INTERCHANGE FORM-BASED CODE AND THE TOWN CENTER OVERLAY DISTRICT; PROVIDING FOR TRANSMITTAL; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

NOTICE is given that a public hearing for Ordinance Number 3150 will be held by the **City of Apopka Planning Commission** at its regularly scheduled meeting in the City Council Chambers of the Apopka City Hall, 120 E. Main Street, Apopka, Florida on **Tuesday, January 13, 2026 beginning at 5:30 P.M.**, or as soon thereafter as possible.

FURTHER NOTICE is given that a public hearing for Ordinance Number 3150 will be held by the **City of Apopka City Council** at its regularly scheduled meeting in the City Council Chambers of the Apopka City Hall, 120 E. Main Street, Apopka, Florida on **Wednesday, January 21, 2026 beginning at 7:00 P.M.** or as soon thereafter as possible.

Affected parties and the public may appear at the above listed hearings to speak. The proposed Annexation can be inspected at the Apopka Community Development Department located at Apopka City Hall on weekdays between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 4:30 P.M. City Hall address shown below. Please be advised that, under State law, if you decide to appeal a decision made with respect to this matter, you will need a record of the proceedings and may need to ensure that a verbatim record is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), persons with disabilities needing assistance to participate in any of these proceedings should contact the City Clerk’s Office at 120 East Main Street, Apopka FL 32703, Telephone: 407-703-1704, no less than 48 hours prior to the proceeding.

**Apopka City Council
Apopka Planning Commission
December 12, 2025
Community Development Department**

CITY OF APOPKA PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE CHANGE OF FUTURE LAND USE AND CHANGE OF ZONING

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Secs. 163.3184 and 166.041(3)(a), Florida Statutes and the Apopka Code of Ordinances, Part III, Land Development Code, Article II, Section 2.4.7.B, that **Lincoln Douglas Haynes** has made application relating to the following described property.

ORDINANCE NO. 3140

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF APOPKA, FLORIDA, CHANGING THE FUTURE LAND USE FROM IN PROGRESS TO RESIDENTIAL VERY LOW SUBURBAN, FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1030 E. SANDPIPER STREET; OWNED BY LINCOLN DOUGLAS HAYNES AND LAUREN ELIZABETH HAYNES COMPRISING 1.79 ACRES, MORE OR LESS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

ORDINANCE NO. 3141

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF APOPKA, FLORIDA, CHANGING THE ZONING FROM T (TRANSITIONAL) TO RCE (RESIDENTIAL COUNTRY ESTATE), FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1030 E. SANDPIPER STREET; OWNED BY LINCOLN DOUGLAS HAYNES AND LAUREN ELIZABETH HAYNES COMPRISING 1.79 ACRES, MORE OR LESS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Parcel Identification Number(s): 02-21-28-0000-00-112
Contains: 1.79 +/- Acres

Notice is given that a public hearing for Ordinance Numbers 3140 & 3141 will be held by the **City of Apopka City Council** at its regularly scheduled meeting in the City Council Chambers of the Apopka City Hall, 120 E. Main Street, Apopka, Florida on **Wednesday, January 21, 2026 beginning at 7:00 P.M.**

Affected parties and the public may appear at the above listed hearings to speak. The proposed Small-Scale Future Land Use and Rezoning Applications can be inspected at the Apopka Community Development Department located at Apopka City Hall on weekdays between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. City Hall address shown below. Please be advised that, under State law, if you decide to appeal a decision made with respect to this matter, you will need a record of the proceedings and may need to ensure that a verbatim record is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), persons with disabilities needing assistance to participate in any of these proceedings should contact the City Clerk’s Office at 120 East Main Street, Apopka FL 32703, Telephone: 407-703-1704, no less than 48 hours prior to the proceeding.

**Apopka City Council
Apopka Planning Commission
December 12, 2025
Community Development Department**

POLICE BEAT

APD responds to 28 crashes from Nov. 30 to Dec. 6.

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@the-apokkachief.com.

In the period from November 30-December 6, 2025, the Apopka Police Department received 2,065 calls for service, responded to 28 crashes, issued 53 citations, and made 29 arrests. Burglaries: 2 vehicles, 1 residence, 0 business. Juveniles were charged with battery-touch or strike; battery-touch or strike (domestic violence); probation violation-child in violation of imposed conditions (DJJ SUP); drugs-possession of controlled substance without prescription; liquor-possession by person under

21 years of age, 1st offense; fraud-impersonate false ID given to law enforcement officer.

The following adults were arrested and charged:

Carlos M. Angel-Ramos, 25, general delivery, Jacksonville, battery on specified personnel; resist officer-obstruct without violence.

Kevin Germaine Rupert Brown, 28, 6323 Delta Leah Dr., Orlando, robbery-sudden snatch without firearm/weapon; battery-touch or strike; damage property-criminal mischief, damage property \$1,000+; burglary with assault or battery.

Cedric O'Neil Butler, 48, 2076 Oneta Ct., Orlando, public order crimes-use 2-way communication device to facil felony; cocaine-trafficking in cocaine 28 grams to 150kg.

Felix Antonio Carela, 54, 434 W. 4th St., Apopka, drugs-possession of controlled substance without pre-

scription.

Elias Coc Poob, 27, 703 Lou Ann Dr., Apopka, moving traffic violation-operate motor vehicle without valid license, 1st conviction.

Jose Antonio Cuadras, 66, 448 E. 10th St., Apopka, aggravated assault-with deadly weapon without intent to kill; weapon offense-improper exhibit of firearm or dangerous weapon; resist officer-obstruct without violence; disorderly intoxication-disorderly intoxication in public place, cause disturbance.

Eric Lamont Doctor, 23, 1960 Star Anise Cir., Apopka, other agency warrant (X2).

Robert Anthony Ector, 59, 1341 Welch Ridge Ter., Apopka, larceny-other theft.

Ernalyn Gacosta Eugenio, 39, Apopka, battery-touch or strike.

Leonardo Gourdet, 28, 5608 Valley Oak Rd., Orlando, other agency warrant.

Latoya Sharday Gullens,

39, 2589 Glacier Express Ln., Tavares, larceny-other theft; trespassing-structure or conveyance.

Christopher Robert Hippensteel, 42, 574 Wekiva Bluff St., Apopka, interfere with fire detection and reporting equipment (X2); damage property-criminal mischief, damage property \$200-\$1,000.

Avorice J. Holman, 52, Apopka, battery-touch or strike.

Viwe Kuse, 37, 272 Edisto Pl., Apopka, other agency warrant.

Pablo Bruno Marcovecchio Giglio, 18, Orlando, aggravated stalking-follow/harass/cyberstalk cred threat to person; threat-terroristic-state offenses written/electronic threat mass shooting/terrorism act.

Chance Mathurin, 18, 325 Whiteheart Dr., Deland, fraud-impersonate false ID given to law enforcement officer; larceny-other theft.

Maurice Val Jongue Mathurin, 42, 617 Glenfield Ct., Apopka, other agency warrant.

Jorge Luis Morales, 41, 3629 Hogshead Rd., Apopka, other agency warrant.

Kevin Andres Pichal, 30, 2017 Lake Page Ln., Apopka, drugs-possession of controlled substance without prescription; moving traffic violation-operate motor vehicle without valid license, 1st conviction.

Paul Frank C. Poppell, 40, 28740 Atlantis Rd., Tavares, trespassing-failure to leave property on order of owner.

Jeremy S. Rangel, 28, 1485 Plymouth Ave., Mt. Dora, battery-commit felony battery.

Maurice Lenard Reed, 59, general delivery, Orlando, drugs-possession of controlled substance without prescription; drug equipment-possession and/or use.

Fabio Alberto Restrepo,

44, Apopka, battery-cause bodily harm.

Akemoi J-Koy James Simmonds, 24, 142 W. Michael Gladden Blvd., Apopka, out-of-county warrant.

Lloyd Spencer, 63, 154 N. Apollo Dr., Apopka, moving traffic violation-drive while license suspended, habitual offender.

Ryan Remy James Sterrett, 31, general delivery, Altamonte Springs, drugs-possession of controlled substance without prescription; drug equipment-possession and/or use; trespassing-failure to leave property on order of owner.

Derric Lenard Tarver, 37, 308 Ridge Ct., Apopka, other agency warrant.

Tommy Thompson, 53, 227 W. 20th St., Apopka, resist officer obstruct without violence.

Sean Michael Vanatta, 44, 1536 Errol Park Way, Apopka, other agency warrant.

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Public Invited to Hear Dickens Carolers
at Graceworx Community Church Dec. 20

The Dickens Carolers—who've been inspiring Central Florida audiences for the past 30 plus years with their performances of the music of Christmas—will present a concert at Graceworx Community Church on Saturday, December 20, at 11:30 AM. The public is invited.

This free event will feature a mixed a cappella quartet, which will sing a wide variety of Christmas carols for some 50 minutes of Graceworx's hour-long worship service ensuring that nearly everyone's favorite will be included.

The ambiance for their performance will be enhanced by their Victorian-era attire—bonnets and top hats included.

"To sum it up," say the organizers, "the quartet will be wearing clothing styles from 150 years ago, while singing carols that describe events from 2,000 years ago, as they share a message that's timeless in its inspiration."

"Graceworx first had the Dickens Carolers perform in 2021," say the congregation's leaders. "The Carolers are being invited back for



Courtesy of the Dickens Carolers

An a cappella mixed quartet from the Dickens Carolers will provide a free 50-minute Christmas carol concert at Graceworx Community Church on Saturday, December 20, at 11:30 AM. The public is invited. (One week earlier, Saturday, December 13, at 11:30 AM, Graceworx's featured guest musician will be Ricky Sharp, an organist, pianist and choir director from Charlotte, North Carolina.)

what will be their fifth annual performance. As always, the public is invited to enjoy this Christmas-music extravaganza is a concert-hall-caliber presentation that's totally free, with no reservation required, and plenty of seating."

Guest Musician Ricky Sharp to Perform December 13.

Much-appreciated pianist, organist and choir director Ricky Sharp, formerly of Central Florida but currently residing in the Charlotte, North Carolina area, will be Graceworx's guest musician for a special worship service of Christmas music on Saturday, December 13, at 11:30 AM.

The service will feature both Sharp's organ

and piano skills as well as his ability to get the congregation involved in the singing of Christmas carols.

Graceworx is a non-denominational congregation that conducts its worship services each Saturday morning at 11:30 AM at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, 9913 Bear Lake Road, Apopka, FL 32703. An Adult Bible Study meets in the church's boardroom at 10:00 AM.

For more information about Graceworx or our Christmas musical events, phone 321-228-4599 or email graceworxcc@gmail.com.

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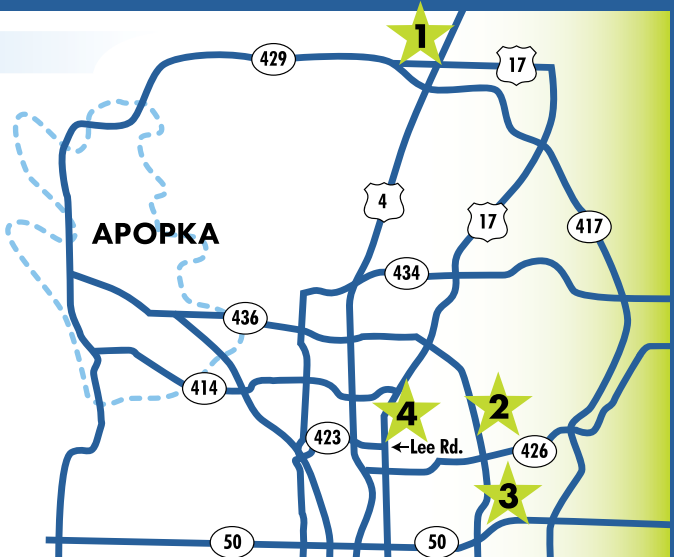
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Wekiva sets soccer win record

Mustangs top Boone, improve to 8-1-1

By Vinnie Cammarano
Reporter

Wekiva boys soccer walked into Boone on Tuesday night, riding a four-game win streak, and walked out with a statement victory that not only extended their streak but rewrote program history.

The Mustangs' 2-1 win over the Braves pushed them to 8-1-1, marking the most wins recorded by a Wekiva team in a single season, surpassing the previous record of seven set back in 2011-12.



Photo by Vinnie Cammarano

Harold Jimenez-Hernandez fights for the ball.

The Mustangs had a close battle with the Braves to get there.

The first half was a scoreless dogfight, with both teams cutting off each other's coun-

terattacks and refusing to let the game open up. Boone owned the ball for short stretches — roughly 60/40 in possession — and generated more shots on goal, but Wekiva stayed disciplined.

The Braves limited Wekiva's trademark runs and forced them into deeper positions, keeping the match tight and physical through the first 40 minutes.

The second half opened evenly, but Wekiva still struggled to create opportunities. That changed in an instant with 26 minutes left, when goaltender Sebastian

WEKIVA SOCCER, B4

Wekiva girls make tournament final

Mustangs defeat Horizon, Dr. Phillips, lose to Ocoee

By Vinnie Cammarano
Reporter

For two games in the Metro West Tournament, Wekiva looked every bit like a team built for a championship moment. But when the moment finally arrived in the Friday night final, the Mustang offense that had overpowered Horizon and Dr. Phillips fell silent under Ocoee's relentless pressure.

The Knights smothered Wekiva from the second quarter on, using wave after wave of full-court pressure and a barrage of 3s to hand the Mustangs a 55-26 loss in the title game. It was a stark turn from the dominant form Wekiva showed earlier in the week, and a reminder of the "road-warrior mentality" head coach Jerry Middleton has been preaching to his group.

Ocoee opened the night with back-to-back 3s before Alexis Hill answered from the top of the key, settling Wekiva into the fast, physical pace. Both defenses swarmed passing lanes and cut off drives, keeping the first quarter tight. With under a minute left, tension spilled over when players leaped for a loose ball, sparking a brief round of pushing between both sides. Ocoee carried a 12-8 lead into the second.

That's when the game shifted for good.

The Knights' press turned suffocating, creating turnovers. Rushed passes and transition layups helped Ocoee rip off a 10-0 run to force a Mustang timeout. Ocoee took a commanding 26-8 lead into halftime after blanking the Mustangs for the entire frame.

Hill finally broke the drought early in the third, but Ocoee immediately countered with a flurry of 3s — including two from Dakara Merthie — that pushed the lead near 30. Every time Wekiva tried to settle into its sets, the Knights sped up the game, turning miscues into points.



Photo by Vinnie Cammarano

Alexis Hill finishes a shot in the paint.

A second-chance finish from Hill gave Wekiva a brief spark, but Ocoee's energy and pace overwhelmed the Mustangs as the Knights closed the third quarter up 46-14.

Wekiva showed some life early in the fourth on back-to-back 3s. First a deep right-wing shot from Makayla Bell, then another from Ja'Niya Poole forcing Ocoee to regroup with a timeout. But the Knights' pressure resumed immediately, producing four more points off turnovers and sealing the tournament title with a final margin of 55-26.

The performance was a dramatic departure from the first two rounds of the Metro West Tournament, where Wekiva showcased a balanced, efficient offense paired with smothering defense.

In Tuesday's opener, the Mustangs rolled past Horizon 63-35 behind standout performances from their backcourt. Jasmine Pooler led with 16 points, four rebounds and three steals, while Jakayla Johnson added 14 points, four rebounds and three steals. Bell controlled the tempo with 10 points, five assists and four steals.

Hill and Poole combined for 17 points and 11 boards, giving Wekiva control inside and out.

Two days later against Dr. Phillips, Wekiva delivered another complete performance. The Mustangs stormed out to a 21-4, first-

LADY MUSTANGS, B4

Apopka boys bounce back against University, 44-40

Blue Darters break 3-game skid behind stout defense

By Vinnie Cammarano
Reporter

After dropping its last three games, the Apopka boys basketball team got back on track Monday night against the University (Orlando) Cougars, winning a tight battle, 44-40.

Apopka was able to prevail even with three important players missing due to injury.

"We weren't very good tonight, but we were good enough and made plays," head coach Scott Williams said.

The opening minutes belonged entirely to the Cougars, who scored the first four points of the game while Apopka struggled to shake loose from University's tight, trapping man defense.

Noah Ferrer opened the night with back-to-back steals on the first two defensive sets, but the Blue Darters couldn't convert the extra possessions. University hit a free throw and a 3 to build an early lead, and Apopka was forced to call a timeout with 2:30 remaining without a point on the board.

The tone of the game shifted in the final moments of the quarter. Xavier Bell



Photo by Vinnie Cammarano

Xavier Freeman and Noah Ferrer contest and block the Cougar's shot.

jumped a passing lane for a steal and score as Apopka strung together four quick points to cut into the margin. After a grindy defensive period from both sides, University led just 9-4 at the end of the first quarter.

The momentum swung fully toward the Blue Darters in the second quarter. After University opened with two free throws, Jarquavion McClain answered with a mid-range jumper from the left side. A Betancourt steal led to another McClain layup,

and moments later a wild deflected pass rolled right into Bell's hands, allowing him to knock down a 3 that cut the deficit to four.

Apopka's energy fed into its offense. After a Betancourt 3 then Ferrer steal, McClain scored in transition to tie the game at 16. Moments later, Trent Jean drilled a rhythm 3 from the wing to give Apopka its first lead of the night. The Blue Darters carried that surge into halftime, leading 21-18 after outscoring University 17-9 in

the second quarter.

Betancourt kept the momentum rolling out of the locker room with a contested 3 in the corner, but University responded with two quick buckets. Ferrer stepped up again, knocking down a 3-pointer before returning on the next possession to bury a deep wing 3 that pushed the Apopka lead to eight. University clawed back, turning turnovers into four points and hitting a 3 to pull within one.

BLUE DARTERS, B2

Wekiva boys basketball gets back on track against Hagerty

Mustangs beat up Huskies to break two-game skid

By Vinnie Cammarano
Reporter

After dropping two straight to Windermere and undefeated North Marion last weekend, Wekiva needed a response. The Mustangs delivered one Wednesday night against Hagerty (6-3), riding a dominant defensive start and steady scoring from their strong trio to win 61-44 on the road.

Head coach Gersino Lubin said he was pleased with how his team reestablished its identity.

"After losing Friday and Saturday, we lost our identity defensively because we



Photo by Vinnie Cammarano

Kenny Diejuste finishes through contact.

gave up a lot of points," Lubin said. "I thought tonight we made the defense the primary part of what we do, and I think that was the turning point. Yes, we can shoot, we know what we can do offen-

sively, but if we don't play defense, it almost doesn't matter."

Wekiva controlled the opening eight minutes with suffocating pressure that forced multiple turnovers and

limited Hagerty to just four points. The Mustangs turned those mistakes into points on the other end, pushing the pace and knocking down shots in rhythm for a 23-point quarter. Louvens Saint Pierre and Jasen Francillon combined for 17 of those.

Kaiden Jean-Louis drilled a 3-pointer from the top of the key, but as Wekiva's offense cooled briefly midway through the second quarter, Hagerty's 6-foot-5 forward Acer Kohn took over. He powered the Huskies back into contention almost singlehandedly, hitting shots from inside and out and scoring 16 of the team's 20 first-half points.

Kohn's buzzer-beating 3-pointer cut what was once a double-digit deficit to 32-24 at halftime and gave the

Huskies a burst of momentum heading into the locker room. Kohn finished with a game-high 24 points — more than the rest of his team combined.

Wekiva quickly snatched the momentum back to start the third. Saint Pierre and Francillon opened the half with mid-range jumpers, and despite a few answers from Hagerty, Wekiva thrived in the chaotic, up-and-down pace the game developed. Loose balls, long rebounds and fast possessions favored the Mustangs, allowing them to extend the margin back to double digits.

Darion Thomas buried a 3-pointer late in the quarter, then immediately forced a steal that swung the ball to Eric Nichols for another triple at the buzzer. That surge

sent Wekiva into the fourth with a 50-34 advantage.

Both teams struggled to generate clean looks early in the final quarter as longer possessions led to rushed attempts. Hagerty managed four points before a timeout at the 5-minute mark and trimmed the deficit to 11, but Wekiva responded.

Out of the timeout, Nichols sliced through the lane for a crafty layup. Kenny Diejuste followed with a strong putback to stretch the lead back to 15. Moments later, a defensive steal set up Francillon on the wing, where he drained a dagger 3 with under two minutes left to push the margin to 59-42 and bury any late hope for the Huskies.

Three players drove the

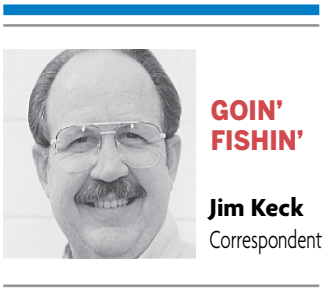
WEKIVA BASKETBALL, B3

Cool weather gets the specks to bitin’

Hello Folks,
We’ve been waitin’ on some cooler days, and now we have ‘em. This latest cool front will get the specks to bitin’, and folks’re already catchin’em pretty good. The specks’re still bitin’ real good up at Highlands Fish Camp on the St. Johns River.

The guides are takin’ folks out for a day of speck fishin’, and they’re gettin’ 30 to 35 specks each trip. Folks’re catchin’em on jigs tipped with a minner, and some folks’re catchin’em by usin’ brightly colored jigs.

The specks’re bitin’ in Lake Kissimmee, too. Folks’re driftin’ open water with minners and doin’ re-



ally good. You need to drift with the wind until you locate a bunch of specks and keep driftin’ back and forth until they quit bitin’.

Kyle at Bitter’s B&T reports that folks’re startin’ to catch some specks in Lake Monroe and Lake Jesup. You’ll have to troll or let the wind push you across the lake. Most of the specks’re

bein’ caught on bright-colored jigs tipped with a minner. You can fish minners naked, as well.

You may wonder what fishin’ a minner naked is. Well, it’s when you put your minner on a gold #2 or #4 hook and drift the open water lettin’ the minner do its thing. If it’s kinda windy, some folks’ll put a small split shot on their line just above the hook to keep the minner down. The cool temperatures we’ve been havin’ will cool the water down, and when that happens, the specks’ll begin to really bite.

Some folks are startin’ to catch some specks in Lake Eustis, too. You need to drift the

open water until you find’em, and then keep driftin’ over the area until they quit bitin’.

The bass fishin’ is still very good at the Headwaters Lake near Melbourne. The guides’re takin’ folks out, and they’re catchin’ 30 to 40 bass per trip. Most of the bass’re bein’ caught on shiners. Some big bass are startin’ to show up, as well. One group ran out of shiners, and they started catchin’ bass on chatter-baits!

The bass fishin’ on West Lake Toho is gettin’ better each week. The guides down there are takin’ folks out on four-hour trips and doin’ really good. Shiners fished around the vegetation such as hydril-

la, eelgrass, and Kissimmee grass will get you a bite.

If the weather keeps gettin’ cooler, the bass will start movin’ to the shallow water to spawn. They’ll be feedin’ really good before they go on the beds, so now through spring will be a good time to catch a big bass.

Lake Fairview is still producin’ some nice stringers of bass. My buddy who lives in my neighborhood fishes Lake Fairview regularly, and he reports that he and his buddy are still catchin’ 20 to 25 bass per trip.

It’s a little early, but please save this date because on January 28th, 2026, the FWC will be hosting a meet-

ing at The Venetian Center in Leesburg, and it’s open to the public. The event will allow the public to view all the projects and interact with the local biologists for the Harris Chain. Topics will include Fisheries, Aquatic Plants, Habitat Restoration, Hunting, and more. I’ll remind everyone again when we get closer to the date.

Well, that’s it for this week.

I hope y’all get a chance to get on the water and catch some fish this week. I’ll see ya next week.

Tip of the week: Specks are bitin’!

SAVE A FEW AND GOOD LUCK!

Apopka Tiny Mites Cheer team wins national title

Little Blue Darters bring home second straight championship

By Vinnie Cammarano
Reporter

The Apopka Blue Darters Pop Warner Tiny Mites cheer team made its way to Charlotte, North Carolina for a second year in a row to capture another national championship. They placed first in

the Mid-Florida and regional competitions, then solidified themselves as the best tiny mite cheer team in the nation.

The little Darters finished nationals with a score of 93.5, nearly six points higher than the second-place team. They were able to pull this off with just three returning athletes and 12 new ones. They even ran through obstacles, like losing their top flyer two days before regionals.

Two-year cheer coordinator and coach Sheronda

Wright still feels the shock from winning her second straight title.

“I am extremely proud of my Tiny Mites — the resilience they showed and the confidence they displayed walking into nationals, especially after having to adjust their routine just two days before competition, was truly remarkable,” she said.

Stepping up at regionals and nationals was Mariah Noel, who hadn’t been a flyer before. They also had their base, Ryan Vernitus, change

positions five times in two weeks, and the coaches admire her resilience through that as a young athlete.

“The girls fought so hard — I truly didn’t think I could get this much out of them and I did.” Wright said with a laugh. “It just feels unreal to be national champions. I feel blessed.”

The Blue Darters future cheer teams are in good hands, with their youngest group achieving the highest honors in back-to-back seasons.



Courtesy of Sheronda Wright
Tiny Mite Blue Darters are National Champions.

BLUE DARTERS FROM B1



Photo by Vinnie Cammarano
Trent Jean clamps a Cougar at mid-court.

As the third-quarter buzz-er sounded, Jean found Jacques Evariste alone at the top of the key for a 3 to give Apopka a 33–29 cushion heading into the fourth.

Jean opened the final period with another wing 3, but University battled back with consecutive paint touches for four points. Two free throws pulled the Cougars within one before Apopka called a timeout with 5:24 left. University

reclaimed the lead moments later with a transition 3 in the corner.

McClain answered with a putback and later slashed through the lane for an easy lay-in with just over two minutes to play. After a University timeout and free throw, Apopka broke the Cougar press cleanly. Jean weaved through two defenders and hit McClain streaking up the court for a wide-open layup that pushed

the lead back to four.

University was forced to foul and although the Cougars added a free throw in the final seconds, Apopka closed it out to secure the 44–40 win.

Williams said the team’s defensive effort was the difference, even as he stressed they still have plenty of room for improvement.

“It took us a while to get going. Our defense created our offense,” Williams said. “Quite

honestly, we should have won by 8, 9, 10 points. We didn’t do that. And those kind of things will get you beat.”

McClain led the Blue Darters with 15 points, four rebounds and two steals. Betancourt finished with eight points, five rebounds, two assists and two steals. Ferrer and Jean each knocked down two 3s, with Ferrer adding five steals and Jean contributing five assists.

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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

“But when the set time had fully come, God sent his son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship.”

—Galatians 4:4-5

Visit us online for all the Apopka area church listings

Blue Darter wrestling season arrives

Apopka’s returning captains lead the charge

By Vinnie Cammarano
Reporter

The Apopka Blue Darters wrestling program enters the new season with experience and a rebuilt coaching staff determined to elevate the team’s great potential. After a postseason showing last year included multiple district medalists and a girls regional qualifier, Apopka turns the page with its sights set on more progression.

Assistant coach Janice Pedroza returns for her fifth season helping the Blue Darters, joined by Laroy James Harris, who will be head coach for his first full season. Harris brings an extensive wrestling background, having competed at Florida A&M before serving as the head coach of the Florida State High School Wrestling Club. With eight total years of coaching experience, he’s ready to help push Apopka toward one of its most successful seasons yet.

Harris said his team has embraced high expectations and isn’t shying away from ambitious individual goals.



Photo by Vinnie Cammarano

Brandon Roberts holds onto the head lock through Marcu Youngs slam.

“A lot of the wrestlers have very lofty goals to where they want to aim for state places, state champ, things of that nature,” Harris said. “That’s always good to aim high, because if you don’t aim high, there’s no point in you even trying.”

Among those leading the charge is senior captain Brandon Roberts, who finished third in districts last season at 215 pounds. Roberts enters his final year as one of Apopka’s most seasoned wrestlers and a central figure in the team’s push through district and regional competition.

Junior Marcus Young, a co-cap-

tain at 190 pounds, is coming off a district runner-up finish and is expected to take a major leap. Harris highlighted him as one of the key wrestlers capable of punching through to the state level.

Junior co-captain Ian Hernandez, who is 150 pounds, is another returning force. Hernandez placed third in districts last year and brings the poise and experience the Blue Darters will rely on in duals and tournament settings.

On the girls side, senior captain Yamilett Pastrana returns with something to prove. She advanced to regionals last year but was unable



Photo by Vinnie Cammarano

The Blue Darters gather after finishing a recent practice.

to continue because of a medical disqualification. Health back on her side, she looks to reclaim her post-season path and make a deeper run.

Harris said the backbone of this year’s roster lies in its returners, many of whom already proved themselves against the best in the area.

“Those guys are going to lead us through districts and regionals, and the minimum for them is to be state qualifiers,” he said.

The Blue Darters also added new firepower. Harris pointed to a transfer from Lake Nona, Jariel Ramos, whose energy, hustle and raw talent are already standing out. He

also highlighted Jayden Battle, a 157-pound sophomore who placed seventh at Metro as a freshman and is poised for a breakout year.

While Harris said the team is talented, he believes their ceiling hasn’t been reached yet.

“I think overall as a team, we’re good, but we’re not great, and that’s why I say we’re gonna shock some people,” he said.

As for team goals, Harris isn’t interested in just matching last season’s results. He wants Apopka to dominate from December through February.

His goals for the Blue Darters are to place top two at districts, send at least 10 of their 14 wrestlers to regionals, and qualify at least four for the state tournament. He also is looking for a 70–80% win rate across the team.

“Once we start translating this hard work into wins, that’s when you’ll really see us take off,” Harris said.

Apopka’s season will run through several crucial dates circled on Pedroza’s and Harris’ calendars. The District Duels, the Metro Tournament, Senior Night, and a few other tournaments stand out as must win matches for the Darters.

WEKIVA BASKETBALL

FROM B1

scoring for Wekiva. Francillon led with 18 points, Saint Pierre added 16, and Diejuste battled inside all night for 13.

Lubin said the focus moving forward is cleaning up the details.

“I don’t really harp on the offensive part, because the players do that themselves. We just want to work on the little detail stuff,” he said. “They could have had a lot more points because we didn’t box out — we didn’t finish layups. There’s a lot of things we didn’t do that could have put the game in a different situation, like it was on Saturday and Friday. So we can’t have moments like that anymore.”

The Mustangs finish their three game road trip at 7:30 p. m. Friday night when they take on the West Orange Warriors (1–6).



Photo by Vinnie Cammarano

Khai Orr looks for an open Mustang.



Photo by Vinnie Cammarano

Coach draws up play during final timeout that led to a scoring run.



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Jose Estrella , MD

Home-cooked favorites passed along from our readers

Sally Benton's Vegetable Medley is delicious (as I can attest)! Sally says she just throws stuff in the pot and is guessing at the amounts, so you should use your own best judgment. Sally graduated from Apopka Memorial High School in 1968, married and moved to Melbourne and raised a family, still lives there and loves coddling her grandkids even though she still stays busy with a part-time job "at the pharmacy." And, she subscribes to The Apopka Chief newspaper to keep up with her hometown's activities! I personally don't use cooking spray as she does, I simply apply a thin coating of EVOO to inner surface of pot.



2 or 3 each zucchini and yellow squash
2 fresh vine-ripe tomatoes, diced...
OR... 1 pint of grape tomatoes, whole
OR... a can of diced tomatoes
3 slivered garlic cloves
Thinly sliced onion
Bell pepper
Broccoli
Cauliflower
2 teaspoons basil
1 teaspoon tarragon
1/3 to 1/2 cup lemon juice
1/2 teaspoon sugar (optional, to awaken the flavor)
1/2 teaspoon salt (to taste)
Pam Spray (or other cooking spray)

Any other spices you prefer in addition to or as a replacement for the ones suggested here. For instance, some Mexican spices like cilantro, cumin, chili powder, etc., might be fantastic... OR... Italian spices... OR... Asian spices such as Oriental 5-spice, soy sauce, etc.

If you like, add whatever YOU enjoy: green beans, edamame, celery, baby raw spinach, mushrooms, and water chestnuts. Get wild with it!

Sliver the garlic, onion, and bell pepper. Spray them lightly with Pam Spray. Spray a frying pan lightly. Heat pan. Sauté. While they are sautéing, cut squash into small chunks. Squash will cook faster than more solid veggies, so if you're adding broccoli or raw cauliflower, thin-slice them as well and toss in at the end of sautéing.

Turn down heat. Add a tablespoon or two of water to deglaze the bottom of pan and to steam the veggies. Add the herbs and any spices you might want. Add a little salt and sugar to taste, if desired. Add lemon juice. Cover with lid. When the steaming veggies are to your desired tenderness, throw in tomatoes. They don't have to cook.

Preparation time is 30 to 45 minutes.

CHALUPA DINNER BOWL SOUTHERN LIVING'S ALL TIME FAVORITES, 2009

1 pound dried pinto beans
1 3-1/2 pound bone-in pork loin roast
2 4-ounce cans chopped green chiles
2 garlic cloves, chopped
1 tablespoon chili powder
2 teaspoons salt
1 teaspoon dried oregano

1 teaspoon ground cumin
1 32-ounce container chicken broth
1 10-ounce can diced tomatoes and green chiles with lime juice and cilantro
8 taco salad shells
1 small head iceberg lettuce, shredded
Toppings: shredded Monterey Jack cheese, pickled jalapeno slices, halved grape tomatoes, sour cream, chopped avocado

1) Rinse and sort beans according to package directions. 2) Place pinto beans in a 6-quart slow cooker; add roast and next six ingredients. Pour chicken broth evenly over top of roast. 3) Cover and cook on HIGH 1 hour; reduce to LOW and cook 9 hours... OR cover and cook on HIGH 6 hours. Remove bones and fat from roast; pull roast into large pieces with two forks. Stir in diced tomatoes and green chiles. Cook, uncovered, on HIGH 1 more hour or until liquid is slightly thickened. 4) Heat taco salad shells according to package directions; place shredded lettuce evenly into shells. Spoon about 1 cup of the pork and bean mixture into each shell using a slotted spoon. Serve with desired toppings.

Makes 8 servings.

Note from Southern Living, "For testing purposes only, we used RO-TEL Mexican Festival tomatoes and a Rival Recipe Smart Pot slow cooker. Times may vary depending on the slow cooker used."

MELINDA STOKES ALLANSON'S GREEK CHICKEN SALAD

Recipe from First Presbyterian
Church of Punta Gorda's
A Taste of Heaven

3 cups cooked chicken, cubed (about three breasts)
2 medium cucumbers, peeled, seeded and chopped
1-1/4 cups Feta cheese, crumbled
2/3 cup (or 1 can) black olives, sliced
1/4 cup fresh parsley, snipped
1 cup mayonnaise
1/2 cup plain yogurt
1 tablespoon dried oregano
3 cloves garlic (or to taste)
Lettuce

Combine chicken, cucumber, Feta, olives and parsley. Set aside. In a small bowl, mix mayonnaise, yogurt, oregano and crushed garlic. Use much less garlic if salad will stand more than a couple of hours before serving.

Add to chicken mixture. Toss to coat. Cover and chill. Serve over lettuce. Also very good over toasted French rolls.

NANCY THOMAS' CRANBERRY RELISH WITH ORANGE AND PECANS

Basic recipe from OCEANSPRAY.com

1 bag fresh cranberries
1 cup sugar
1 cup water
1 navel orange peeled, cut into pieces and membrane removed
1 cup pecans chopped

Bring to a boil and cook for 10 minutes. Add orange pieces and pecans, mix, and cool in refrigerator. Serve with turkey, ham, or other meat. It's delicious, and it will keep in the refrigerator for several days.

MAGIC COOKIE BARS

Recipe from BAKER'S CORNER
SWEETENED CONDENSED MILK

1/2 cup unsalted butter, melted
1/4 cup light brown sugar, packed
2 cup graham cracker crumbs
1 cup semi-sweet chocolate chips
1 cup shredded coconut
1 cup coarsely chopped pecans
1-2/3 cup Baker's Corner Sweetened Condensed Milk

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Place butter in 8-inch square pan, heat in oven until melted. Combine brown sugar and graham cracker crumbs in a bowl and sprinkle evenly over melted butter. In layers, add chocolate chips, coconut and pecans. Put sweetened condensed milk over top. Bake 30 minutes. Allow to cool completely before slicing.

KEY LIME PIE

Recipe from Florida Federation
of Garden Clubs

Paths of Sunshine Cookbook

2 (14 ounce) cans sweetened condensed milk
4 whole eggs
1 cup key lime juice, fresh or frozen
1 cup whipping cream, whipped
2 graham cracker crust pie shells

Beat the first three ingredients together. Fold cold whipped cream into first mixture. Pour into the two pie shells. Chill for several hours or overnight. Yields two pies.

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Holiday Shipping Insights from the Experts at Apopka Pack & Ship

It's the busiest season for package shipping across the world, so we spoke with Dave & Lisa, owners of Apopka Pack & Ship, on Semoran Boulevard, and asked them for their expert insights to help ensure your gifts get to the right place at the right time.

Q. When should customers plan to ship to ensure delivery by Christmas?

A. For First-Class and Ground shipping with UPS, FedEx, and the United States Postal Service (USPS) within the lower 48 states, the last day to ship ensuring pre-Christmas delivery is December 17. For Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and U.S. territories, the deadlines are December 16 for Ground services and December 17 for First-Class Mail.

Q. What are the most common packaging mistakes?

A. Customers often focus on the overall weight of their parcel, thinking that is what determines shipping costs. In modern shipping, the physical size of the box is often a larger factor in the price for shipping.

Q. What advice do you have for shipping fragile or irregular-shaped gifts?

A. The best way to ensure the safe arrival of a fragile or irregular sized item is to ensure a good distance is between the item and the sides of the box. We want to ensure the box can be dropped from a vertical height of 5 feet without the item breaking.



Dave and Lisa from Apopka Pack & Ship, celebrated opening in Apopka at the Apopka Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Gala.

Q. Do you accept pre-labeled packages or "drop offs"?

A. We accept "drop offs" for FedEx, UPS and the USPS. Bringing pre-packaged parcels with labels speeds up the process, but if you do not have a printer, we can print your detailed label for you. We can also package your products for shipping.

Q. Is Air shipping faster than Ground shipping?

A. It depends. Some deliveries, such as Orlando to Miami, ground transportation can be just as fast as air. By coming to Apopka Pack & Ship with your package, you will be able to see the different services next to each other, compare the price and delivery times and select the delivery method that aligns with your needs.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

Friday, December 12

Pangarap: Espero Reimagined
11 a.m. at 210 W. Packwood Ave., Maitland
An immersive exhibition by Filipino artist Isobel Francisco.

Honky Tonk Angels Holiday Hoedown
2 p.m. at 812 E. Rollins St., Orlando
A holiday musical comedy set in Nashville.

Christmas Wonderland
4 p.m. at 5250 International Dr., Orlando
A family holiday attraction with themed scenes, choirs, ice skating, a holiday train, Santa photos, and outdoor snow.

Holiday Makers Market
5 p.m. at 95 Triplet Lake Dr., Casselberry
Artisan goods, food trucks, live performances, and holiday lights.

2025 NextGen Holiday Market
5:30 p.m. at 712 W. Amelia St., Orlando
A youth-led winter market showcasing student entrepreneurs offering handmade goods, treats, and creative products from local teens.

Movie screening
6 p.m. at 1751 Rhode Island Woods Cir., Orlando
A free outdoor screening of *Madagascar 3*.

The Chocolate Nutcracker, A Gospel Musical
6:30 p.m. at 3032 Monte Carlo Trail, Orlando

A gospel retelling of *The Nutcracker*.

Annual RIF Global Fashion Weekend
7 p.m. at 60 S. Ivanhoe Blvd., Orlando
A night of fashion, entertainment, and holiday shopping celebrating a global style.

Sounds of the Season Concert
7 p.m. at 4851 S. Apopka Vineland Rd., Orlando
A Christmas concert featuring a large community choir, dancers, youth performers, and a full orchestra.

A Christmas Carol
7:30 p.m. at 812 E. Rollins St., Orlando
Orlando Shakes' annual production of the Dickens classic.

The Christmas Truce of 1914
7:30 p.m. at 1001 E. Princeton St., Orlando
Opera Orlando's a cappella retelling of the WWI Christmas Truce using soldiers' letters, war songs, and carols.

It's a Wonderful Life: The Musical
8 p.m. at 1100 N. Unser St., Mount Dora
A musical adaptation of the classic film.

Comedy Show
8 p.m. at 2406 E. Washington St., Orlando
A stand-up night with national headliners and local comedians.

Saturday, December 13

Coliseum of Comics Half-Off Holiday Outlet
10 a.m. at 8010 Sunport Dr., Orlando
A weekly warehouse sale with comics, collectibles, toys, and



Courtesy of Apopka Amphitheater

A free holiday concert featuring the UCF Symphony Orchestra and Singing Knights brings festive melodies and family-friendly cheer to the Apopka Amphitheater on Saturday, Dec. 13.

games at steep discounts through the end of the year.

Gatorland's 6th Annual Holiday Ho Ho Ho-Down
10 a.m. at 14501 S. Orange Blossom Trl., Orlando
A festive park celebration with GatorClaus, Krampus Croc, cryptid carols, vendors, and holiday photo ops.

Orlando Fire Station 6 Open House
10:30 a.m. at 3900 Showalter Aviation St., Orlando
A community open house with tours, safety demos, and CPR training.

Merry & Bright: Holiday Pop-Up + Toy Drive
Noon at 9401 W. Colonial Dr., Suite 636, Ocoee
A festive market pop-up supporting The Kulture with a toy donation drive.

The Grinch, Cindy Lou Who & Whoville Elves Visit the Island

2 p.m. at 1014 Miami Springs Dr., Longwood
A family meet-and-greet event with characters from Whoville; \$5.

A Charlie Brown Christmas
2 p.m. at 1001 E. Princeton St., Orlando
A live adaptation of the beloved Peanuts holiday special.

Joy Fest
4 p.m. at 2051 W. Lester Rd., Apopka
A free community Christmas event.

Silent Knights: A Jolly Holiday
5 p.m. at 3710 Jason Dwelley Pkwy., Apopka
Free holiday concert at the Apopka Amphitheater.

Movie screening
7 p.m. at 195 N. Rosalind Ave., Orlando
A free outdoor screening of *Elf*.

Ugly Sweater Christmas Party at The Rock
8 p.m. at 4939 Rock Springs Rd.,

Apopka
A holiday party with live music from Big Love and an ugly sweater contest.

Dizzlephunk's Annual Shoe and Sock Drive
9 p.m. at 523 Virginia Dr., Orlando
A fundraising night supporting local families with new shoes and socks.

Sunday, December 14

Wekiva Island's Breakfast with Santa
9 a.m. at 1014 Miami Springs Dr., Longwood
Holiday buffet with crafts in Santa's Workshop, and more. Reservations required.

Christmas Tour: Victory Baptist
10 a.m. at 115 N. Christiana Ave., Apopka
A southern gospel performance by Redemption's Call Trio.

Paint Your Pet Holiday Ornament Class
2 p.m. at 1920 N. Forest Ave., Orlando
An afternoon of holiday creativity as participants paint their pet's portrait on a custom ornament.

Gingerbread House Decorating Party
2 p.m. at 4753 S. Orange Ave., Orlando
A fun, hands-on gingerbread decorating session.

Madagascar 3 at Magnolia Park
6 p.m. at 2929 S. Binion Rd., Apopka
A free outdoor movie screening.

Outdoor movie screening
7 p.m. at 1014 Miami Springs Dr., Longwood
A showing of *The Grinch*.

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WWW.THEAPOPKACHIEF.COM/HOLIDAY-DRIVE

Public Notice
is hereby given that **Johnsons Wrecker Service**, will sell at PUBLIC AUCTION, free of all prior liens, the following vehicle(s)/ vessel(s) that remain unclaimed in storage, with charges unpaid, pursuant to Florida Statutes, Sec 713.78, to the highest bidder. The sale will be held at 7777 Narcoossee Road
Orlando, FL 32822
The following vehicle(s) will be sold on 12/23/2025 at 0700.
Year Make VIN
2018 Ford
1FM5K7D87JGB06944
Terms of the sale are CASH. No checks will be accepted, right to final bid. ALL SALES ARE FINAL. No refunds will be made. Vehicle(s)/ vessel(s) are sold "AS IS", "WHERE IS", with no guarantees, either expressed or implied.
December 12, 2025

Public Notice
is hereby given that **Johnsons Wrecker Service**, will sell at PUBLIC AUCTION, free of all prior liens, the following vehicle(s)/ vessel(s) that remain unclaimed in storage, with charges unpaid, pursuant to Florida Statutes, Sec 713.78, to the highest bidder. The sale will be held at 580 Wilmer Avenue
Orlando, FL 32808
The following vehicle(s) will be sold on 12/23/2025 at 0700.
Year Make VIN
2005 Ford
1FAFP23185G150173
2024 Freightliner
1FVHCYFE7RHVB7080
2014 Kia
KNAPX4A65E175559
2005 Chevrolet
1GCCE19T35E160061
2009 Dodge
1B3HBT8B59D125532
2011 Chevrolet
1G1PCS5H8B7246769
2009 Toyota
4T1BE46K3U832540
2008 BMW
WBAW1W13598CN55778
2016 Kia
KNDJN2A22G7263092
2011 Ford
3FAHP0HA2BR212855
2009 Toyota
JTDJT903395238371
2015 BMW
WBAVM1C52FV315317
2013 Chevrolet
2G1WCSE34D1196903
2014 Dodge
3CAPDCAB80ET246528
2015 Hyundai
5NPDH4AE0FH632391
2012 Nissan
3N1A56AP2CL631291
2016 Mazda
JMG1J1US3G1473368
2013 Honda
1HGCR2F51DA026352
2018 Toyota
2T1BURHE2JC980999
2013 Toyota
JTDKN3DU5D5571596
2005 GMC
1GTFG15X651143649
2007 Ford
1FTFPW14V27FA84807
2005 Toyota
2T1BR32EX5C437512
2016 Nissan
3N1CE2CP3GL387548
2007 Infiniti
JNKAY01E67M303504
2013 Fanguyan
1HGEM21325L062506
2023 Fanguyan
HODTADYR3PX038524
2006 Toyota
5TBET34166S535060
2015 Taotao
L9NTEACT8F1000262
2004 Chevrolet
1G1ZU64814F190966
2007 Ford
1FAHP3AN57W247341
2009 Hyundai
KMHDC86E79U042211
1999 Ford
1FTWX32F8XEB26676
Terms of the sale are CASH. No checks will be accepted. Seller reserves the right to final bid. ALL SALES ARE FINAL. No refunds will be made. Vehicle(s)/ vessel (s) are sold "AS IS", "WHERE IS", with no guarantees, either expressed or implied.
December 12, 2025

Public Notice
is hereby given that **Johnsons Wrecker Service**, will sell at PUBLIC AUCTION, free of all prior liens, the following vehicle(s)/ vessel(s) that remain unclaimed in storage, with charges unpaid, pursuant to Florida Statutes, Sec 713.78, to the highest bidder. The sale will be held at 580 Wilmer Avenue
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The following vehicle(s) will be sold on 12/23/2025 at 0700.
Year Make VIN
2005 Ford
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2014 Kia
KNAPX4A65E175559
2005 Chevrolet
1GCCE19T35E160061
2009 Dodge
1B3HBT8B59D125532
2011 Chevrolet
1G1PCS5H8B7246769
2009 Toyota
4T1BE46K3U832540
2008 BMW
WBAW1W13598CN55778
2016 Kia
KNDJN2A22G7263092
2011 Ford
3FAHP0HA2BR212855
2009 Toyota
JTDJT903395238371
2015 BMW
WBAVM1C52FV315317
2013 Chevrolet
2G1WCSE34D1196903
2014 Dodge
3CAPDCAB80ET246528
2015 Hyundai
5NPDH4AE0FH632391
2012 Nissan
3N1A56AP2CL631291
2016 Mazda
JMG1J1US3G1473368
2013 Honda
1HGCR2F51DA026352
2018 Toyota
2T1BURHE2JC980999
2013 Toyota
JTDKN3DU5D5571596
2005 GMC
1GTFG15X651143649
2007 Ford
1FTFPW14V27FA84807
2005 Toyota
2T1BR32EX5C437512
2016 Nissan
3N1CE2CP3GL387548
2007 Infiniti
JNKAY01E67M303504
2013 Fanguyan
1HGEM21325L062506
2023 Fanguyan
HODTADYR3PX038524
2006 Toyota
5TBET34166S535060
2015 Taotao
L9NTEACT8F1000262
2004 Chevrolet
1G1ZU64814F190966
2007 Ford
1FAHP3AN57W247341
2009 Hyundai
KMHDC86E79U042211
1999 Ford
1FTWX32F8XEB26676
Terms of the sale are CASH. No checks will be accepted. Seller reserves the right to final bid. ALL SALES ARE FINAL. No refunds will be made. Vehicle(s)/ vessel (s) are sold "AS IS", "WHERE IS", with no guarantees, either expressed or implied.
December 12, 2025

HD AUTOS LLC gives notice that on 01/03/2026 at 08:00 AM the following vehicle may be sold by public sale at 4211 N. ORANGE BLOSSOM TRL, BLDG C26, ORLANDO FL 32804 to satisfy the lien, for the amount owed for repairs, storage and administrative costs, allowed pursuant to Florida statute 713.78.
2012 Chrysler
2C3CACGXCX113476
December 12, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA
File No. 2025-CP-3643-O
Probate Division
IN RE: ESTATE OF CHARLES ANTHONY MORRIS, Deceased.
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the estate of Charles Anthony Morris, deceased, whose date of death was September 11, 2025, is pending in the Circuit Court for Orange County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 425 North Orange Avenue, Room 340, Orlando, Florida 32801. The names and addresses of the personal representatives and the personal representatives' attorney are set forth below.
All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.
All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.
The personal representative has no duty to discover whether any property held at the time of the decedent's death by the decedent or the decedent's surviving spouse is property to which the Florida Uniform Disposition of Community Property Rights at Death Act as described in ss. 732.216-732.228, Florida Statutes, applies, or may apply, unless a written demand is made by a creditor as specified under s. 732.2211, Florida Statutes. The written demand must be filed with the clerk.
ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.
NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.
The date of first publication of this notice is December 12, 2025.
Personal Representatives:
Danielle A. Morris
649 Meeting Place
Orlando, Florida 32814

Charles C. Morris
78 Indian Bluff Trail
Hendersonville,
North Carolina 28739
Attorney for Personal Representatives:
/s/ David J. Akins
David J. Akins
Florida Bar Number: 454338
Dean, Mead, Egerton,
Bloodworth, Capouano & Bozarth, P.A.
420 South Orange Avenue,
Suite 700
Orlando, Florida 32801
Telephone: (407) 841-1200
Fax: (407) 423-1831
E-Mail: dakins@deanmead.com
Secondary E-Mail:
probate@deanmead.com
December 12, 19, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
File No.: 2025-CP-003492-O
IN RE: THE ESTATE OF SHERRY SEITHEL, Deceased.
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the Estate of SHERRY SEITHEL, deceased, whose date of death was October 16, 2025, is pending in the Circuit Court for Orange County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 425 N. Orange Ave., Suite 335, Orlando, FL 32801. The names and addresses of the Personal Representative and the Personal Representative's attorney are set forth below.
All creditors of the Decedent and other persons having claims or demands against Decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.
All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against Decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.
ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.
NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.
The date of first publication of this notice is December 12, 2025.
Personal Representative:
Tyler Seithel
5730 Kislin Place
Orlando, FL 32807
Attorney for Personal Representative:
Baylor S. Johnson, Esq.
Florida Bar Number: 0125044
Urban Thier & Federer, P.A.
5782A S. Semoran Blvd.
Orlando, Florida 32822
Telephone: (407) 245-8352
E-Mail: johnsonb@urbanthier.com
Secondary E-Mail:
sayyed@urbanthier.com
December 12, 19, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
File No. 2025-CP-003604-O
Division Probate
IN RE: ESTATE OF JOSEPHINE R. WATSON Deceased.
NOTICE TO CREDITORS (Summary Administration)
TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS OR DEMANDS AGAINST THE ABOVE ESTATE:
You are hereby notified that an Order of Summary Administration has been entered in the estate of JOSEPHINE R. WATSON, deceased, File Number 2025-CP-003604-O, by the Circuit Court for ORANGE COUNTY, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 425 N. Orange Ave, Orlando, FL 32801; that the decedent's date of death was September 9, 2025; that the total value of the estate is \$50,000 and that the names and addresses of those to whom it has been assigned by such order are:
Name Address
JOIE WATSON CADLE, as Trustee of the Josephine R. Watson Revocable Living Trust dated June 19, 1989
1601 Palm Ave
Winter Park, Florida 32789
ALL INTERESTED PERSONS ARE NOTIFIED THAT:
All creditors of the estate of the decedent and persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent other than those for whom provision for full payment was made in the Order of Summary Administration must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702. ALL CLAIMS AND DEMANDS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.
NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER APPLICABLE TIME PERIOD, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.
The date of first publication of this Notice is December 5, 2025.
Person Giving Notice:
/s/ Joie Ann Cadle
JOIE ANNE CADLE
1601 Palm Ave,
Winter Park, FL 32789
Attorney for Person Giving Notice
/s/ Aimee Hitchner
Aimee Collins Hitchner
Florida Bar No. 879169
Alexandra Fox
Florida Bar No. 1040188
Attorneys for Petitioner
Email:
ahitchner@maynardnexusen.com, afox@maynardnexusen.com, llyates@maynardnexusen.com
Maynard Nexsen PC
200 East
New England Avenue,
Suite 300
Winter Park, FL 32789
Telephone: 407-647-2777
December 5, 12, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
File No. 2025-CP-003604-O
Division Probate
IN RE: ESTATE OF JOSEPHINE R. WATSON Deceased.
NOTICE TO CREDITORS (Summary Administration)
TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS OR DEMANDS AGAINST THE ABOVE ESTATE:
You are hereby notified that an Order of Summary Administration has been entered in the estate of JOSEPHINE R. WATSON, deceased, File Number 2025-CP-003604-O, by the Circuit Court for ORANGE COUNTY, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 425 N. Orange Ave, Orlando, FL 32801; that the decedent's date of death was September 9, 2025; that the total value of the estate is \$50,000 and that the names and addresses of those to whom it has been assigned by such order are:
Name Address
JOIE WATSON CADLE, as Trustee of the Josephine R. Watson Revocable Living Trust dated June 19, 1989
1601 Palm Ave
Winter Park, Florida 32789
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NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER APPLICABLE TIME PERIOD, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.
The date of first publication of this Notice is December 5, 2025.
Person Giving Notice:
/s/ Joie Ann Cadle
JOIE ANNE CADLE
1601 Palm Ave,
Winter Park, FL 32789
Attorney for Person Giving Notice
/s/ Aimee Hitchner
Aimee Collins Hitchner
Florida Bar No. 879169
Alexandra Fox
Florida Bar No. 1040188
Attorneys for Petitioner
Email:
ahitchner@maynardnexusen.com, afox@maynardnexusen.com, llyates@maynardnexusen.com
Maynard Nexsen PC
200 East
New England Avenue,
Suite 300
Winter Park, FL 32789
Telephone: 407-647-2777
December 5, 12, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
File No. 2025-CP-003604-O
Division Probate
IN RE: ESTATE OF JOSEPHINE R. WATSON Deceased.
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1601 Palm Ave
Winter Park, Florida 32789
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NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER APPLICABLE TIME PERIOD, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.
The date of first publication of this Notice is December 5, 2025.
Person Giving Notice:
/s/ Joie Ann Cadle
JOIE ANNE CADLE
1601 Palm Ave,
Winter Park, FL 32789
Attorney for Person Giving Notice
/s/ Aimee Hitchner
Aimee Collins Hitchner
Florida Bar No. 879169
Alexandra Fox
Florida Bar No. 1040188
Attorneys for Petitioner
Email:
ahitchner@maynardnexusen.com, afox@maynardnexusen.com, llyates@maynardnexusen.com
Maynard Nexsen PC
200 East
New England Avenue,
Suite 300
Winter Park, FL 32789
Telephone: 407-647-2777
December 5, 12, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
File No. 2025-CP-3643-O
Probate Division
IN RE: ESTATE OF CHARLES ANTHONY MORRIS, Deceased.
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the estate of Charles Anthony Morris, deceased, whose date of death was September 11, 2025, is pending in the Circuit Court for Orange County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 425 North Orange Avenue, Room 340, Orlando, Florida 32801. The names and addresses of the personal representatives and the personal representatives' attorney are set forth below.
All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.
All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.
The personal representative has no duty to discover whether any property held at the time of the decedent's death by the decedent or the decedent's surviving spouse is property to which the Florida Uniform Disposition of Community Property Rights at Death Act as described in ss. 732.216-732.228, Florida Statutes, applies, or may apply, unless a written demand is made by a creditor as specified under s. 732.2211, Florida Statutes. The written demand must be filed with the clerk.
ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.
NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.
The date of first publication of this notice is December 12, 2025.
Personal Representatives:
Danielle A. Morris
649 Meeting Place
Orlando, Florida 32814

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
File No. 2025-CP-003604-O
Division Probate
IN RE: ESTATE OF JOSEPHINE R. WATSON Deceased.
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the Estate of SHERRY SEITHEL, deceased, whose date of death was October 16, 2025, is pending in the Circuit Court for Orange County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 425 N. Orange Ave., Suite 335, Orlando, FL 32801. The names and addresses of the Personal Representative and the Personal Representative's attorney are set forth below.
All creditors of the Decedent and other persons having claims or demands against Decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.
All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against Decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.
ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.
NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.
The date of first publication of this notice is December 12, 2025.
Personal Representatives:
Danielle A. Morris
649 Meeting Place
Orlando, Florida 32814

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the Revocable Trust of Marceline v. Westermeyer, deceased whose date of death was July 26, 2025 is pending disbursement by the Trustee.
All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against the decedent Trust on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with the Trustee Deborah Schonert ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.
The Trustee has no duty to discover whether any property held at the time of the decedent's death by the decedent's surviving decedents to which the Florida Uniform Disposition of Community Property Rights at death Act as described in ss. 732.216 - 732.228 Florida Statutes, applies, or may apply, unless a written

demand is made by a Creditor as specified under ss.732.2211, Florida Statutes. All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against the decedent's Trust must file their claims with the Trustee Deborah Schonert at 1631 Rock Springs Rd. PMB 279 Apopka, FL 32712. WITHIN 3 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.
ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOT WITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.
The date of first publication of this notice is December 12, 2025
Trustee
Deborah Schonert
1631 Rock Springs Rd.
PMB 279,
Apopka, FL. 32712
December 12, 19, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
File No. 2025-CP-002704-O
IN RE: ESTATE OF CHRISTOPHER CLAY ADAMS, Deceased.
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the estate of CHRISTOPHER CLAY ADAMS, deceased, whose date of death was July 14, 2025, is pending in the Circuit Court for Orange County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 425 N. Orange Avenue, Orlando, Florida 32801. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.
All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.
The personal representative has no duty to discover whether any property held at the time of the decedent's death by the decedent or the decedent's surviving spouse is property to which the Florida Uniform Disposition of Community Property Rights at Death Act as described in ss. 732.216-732.228, Florida Statutes, applies, or may apply, unless a written demand is made by a creditor as specified under s. 732.2211, Florida Statutes.
All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.
ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.
NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.
The date of first publication of this notice is December 12, 2025.
Personal Representative:
BRENDON ADAMS
100 Sapphire Point
Unit 232
Lake Mary, Florida 32746
Attorney for Personal Representative:
DANIELLE WHITE, ESQUIRE
Florida Bar No. 399086
VELIZ KATZ LAW
630 North Wymore Road
Suite 330
Maitland, Florida 32751
(407) 849-7072
Primary: velizkatz@velizkatzlaw.com
Secondary: jearle@velizkatzlaw.com
Attorney for Personal Representative
December 12, 19, 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 - OCOEE, 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 IC: (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. 201709191465, 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 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.
(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; thence North 88°09'07" West, 308.34 feet; thence North 00°06'25" West, 164.15 feet to the Point of Beginning.
at Public sale to the highest and best bidder for cash starting at the hour of **11:00 o'clock a.m. on January 7, 2026**, online at www.myorangeclerk.realeforeclose.com. ANY PERSON CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THE SURPLUS FUNDS FROM THE FORECLOSURE SALE, IF ANY, OTHER THAN THE PROPERTY OWNER(S) AS OF THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS MUST FILE A CLAIM WITHIN SIXTY (60) DAYS AFTER THE SALE.
DATED this 3rd day of December, 2025.
/s/ Edward Fitzgerald, Esq.
Noel R. Boeke,
FBN 151830
Edward Fitzgerald,
FBN 10391
Kameron Fleming,
FBN 1035926
noel.boeke@hklaw.com
edward.fitzgerald@hklaw.com
kameron.fleming@hklaw.com
Holland & Knight LLP
P.O. Box 1288
Tampa, FL 33601-1288
(813) 227-8500
(813) 229-0134 facsimile
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 ADA Coordinator, Human Resources, Orange County, Courthouse, at 425 North Orange Avenue, Suite #510, Orlando, Florida 32801; Telephone (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.
December 5, 12, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO.: 2024-CA-000073-O
DIV NO.: 36
MARRIOTT OWNERSHIP RESORTS, INC. Plaintiff,
vs.
PHILIP H. TEPE, DECEASED, et al., Defendants.
NOTICE OF SALE AS TO COUNT XIV
TO: WILLIAM SIMMONS, DECEASED, THE ESTATE OF WILLIAM SIMMONS, DECEASED AND ANY UNKNOWN SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES OR OTHER CLAIMANTS BY AND THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST, SAID DEFENDANT
279 S COLUMBUS AVE APT 1 MOUNT VERNON, NY 10553
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered on December 8, 2025 in the cause pending in the Circuit Court, in and for Orange County, Florida, Civil Case No. 2024-CA-000073-O, the Office of Tiffany Moore Russell, Orange County Clerk of Court will sell the property situated in said County described as:
COUNT XIV
6 Interests (numbered for administrative purposes: J55549 & J55550 & J70732 & J70733 & J70734 & J70735

participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact ADA Coordinator, Human Resources, Orange County, Courthouse, at 425 North Orange Avenue, Suite #510, Orlando, Florida 32801; Telephone (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.
OUR FILE #126435.7106
MORI #ORANGE
December 12, 19, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO.: 2024-CA-000073-O
DIV NO.: 36
MARRIOTT OWNERSHIP RESORTS, INC.
Plaintiff,
vs.
PHILIP H. TEPE,
DECEASED, et al.,
Defendants.
NOTICE OF SALE AS TO COUNT XIII
TO: PAMELA FINNEGAN, DECEASED, THE ESTATE OF PAMELA FINNEGAN, DECEASED AND ANY UNKNOWN SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES OR OTHER CLAIMANTS BY AND THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST, SAID DEFENDANT
38 ORCHARD ROAD BRIARCLIFF, NY 10510
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered on December 8, 2025 in the cause pending in the Circuit Court, in and for Orange County, Florida, Civil Case No. 2024-CA-000073-O, the Office of Tiffany Moore Russell, Orange County Clerk of Court will sell the property situated in said County described as:

COUNT XIII
8 Interests (numbered for administrative purposes: AZ8221 & AZ8222 & AZ8223 & AZ8224 & AZ8225 & AZ8226 & AZ8227 & AZ8228) in the MVC Trust ("Trust") evidenced for administrative, assessment and ownership purposes by 2000 Points (250 Points for each Interest), which Trust was created pursuant to and further described in that certain MVC Trust Agreement dated March 11, 2010, executed by and among First American Trust, FSB, a federal savings bank, solely as trustee of Land Trust No. 1082-0300-00, (a.k.a MVC Trust), Marriott Ownership Resorts, Inc., a Delaware corporation, and MVC Trust Owners Association, Inc., a Florida corporation not-for-profit, as such agreement may be amended and supplemented from time to time ("Trust Agreement"), a memorandum of which is recorded in Official Records Book 10015, page 4176, Public Records of Orange County, Florida ("Trust Memorandum"). The Interests shall have a Use Year Commencement Date of July 1, 2021 (subject to Section 3.5 of the Trust Agreement).
at Public sale to the highest and best bidder for cash starting at the hour of 11:00 o'clock a.m. on January 21st, 2026, online at www.myorangeclerk.realforeclose.com. Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale. Submitted for publication to The Apopka Chief on December 9, 2025. DATED this 9TH day of December, 2025.
/s/ Edward M. Fitzgerald
EDWARD M. FITZGERALD
FLORIDA BAR NO 0010391 HOLLAND & KNIGHT LLP
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 ADA Coordinator, Human Resources, Orange County, Courthouse, at 425 North Orange Avenue, Suite #510, Orlando, Florida 32801; Telephone (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.
OUR FILE #126435.7108
MORI #ORANGE
December 12, 19, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO.: 2025DR10011-O
Division 47
Jonathan Chapman
Petitioner
and
Martina Rattaro
Respondent
NOTICE OF ACTION FOR PATERNITY,
TO: Martina Rattaro
6725 Bonnie Lou Dr.
Orlando, FL 32809
YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for Paternity has been filed against you and that you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Jonathan Chapman whose address is: 3300 Whitestone Cir. Kissimmee, FL 34741, on or before January 22, 2026, and file the original with the clerk of this Court at 425 N Orange Ave, Orlando FL 32801, before service on Petitioner or immediately thereafter.
If you fail to do so, a default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the petition.
Copies of all court documents in this case, including orders, are available at the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office. You may review these documents upon request.
You must keep the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office notified of your current address. (You may file Designation of Current Mailing and E-Mail Address, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915.) Future papers in this lawsuit will be mailed or e-mailed to the addresses on record at the clerk's office.
WARNING: RULE 12.285, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure, requires certain automatic, disclosure of documents and information. Failure to comply can result in sanctions, including dismissal or striking of pleadings.
Dated 12/1/25
Tiffany Moore Russell
Orange County
Clerk of the Court
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
By: Deputy Clerk
CIRCUIT COURT SEAL
December 5, 12, 19, 26, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO.: 2024-CA-000073-O
DIV NO.: 36
MARRIOTT OWNERSHIP RESORTS, INC.
Plaintiff,
vs.
PHILIP H. TEPE,
DECEASED, et al.,
Defendants.
NOTICE OF SALE AS TO COUNT I

TO: ANTONIA TEPE, DECEASED, THE ESTATE OF ANTONIA TEPE, DECEASED AND ANY UNKNOWN SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES OR OTHER CLAIMANTS BY AND THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST, SAID DEFENDANT
503 CALEDONIA RD DIX HILLS, NY 11746
PHILIP H. TEPE, DECEASED
503 CALEDONIA RD DIX HILLS, NY 11746
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered on December 8, 2025 in the cause pending in the Circuit Court, in and for Orange County, Florida, Civil Case No. 2024-CA-000073-O, the Office of Tiffany Moore Russell, Orange County Clerk of Court will sell the property situated in said County described as:

COUNT I
26 Interests (numbered for administrative purposes: Q61949 & Q61950 & Q61951 & Q61952 & Q62001 & Q62002 & Q62003 & Q62004 & Q62005 & Q62006 & Q62007 & Q62008 & Q62009 & Q62010 & Q62011 & Q62012 & Q62013 & Q62014 & Q62015 & Q62016 & Q62017 & Q62018 & Q62019 & Q62020 & Q62021 & Q62022) in the MVC Trust ("Trust") evidenced for administrative, assessment and ownership purposes by 6500 Points (250 Points for each Interest), which Trust was created pursuant to and further described in that certain MVC Trust Agreement dated March 11, 2010, executed by and among First American Trust, FSB, a federal savings bank, solely as trustee of Land Trust No. 1082-0300-00, (a.k.a MVC Trust), Marriott Ownership Resorts, Inc., a Delaware corporation, and MVC Trust Owners Association, Inc., a Florida corporation not-for-profit, as such agreement may be amended and supplemented from time to time ("Trust Agreement"), a memorandum of which is recorded in Official Records Book 10015, page 4176, Public Records of Orange County, Florida ("Trust Memorandum"). The Interests shall have a Use Year Commencement Date of January 1, 2018 (subject to Section 3.5 of the Trust Agreement).
at Public sale to the highest and best bidder for cash starting at the hour of 11:00 o'clock a.m. on January 21, 2026, online at www.myorangeclerk.realforeclose.com. Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale. Submitted for publication to The Apopka Chief on December 9, 2025. DATED this 9th day of December, 2025.
/s/ Edward M. Fitzgerald
EDWARD M. FITZGERALD
FLORIDA BAR NO 0010391 HOLLAND & KNIGHT LLP
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 ADA Coordinator, Human Resources, Orange County, Courthouse, at 425 North Orange Avenue, Suite #510, Orlando, Florida 32801; Telephone (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.
OUR FILE #126435.6876
MORI #ORANGE
December 12, 19, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL DIVISION
Case No. 2014-CA-001603-O
Division 35
LANCELOT AT WINTER PARK CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, INC., Plaintiff,
vs.
LANCELOT AT WINTER PARK, LLC, EP 168 INVESTORS, LLC, BRUCE MACDONALD AND FRANCES MACDONALD, Defendants.
NOTICE OF SALE
Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to a final judgment of foreclosure entered in the above-styled cause in the Circuit Court of Orange County, Florida, the Clerk of Court will sell the property situated in Orange County, Florida more particularly described as follows:
Unit 105, Building B, Lancelot at Winter Park, a Condominium, according to the Declaration of Condominium recorded in Official Records Book 8624, Page 546, inclusive, and all valid amendments thereto, in the Public Records of Orange County, Florida together with an undivided interest in the common elements as set forth in the exhibits to said Declaration of Condominium, as recorded, exemplified, referred to and set forth in said Declaration of Condominium and exhibits thereto at public auction (electronically) to the highest and best bidder at www.myorangeclerk.realforeclose.com in accordance with Chapter 45, Florida Statutes, on January 26, 2026, at 11:00 AM.
Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim before the clerk reports the surplus as unclaimed.
/s/ James A. Gustino
James A. Gustino
Florida Bar No.612499
JAMES A. GUSTINO, P.A.
P.O. Box 560009
Monterville, Florida
34756-0009
(407) 625-6700
Email 1:jgustino@gustinolaw.com
Email 2:jamesagustinoesq@gmail.com
COUNSEL FOR PLAINTIFF
December 12, 19, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO.: 2024-CA-000073-O
DIV NO.: 36
MARRIOTT OWNERSHIP RESORTS, INC.
Plaintiff,
vs.
PHILIP H. TEPE,
DECEASED, et al.,
Defendants.
NOTICE OF SALE AS TO COUNT IV
TO: ANTONIA P TEPE, DECEASED, THE ESTATE OF ANTONIA P TEPE, DECEASED AND ANY UNKNOWN SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES OR OTHER CLAIMANTS BY AND THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST, SAID DEFENDANT
503 CALEDONIA ROAD APT A DIX HILLS, NY 11746
PHILIP H. TEPE, DECEASED
503 CALEDONIA ROAD APT A DIX HILLS, NY 11746
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered on December 8, 2025 in the cause pending in the Circuit Court, in and for Orange County, Florida, Civil Case No. 2024-CA-000073-O, the Office of Tiffany Moore Russell, Orange County Clerk of Court will sell the property situated in said County described as:

Moore Russell, Orange County Clerk of Court will sell the property situated in said County described as:

COUNT IV
9 Interests (numbered for administrative purposes: X26047 & X26048 & X26049 & X26050 & X26051 & X26052 & X26101 & X26102 & X26103) in the MVC Trust ("Trust") evidenced for administrative, assessment and ownership purposes by 2250 Points (250 Points for each Interest), which Trust was created pursuant to and further described in that certain MVC Trust Agreement dated March 11, 2010, executed by and among First American Trust, FSB, a federal savings bank, solely as trustee of Land Trust No. 1082-0300-00, (a.k.a MVC Trust), Marriott Ownership Resorts, Inc., a Delaware corporation, and MVC Trust Owners Association, Inc., a Florida corporation not-for-profit, as such agreement may be amended and supplemented from time to time ("Trust Agreement"), a memorandum of which is recorded in Official Records Book 10015, page 4176, Public Records of Orange County, Florida ("Trust Memorandum"). The Interests shall have a Use Year Commencement Date of January 1, 2019 (subject to Section 3.5 of the Trust Agreement).
at Public sale to the highest and best bidder for cash starting at the hour of 11:00 o'clock a.m. on January 21, 2026, online at www.myorangeclerk.realforeclose.com. Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale. Submitted for publication to The Apopka Chief on December 9, 2025. DATED this 9th day of December, 2025.
/s/ Edward M. Fitzgerald
EDWARD M. FITZGERALD
FLORIDA BAR NO 0010391 HOLLAND & KNIGHT LLP
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 ADA Coordinator, Human Resources, Orange County, Courthouse, at 425 North Orange Avenue, Suite #510, Orlando, Florida 32801; Telephone (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.
OUR FILE #126435.6960
MORI #ORANGE
December 12, 19, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO.: 2024-CA-000073-O
DIV NO.: 36
MARRIOTT OWNERSHIP RESORTS, INC.
Plaintiff,
vs.
PHILIP H. TEPE, DECEASED, et al.,
Defendants.
NOTICE OF SALE AS TO COUNT V
TO: DAVID JAMES CULLIMORE
212 W 160 N LA VERKIN, UT 84745
SHARON KAY CULLIMORE, DECEASED
212 W 160 N LA VERKIN, UT 84745
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered on December 8, 2025 in the cause pending in the Circuit Court, in and for Orange County, Florida, Civil Case No. 2024-CA-000073-O, the Office of Tiffany Moore Russell, Orange County Clerk of Court will sell the property situated in said County described as:

COUNT V
8 Interests (numbered for administrative purposes: X41428 & X41429 & X41430 & X41431 & X44028 & X44029 & X44030 & X44031) in the MVC Trust ("Trust") evidenced for administrative, assessment and ownership purposes by 2000 Points (250 Points for each Interest), which Trust was created pursuant to and further described in that certain MVC Trust Agreement dated March 11, 2010, executed by and among First American Trust, FSB, a federal savings bank, solely as trustee of Land Trust No. 1082-0300-00, (a.k.a MVC Trust), Marriott Ownership Resorts, Inc., a Delaware corporation, and MVC Trust Owners Association, Inc., a Florida corporation not-for-profit, as such agreement may be amended and supplemented from time to time ("Trust Agreement"), a memorandum of which is recorded in Official Records Book 10015, page 4176, Public Records of Orange County, Florida ("Trust Memorandum"). The Interests shall have a Use Year Commencement Date of January 1, 2019 (subject to Section 3.5 of the Trust Agreement), at Public sale to the highest and best bidder for cash starting at the hour of 11:00 o'clock a.m. on January 21, 2026, online at www.myorangeclerk.realforeclose.com. Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale. Submitted for publication to The Apopka Chief on December 9, 2025.
DATED this 9th day of December, 2025.
/s/ Edward M. Fitzgerald
EDWARD M. FITZGERALD
FLORIDA BAR NO 0010391 HOLLAND & KNIGHT LLP
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 ADA Coordinator, Human Resources, Orange County, Courthouse, at 425 North Orange Avenue, Suite #510, Orlando, Florida 32801; Telephone (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.
OUR FILE #126435.6971
MORI #ORANGE
December 12, 19, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO.: 2024-CA-000073-O
DIV NO.: 36
MARRIOTT OWNERSHIP RESORTS, INC.
Plaintiff,
vs.
PHILIP H. TEPE, DECEASED, et al.,
Defendants.
NOTICE OF SALE AS TO COUNT XI
TO: JOSE CASTILLO
8302 GLEN SHADOW SAN ANTONIO, TX 78239
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered on December 8, 2025 in the cause pending in the Circuit Court, in and for Orange County, Florida, Civil Case No. 2024-CA-000073-O, the Office of Tiffany Moore Russell, Orange County Clerk of Court will sell the property situated in said County described as:

COUNT XI
6 Interests (numbered for administrative purposes: J57448 & J57449 & J57450 &

J57451 & J57452 & J58145) in the MVC Trust ("Trust") evidenced for administrative, assessment and ownership purposes by 1500 Points (250 Points for each Interest), which Trust was created pursuant to and further described in that certain MVC Trust Agreement dated March 11, 2010, executed by and among First American Trust, FSB, a federal savings bank, solely as trustee of Land Trust No. 1082-0300-00, (a.k.a MVC Trust), Marriott Ownership Resorts, Inc., a Delaware corporation, and MVC Trust Owners Association, Inc., a Florida corporation not-for-profit, as such agreement may be amended and supplemented from time to time ("Trust Agreement"), a memorandum of which is recorded in Official Records Book 10015, page 4176, Public Records of Orange County, Florida ("Trust Memorandum"). The Interests shall have a Use Year Commencement Date of November 1, 2020 (subject to Section 3.5 of the Trust Agreement).
at Public sale to the highest and best bidder for cash starting at hour of 11:00 a.m., on the 21st day of January, 2026, online at www.myorangeclerk.realforeclose.com. Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale. Submitted for publication to The Apopka Chief on December 9, 2025. DATED this 9th day of December, 2025.
/s/ EDWARD M. FITZGERALD
EDWARD M. FITZGERALD, ESQ.
FLORIDA BAR NO. 0010391
HOLLAND & KNIGHT LLP
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 N. 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.
OUR FILE #126435.7097
MORI #ORANGE
December 12, 19, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 9TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO: 2014-CA-000699-O
REAL ESTATE BROKERS, LLC, a Florida limited liability company, Plaintiff,
vs.
LITTLE NEW ORLEANS, LLC, a Florida limited liability company
HERCULES HUU NGUYEN and MY LINH THI LE, Individually, Defendant,
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that I, JOHN W. MINA, as Sheriff of Orange County, Florida, under and by virtue of a Judgment and Writ of Execution, therein issued out of the above entitled court in the above styled cause, dated the 22nd day of September, 2022, and have levied upon the following described property located, and being in Orange County, Florida, to-wit: 1 (one) "PRO-FORM Endurance 520 E" MN: PFEL55916.0 & SN: JJ530G0002972; 1 (one) "BOWFLEX PR1000" SN: 100141DAY16100360, 8GRW88, XXW3KR; 2 (two) "BOWFLEX Adjustable Dumbbells" SN: 100182MAG17381933; 1 (one) Dark wood, black stone-like counter indoor bar w/ 3 drawers and 1 door; 2 (two) Black metal barstools w/ high backs; 1 (one) "AB CIRCLE PRO V2.0" SN: 11554264; 4 (four) Fabric and dark wood dining chairs; 2 (two) Fabric and dark wood dining chairs w/ arms; 1 (one) 6 seating wooden dining room table; 3 (three) Black and silver metal backless barstools; 1 (one) Silver and gold colored sword in brown sheath; 1 (one) Black guitar shaped wine rack; 1 (one) "HOME MERIDIAN INTERNATIONAL" Wooden buffet cabinet w/ 2 drawers and 2 doors; 1 (one) Black leather-like sectional couch; 1 (one) Black leather-like sectional couch ottoman; 1 (one) "IKEA MILLBERGET" high back, black computer chair w/ arms #1633; 1 (one) "VACHERON CONSTANTIN" brown box watch with a religious necklace in case and spare watch parts; 1 (one) large "FEBO FLAME ELECTRIC FIREPLACE" w/ 2 drawers and 2 doors MN: ZHS-30B, SN: 1330059259806; 1 (one) Tall wood and glass cabinet w/ 5 glass shelves; 1 (one) "QFX LIQUID CRYSTAL SPEAKER TWS" Bluetooth wireless speaker MN: LCS-120 SN: OGGK3QFX126815; 1 (one) "GEMSOUND GMMW-A" black electronic box #19032, #11921616; 1 (one) "SAMSUNG" sound bar MN: HW-T45C & SN: CWJZ14KN500198V; 1 (one) "SAMSUNG ONE CONNECT MINI" SN: 150408A1/ B6FP; 1 (one) "ION TOTAL PA ULTRA IPA-91D" rolling black Bluetooth speaker # (21)C1191104039839; 1 (one) large "SAMSUNG" television MN: UN65JU7100F & SN: 03K53CBG500431H; 1 (one) Dark wooden expandable dining room table w/ additional extension panels; 6 (six) Tall dark wood and light fabric dining chairs; 2 (two) Wide dark colored barstools w/ red leather-like fabric; 1 (one) "LAGRIMA SOUND MAE" white electric piano w/ white stool; 1 (one) Red twin sized "Lightning McQueen" car bedframe; 1 (one) Twin sized mattress; 1 (one) King sized mattress; 1 (one) King sized dark wooden bedframe w/ 2 drawers; 2 (two) "B.K. HOME FURNITURE" Dark brown nightstand w/ bed tray Item # 574-1121; 1 (one) large Dark colored wooden dresser w/ 6 drawers and 2 doors; 1 (one) "SAMSUNG" television MN: HG40NA577LF & SN: Z56THCDD700227J; 1 (one) BLEU DE CHANEL PARIS VAMPORISATEUR SPRAY" 5 fl. oz perfume, unopened; 1 (one) "HERMES PARIS" black belt w/ silver buckle; 1 (one) "BRIGHTON CAPISTRAND" silver colored watch w/ leather-like braid inlay; 1 (one) "SMAYS STAINLESS STEEL BACK JAPANESE QUARTZ" silver colored watch w/ clear stone inlays; 1 (one) "MICHELE CASK MW STAINLESS STEEL: 5ATM" silver colored link watch band #DQ07692 & #MW03D00A0025; 1 (one) "MICHAEL KORS MK-3127 STAINLESS STEEL" silver color watch #111009; 1 (one) 81-505, gold colored metal watch; 1 (one) "WINNER ROLEX AD DAYTONA 1992 24" watch w/ detached silver colored metal band; 1 (one) "NATIONAL CHAMPIONS 2018 BATTLE YNC" silver colored ring w/ clear/white and yellow crystal inlays; 1 (one) "WORLD FINANCIAL GROUP WFG/S100,000 RING CLUB WFG/NGUYEN 2018" silver colored ring w/ blue center; 1 (one) "CARTIER" black and gold sunglasses #8036 51-15-140; 1 (one) Clear and white jewelry case w/ various earring sets and necklaces; 1 (one) Full sized bedframe w/ black leather-like fabric; 2 (two) Full sized mattresses; 1 (one) Black bookshelf w/ 3 shelves; 2 (two) Full sized box springs; 1 (one) Brown full sized bedframe w/ black leather-like material, rectangular shaped; 1 (one) "HAMILTON BEACH SELF-SANITIZING WATER DISPENSER" MN: BL-5-2 & SN: 1712010Y50295; 1 (one) "VERSACE POUR FEMME DYLAN BLUE" perfume giffset, opened; 1 (one) Dark brown bag w/ light colored "LV" pattern and zipper, "LOUIE VUTTON PARIS" on inside label w/ miscellaneous men's and children clothing inlay; 1 (one) "MASTERBUILT" portable propane smoker inside box, sealed; 1 (one) "EASY HOME ACCESSORIES" wardrobe organizer, inside box, sealed; 1 (one) "BELAVI" wooden plant ladder

stand in "vintage grey"; inside box, sealed; 1 (one) "MESA" 3 tier market basket, inside box, sealed ITM/ART: 1393287; 1 (one) "BROTHER" computerized sewing machine "CP80X"; inside box, sealed SN: U66353-HOP712809; 1 (one) "GOOGLE WIFI" 3 set in "snow" color, inside box, opened MN: GJ2CQ & SN: 17151KEFY000AX; 1 (one) "OUTDOOR GOURMET NO.12" meat grinder set, inside box, sealed; 1 (one) Large boxes of misc. clothing on hangers; 1 (one) Black bag w/ silver zipper and inside labeled "ZARA" containing a small bag of toiletries; 1 (one) Light colored bag w/ brown chain and "Gucci" script design and "GUCCI" labeled on handle; 1 (one) Box of miscellaneous belts; 1 (one) Light colored tote/bag w/ zipper with "mercury" printed on it full of miscellaneous clothing; 1 (one) Black tote/bag w/ silver zipper and "ZARA" labeled; 1 (one) Light and dark grey bag w/ blue and red stripe with "C" symbol design, labeled "COACH"; 1 (one) Tan colored bag w/ brown handle and "MK" symbol design labeled "MICHAEL KORS"; 1 (one) "NIKE BY HERCULES" "PRESTO" red and white shoes sized 9 in box; 1 (one) "INSIGNIA" television MN: NS-39DR510NA17 & SN: KQPG8YA0001310; 1 (one) "RYOBI GCV 190 3100 PSI" pressure washer SN: GCV190LAN5APT104; 1 (one) "RYOBI ONE+ 18V" 2-tool combo kit, inside box, sealed #PCLCK201K; 1 (one) Red box containing 3 gold medallions with Chinese script and the numbers 999 0.6g; **SUBJECT TO ALL TAXES, JUDGMENTS, LIENS OF RECORD OR OTHER ENCUMBRANCES. PURCHASER TO PAY FOR BILL OF SALE.**
As the property of the above named defendant, HERCULES HUU NGUYEN and MY LINH THI LE, and that on the 14th day of January 2026, beginning at ten o'clock in the forenoon or soon there-after on said day at **Orlando Estate Auction (rear parking lot) 2573 Silver Star Road Orlando, FL 32804**, 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 9:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at Orlando Estate Auction (rear parking lot) 2573 Silver Star Road Orlando, FL 32804. Winning bidders need to remove all items from the property by 3:00pm.
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
December 5, 12, 19, 26, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO.: 2025-CA-010488-O
HSBC BANK USA, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AS TRUSTEE FOR WELLS FARGO HOME EQUITY ASSET-BACKED SECURITIES 2006-2 TRUST, HOME EQUITY ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-2, Plaintiff,
vs.
THELMA BLACK; RUSSELL BLACK; TRADEWINDS A METROWEST CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, INC.; METROWEST MASTER ASSOCIATION, INC.,; UNKNOWN TENANT(S) IN POSSESSION #1 and #2, et al.
Defendant(s).
NOTICE OF ACTION
TO: RUSSELL BLACK
(Current Residence Unknown)
(Last Known Address(es))
1083 SOUTH HIAWASSEE ROAD, #616 ORLANDO, FL 32835
YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for Foreclosure of Mortgage on the following described property:
UNIT 616, TRADEWINDS, A METROWEST CONDOMINIUM, ACCORDING TO THE DECLARATION OF CONDOMINIUM THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN OFFICIAL RECORDS BOOK 8476, AT PAGE 544, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA; TOGETHER WITH AN UNDIVIDED INTEREST OR SHARE IN THE COMMON ELEMENTS APPURTENANT THERETO, AND TOGETHER WITH ANY AMENDMENTS TO SAID DECLARATION.
A/K/A: 1083 SOUTH HIAWASSEE ROAD, #616, ORLANDO, FL 32835
has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it, on Brian L. Rosaler, Esquire, POPKIN & ROSALER, P.A., 1701 West Hillsboro Boulevard, Suite 400, Deerfield Beach, FL 33442., Attorney for Plaintiff, within thirty (30) days after the first publication of this Notice in the (Please publish in THE APOPKA CHIEF) and file the original with the Clerk of this 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.
If you are a person with a disability who needs special accommodation, you are entitled to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator at the address or phone number below at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance or immediately upon receiving an official notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days. If you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.
Ninth Circuit Court Administration
ADA Coordinator
Orange County Courthouse
425 N. Orange Avenue, Suite 510,
Orlando, Florida, 32801
(407) 836-2303
WITNESS my hand and the seal of this Court this 3rd day of December, 2025.
TIFFANY MOORE RUSSELL
As Clerk of the Court and/or Comptroller
/s/ Rasheda Thomas
Signature
Tiffany Moore Russell,
Clerk of Courts
Civil Division
425 N Orange Ave
Room 350
Orlando, Florida 32801
CIRCUIT COURT SEAL
25-52431
Publish: The Apopka Chief
December 12, 19, 2025

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:
BARTLETT TOWING, INC gives notice that on **01/01/2026** at 08:30 AM the following vehicle(s) may be sold by public sale at 2252 APOPKA BLVD, STE B, APOPKA, FL 32703 to satisfy the lien for the amount owed on each vehicle for any recovery, towing, or storage services charges and administrative fees allowed pursuant to Florida statute 713.78.

2021 TURT
1FDWE3FN1MDC40832
Publish: The Apopka Chief
December 12, 2025

IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE 8TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO.: 2016-SC-893
CRIME PREVENTION SECURITY SYSTEMS, LLC, PLAINTIFF,
vs.
SHAKERIA SEGOVIA, 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 14th day of May, 2025, and have levied upon the following described property located, and being in Orange County, Florida, to-wit: **2021 TOYOTA HIGHLANDER, VIN: 5TDFZRAH3MS064268. VEHICLE MAY BE SEEN THE DAY OF THE SALE BETWEEN THE HOURS 10:00 A.M. TO 10:30 A.M. AT ACE WRECKER, 5601 SOUTH ORANGE BLOSSOM TRAIL, ORLANDO, FLORIDA 32809. SOLD AS IS AND WITH NO WARRANTY. SOLD SUBJECT TO ALL TAXES AND LIENS OF RECORD. PURCHASER TO PAY FOR BILL OF SALE.**
as the property of the above named defendant, SHAKERIA SEGOVIA, and that on the 13th day of January, 2026, beginning at ten thirty o'clock in the forenoon or soon there-after on said day at **ACE WRECKER, 5601 SOUTH ORANGE BLOSSOM TRAIL, in Orlando, 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 Ace Wrecker, 5601 South Orange Blossom Trail, Orlando, Florida 32809.
In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact Eric Nieves, Judicial Process Sales Coordinator, not later than seven days prior to the proceeding at Orange County Sheriff's Office, 425 North Orange Avenue, suite 240, Orlando, FL 32801. Telephone: (407)836-4570; If hearing impaired, (TDD) 1-800-955-8771, 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
December 12, 19, 26, 2025,
January 2, 2026

IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO.: 2024-CC-023289-O
ARBOR RIDGE HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION OF APOPKA, INC., a Florida not-for-profit corporation, Plaintiff,
vs.
KAREN SMITH, et al., Defendants.
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated December 4, 2025 and entered in Case No.: 2024-CC-023289-O, of the County Court in the Ninth Judicial Circuit in and for Orange County, Florida, wherein Arbor Ridge Homeowners' Association of Apopka, Inc. is Plaintiff, and Karen Smith, et al. are the Defendants, the Office of Tiffany Moore Russell, Orange County Clerk of Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at www.myorangeclerk.realforeclose.com at 11:00 AM, EST on January 6, 2026, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to-wit: **"Lot 191 of ARBOR RIDGE ROAD, according to the Plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 72, Page(s) 31-36, of the Public Records of Orange County, Florida."**
The Property is located

**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 TTG Security, with a mailing address of 24 Dingo Place, Apopka FL, 32712 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: Richard Alleyne
December 12, 2025

The Apopka Chief Legal Notices can also be found online at theapopkachief.com/public-notice or floridapublicnotices.com

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JT 1121-1212 TFN 21

61. LARGE APPLIANCES

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CA1212 LEW 66

70. MERCHANDISE MISC.

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B 1212-0102 SUR 70

81. AUTOS FOR SALE

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JT 1128-1219 MUL 81

130. REAL ESTATE

133. HOMES FOR SALE

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CC 1128-1219 ROG 133

5 ACRE PLOT: 541 E. Osceola Rd., \$250k "no Realtors" 407-682-7898 leave message, financing available.
B 1212-0102 IRV 131

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FOR A YARD SALE!
IT MIGHT BE PARTLY
CLOUDY**

136. MOBILE HOMES / RV'S FOR SALE

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CC 1205-1226 KEL 136

140. HOMES / DUPLEXES FOR RENT

1 BD COTTAGE FOR RENT. 5226 Bradford Road, Apopka 32712. Black Tie Realty, Barbara DeLoach: 321-229-5968
B 1212-0102 DEL 141

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CC1128-1219 MCK 140

TWO STORY HOUSE 3BD/2.5BA. 30527 Brae Burn St., Sorrento, Barbara DeLoach, Black Tie Realty. 321-229-5968
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CC 1205-1226 PAS 141

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B1128 BUR 142

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cc 1128-1219 BON 143

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CA 1114-1205 FIT 143

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