

# The Apopka Chief

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Defense lifts Apopka to regional semis

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## Voters to decide Apopka form of government

Strong mayor could dissolve after 143 years

By Teresa Sargeant Reporter

Apopka has had a strong mayor form of government for its entire 143-year history, but that could change after the municipal election on March 10.

The city's form of government is the first—and

most consequential—question of the eight that Apopka voters will have to decide at the ballot box.

Under the current City Charter, the mayor acts as the chief executive officer who supervises the city's daily operations and wields administrative authority in addition to holding a vote on the City Council.

If voters approve question 1, the amendment would reduce the mayor's role to a largely ceremonial position.

The mayor would still have one vote on the commission, but a professional city manager would handle day-to-day operations, including hiring, firing and administrative oversight.

All three mayoral candidates—Orange County Commissioner Christine Moore, incumbent Mayor Bryan Nelson and City Commissioner Nick Nesta—said they support keeping the

CHARTER AMENDMENT, A6



Photo by Dana O'Connor

If question 1 passes, the mayor will serve in a mostly ceremonial role as an equal member of the City Council.

## Council candidates draw contrasts

Seven vie for three council seats

By Teresa Sargeant Reporter

Candidates for three seats on the Apopka City Council outlined competing visions for the city's future during a Feb. 12 public forum hosted by Apopka Involved Voters at Victory Church. Growth management, infrastructure, public safety and transparency emerged as central themes in the forum, which occurred less than four weeks ahead of the March 10 election.

The nearly two-hour forum brought together contenders for Seats 1, 2 and 4, giving the nearly 40 attendees in the room an opportunity to compare incumbents and challengers side by side as Apopka continues to expand rapidly.

The event was streamed on The Apopka Chief YouTube channel and remains available on demand.

### Seat 1: Housing, infrastructure and growth pace

In the Seat 1 race, incumbent Commissioner Alexander H. Smith emphasized affordable and workforce housing as a cornerstone of his platform. A retired educator, Smith said teachers, first responders, nurses and seniors should be able to afford to live in the city where they work.

"Our young people ... cannot afford to come back to live in our city," Smith said, adding that seniors on fixed incomes are also struggling as rents rise in assisted living facilities.

Smith also reiterated his support for annexing South Apopka, arguing that residents there deserve city representation and services if they choose to join. On budget amendments, he defend-

CANDIDATES, A7

## AHS students stage walkout to protest ICE

Walkout part of national effort on same day

By Teresa Sargeant Reporter

Apopka High School students staged a walkout on Feb. 13 to protest operations by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

At about 1:30 p.m., during seventh period, students left campus from the school's bus loop and walked east on Martin Street toward Park Avenue. Once at Park Avenue, the group stood along the street chanting and holding signs before walking west on Martin Street.

"While the district respects and values a student's voice and civic engagement, any activity that causes campus disruption is not allowed under the Code of Student Conduct," OPCS spokesman Michael Ollendorff said in an email to The Apopka Chief. "Our priority is maintaining a safe, orderly, and positive learning environment for all students. Per school administration, there was no disruption to campus and no protest occurred on school property."

Motorists driving along Martin Street signaled support by honking their horns, and some waved Mexican flags from vehicle windows. Students organized the



Photo by Teresa Sargeant

Apopka High School students stand on the corner of Maine Avenue and Martin Street, across from their high school, in a walkout event to protest ICE operations.

walkout through the Instagram account @Apopka. Walkout, which states in its biography that it is not affiliated with Apopka High School or Orange County Public Schools.

"We are proud of all of you for being brave and standing up for this cause," a Feb. 13 post on the account stated. "Thank you all, especially to the Hope community center and Queers for Palestine."

The account also posted rules instructing participants to remain peaceful, avoid violence, stay off the roadway and remain together on the sidewalk, wait until everyone was off campus before



Photo by Teresa Sargeant

AHS students navigate a crosswalk during the walkout.

protesting, carry appropriate signs, and remain orderly.

The Farmworkers Association of Florida (FWAF),

which is headquartered in Apopka, distributed a Feb. 12 press release announcing the walkout. According

to the release, the event was organized under the theme "ICE breaks not just laws, but families."

However, FWAF said the walkout was organized solely by students and not by the nonprofit.

"While FWAF believes strongly in the importance of peaceful, civic participation especially for the youth, this event was not organized with our help or with our knowledge," the statement said. "However, we hope that we can use our media contacts to give these kids the visibility they deserve for their efforts, especially

WALKOUT, A6

## New orange grove mural arrives in downtown Apopka

New art adorns Chito's Cutz wall

By Sarah Merly Reporter

Apopka Murals is starting its 2026 wall mural lineup strong, introducing nationally recognized artist Ben Keller to downtown Apopka through a new orange grove mural.

"Once I met him, I knew

NEW MURAL, A5



Photo by Sarah Merly

The wall of Chito's Cutz was almost completely covered in oranges and orange tree leaves on Monday afternoon.

## Council pauses soccer field bids

Mayor alleges soccer club president broke 'cone of silence'

By Teresa Sargeant Reporter

The City Council on Wednesday night tabled a decision on who will get priority access to soccer fields at the Northwest Recreation Complex, asking the two competing organizations to try to work out a shared-use plan and bring it back at the next council meeting on March 4.

The decision came after a lengthy debate over a bidding process that disqualified one local club, Central Florida Soccer Club, because its president broke the city's "cone of silence" rule by contacting council members during the RFP period.

That left Central Florida United Soccer Academy as the sole remaining proposer recommended to get priority access to three multipurpose fields at the Northwest Recreation Complex.

Mayor Bryan Nelson said the city couldn't ignore its bidding rules just because a popular program was in-

involved.

"If we don't have the cone of silence for soccer fields, then we might as well forget about it," Nelson said.

The city issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) in January seeking organizations to run soccer leagues, tournaments and other athletic programs at the.

Under the plan, one contract would start July 27 on three existing fields, while a second contract for three additional fields was anticipated to begin around Feb. 1, 2027, once the park's expansion and

SOCCER FIELD, A4

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# Opinion

## The Apopka Chief Trusted local news since 1923

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## State budget process now in full swing

Last week marked the half-way point of the 2026 Legislative Session. Following behind-the-scenes pre-negotiations with budget chairs, both the House and Senate officially released their budget proposals from their respective chambers for how they would like to see Florida spend its money for the 2026–2027 fiscal year.

Overall, the two proposals were \$1 billion apart, with the House proposing \$113.6 billion and the Senate proposing \$115 billion (Source: The Florida Phoenix/Tallahassee Reports). Oh, and Governor Desantis (who holds the power to veto budget items) announced his budget proposal for what he wants to see in the budget back in December—\$117.4 billion.

So, how did we get here, and where do we go from here in getting a final budget passed?

During committee weeks last October-December, legislators invited municipalities in their districts to put in requests for appropriations (also referred to as budget requests), which serve as grants for projects for which they might need help in funding. These projects must serve the greater needs of the community and typically have a chance of being selected in the budget for funding if the requesting municipalities commit to providing some of their own funds to the project.

For example, a municipality may submit a funding request to their legislator for a septic to sewer conversion project if they have a documented need for the project (i.e., failing septic tanks). Local organizations, including

Florida House of Representatives



Doug Bankson

nonprofits, are also encouraged to submit project requests for funding consideration.

To increase the probability of a project being funded in the final budget, requesting organizations are strongly advised to submit an

appropriations form to both their House and Senate legislators and to commit at least a 50% match in funding.

Once the appropriations project requests are submitted by House and Senate sponsors, they are assigned to a specific budget committee silo according to the type of project. There are eight silos in the House and six in the Senate: Agriculture/Natural Resources/Environment; Health Care; Higher Education; Information Technology; Justice; PreK-12; State Administration/General Government; and Transportation/Economic Development.

In the case of the septic to sewer conversion example, it would be assigned to the Agriculture/Natural Resources/Environment budget silo. Each budget committee silo is assigned a legislator to serve as chair, who is charged with submitting a budget silo proposal recommendation based on House, Senate and governor priorities. As each legislator has the tedious task of balancing the project requests for each silo, so do the chairs in balancing each member of their chamber's projects with those of their leadership's priorities.

My next column will feature an overview and deeper dive into what happens next after the budget silo proposals are submitted and when each chamber's overall budget proposals are dropped.

## Community thrives when schools do

While Valentine's day is a time when we usually celebrate love, I like to reflect on all that brings joy and love into my life.

My work on the school board is one of those things I love most. While children are at the heart of that love, the love for public education and the people who make it work every day inspire me as well.

From our administrators and teachers to our bus drivers and custodians, every one of these professionals goes to work each day not for the big paychecks or glory, but for the children.

The work is challenging. Educating and caring for children can be difficult in the best of circumstances because every child is different. But so many of our children come to school with so many difficulties, and peeling back each layer so that the child can learn academics takes

Orange County School Board, District 7



Melissa Byrd

great care, patience and expertise.

This is why I'm always amazed to walk around our schools or attend an after-school event where employees are joyfully sharing their spirits with our children. It's a beautiful gift they give each day, and they really deserve all of our admiration.

Last week, our schools celebrated their school resource officers for SRO Appreciation Day. We saw an

outpouring of appreciation for the work these officers do in our schools each day.

They do so much more than just keep our schools safe. Our SROs build relationships with our students and they support our students. Many of these officers know what is happening in the community and can help guide students through difficult situations. Their presence helps to make students feel safe and supported and that helps to make them better able to learn as well.

Yes, there are so many things to love about our public schools, but it's the people who work day in and day out to make sure that our children feel loved, valued and inspired that make our schools the magical places they are.

And when our schools are thriving, our community thrives.

## AI glamour shots more than 'touch up' subjects

I did a presentation for a civic group a couple of weeks ago, something they called a speech, but which was mostly just me reading my notes out loud. It was about as unremarkable as it sounds, except for one thing.

When it was over, a woman in the audience called me a liar.

She didn't come right out and say those words, but the accusation was clear. "You don't look anything like your picture in the paper!" It was said with sort of a "harrumph," like she had caught me trying to pull something over on people.

She was right, sort of. At the time she was looking at me, I didn't look like the picture she was thinking about, which is the one that usually runs at the top of this column. When I started, the editors needed a photo. I was on a golf trip, so I got a friend to take one out on the course. I was a little weathered, had taken off my prescription sunglasses and hat so I wouldn't look like a thug and was squinting a little.

It's not one of my favorite photos, but there's no doubt that it is what I looked like. As unflattering as it is and as much as I hate to admit it, that photo probably looks better than I look right now, first thing in the morning, sleepy-eyed, unshaven and with bed hair.

Columnist



Jake Vest

People in the neighborhood only see me when I am working in the yard, which is like golf except in a dirtier shirt with no collar. They wouldn't recognize me if I wasn't holding a rake or dragging a water hose, scratching a bug bite, sweating and bleeding from a few thorn scratches.

That is not what I look like when my wife dresses me up and reminds me to comb my hair, which is what happens when I give speeches. If one of my neighbors had seen me behind the microphone that night, they might have said, "you don't look anything like the guy out in his yard with a rake."

So, which image is the most honest and which has been "touched up"?

This is an interesting question in light of a recent rash of people having cartoonish "glamor shots" of themselves generated, I believe, by Arti-

ficial Intelligence. I'm sure about that part, but it would make sense. I can't see anybody with any real intelligence wasting time creating something like this.

I've seen half a dozen of these and what they amount to is, "this is what I would look like if I was 30 pounds thinner, 20 years younger, with better posture, smooth and silky hair, bright shiny teeth, a flat belly, flawless skin and no extra flesh hanging from my arms and chin." All the things I'm not.

These are great pictures—they just don't happen to much resemble the people who are purported to be in them.

So, what is the point—to impress people you haven't met and to ensure that if you ever do meet they will be disappointed?

I'm not seeing the advantage here. But not making sense has never stopped anybody from doing something trendy, so I got a computer to generate an image for me. It's at the top of this column.

If you see a guy who looks like that in a bar or restaurant, it might be me. Go over and introduce yourself and strike up a conversation. Just don't believe a word he says. People who will lie about what they look like are not to be trusted.

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I encourage the city voters to study the eight questions that will be on the ballot to amend our City Charter on March 10. I believe each one of them should be approved by voting YES.

Question 1 more specifically relates to changing the government from a mayor-council form of government to a city manager-council form of government. Let's face it: When will we ever vote for a mayor that will have governmental experience and the education that a professional city manager would have. I'm voting YES on question 1.

Question 5 represents the first time we have the opportunity to set term limits on our elected officials. The state of Florida and Orange County both have term limits. It's time we have them as well. I'm voting YES on question 5.

Question 6 would restrict the mayor from signing contracts with employees without the approval of the full City Council. In the past this practice was hidden from the council and public, causing the city to pay out employee contracts and expose the city to unknown liability. I'm voting YES on this ques-

tion as well.

Question 7 would have the city clerk and city attorney appointed and serve at the pleasure of the full City Council, not just the mayor. I'm voting YES.

The remaining questions (2,3,4 and 8) in my opinion are cleanup or corrective amendments to the current charter and should be approved with a YES vote.

Citizens of Apopka please vote on March 10.

Jack Douglas  
Apopka

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Thank you to the "Warriors" Dr. Phyllis Olmstead, Leroy Bell, Sylvester Hall, Abbey McKimmie, and Ace Woodham for your dedication sharing ideas and concerns to help make Apopka a better place to live, work and play.

City administration refers to these regular City Council presenters as "troublemakers" or the "peanut gallery."

"Nobody is born a warrior. You choose to be one when you refuse to stay seated. You choose to be one when you refuse to back down. You choose to be one when you stand up after getting knocked down. You

choose to be one because if not you, who?" Tim Burton

"I may not agree with what you say, but I'll defend what you say to the death your right to say it." Voltaire

"No right was deemed by the fathers of the government more sacred than the right of speech." Frederick Douglass

"Find your voice and fearlessly raise against injustice." Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

"The rights of every man are diminished when the rights of one man are threatened." John F. Kennedy

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

"Fight for the things that you care about but do it in a way that will lead others to join you." Ruth Bader Ginsburg

If you choose not to participate, be involved, speak up or show up, smile, accept the outcome and thank those that do.

"Warriors," thank you for your commitment. Stay safe, and God-speed to you and your families.

Rod Olsen  
Apopka

## About The Apopka Chief

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

www.theapokkachief.com



# City hosts ribbon-cutting for new home

Griffin family looks forward to building 'new memories'

By Sarah Merly  
Reporter

The city of Apopka celebrated the completion of a new home at 118 W Eighth Street with a Feb. 12 ribbon-cutting ceremony.

"This project was made possible with funding from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)," said a Feb. 6 city press release. "In 2021, Florida Commerce awarded the City a Communi-

ty Development Block Grant (CDBG) totaling \$750,000, to replace three homes and rehab two homes."

Roscoe and Regena Griffin, who have lived at 118 W Eighth Street since 1984, applied for the grant in 2024. Their home is the second to be completely replaced through the CDBG grant.

"The old house we were in was getting to be to where it wasn't gonna be livable," Regena Griffin said. "We were very excited about being approved and knowing that we were gonna get a new house."

The Griffins moved out of their old house in April 2025

and lived with their son until moving into the new home on Jan. 20.

"He [Roscoe] didn't really want to leave," said Taiy Jones, the Griffins' granddaughter. "But yeah, they were excited. They were just ready for the process to be over very quickly so they can come back home, because even though it's not the old house, it's still home, because this is their property."

Jones said the former house was narrow, although her grandfather had added a front room and another bathroom over the years. The kitchen had lacked "wigg-

le room," and the bedroom could not store much. Now, the Griffins enjoy amenities such as a flat-screen TV and a walk-in shower.

"The living room was very small, so for them to have open-concept everything is just so nice, so they can get around without any problems," Jones said.

Regena Griffin said the most difficult part of the process was waiting for the new home, but she believes it was worth it.

"It was worth the wait, because we actually love the space and the house and everything," she said. "They did



Courtesy of city of Apopka

Regena Griffin holds the golden scissors at the Feb. 12 ribbon cutting as attendees cheer.

a beautiful job."

Regena Griffin recommends those who qualify to apply for the grant and thanked the city of Apopka for

the new home.

"I don't know name by name, but they know who they are," she said. "I just want to send a thank you out to all of them."

# Orange County Recovers program restores damaged home

Upgrades include new roof, ramp

By Teresa Sargeant  
Reporter

Nearly four years after Hurricane Ian tore through Central Florida, 64-year-old Lorenzo Turner wheeled through the inside of his Apopka home Tuesday morning and compared the moment to winning the lottery.

"I don't know if you ever hit the lottery," Turner said. "But if you ever have won suddenly, it's like a dream come true, like you woke up. I'm just so happy."

Through the Orange County Recovers program, Turner's home at 1165 S. Central Ave. has been extensively repaired and renovated after sustaining major roof damage in the 2022 storm. At a total renovation cost of an es-



Photo by Teresa Sargeant

Lorenzo Turner (C) smiles with Mitchell Glasser (L), County Commissioner Christine Moore (second from R) and Turner's friend Carmen Santiago (R).

timated \$147,000, the work was funded through the federal Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) program.

Orange County Commissioner Christine Moore and Mitchell Glasser, manager of the Orange County Housing

and Development Division, presented Turner with the key to his newly renovated home.

Turner, who has lived in the home for nearly 40 years, said he remembers lying in bed as Hurricane Ian's winds blasted his home.

"I actually felt the house

shaking," he said. "You can see where the ceiling came loose."

The roof was "pretty much a loss," according to Sherry Julien, project manager for Orange County Housing and Community Development's disaster recovery program, noting that the roof failure allowed water to seep into the home and cause widespread mold and interior damage.

"They pretty much had to cut the house out—all the dry-wall, replace the flooring," Julien said.

Turner said he stayed in the home after the storm, trying to maintain it despite constant leaks. Since the time of the hurricane, he suffered a stroke that left him using a wheelchair.

"Life's been going downhill ever since," he said, recalling the months after the storm.

Before his stroke, Turner was able to walk and navigate

the house, but the structure was not designed for wheelchair access. As part of the renovation, the county made the kitchen and bathrooms handicap accessible and installed a new ramp with rails leading into the home.

Turner said his insurance company initially told him there was nothing wrong with the roof.

"They said it wasn't leaking," he said. "And then [the insurance company said] all mold and mildew [was] always back there."

Moore said the roof collapse was what ultimately qualified the home for assistance, especially since the home insurance company tried to blame the issues on earlier causes, not on Ian.

"That was when the county came through," Moore said.

The county began accepting applications for Orange

County Recovers after federal disaster recovery funds were allocated. Turner said he learned about the program in March 2025 after seeing a news report.

Construction on his home began in November and took about eight weeks. During that time, the program covered his temporary relocation costs.

"They paid for my room and board," Turner said. "They didn't shortcut me. They made me feel like I was a person again."

Orange County Recovers was launched about a year ago after federal disaster funds finally arrived. Glasser said the county has received more than 300 applications for the Hurricane Ian housing program, with about 150 currently in process. Turner's house, he said, is the first completed project under the effort and was among the first to begin construction.

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As we approach our next city elections on Tuesday, March 10, 2026, I am respectfully requesting that our Apopka registered voters cast their vote either by mail, early voting or in person. Your vote is very important.

**Your vote will determine the future of our city.**

As your city Commissioner and Vice Mayor, my platform has been that the residents of Apopka, businesses, and those involved in our community be participants and aware on how the city is managed. Second, I've always encourage all registered voters to cast their vote for the person they believe has Apopka in their best interest, not political or personal agenda(s). As many of you know, I believe that transparency, honesty and accessibility are important traits for any elected official.

As I seek re-election as your representative on the city council, I continue to emphasize these traits and ensure they're not compromised by special interest. When decisions are made on the council, our Apopka community well-being should be considered first, especially the safety of our residents and children.

It is an honor and privilege to represent you in my capacity, ten years as your Commissioner, and two years as Commissioner/Vice Mayor. I believe this experience has enhanced and prepared me to continue to represent you on the city council with commitment and dedication.

**Thank you and I respectfully ask for your VOTE on March 10, 2026.**

**Commissioner Diane Velazquez**  
Vice Mayor

Pol. Adv. paid and approved by Diane Velazquez, Non-Partisan for Apopka City Council Seat 2

# Q&A: Mayoral candidates address Border Lake

By Sarah Merly  
Reporter

The Apopka Chief and WESH 2 News organized a mayoral debate on Feb. 3, when all three candidates addressed their visions for the city. The 90-minute format did not allow for question on every key issue, so each week leading up to the March 10 election, the Chief will run a Q&A addressing different issues.

This week's question is as follows:

Over the last several years, flooding has intensified at Border Lake and other nearby lakes. How would you address this issue as mayor?

## Christine Moore, Orange County commissioner

Hurricane Milton ravaged the Border Lake Drainage Basin in 2024. I remember being up half the night surveying damage to the shopping center, Wekiva Townhomes, and Piedmont Wekiva Road. This area is a closed basin, meaning the water doesn't flow out to the Wekiva. City leadership knew about this problem since Hurricane Ian.

Nevertheless, I took action and alerted Orange County Emergency Management to advocate for a "tiger dam" in the townhome community. Their safety was paramount.



Photo by Marshall Tempest  
Commissioner Nick Nesta

A bit of history: the state permitted a drain well decades ago to compensate for extra water during hard rains and hurricanes. Unfortunately, the drain well was paved over during the widening of SR436.

Responsibility for a long-term remedy resides with the city of Apopka. Instead of leading, however, leadership blamed and delayed. So, again, I engaged Orange County engineers to find a short-term solution for the city. An incredible idea arose from them to pump the lake down through the Piedmont chain into the Lake Page drain well. The St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) agreed, and the county located vendors. The city simply needed to seek permission from owners and monitor the pumps.

When all was done, Mayor Nelson called a celebratory press conference, inviting no one from Orange County or SJRWMD. Additionally, Nel-



Photo by Marshall Tempest  
Mayor Bryan Nelson



Photo by Marshall Tempest  
The city's pump station works to mitigate flooding.

son continues misstating the county's responsibility, causing harm to the relationship.

It is good Mayor Nelson received state grant money, yet no construction has taken place. I believe the solution to Border Lake flooding should be collaborative and expeditious.

## Bryan Nelson, mayor

Let's start at the begin-



Photo by Dana O'Connor  
Commissioner Christine Moore

ning. The original flow of excess water from Border Lake would normally flow from Border Lake to Lake Cortez by way of stormwater pipes underneath Highway 436. Orange County kept this from happening by placing sandbags on top of the storm drains to prevent three homes on Lake Cortez from flooding.

I have secured two grants

in the amount of \$6.25 million to alleviate the flooding of Border, Page, Blue, Piedmont and Jackson. This innovative approach will send the water to our Cleveland Wastewater Plant for processing into reclaimed water.

I have also contacted the two property owners at Border Lake about donating a half-acre property for the pumping station. With the help of one of our other partners, we can pump the excess water down the existing pipeline to Cleveland Street. We are also in the process of adding additional water storage at Cleveland to better manage inflows and outflows of reclaimed water.

Although the \$6.25 million grant should complete the project, any additional monies should be broken out, with 40% being paid for by Apopka, 40% by Orange County and 20% by Seminole County, which is the pro-rata share of the Border/Cortez watershed.

## Nick Nesta, city commissioner

Flooding around Border Lake and nearby areas has become a serious concern for residents. It's an issue that requires both immediate attention and long-term planning. As mayor, my priority would be to work with city staff, engineers, and water manage-

ment agencies to fully evaluate drainage capacity, stormwater systems, and how recent development and rainfall patterns are impacting water levels.

We must make sure existing infrastructure is functioning as designed while identifying improvements that reduce flooding risks for homeowners. That includes reviewing stormwater maintenance schedules, improving water flow where possible, and ensuring future development does not worsen existing conditions.

At the same time, this is not an issue the city can solve alone. Flooding tied to regional waterways and environmental conditions often requires coordination and funding at the state and federal levels. I would actively pursue partnerships and grant opportunities through agencies such as the St. Johns River Water Management District, FEMA and state infrastructure programs to secure additional resources for mitigation projects.

Residents deserve transparency throughout this process and a clear plan moving forward. Protecting homes, property, and quality of life must be a priority. Addressing flooding proactively is part of responsible leadership and planning for Apopka's future.

## SOCCKER FIELD FROM A1

new field construction are finished.

Out of 2,599 vendors notified about the RFP, only two organizations ultimately submitted bids: Central Florida Soccer Club and Central Florida United Soccer Academy.

According to city documents and statements made at Wednesday's meeting, Central Florida Soccer Club—which has operated in Apopka for about 14 years—was disqualified under the RFP's "cone of silence" rule, which forbids bidders from contacting city com-

missioners about the contract while it is out for bid.

Because of that disqualification, the evaluation committee recommended awarding only one contract to the remaining bidder, Central Florida United Soccer Academy, which scored 89 out of 100 points and proposed a monthly rental fee of \$4,462.50. The city left the second set of three fields to be rebid.

The disqualification caused an outcry from Central Florida Soccer Club supporters, who argued that losing field access

would displace hundreds of local children.

"The impact that we have on these kids and our environment and our society is massive, and you cannot take that away from them," Coach Ewan Lindo said.

However, the tone of the meeting shifted when representatives from both clubs expressed a willingness to cooperate.

"We'll find a way to make it work," said Najji Khouri, Central Florida Soccer Club president. "We'll work with the

other organization. We'll work with the city for other fields."

Commissioner Nadia Anderson said she wanted a consistent, transparent bidding process but refused to back any decision that would leave local children without a place to play.

"Once again, I think what's important is it's not about any of us adults," she said. "Let's be very clear: It's about these kids."

Meanwhile, council members pressed city staff to speed up construction of six new soccer fields, saying they hope that by the time current contracts

expire in July, the newly built or soon-to-open fields at the Northwest Recreation Complex will provide enough space for both the city's own recreation leagues and the private clubs.

City officials said Khouri broke the city's "cone of silence" rule by contacting at least one council member during the bidding. Vice Mayor Diane Velazquez acknowledged receiving an email from him. Nelson suggested that more than one commissioner was contacted, though no others were named publicly.

During the meeting, Nelson pressed Khouri on whether he understood the city's rules. Khouri acknowledged he knew the rules but disputed that he had broken them, insisting he had contacted people "in their capacity ... running for office" rather than using their official city email accounts.

When Nelson said this showed he had broken the cone of silence "more than once," Khouri pushed back.

"With all due respect, Mayor, the verdict's still out on that one," he said.

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# Candidates snag mayoral election endorsements

By Teresa Sargeant  
Reporter

Mayoral endorsements are stacking up for the three candidates seeking to lead Apopka, highlighting sharp contrasts in experience, leadership style and vision for the city's future.

Orange County Commissioner Christine Moore, incumbent Mayor Bryan Nelson, and City Commissioner Nick Nesta each released recent announcements of their supporters' endorsements.

## Christine Moore

Orange County Commissioner Christine Moore announced endorsements from two former senior officials who served during the Nelson administration: former interim City Administrator Chuck Vavrek and former Director of

Public Works Momtaz Barq. Vavrek, who has served under three Apopka mayors — John Land, Joe Kilsheimer and Nelson—said the city is at a “critical moment” facing infrastructure challenges and unsustainable growth. He stated that after working closely with all three candidates, he believes Moore “is the clear choice to lead the city,” according to a Feb. 12 press release.

Barq, a civil engineer and former chief engineer for Orange County Public Works, echoed concerns about growth pressures and infrastructure demands. He said Moore’s background in operations and her experience as a county commissioner position her to guide Apopka through its next phase of development.

“Together, these endorsements from senior officials

who worked inside the Nelson administration send a clear message: Apopka needs a change in leadership,” the campaign’s press release stated.

## Bryan Nelson

Nelson has secured backing from a coalition of former elected officials, public safety leaders and clergy members.

“My list of endorsements range from State-wide office holders to local leaders to spiritual leaders who believe that my proven track record of success of reducing debt, increasing reserves and balancing the needs of the entire city making sure that every resident is treated with respect and dignity makes me uniquely qualified to serve one more term,” Nelson said.

Backers include former Apopka City Commissioners Bob Johnson, Bill Ar-

rowsmith, Mark Holmes and Marilyn Ustler McQueen, as well as former interim Orange County Commissioner Rod Love.

Support from neighboring municipalities includes Winter Garden Mayor John Rees and Ocoee Mayor Rusty Johnson, while Nelson also has the endorsement of Senate President-Designate Jim Boyd.

Community religious leaders supporting Nelson include Pastor Richard King, former president of the South Apopka Ministerial Alliance; Pastor Darrell Morgan, former president of the Christian Ministerial Alliance, and his wife Lisa Morgan; Pastor Gerard Moss; Pastor Pat McGuffin, former president of the Christian Ministerial Alliance; and Pastor Hezekiah Bradford, president of the South Apopka Ministerial Alliance and for-

mer president of the Apopka Christian Ministerial Alliance.

Public safety endorsements include former Apopka Fire Chief Sean Wylam and former Apopka Police Chief Michael McKinley.

## Nick Nesta

Former Vice Mayor/City Commissioner Kyle Becker, who ran against Nelson in 2022, is endorsing City Commissioner Nick Nesta.

In a Nesta campaign statement, Becker said he was endorsing Nesta with “great privilege and absolute surety,” calling him “the only candidate with the ability to rid Apopka of the ‘gotcha’ politics and outdated ways of thinking that have hindered the city from reaching its full potential.”

Becker cited Nesta’s roots in Apopka and his leadership

qualities, saying Nesta would bring “open and effective leadership.”

“If you are looking for accessibility, transparency, respect, trust, fiscal responsibility, and a leader who understands Apopka’s roots while building its future, Nick Nesta is the clear choice for Mayor of Apopka,” Becker said.

Michael Duran, father of fallen city firefighter Austin Duran, also supports Nesta.

“To this day, my son’s sacrifice remains a painful reminder of what happens when leadership fails to prioritize safety and accountability,” Duran said. “I believe Apopka deserves leadership that puts people first and ensures our firefighters and police officers have the resources they need to return home safely after every shift—something Austin was denied.”

## NEW MURAL

FROM A1

he was going to be perfect for what we’ve been curating down here,” said Apopka Murals founder Luis Rivera. “He’s a very well-established person, so I think that will help out as well—motivate the community and our community and show everybody else outside of Apopka that there’s something going on in Apopka.”

The northern wall of Chito’s Cutz, located at 433 S. Central Avenue, currently serves as Keller’s canvas and depicts vibrant, lifelike orange trees. Keller expects to finish the project early next week.

Keller has painted portraits up and down the East Coast, with his artwork also appearing in Ecuador and France. He recently painted two murals of Iryna Zarutskaya, a young Ukrainian refugee murdered in North Carolina late last year, as part of a project funded by Johan McCabe and Elon Musk.

Keller frequently travels to Orlando for art projects, one of which inspired Rivera to reach out to Keller about working with Apopka Murals. Keller said Apopka reminded him of where he grew up in Connecticut.

“I come from towns that once were something else and



Photo by Luis Rivera

Ben Keller welcomed the opportunity to depict the beauty of nature for Apopka Murals.

now have turned into a different type of—they haven’t degraded, but they just lost the main foundation of what they were based on,” Keller said. “I was raised in a farm town. I think it has a special place to me.”

Late last year, Rivera had shown Keller potential walls he could paint.

“Back in either October [or] November, when I drove up to meet Luis for the first

time at his barbershop, he just sort of took me around that vicinity that has the murals in the alleyway where the No Borders Art Competition is held,” Keller said. “So that whole block, he just showed me what they had already done, and then pointed out some potential future walls that I could paint.”

When Keller created a design for the Chito’s Cutz wall, he discovered that the barbershop’s owner had also envisioned an orange grove painting. Coincidentally, Chito also hails from Connecticut.

“He was envisioning maybe doing some orange grove scene due to the history of Apopka having a large agricultural community, so I thought that would be really cool to tie in,” Keller said. “It matched up.”

Although Keller enjoys painting portraits, he considers his first collaboration with Apopka Murals a welcome break.

“To go back to nature was a nice vacation, or a nice little shift in gears from the normal subject matter I focus on,” Keller said. “There’s a lot of detail on it, but I really enjoy that challenge, so it hasn’t been burdensome at all.”

## SENIOR VALENTINE'S DAY

The Apopka Community Center hosted its fourth Valentine’s Day Senior Life Health & Wellness Expo Feb. 13, partnering with Senior Life Publications. The city of Apopka’s parks and recreation staff served approximately 200 seniors a buffet meal, consisting of Jeff’s Bagel Run bagels, Boar’s Head meats, soup, fruit and cookies. Steve Roman also entertained the seniors with a musical performance. The event also included 20 wellness vendors, including the Alzheimer’s & Dementia Resource Center and American Care Medical Centers.



Photo by Cindy Edwards

**IN LOVING MEMORY OF**

*Warner Rogers Beckett*

**JANUARY 26, 1954 - JANUARY 30, 2026**



Warner Rogers “Hawk” Beckett was born on January 26, 1954, to the late Chester A. Beckett and Annie J. Ramirez in Winter Garden, Florida.

Hawk was a bright spot in every life he touched, living with a style and energy all his own. Whether showing off his natural athleticism or pulling up in one of his signature rides, like his green Mustang 5.0, he moved through the world at full throttle—usually decked out in Miami Hurricanes gear and a clean pair of Converse.

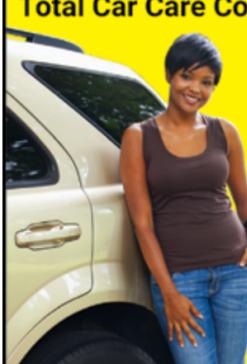
Beyond the cool cars and sports, Hawk’s true legacy was his massive heart. A man of immense generosity and devotion to his family, he ensured there was never a dull moment. He was quite simply everyone’s “favorite.” His light was as bright as his spirit, and his legacy of joy will never fade.

Warner was preceded in death by his father Chester A. Beckett Sr., mother Annie J. Ramirez, stepfather Oscar Ramirez Sr., stepmother Mary Bridges Beckett, brothers Chester Beckett Jr. and Chezell Beckett, special cousin Gary Garner, and beloved son Patrick Beckett. He was also preceded in death by his grandparents and a host of aunts, uncles, and cousins throughout the years.

He leaves behind to cherish his loving memories wife Bessie Beckett; children Nakiea Bridges, Takiea Bridges, Rogers Beckett (Carla), Rashadd Beckett (Patsy), and Kimberli Beckett; stepchildren Barbara Randolph (Aldridge) and Tamila Reddick (Deyeon); grandchildren Payton Bridges, Dante Anderson, Daquan Price, Harmony Vasquez, Astoria Beckett, Bralen Beckett, Landon Gaines, Camren Beckett, Javion Beckett, Kamal Beckett, Dallas Reddick, and Ava Williams; one great-grandchild, Dream Anderson; siblings Selena Beckett, Ronald Beckett Sr. (Deborah), Arthur Beckett (Angel), Oscar Ramirez Jr. (Sherlene), Timothy Bridges, and Althea Bridges; special cousins Varetta Radford, Cherry Rudolph, and Jennie Mae Blair; and a host of other relatives and friends who have been affected by this loss.

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# CHARTER AMENDMENT

FROM A1

current system.

"I favor what we've had for 143 years, which is strong mayor," Moore said during the Feb. 3 mayoral debate at Apopka High School, which was co-organized by The Apopka Chief and WESH 2 News. "I also favor, though, giving the commissioners and the people a whole lot more power."

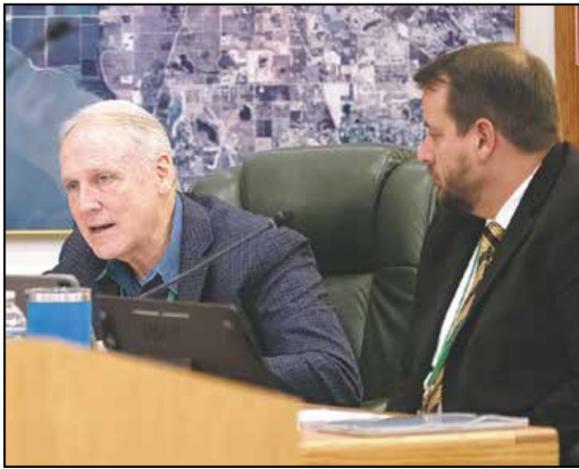
Moore said she supports widening community involvement and council oversight through the creation of more advisory boards and having each council member make board appointments to them. She suggested boards or committees for parks and recreation, historical preservation and infrastructure.

She said she also supports council ratification of the administrator and the clerk, although she lamented that the current interim city administrator, Radley Williams, could not get ratified permanently in his position.

"They couldn't even get it through this fractured council," Moore said.

Most importantly, Moore argued, voters should choose a mayor based on vision and leadership.

"When you go to the ballot box and you pick one of



File photo by Dana O'Connor

Cliff Shepard and Radley Williams

us to be mayor, you're picking a vision, you're picking a plan," she said, adding that under a manager-led system, residents would lose that direct executive leadership.

Nelson said the strong mayor form has enhanced his ability to recruit businesses and jobs into the city because he serves as both chief executive and a voting member of the council.

"When I go meet with somebody that's looking to bring three or four or 500 jobs, or looking to bring a new restaurant into town, I'm going not only as the CEO, but I'm going as a

voting member," Nelson said. "If I like what the project looks like ... they've got one vote out of three."

Nelson said that being involved in city operations allows him to better understand budgets and development proposals. He described the combination of administrative authority and voting power as "paramount to a great city" and suggested some municipalities regret moving to a council-manager form of government.

Still, Nesta said residents should decide the form of government they want

and noted that the amendment would not be on the ballot if not for public support.

"The residents have been pushing for this for years," he said. "I want to make sure that the residents voices, more than anything, is heard, and I want to serve in whatever capacity the residents want me to serve."

Co-moderator J.C. Derrick asked each candidate if they would commit to serve the full four-year term, even if voters changed the form of government. All three answered yes.

At the Feb. 12 council candidate forum organized by Apopka Involved Voters, several candidates said they're in favor of strong mayor form of government, including Seat 1 incumbent Alexander H. Smith and Seat 2 incumbent Diane Velazquez.

In contrast, Angela Turner, Seat 2 challenger, said she does not support the strong mayor because she does not want to grant wide executive power to a single elected leader. Instead, she preferred a structure where commissioners share more authority and where additional citizen committees help shape city policy.

## Attorney: City's role in amendment public education is limited

City staffers are legally restricted in how they can educate voters about the proposed charter amendments on next month's ballot, according to City Attorney Cliff Shepard.

Staff may provide factual answers to the public's questions about the amendments, but they cannot spend public funds or try to persuade voters one way or another on how to vote, based on a recently enacted state law.

Factual information can include election logistics—such as when the amendments will appear on the ballot—when approved changes would take effect, details about any transition period, potential financial impacts and the full text of the proposed amendments.

"They can't say, 'This is why this is a good idea,' or 'This is why it's a bad idea,' even if they say both things," he said. "In other words, they can't even have pros and cons, because that would be advocating [a position] depending on who drafted the pros or who drafted the cons."

If misinformation circulates, the city may respond by directing residents to the full text of the amendments and public records from the charter review process.

"That's probably the best source of available existing information," he said.

The city has posted brief explainers on each amendment at [www.apopka.gov/charter](http://www.apopka.gov/charter).

— Teresa Sargeant

"I would like to see other committees that are formed as a result of that, maybe

for beautifying downtown, or other subcommittees," Turner said.

# WALKOUT

FROM A1

for an issue that has impacted their lives and community so much."

The Apopka walkout was one of several student-organized ICE protests reported across the country on Feb. 13, including in Chicago, Illinois; Evansville, Indiana; Lawton, Oklahoma; and Prince William County, Virginia. Other walkouts were announced but not confirmed in media reports.

Central Florida Public Media reported that Angel Velez, a Seminole County student organizer, said students from 10 high schools in Orange and Seminole counties planned to participate in the Feb. 13 walkouts.

"There's a lot of young voices that need to be heard,

and there's a lot of people in Florida who come from families that are being targeted and being oppressed," Central Florida Public Media reported.

Since President Donald Trump's second term began

Jan. 20, 2025, ICE has conducted nearly 393,000 arrests nationwide as part of interior immigration enforcement operations, according to internal Department of Homeland Security data obtained by CBS News.

The figures indicate that a majority of those arrested were not charged with violent crimes, with more than one-third having no criminal record and many apprehended for civil immigration violations.

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Fri., Feb. 20, 2026 thru Sun., Feb. 23, 2026

<p><b>GOAT (PG)</b> 12:00; 2:25; 4:50; 7:20; 9:45</p> <p><b>SOLO MIO (PG)</b> 12:10; 4:00; 6:40; 10:30</p> <p><b>AVATAR: FIRE AND ASH (PG-13)</b> 12:20; 2:35; 6:30; 9:10</p>	<p><b>WUTHERING HEIGHTS (R)</b> 12:30; 3:40; 6:50; 10:00</p> <p><b>CRIME 101 (R)</b> 12:40; 3:50; 7:10; 10:10</p> <p><b>SEND HELP (R)</b> 1:10; 4:30; 7:40; 10:25</p>	<p><b>I CAN ONLY IMAGINE 2 (PG)</b> 1:20; 4:10; 7:00; 9:50</p> <p><b>HOW TO MAKE A KILLING (R)</b> 1:30; 4:40; 7:30; 10:20</p>
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# THEME: WORLD EXPLORERS

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- UPS competitor
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  - Prior to, pref.
  - Gin flavor
  - \_\_\_ wig or \_\_\_ winkle
  - Command to Fido
  - \_\_\_ Grey of tea fame
  - Policemen's surprise
  - Brunch offering
  - \*Explorer Amerigo's last name
  - Rock opera version of "La Boheme"
  - Gossipmonger, in Yiddish
  - Ballet step
  - \*Henry the Navigator's title
  - Chicken pox pimples
  - Poetic "even"
  - Demosthenes or Cicero
  - "The \_\_\_ on the Floss"
  - Stories "from the Crypt"
  - Rank above maj.
  - Sore spot
  - \*Happily \_\_\_ after"
  - Familiar routine
  - "Wow!"
  - Retina, pl.
  - \*Explorer Shackleton's first name
  - New on the block?
  - Barbara Eden's TV character
  - Rumple
  - \*First one to circumnavigate globe, almost
  - \*Lewis' or Clark's vessel
  - Fictional giant
  - Plaintiff
  - Shrovetide dish
  - Zig or zag
  - Dunking cookie
  - "\_\_\_ and the City"
  - "C' \_\_\_ la vie!"
  - Backgammon predecessor
- DOWN**
- Take drugs
  - Bohemian, e.g.
  - Skin opening
  - Short for self-synchronous
  - Don't just stand there!
  - "Fear of Flying" author Jong
  - Skirt length
  - Part of a hammer
  - Wholly engrossed
  - Obtain, but just barely
  - Gardening tool
  - Junk yard stuff
  - \*"Dr. Livingstone, I \_\_\_?"
  - Fictional cowboy Bill
  - One better than bogey
  - J.M. Barrie's Pan
  - Plunder
  - \*Geographical feature named for Ponce de Leon
  - \*Inspiration for hide-and-seek game
  - City in Belgium
  - North Pole workers
  - Winter driving hazard
  - Homesteader's purchase, sing.
  - Likewise
  - \*Possibly America's first European
  - Leif \_\_\_
  - Jeopardy
  - Horse poker
  - Tooth cover
  - One born to Japanese immigrants
  - Willie of country music fame
  - Dashboard windows
  - Type of heron
  - Gender checkbox
  - Windows alternative
  - Change address
  - Mystique
  - Not ever, poetically
  - TV network
  - "Maggie May" singer

**CROSSWORD**

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**THIS WEEK'S PUZZLE ANSWERS**

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P	S	B	S		B	E	W			B	E	V	E		

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**POLICE BEAT**

# APD responds to 17 crashes Feb. 8-14

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](mailto:dhayden@the-apokkachief.com).

In the period from February 8-14, 2026, the Apopka Police Department received 1,358 calls for service, responded to 17 crashes, issued 56 citations, and made 21 arrests. Burglaries: 1 vehicle, 1 residence, 0 business. Juveniles were charged with probation violation-child in vio-

lation of imposed conditions (X2); out-of-county warrant; weapon offense-missile into dwelling vehicle/building or aircraft; assault-aggravated with intent to commit a felony; firing weapon discharge firearm/weapon on public/residence property; weapon offense-under 18 years of age, unlawful possession of firearm.

The following adults were arrested and charged:

Lavarios Antonio Slaughter, 43, Clermont, stalking-follow/harass/cyberstalk another.

Ayicha Pubien, 24, Orlando, battery-touch or strike; battery-commit domestic battery by strangulation.

Corey Trevor White, 40, Apopka, cruelty toward child-abuse child without great bodily harm; battery-touch or strike.

Joel Arturo Vasquez Hernandez, 27, 562 Rouzer St., Apopka, moving traffic violation-operate motor vehicle without valid license, 1st conviction.

Ingrid Alvarez-Alvarez, 31, 432 E. 9th St., Apopka, burglary with assault or battery; battery-touch or strike; damage property-criminal mischief damage property \$200-\$1,000.

Lee Enrique Garcia Santiago, 34, 558 Sparrow Ct., Apopka, other agency warrant.

Angela Maria Rengifo,

60, 1481 Woodwind Dr., Apopka, battery on person 65+ years of age.

Ethen Bernard Switzer, 24, 1984 Clarcona Rd., Apopka, flee/elude police-flee elude law enforcement officers with lights/siren active.

Hector Raul Cartagena, 64, 1085 Pavia Dr., Apopka, intimidation written/electronic threat to kill bodily harm another (X2); intimidation-threaten death/harm elected official; aggravated stalking-follow/harass/cyberstalk threat to person.

Adrian James Jackson, 28, Orlando, battery-touch or strike.

Abed Jonathan Farah, 38, Apopka, aggravated assault-

with deadly weapon without intent to kill.

Kevin Scott Revier, 48, 1806 Deanna Dr., Apopka, trespassing structure or conveyance.

Donald Ray Padgett, 35, Apopka, battery-touch or strike.

Christopher Stephan Lewis, 26, 810 Charingstone Ct., Apopka, larceny-other theft.

Yvonne Lee Koch, 45, homeless, Apopka, drugs-possession of controlled substance without prescription; drugs equipment-possession and/or use; trespassing-failure to leave property on order of owner.

Wes Erik Cady, 47, 611 Business Park Blvd. 101, Winter Garden, larceny-oth-

er theft.

Lawrence Pierson Bailey, 59, Apopka, battery-touch or strike.

Keily Roxana Garcia Ledezma, 29, 1460 Marden Ridge Loop #414, Apopka, larceny grand theft-property dwelling/curtilage \$40-\$750.

Elias Xoltlox, 23, Apopka, aggravated battery on pregnant victim.

Chelicia Sanchesca Hen-son, 33, Eatonville, battery-touch or strike.

John William Beegan, 55, 2533 Park Ridge St., Apopka, cruelty toward child-abuse child without great bodily harm; kidnap-false imprisonment of person; battery by strangulation; battery-cause bodily harm.

## CANDIDATES

FROM A1

ed the practice as a routine part of municipal finance, often necessary to account for grants or shifting expenditures.

Challenger Sam Ruth focused heavily on infrastructure, citing his background as a mechanical engineer and quality control specialist for major health care facilities. Ruth, a former city commissioner, argued that Apopka's infrastructure has not kept pace with development.

Ruth called for slowing approvals until roads, water and sewer systems are stabilized, and said his professional experience managing complex infrastructure systems would guide his decision-making.

"Growth is important, but infrastructure has got to be able to support that growth," he said. "If you let the infrastructure deteriorate, growing to grow is not the right direction."

### Seat 2: Experience versus new leadership

Incumbent City Commissioner Velazquez, a retired police officer, pointed to her 10 years of service on the commission, saying she has witnessed firsthand the city's rapid expansion and increasing civic participation. She said utility improvements—particularly water meter issues and service reliability—remain a priority.

Velazquez also encouraged residents to stay engaged in city government, noting that voter turnout and public involvement have increased in recent election cycles.

"You get to choose, not only the form of government



YouTube screenshot

The seven candidates are (L to R) Diane Velazquez, Seat 2 incumbent; Malika Harrison, Seat 4 challenger; George "Smitty" Smith, Seat 2 challenger; Yesenia Baron, Seat 4 challenger; Sam Ruth, Seat 1 challenger; Angela Turner, Seat 2 challenger; and Alexander H. Smith, Seat 1 incumbent.

that you want for the city of Apopka," she said. "You get to vote for the elected officials that you want to represent you."

Challenger Angela Turner framed her candidacy around transparency, accountability and inclusivity. Turner, who said she has more than 25 years of leadership experience in behavioral health settings, told voters she would work collaboratively across sectors while serving as "the voice of the people."

"I'm running because I believe that the city deserves leadership that listens and leads with integrity and put the people first," she said.

Also seeking Seat 2 is George "Smitty" Smith, a realtor and naval veteran who centered his campaign on what he described as "people over profit." He argued that rapid development has outpaced planning and infrastructure, calling for slower growth to protect neighbor-

hoods, roads and schools.

Smith said he would work to make sure first responders have the support, staffing and necessary resources to effectively serve the community.

"Every family deserves to feel safe in their own homes," Smith said. "Every child deserves to feel safe in the streets, and every neighborhood deserves the resources and protection it needs."

### Seat 4: Downtown and economic direction

Candidates for Seat 4, a special election sparked when Commissioner Nick Nesta announced his resignation to run for mayor, focused on economic development and the long-promised revitalization of downtown Apopka.

Yesenia Baron described herself as the daughter of Cuban immigrants and a former law enforcement officer with the Florida Department

of Law Enforcement. She said her investigative work,

including cases involving crimes against children and missing persons, shaped her commitment to advocacy and accountability.

She and her husband moved to Apopka in 2012, opened a small business and raised their children in the city, she said.

"I'm running to make sure that Apopka grows the right way with accountability, transparency and a clear vision for the future," she said.

Malika Harrison emphasized fiscal accountability, infrastructure improvements and economic development that supports small businesses and a vibrant downtown core. She called the March 10 election "a pivotal moment" for Apopka's future and said

meaningful change requires "care, courage and clarity."

Harrison, a communications consultant and business executive, said she would focus on affordability of basic needs, road and public works upgrades, and revitalizing Main Street.

"The reason I'm running is because this is part of a greater calling," she said. "I'm looking forward to a better, brighter Apopka."

Early voting is from March 2 to 8, with municipal election day set for March 10. Voters will decide not only who fills the council seats but also the mayoral race and the eight City Charter amendments. A potential runoff is scheduled for April 14.

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

NOTICE is hereby given that **William Hockensmith** has made application relating to the property located at 606 S. Hawthorne Avenue, Apopka, Florida 32703 shown below for a change of future land use and a change of zoning and requested that the City of Apopka adopt the following ordinances:

### ORDINANCE NO. 3132

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF APOPKA, FLORIDA, CHANGING THE FUTURE LAND USE FROM MIXED-USE AND COMMERCIAL TO INDUSTRIAL, FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED 606 S. HAWTHORNE AVENUE; OWNED BY REASON FOR THE SEASON LLC, COMPRISING 7.68 ACRES, MORE OR LESS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

### ORDINANCE NO. 3133

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF APOPKA, FLORIDA, CHANGING THE ZONING FROM MU-ES-GT (MIXED-USE-EAST SHORE-GATEWAY) TO I-L (LIGHT INDUSTRIAL), FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED 606 S. HAWTHORNE AVENUE; OWNED BY REASON FOR THE SEASON LLC, COMPRISING 7.68 ACRES, MORE OR LESS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.



Parcel Identification Number(s): 09-21-28-0868-02-001  
Contains: 7.68 +/- Acres

Notice is given that the **City of Apopka Planning Commission** will hold public hearings for **Ordinance Number 3132 and 3133** at its regularly scheduled meeting in the City Council Chambers of the Apopka City Hall, 120 E. Main Street, Apopka, Florida on **Tuesday, March 10, 2026 beginning at 5:30 P.M.**, or as soon thereafter as possible.

FURTHER NOTICE is given that public hearings for **Ordinance Number 3132 and 3133** 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, April 1, 2026 beginning at 1:30 P.M., and Wednesday, April 15, 2026 beginning at 7:00 P.M.**, or as soon thereafter as possible.

Interested parties and the public may appear at the above-listed hearings to speak. The proposed ordinances, along with any additional information regarding the application and review process, may be inspected at the Apopka Community Development Department located at Apopka City Hall, 120 E. Main Street, Apopka, Florida 32703, on weekdays between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. 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. Written public comments regarding the application for the proposed ordinance may be submitted by mail to the City Clerk's Office at 120 East Main Street, Apopka FL 32703. 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, at least 48 hours prior to the proceeding.

Apopka City Council  
Apopka Planning Commission  
Community Development Department

February 20, 2026

**LAKE APOPKA CONNECTOR TRAIL GRAND OPENING**  
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Commissioner Christine Moore

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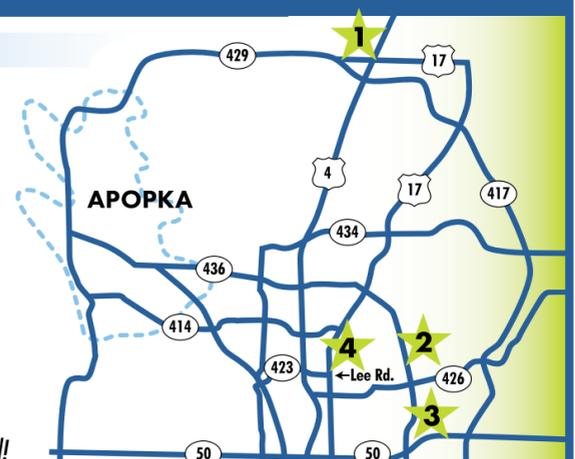
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## Apopka baseball beats Osceola in home opener

Jez Hamrick leads Blue Darters to victory on mound

By Vinnie Cammarano  
Reporter

Behind a dominant performance on the mound from senior Jez Hamrick and timely hitting in the middle innings, the Apopka Blue Darters rolled to a 4-1 victory over the Osceola Kowboys Wednesday night in their

home opener.

Hamrick set the tone on the mound and never let Osceola settle in. The right-hander worked deep into the game, striking out nine batters across 6.1 innings while allowing just four hits. His command kept the Kowboys off balance and gave Apopka's offense time to work.

"Jez is a workhorse for us, and he'll be one of our main guys this year," said new head coach Scott Garland, who notched his first win since taking over the pro-

gram. "It's just up from here with him."

The Blue Darters broke through in the bottom of the second inning. Senior Cameron Pennock reached on an error and eventually came around to score when junior Collin Van Fleet doubled to drive him in, giving Apopka a 1-0 lead. Apopka left two runners in scoring position as Osceola escaped further damage.

Apopka extended its lead in the third when senior Ty Livingston launched a solo

home run to center field, a no-doubt blast that energized the home crowd and pushed the advantage to 2-0.

From there, the game settled into a pitcher's duel, with Hamrick continuing to rack up strikeouts and the Blue Darter defense making key plays behind him, including a crisp 6-4-3 double play to halt a potential Osceola rally in the top of the sixth.

Apopka's offense responded with insurance in



Photo by Vinnie Cammarano

BASEBALL, B3

Jez Hamrick leans in for a sign.

## Apopka survives Lake Brantley



Photo by Vinnie Cammarano

Blue Darters wave goodbye to the Patriots and their raucous student section.

Blue Darters beat Patriots for second time this season

By Vinnie Cammarano  
Reporter

The fifth-seeded Apopka Blue Darters walked out to a hostile gym and walked out with a hard-earned win over fourth-seeded Lake Brantley, advancing to the regional semifinals.

The message from Apopka coach Scott Williams summed up the night as the Blue Darter boys leaned on defense, discipline, and trust in each other to defeat Lake Brantley (15-13), 52-45, in

the Class 7A-Region 1 quarterfinals on Saturday.

"It's not about rising to the occasion; it's about falling to the level of preparation," Williams said.

From the opening possession, Apopka (16-11) set the tone defensively.

Lake Brantley started with the ball, but Apopka jumped into a tight zone and forced a turnover. Senior Zee Davis converted a baseline jumper for the first basket of the game, and moments later, senior Noah Ferrer tipped in a second-chance bucket after another defensive stop.

The Patriots answered with a 3-pointer and then took the lead on a transition

layup following a steal.

The opening quarter became a grind. Ferrer drilled a deep 3-pointer midway through the period and sophomore Jacques Evariste added a free throw and a layup late in the quarter after more forced turnovers.

Both teams struggled to find clean looks and Apopka closed the first quarter with a slim 10-6 lead.

Defense remained the story in the second quarter. Lake Brantley's Julian Vargas created space for a spinning baseline fadeaway early, but Apopka responded. Davis attacked the lane for a layup, then Rafi Betancourt buried a 3-pointer off a steal to stretch

the lead.

Apopka's ball movement paid off again when the Blue Darters swung the ball around the perimeter and found senior Xavier Bell with space for 3-pointer, pushing the lead to 19-8 with two minutes left in the half.

The Lake Brantley crowd came alive after the Patriots answered with back-to-back treys and a free throw to trim the margin, but Davis stopped the run with a pull-up jumper and finished through contact in transition, completing a three-point play.

The Patriots scored at the line just before halftime, but

BLUE DARTERS WIN, B3

## Wekiva comeback effort falls short at final buzzer

Viera wins 64-62 off floating buzzer beater in regional quarterfinal

By Vinnie Cammarano  
Reporter

Heartbreak defined the night for Wekiva High School as the Mustangs erased a massive fourth-quarter deficit but fell on a buzzer-beater in a 64-62 loss at Viera High School in the Class 6A-Region 2 Quarterfinals on Saturday night.

Wekiva's furious comeback came up just short when Viera's point guard sprinted the length of the floor and banked in a contested floater as time expired.

Viera (20-6) opened the scoring early, but junior Kenny Dieujuste quickly answered by popping into space and knocking down a jumper to begin what became a back-and-forth first quarter. Wekiva applied full-court pressure and forced early turnovers, but the Hawks countered by throwing long outlet passes and finishing inside.

Dieujuste asserted himself in the post with a tear dropper and followed it with a block. After Viera (21-6) found a cutter for an easy basket, Dieujuste pushed the pace and found junior Eric Nichols for a 3-pointer to give Wekiva its first lead. Moments later, senior Jasen Francillon entered the game and splashed in a 3-pointer.

Senior Louvens Saint-Pierre helped the surge by rebounding a miss and pushing ahead to Nichols for another trey, forcing a Viera timeout. Nichols continued his scoring run with a pull-up jumper and, despite Viera answering with free throws and a transition layup, Wekiva closed the first quarter up 16-11.

The momentum shifted in the second quarter as Saint-Pierre opened the period with a free throw, and Wekiva's press produced another steal that led to a layup by junior Khai Orr. On an inbounds play, Saint-Pierre found DJ Thomas for an and-one conversion that pushed the Mustangs ahead by double digits.

Viera responded by attacking the paint. A series of baskets inside and second-chance points sparked a run that began to chip away at the lead.

After a Wekiva timeout, the Hawks continued the scoring inside, taking advantage of missed free throws and turnovers. The Mustangs went cold offensively as Viera strung together a 14-point run to erase the deficit.

Thomas finally stopped the bleeding just before halftime with a finger-roll layup, but Wekiva entered the break trailing 27-26 after leading by 11.

The third quarter belonged to Viera. The Hawks opened with seven quick points and followed with a 3-pointer that stretched their lead to 11. Despite multiple offensive rebounds, the Mustangs could not convert, and missed free throws continued to haunt them.

Viera's ball movement produced open looks, and another 3-pointer pushed the margin to 16.

Francillon briefly ignited hope with a corner 3-pointer, but the Hawks matched him. Francillon hit another deep shot, and Dieujuste added a floater just before the buzzer, but Wekiva still faced a daunting 52-36 deficit heading into the fourth quarter.

Viera opened the final period with a triple, giving the Mustangs less than eight minutes to mount a

WEKIVA LOSES, B3

## Wekiva girls drop scrappy regional playoff tilt

Mustangs lose physical battle 62-54 due to turnovers and foul trouble

By Vinnie Cammarano  
Reporter

Despite a furious late rally and a second-half surge led by Alexis Hill and Jakayla Johnson, the Wekiva girls basketball team dropped a playoff game to Lakeland (17-9) Friday night at home, 62-54.

The loss in the first round of the Class 6A regional playoffs ends Mustangs' season with a 17-9 record.

"Definitely wasn't expected," Wekiva coach Jerry Middleton said. "We kind of allowed them to dictate the pace... but all in all, it was a



Photo by Vinnie Cammarano

Alexis Hill reaches in to fight for the ball.

success. I'm proud of them. We've been fighting all year, ups and downs."

Lakeland wasted no time seizing control. The Dreadnaughts forced a turnover on the opening possession and drilled a 3-pointer, then fol-

lowed with two more turnovers that led to a coast-to-coast layup and another wing 3 from Kennedy Borders.

The quick 8-0 burst forced an early Wekiva timeout and set the tone for a game that would be dictated

by pressure defense and transition offense.

Out of the timeout, the Mustangs began to settle in. Hill opened Wekiva's scoring with two free throws, and Makayla Bell followed by driving for a layup. Paris Blackwood added a strong finish inside after a jump ball, but Lakeland continued to scrap. Borders struck again from the perimeter, and the Dreadnaughts ended the quarter with momentum up 19-10.

The second quarter became a grind. Tiana Washington scored off a loose ball, but physical play stalled Wekiva's offense. Lakeland lived on the free-throw line, while the Mustangs struggled to convert.

Johnson finally broke the

LADY MUSTANGS, B2



Photo by Vinnie Cammarano

Mustangs lock arms for the National Anthem ahead of their first round matchup.

# Anglers haul in speck limits at Lake Woodruff

Hello Folks,  
I hope everyone is doin' okay and, hopefully, you're gettin' some time to go fishin'. The fishin' has been really good for a couple of weeks, and folks're catchin' plenty of specks as well as some very nice bass.



**GOIN' FISHIN'**  
**Jim Keck**  
Correspondent

The specks are still bitin' good in the north end of the St. Johns River, and Lake Woodruff. Folks are goin' out of Highlands Park Fish Camp and fishin' in the St. Johns River with minners and jigs tipped with a minner. Limits of specks are bein' caught in Lake Woodruff on jigs tipped with a minner or even fishin' a naked minner under a cork and driftin' across the lake.

Kyle at Bitter's Bait & Tackle reports that the specks are bitin' in Lake Monroe and the St. Johns River. Most of the specks are bein' caught on jigs and minners, but some are bitin' on jigs tipped with a minner. You want to make sure you're usin' brightly-colored jigs to increase your chances of catchin' any specks! Kyle also says

what with the water bein' as low as it is in Lake Monroe, you need to be really careful while you're navigatin'.

The bass fishin' in the Butler Chain has been pretty good on most days, lately. Kyle reports that most of the bass are bein' caught on jerkbaits.

The bass fishin' has been good in the Maitland Chain as well. The Wednesday Night guys are catchin' 11 to 14 pounds of bass durin' their tournament. They can only weigh in three bass, and those are nice weights for three bass. Big Bass for the Wednesday night tournament weighed 6.40 pounds.

The bass fishin' is also

doin' pretty good on the Winter Haven Chain. Folks're catchin' some nice bass throughout the chain on both shiners and artificials.

The bass fishin' is still goin' strong down at the Headwaters in Palm Bay. The guides are takin' folks out and catchin' 30 to 40 bass per trip. most of those bass are bein' caught on shiners. You can also catch'em on chatterbaits, jerkbaits, or just flippin' the heavy cover.

Accordin' to reports I'm gettin', the bass fishin' is good down on the Kissimmee Chain. Folks're catchin' some nice bass on shiners, and the specks are bitin' down there, as well. Reports say that the

specks have moved into shallow water to spawn. I can't confirm or deny whether this is true; I can only report on the pictures I see from anglers fishin' for specks on the Kissimmee Chain.

Folks are still catchin' some bass on Lake Fairview, but you'll have to move around due to the cold weather. The bass seem to be scattered around with the water temperatures droppin' down after the cold weather we had a couple of weeks ago.

My fishin' buddy, Rich, fished his club tournament on Lake Apopka last week. The winnin' weight for four bass was 5.4 pounds. The biggest bass for the day was 2.4

pounds. Rich was one of the 14 anglers who caught a bass. He caught his bass, which weighed almost 2 pounds (1.98 pounds), at 7 o'clock in the mornin'. He said he never had another bite the rest of the day! Rich also reports that the water temperature was only 50 degrees (brrr...) when he started fishin' that day, but it finally made it up to 62 degrees. He said there were a lot of dead tilapia all over the lake.

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

Tip of the week: Go Fishin

SAVE A FEW AND GOOD LUCK

## LADY MUSTANGS

FROM B1

drought with a 3, and Jasmine Pooler found her for another open look before the half. Still, Lakeland entered the break ahead 27-20.

Turnovers proved costly for Wekiva, which committed 19 in the first half alone. Hill kept them afloat with her work on the glass.

Lakeland opened the third quarter the same way it opened the game—with a steal and a layup by Borders. Hill and Johnson responded with tough finishes inside, but every run was met with an answer from Lakeland. Borders attacked in transition for back-to-back layups, pushing her total to 18 points and was breaking the Mustangs single handedly.

Hill refused to let it slip away. She forced a turnover and finished in transition, then followed with another basket off a feed from Bell. As Wekiva began to key defensively on Borders, Lakeland cooled briefly. Bell split a pair of free throws, and Pooler found Blackwood inside to pull the Mustangs within four.

A late 3 by Lakeland extended the lead again, but



Photo by Vinnie Cammarano

Ja'Niya Poole locked in on her opponent at mid court.

Blackwood closed the quarter with a layup, sending Wekiva into the fourth down within striking distance, down 44-37.

Defensively, Ja'Niya Poole was assigned to face-guard Borders and limit her space. The strategy worked for a moment, holding Lakeland's top scorer quiet early in the fourth. Bell opened the quarter with a smooth euro-step layup, and Washington followed with a finish inside after a perfect pass from Bell. Johnson added a free throw cutting the deficit to two.

But as Borders was contained, Lakeland turned to Zakharia Rutledge. Rutledge scored four of five possessions as the Dreadnaughts rebuilt their cushion.

Wekiva continued to fight. Blackwood scored inside, then stole the ball and found Hill for another basket. After forcing an inbounds turnover, Hill fed Pooler for two more to pull back within five and force a Lakeland timeout.

Foul trouble soon became a factor. Washington fouled out, and Pooler followed shortly after. Wekiva still had chances,



Photo by Vinnie Cammarano

Makayla Bell pump fakes the inbounds pass.

forcing another turnover and generating open looks, but missed critical layups. Johnson knocked down a trey to bring the Mustangs within four, but Rutledge sealed it from the line before Borders closed the game with a layup.

Rutledge scored 12 of her 23 points in the fourth quarter, while Borders finished with 24. Together, they accounted for all of Lakeland's fourth-quarter scoring.

Lakeland is continuing their Cinderella season—going from a winless record a year ago to a 17-win cam-



Photo by Vinnie Cammarano

With Wekiva down late, Coach Middleton tries to rev his team up for a comeback.

paign and a regional playoff victory.

Hill and Johnson led Wekiva with 17 points apiece. Hill also added 12 rebounds to record her second consecutive double-double. Bell and Blackwood each scored seven.

The loss ended a season of growth for Wekiva, which captured a district championship.

"Some girls were able to get scholarship offers, and that's what you really do it for," Middleton said. "I'll take a kid being able to go to school for free any day over a win, be-

cause you're changing lives."

Seniors Tiana Washington and Jasmine Pooler have earned multiple Division I junior college scholarship offers, while Makayla Bell plans to pursue the growing sport of flag football.

Though the loss stung, Middleton believes the foundation has been set.

"For the young girls, we've got a great core coming back," he said. "It's going to burn more now, and that's what makes you fall in love with the process. I'm excited for the future."



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## BLUE DARTERS WIN

FROM B1

Apopka headed into the break ahead 24-17.

Apopka carried its defensive energy into the third quarter. After a missed shot, senior Jarquavion McClain grabbed the rebound and finished inside. Moments later, senior Rafael Betancourt fired a cross-court pass to Ferrer in the corner for a 3-pointer that made it 29-17.

Lake Brantley stayed alive with free throws and a transition bucket following a steal, but neither team found rhythm as the quarter turned into a scramble of deflections and dives for loose balls.

With under two minutes left in the quarter, the Patriots connected on a contested corner 3-point shot, but Betancourt answered from deep on the left wing. After Davis cleaned up a missed shot at the buzzer, Apopka entered the fourth quarter leading 34-25.

The Patriots opened the final period with a miss, and Davis made them pay with another 3-pointer. Lake Brantley countered with a baseline jumper and two free throws, but Betancourt responded again from beyond the arc to keep Apopka in control.

Momentum swung sharply midway through the quarter. A controversial offensive foul



Photo by Vinnie Cammarano

Zee Davis gets berated by the Lake Brantley student section during a late inbound.

call ignited the crowd and Lake Brantley capitalized with a trey to cut the deficit to 42-36 with three minutes remaining.

Davis attacked the lane and finished strong with a basket and foul, converting the free throw to quiet the crowd and pushing the lead back to nine.

After a series of turnovers, McClain delivered the defining moment of the night—a steal followed by a thunderous dunk over a defender that sent the Apopka bench and fans into a frenzy.

Davis followed with a free throw after another stop and,

despite a late Lake Brantley 3-pointer, Apopka controlled the clock. Davis hit two free throws with under a minute left and Ferrer added one more from the line to seal the win.

“We had a good week of preparation and were just really, really good defensively,” Williams said. “Our rebounding was amazing. We knew that was a priority because they had 26 offensive rebounds in the district final. We just shot and played with confidence and trusted each other.”

Davis led all scorers with 21 points and five rebounds, deliv-



Photo by Vinnie Cammarano

Jacques Evariste finishes strong inside the paint in the first half against Lake Brantley.

ering in every critical moment down the stretch. Betancourt added 10 points, including three 3-pointers.

With the win, Apopka advanced to the regional semifinals for a rematch with first-seed Winter Park (21-7), which beat the Blue Darters by just two points, 42-40, earlier in the season. The game is at 6 p.m. Saturday at Winter Park High School.

## WEKIVA LOSES

FROM B1

19-point comeback.

What followed was a frantic rally fueled by pressure defense and sharpshooting. Junior DJ Thomas drove inside for a basket and then Dieujuste scored. Francillon caught the ball in stride and buried another 3-pointer and Nichols added a free throw as the Mustangs slowly chipped away.

With 3:20 left, Wekiva cut the deficit to 12. Dieujuste scored off an offensive rebound and full-court pressure forced a turnover. Though the Mustangs could not convert immediately, the momentum started to shift.

Down 10 with 1:30 remaining, Orr stole the ball and kicked it to Thomas in the corner for a moving trey. On the very next possession, Orr jumped the inbounds pass for another steal, leading to free throws from Saint-Pierre. Another turnover forced by the press resulted in free throws from Dieujuste, pulling Wekiva within three.

After another turnover, the Mustangs drilled a 3-pointer to tie the game with 23 seconds remaining.

Wekiva had a chance to take the lead when Thomas came up with one more steal, but his tough layup attempt bounced away. The loose ball rolled out of bounds with six seconds left, giving Viera possession near half court.

The Hawks inbounded, their point guard raced up the floor and drove straight through traffic, releasing a contested floater that banked in as the buzzer sounded, sending them to the semifinal round.

The loss ended a season that saw Wekiva reach 20 wins and battle to the final possession of a regional playoff game.

## BASEBALL

FROM B1

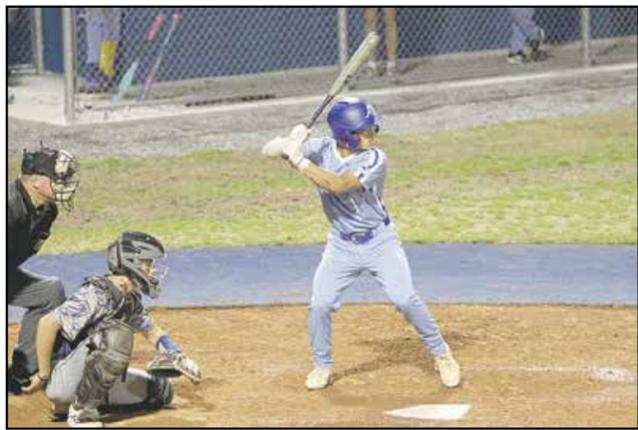


Photo by Vinnie Cammarano

Ty Livingston launched a third-inning home run to center field against Osceola.

the bottom of the frame. Hamrick started it by ripping a hard ground ball that resulted in a throwing error, and pinch runner Jorge Santiago immediately stole second base. Pennock followed with a pop-up that dropped in front of the right fielder, and Van Fleet worked a walk to load the bases.

Senior JD Edge delivered for the Darters with two outs, smoking a line drive over the shortstop's head to score both Santiago and Pennock and double Apopka's lead to 4-0.

Three outs away from a shutout, Hamrick retired the first batter of the seventh but was lifted after issuing a walk. Pennock came in and surrendered a stolen base and a hit, allowing the Kowboys to score. After another walk, Garland summoned Anthony Raymond to put out the fire.

After a groundout secured the second out of the inning, Raymond issued a walk to load the bases. With two strikes on the following hitter, Raymond forced a high popup to shortstop Nico Posluzney to seal

Apopka's win.

Edge finished 1-for-2 with two RBIs, while Pennock went 1-for-3 with two runs scored. Livingston added a solo home run, and Van Fleet went 1-for-2 with a double and an RBI.

“We had timely hitting,” Garland said. “We did the things we’ve been working on.”

The win marked a bounce-back moment for the Blue Darters, who entered the game still searching for their first victory after opening the season with four losses against elite

competition in the Eustis tournament, including against Montverde Academy, Eustis and Lake Minneola twice.

“They proved that they’re resilient,” Garland said of his team, which returns 11 seniors. “We had four tough games against really good teams, and we just stuck with the plan and continued to do the things we do every day in practice.”

Apopka (1-4) hosts Horizon (4-0) at 7 p.m. Friday night.

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**VERSE OF THE WEEK**

**“When a stranger sojourns with you in your land, you shall not do him wrong. You shall treat the stranger who sojourns with you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself.”**  
—Leviticus 19:33-34

Visit us online for all the Apopka area church listings

# Church cookbook classics for the family table

Phyllis Gass shared her recipe for a tuna bake with *A Taste of Heaven*, published by First Presbyterian Church of Punta Gorda. The recipe calls for some staples that many of us keep in our pantry: a small can of tuna and a can of mushroom soup! And a few other things you probably have. So, when you've been busy and suddenly realize you haven't planned anything for supper, check your pantry and get busy.



Published by First Presbyterian Church of Punta Gorda

**1 cup elbow macaroni (half of a 6-ounce package)**  
**3-ounce package cream cheese**  
**1 can cream of mushroom soup**  
**6-1/2 ounce can of tuna**  
**1-1/2 tablespoon pimiento, chopped**  
**1 tablespoon onion, chopped**  
**1 tablespoon prepared mustard**  
**1 package frozen baby peas**  
**1/4 cup milk**  
**1/2 cup dry breadcrumbs**  
**2 tablespoons butter or margarine, melted**  
**Garnish: Pimiento flower and parsley sprigs**

Cook macaroni according to package directions; drain. Soften cream cheese, blend in undiluted soup using electric beater. Stir in tuna (drained and flaked), pimiento, onion, mustard, peas, milk and macaroni; place in 1-1/2 quart casserole. Mix breadcrumbs with melted butter or margarine; sprinkle over top. Bake at 375 degrees F for 20-25 minutes or until bubbling thoroughly. Garnish with pimiento and parsley. Makes 4-5 servings.

**KYLE WALKUP'S SOUR CREAM CHICKEN ENCHILADAS**  
 Recipe from *A Taste of Heaven*  
 Published by First Presbyterian Church of Punta Gorda

**2 cups cut-up chicken**  
**1 cup sour cream**  
**1/8 teaspoon salt**  
**Dash of pepper**  
**12 5-inch corn tortillas**  
**Cooking oil**  
**4 ounce can chopped green chilies, drained or 10 ounce can green or red enchilada sauce**  
**2 cups shredded white cheddar or Monterey Jack cheese**  
**Shredded lettuce**  
**Cherry tomatoes**  
**3/4 cup sour cream**  
**3/4 cup guacamole**  
**Tortilla chips**

Combine chicken, sour cream, salt and pepper. Quickly fry 1 tortilla at a time in hot oil to soften. Spoon a heaping tablespoon of chicken mixture onto each tortilla. Spread down the

center and roll. Place, seam down, in an oiled 9-inch x 13-inch x 2-inch baking dish. When all tortillas are filled and rolled, spoon over either green chilies or enchilada sauce. Top with cheese. Bake in a 400-degree oven for 12 to 15 minutes or until enchiladas are hot and cheese is melted. Arrange tortillas on serving plates; surround with shredded lettuce and tomatoes. Top with sour cream and guacamole. Stand tortilla chips in sour cream and guacamole.

**EMILY MEGGETT'S DIRTY RICE**  
 Recipe from *Gullah Geechee Home Cooking* by Emily Meggett

**4 slices bacon**  
**1 16-ounce package loose pork sausage**  
**1 large onion, diced**  
**1 bell pepper, diced**  
**4-1/2 cups (1 liter) tepid water**  
**1 tablespoon Nature's Seasons**  
**1 teaspoon crushed red pepper**  
**1-1/2 teaspoons soy sauce**  
**1 teaspoon Kitchen Bouquet (optional)**  
**3-1/2 cups long-grain white rice, rinsed**

1) In a large, heavy-bottomed pot, cook the bacon over high heat until crisp. Remove the bacon (but not the oil and drippings) from the pot and allow the bacon to cool. Once cooled, cut the bacon into small pieces and set aside.  
 2) Meanwhile, roll the sausage into small balls. Heat the same cooking pot and cook the sausage in the bacon drippings until browned, about 5 minutes. Add the onion and bell pepper to the sausage and saute for another 5 minutes.  
 3) Return the bacon to the pot and add the water. Bring the mixture to a boil. Reduce the heat to medium, then add the Nature's Seasons, crushed red pepper, soy sauce, and Kitchen Bouquet, if using. Return the mixture to a boil and cook for 2 minutes.  
 4) Add the rice and stir with a fork. Reduce the heat to low and cook until most of the water has been absorbed, about 30 minutes. If using a steamer, fill the bottom halfway with water, transfer the rice mixture to the top of the steamer, cover, and steam for 20 to 25 minutes, or until done.

**COLE SLAW**

Recipe from Paragon Products, Inc., *The Original Country Cookbook*  
**1 tablespoon sugar**

**2 tablespoons mayonnaise**  
**1/4 teaspoon salt**  
**Few grains of pepper**  
**2 tablespoons melted butter**  
**1 egg**  
**3/4 cup light cream**  
**3/4 cup vinegar**  
**Paprika**  
**4 cups shredded cabbage**

Combine sugar, mayonnaise, salt and pepper. Beat egg, add melted butter and cream. Mix well. Add vinegar very slowly, cook over hot water, stirring all the while until mixture thickens. Chill. Toss dressing with shredded cabbage. Sprinkle with paprika.

**BRUSSELS SPROUTS AND BABY CARROTS**

Recipe from *Southern Living All-Time Favorites*

**1 (8-ounce) package frozen Brussels sprouts**  
**1 (9-ounce) package frozen baby carrots**  
**2 tablespoons brown sugar**  
**1 teaspoon orange zest**  
**2 tablespoons fresh orange juice**

Cook Brussels sprouts and carrots according to package directions; drain vegetables.

Bring brown sugar, orange zest, and orange juice to a boil in a saucepan over medium heat, stirring until sugar dissolves. Toss with vegetables. Serve warm.

Makes 4 servings.

**CHARLES' CORNBREAD**

Recipe from *Savannah Style*, a Cookbook by

The Junior League of Savannah, Inc.

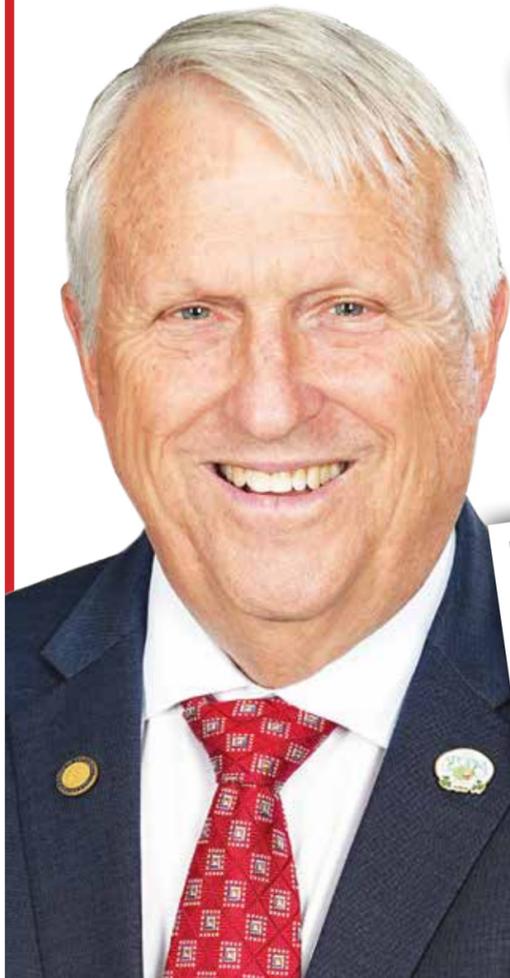
**1 cup corn meal**  
**1/2 cup corn oil**  
**3 teaspoons baking powder**  
**2 eggs**  
**1-1/2 teaspoons salt**  
**1 cup cream style corn, or fresh if available**  
**1 cup sour cream**

Preheat oven to 400 degrees Fahrenheit. Mix ingredients until blended. Pour into a greased 8- x 8- x 2-inch dish and bake for 30 minutes.

**PHYLLIS GASS' COMPANY TUNA BAKE**  
 Recipe from *A Taste of Heaven*

# MAYOR BRYAN NELSON

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- ✓ Fire Station 6 - \$1M state appropriations
- ✓ Rehabbed 8 houses in the CRA - \$1M
- ✓ Widen Apopka Ocoee Rd - \$17.3M federal grant
- ✓ 1M gallon water tank - \$1M federal grant
- ✓ 429 New Off-Ramp - \$15M CFX partnership grant
- ✓ Border Lake Flooding Fix - \$6.25M from two grants

KEEP BRYAN NELSON APOPKA MAYOR  
**VOTE MARCH 10**

*Paid by Bryan Nelson for Apopka Mayor, non-partisan*

**NOTICE OF SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLE**  
Pursuant to Florida Statute 713.585, **Auto Service Orlando LLC**, will sell at public sale for cash the following described vehicle(s) **2019 TOYOTA CAMRY** Vin#4T1B11HK0KJ238672 located at lienor's place to satisfy a claim of lien. Lien Amt: \$10,296.00. Sale Date: March 14, 2026 08:00 AM. At Location Address: 800 West Landstreet Rd Orlando Fl 32824 and phone # 407-956-0278 - # 407-728-2730. Said Vehicle (s) may be redeemed by satisfying the lien prior to sale date. You have the right to a hearing at any time prior to sale date by filing a demand for hearing in the circuit court. Owner has the right to recover possession of the vehicle by posting a bond in accordance with F.S. 559.917. Any proceeds in excess of the amount of the lien will be deposited with the Clerk of Circuit Court in the county where the vehicle is held.  
February 20, 2026

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION**  
**File No. 2026-CP-000291-O**  
**IN RE: ESTATE OF CORA F. MAHONEY**  
**Deceased.**

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
The administration of the estate of Cora F. Mahoney, deceased, whose date of death was January 4, 2026, 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 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 February 20, 2026.  
Personal Representative:  
Patty Arden  
3121 Kelvington Drive  
Orlando, Florida 32810  
**Attorney for Personal Representative:**  
ABIGAIL EDELSTEIN, ESQUIRE  
Attorney  
Florida Bar Number:  
170324 Vollrath Law PA  
1757 W. Broadway,  
Suite 3  
Oviedo, Florida 32765  
Telephone: (407) 366-0087  
Fax: (407) 264-6650  
E-Mail: abigail@vollrath-law.com  
Secondary E-Mail:  
stephanie@vollrath-law.com  
February 20, 27, 2026

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION**  
**File No. 2026-CP-000314-O**  
**IN RE: Estate of W. BISHOP JORDAN, a/k/a W. BISHOP JORDAN, SR., a/k/a WILLIAM BISHOP JORDAN Deceased.**

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
The administration of the Estate of W. BISHOP JORDAN, SR., a/k/a WILLIAM BISHOP JORDAN, deceased, whose date of death was January 23, 2026, is pending in the Circuit Court of Orange County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 425 North Orange Avenue, Room 355, Orlando, Florida 32801. The name and address of the Personal Representative and the Personal Representative's attorney are set forth below.

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

The personal representative or curator 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, applies, or may apply, unless a written demand is made by a creditor as specified under s. 732.2211, Florida Statutes. 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 February 20, 2026.  
Personal Representative:  
WILLIAM BISHOP JORDAN, JR.  
4104 W. Obispo Street  
Tampa, FL 33629  
**Attorney for Personal Representative:**  
BRUCE M. WIGLE, III  
Murrah, Doyle & Wigle, P.A.  
P. O. Box 1328  
Winter Park, Florida 32790  
Telephone: (407) 644-9801  
Email: brucew@mdwpa.com  
Florida Bar No. 293954  
February 20, 27, 2026

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
**IN RE: ESTATE OF LISA ANNE SANISLOW**  
**File No. 2026-CP-2702-O**  
**Probate Division**  
**Deceased.**

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
The administration of the Estate of LISA ANNE SANISLOW, deceased on March 25, 2025, is pending in the Circuit Court for Orange County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 425 N. Orange Avenue, Orlando, FL 32801. The names and addresses of the Personal

Representative and the Personal Representative's attorney are set forth below.  
All creditors of the Decedent and other persons having claims or demands against Decedent's Estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM. All other creditors of the Decedent and other persons having claims or demands against Decedent's Estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME 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 February 13, 2026.  
Cynthia Lalimer  
1585 River Bluffs Drive  
Jasper, TN 37347  
Hallie Zobel  
Hallie L. Zobel  
**Attorney**  
Florida Bar Number: 0748218  
StuderZobell Law  
5401 S. Kirkman Rd.  
Suite 310  
Orlando, Florida 32819  
Telephone: (321) 800-2948  
Fax: (321) 800-2948  
E-Mail: hzobel@studerzobell.com  
Secondary E-Mail:  
paral@studerzobell.com  
February 13, 20, 2026

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY FLORIDA**  
**CASE NO.: 2025-CA-011906-O**  
**DIV NO.: 35**  
**MARRIOTT OWNERSHIP RESORTS, INC.**  
**Plaintiff,**

**vs.**  
**LORI PARKER-GLADSTEIN aka LORI (NMN) PARKER-GLADSTEIN, et al.,**  
**Defendants.**  
**NOTICE OF ACTION BY PUBLICATION AS TO COUNT I**  
TO THE FOLLOWING DEFENDANT WHOSE RESIDENCE IS UNKNOWN:  
**TO: LORI PARKER-LADSTEIN aka LORI (NMN) PARKER-GLADSTEIN**  
26984 PEBBLE BEACH DRIVE VALENCIA, CA 91381  
The above named Defendant is not known to be dead or alive and, if dead, the unknown spouses, heirs, devisees, grantees, assignees, lienors, creditors, trustees, or other claimants, by, through under or against said Defendant and all parties having or claiming to have any right, title or interest in the property described below.

**YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED** of the institution of the above-styled foreclosure proceedings by the Plaintiff, MARRIOTT OWNERSHIP RESORTS, INC., upon the filing of a complaint to foreclose a mortgage and for other relief relative to the following described property:  
**COUNT I**  
4 Interests (numbered for administrative purposes: N87228 & N87229 & N87230 & N92740) in the MVC Trust ("Trust") evidenced for administrative, assessment and ownership purposes by 1000 (250 Points for each Interest), which Trust was created pursuant to and further described in that certain Amended and Restated MVC Trust Agreement dated August 22, 2019, 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 01, 2023 (subject to Section 3.5 of the Trust Agreement).

**AND**  
4 Interests (numbered for administrative purposes: S57150 & S57151 & S57152 & S57201) in the MVC Trust ("Trust") evidenced for administrative, assessment and ownership purposes by 1000 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 notfor-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 01, 2018 (subject to Section 3.5 of the Trust Agreement).

**AND** you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any to the complaint, upon EDWARD M. FITZGERALD, ESQUIRE, Holland & Knight LLP, 200 S. Orange Avenue, Suite 2600, Orlando, Florida 32801, attorneys for the Plaintiff, on or before thirty (30) days from the first day of publication herein and file the original with the Clerk of the above-styled Court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter, otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.  
DATED on this 5th day of February, 2026.  
Tiffany Moore Russell  
Clerk of the Court  
BY: /s/ Rasheda Thomas  
As Deputy Clerk  
Tiffany Moore Russell,  
Clerk of Courts  
Civil Division  
425 N Orange Ave  
Room 350  
Orlando, Florida 32801  
CIRCUIT COURT SEAL  
CONFORMED COPY TO:  
EDWARD M. FITZGERALD  
HOLLAND & KNIGHT, LLP  
200 S. Orange Avenue,  
Suite 2600  
Orlando, Florida 32801  
Ph. (407) 244-5198  
ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF  
If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator, Human Resources, Orange County Courthouse, 425 North Orange Avenue, Suite 510, Orlando, Florida, (407) 836-2303, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.  
THIS DOCUMENT IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.  
HK#126435.9540/MP115

February 13, 20, 2026

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
**CASE NO. 2026-CA-001028-O**  
**DIV NO.: 37**  
**MARRIOTT RESORTS HOSPITALITY CORPORATION, a South Carolina Corporation, Management Agent on behalf of GRANDE VISTA OF ORLANDO CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, INC., a Florida not for profit corporation, and All Owners as Agent,**  
**Plaintiff,**

**vs.**  
**CYNTHIA D. NEWTON, et. al.,**  
**Defendants.**  
**NOTICE OF ACTION BY PUBLICATION AS TO COUNT I**  
TO THE FOLLOWING DEFENDANT WHOSE RESIDENCE IS UNKNOWN:  
**TO: ALLIE J. CAMPBELL, DECEASED**  
PO BOX 091215  
MILWAUKEE, WI 53209-8215  
The above named Defendant is believed to be dead and, if dead, the unknown spouses, heirs, devisees, grantees, assignees, lienors, creditors, trustees, or other claimants, by, through under or against said Defendant and all parties having or claiming to have any right, title or interest in the property described below.  
**YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED** of the institution of the above-styled foreclosure proceedings by the Plaintiff, MARRIOTT RESORTS HOSPITALITY CORPORATION, upon the filing of a complaint to foreclose for other relief relative to the following described property:  
**COUNT I**  
**Unit Week 46'X in Unit 1319, in GRANDE VISTA CONDOMINIUM, according to the Declaration of Condominium thereof, as recorded in Official Records Book 5114 at Page 1488 in the Public Records of Orange County, Florida, and any amendments thereof.**

**AND** you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any to the complaint, upon EDWARD M. FITZGERALD, ESQUIRE, Holland & Knight LLP, 200 S. Orange Avenue, Suite 2600, Orlando, Florida 32801, attorneys for the Plaintiff, on or before thirty (30) days from the first day of publication herein and file the original with the Clerk of the above-styled Court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter, otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.  
DATED on this 6th day of February, 2026.  
Tiffany Moore Russell  
Clerk of the Court  
BY: /s/ Rasheda Thomas  
As Deputy Clerk  
Tiffany Moore Russell,  
Clerk of Courts  
Civil Division  
425 N Orange Ave  
Room 350  
Orlando, Florida 32801  
CIRCUIT COURT SEAL  
CONFORMED COPY TO:  
EDWARD M. FITZGERALD  
HOLLAND & KNIGHT, LLP  
200 S. Orange Avenue,  
Suite 2600  
Orlando, Florida 32801  
Ph. (407) 244-5198  
ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF  
If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator at 425 North Orange Avenue, Suite 2130, Orlando, Florida 32801, telephone (407) 836-2303 within two (2) working days of your receipt of this document. If hearing or voice impaired, call 1-800-955-8771.  
THIS DOCUMENT IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.  
HK#110523.2016/GV242  
February 13, 20, 2026

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
**CASE NO.: 2025-CA-008824-O**  
**U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR LEGACY MORTGAGE ASSET TRUST 2021-GS3,**  
**Plaintiff,**

**vs.**  
**VICKI LITTELL A/K/A VICKI B. REID; CORWIN P. LITTELL; CITIBANK, N.A. S/B/M CITIBANK, FEDERAL SAVINGS BANK; UNKNOWN TENANT(S) IN POSSESSION #1 and #2, and ALL OTHER UNKNOWN PARTIES, et al.,**  
**Defendant(s).**  
**NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE**  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Summary Judgment of Foreclosure signed February 11, 2026, entered in Civil Case No.: 2025-CA-008824-O of the Circuit Court of the Ninth Judicial Circuit in and for Orange County, Florida, wherein U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR LEGACY MORTGAGE ASSET TRUST 2021-GS3, Plaintiff, and VICKI LITTELL A/K/A VICKI B. REID; CORWIN P. LITTELL; CITIBANK, N.A. S/B/M CITIBANK, FEDERAL SAVINGS BANK, are Defendants. TIFFANY MOORE RUSSELL, The Clerk of the Circuit Court, will sell to the highest bidder for cash, at www.myorangeclerk.realforeclose.com, at 11:00 AM, on the 12th day of May, 2026, the following described real property as set forth in said Judgment, to wit:  
**LOT 17, BLOCK B, NELA ISLE, ISLAND SECTION, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK O, PAGE 99, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA LESS THE NORTHERLY 5.00 FEET.**  
If you are a person claiming a right to funds remaining after the sale, you must file a claim with the clerk before the clerk reports the surplus as unclaimed. If you fail to file a timely claim you will not be entitled to any remaining funds. After the funds are reported as unclaimed, only the owner of record as of the date of the Lis Pendens may claim the surplus.  
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  
Dated: February 13, 2026  
By: Brian L. Rosaler  
Brian L. Rosaler  
Florida Bar No.: 0174882.  
Attorney for Plaintiff:  
Brian L. Rosaler, Esquire  
Popkin & Rosaler, P.A.  
1701 West Hillsboro  
Boulevard  
Suite 400  
Deerfield Beach, FL 33442  
Telephone: (954) 360-9030

Facsimile: (954) 420-5187  
Published in:  
THE APOPKA CHIEF  
25-51942  
February 20, 27, 2026

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
**CASE NO. 2026-CA-001013**  
**DIVISION 35**  
**IN RE: FORFEITURE OF 2006 FORD VIN # 1FDWE35L06HB10911**  
**NOTICE OF FORFEITURE**

**TO Heriberto Marquez Croffet, Leannelys Hernandez Caballero, Caballero Transportation, Inc.,** and all persons who claim an interest in a 2006 Ford VIN #1FDWE35L06HB10911 seized on or about 12/19/2025 at or about 5703 S. Semoran Blvd., Orlando, FL, Orlando, Orange Co., FL. Said property is in the custody of the City of Orlando Police Dept. Any owner, entity, bonafide lienholder, or person in possession of the property when seized has the right to request an adversarial preliminary hearing for a probable cause determination from the circuit court within 15 days after initial receipt of notice by sending a written request to undersigned counsel by certified mail, return receipt requested. A petition for forfeiture has been, or will be filed in the above-styled court. /s/ Shannon Hesse  
Shannon Gridley Hesse  
Police Legal Advisor  
Orlando Police Department  
1250 W. South Street  
Orlando, Florida 32805  
(407) 246-2464  
Fla. Bar No. 528633  
shannon.hesse@orlando.gov  
February 20, 27, 2026

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY FLORIDA**  
**CASE NO.: 2025-CA-12647-O**  
**DIV NO.: 40**  
**MARRIOTT OWNERSHIP RESORTS, INC.**  
**Plaintiff,**

**vs.**  
**ROBERT W. REICH, et. al.,**  
**Defendants.**  
**NOTICE OF ACTION BY PUBLICATION AS TO COUNT I**  
TO THE FOLLOWING DEFENDANT WHOSE RESIDENCE IS UNKNOWN:  
**TO: ROBERT W. REICH**  
5326 CANDLEWOOD CT  
LISLE, IL 60532-2042  
The above named Defendant is not known to be dead or alive and, if dead, the unknown spouses, heirs, devisees, grantees, assignees, lienors, creditors, trustees, or other claimants, by, through under or against said Defendant and all parties having or claiming to have any right, title or interest in the property described below.  
**YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED** of the institution of the above-styled foreclosure proceedings by the Plaintiff, MARRIOTT OWNERSHIP RESORTS, INC., upon the filing of a complaint to foreclose a mortgage and for other relief relative to the following described property:  
**COUNT I**  
34 Interests (numbered for administrative purposes: 307824 & 307825 & 307826 & 307827 & 307828 & 307829 & 308450 & 308461 & 308452 & 308501 & 309212 & 309213 & 313420 & 313421 & 313422 & 313423 & 313424 & 313425 & 313426 & 313427 & 313428 & 313542 & 313543 & D49250 & D49251 & D49252 & D52409 & D52410 & D52411 & D52412 & D60643 & D60644 & D64323 & D64324) in the MVC Trust ("Trust") evidenced for administrative, assessment and ownership purposes by 8500 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 01, 2025 (subject to Section 3.5 of the Trust Agreement).

**AND** you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any to the complaint, upon EDWARD M. FITZGERALD, ESQUIRE, Holland & Knight LLP, 200 S. Orange Avenue, Suite 2600, Orlando, Florida 32801, attorneys for the Plaintiff, on or before thirty (30) days from the first day of publication herein and file the original with the Clerk of the above-styled Court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter, otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.  
DATED on this 13 day of FEBRUARY, 2026.  
Tiffany Moore Russell  
Clerk of the Court  
BY: /s/ Rosa Avilés  
As Deputy Clerk  
Civil Division  
425 N Orange Avenue  
Room 350  
Orlando, Florida 32801  
CIRCUIT COURT SEAL  
CONFORMED COPY TO:  
EDWARD M. FITZGERALD  
HOLLAND & KNIGHT, LLP  
200 S. Orange Avenue,  
Suite 2600  
Orlando, Florida 32801  
Ph. (407) 244-5198  
ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF  
If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator, Human Resources, Orange County Courthouse, 425 North Orange Avenue, Suite 510, Orlando, Florida, (407) 836-2303, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.  
THIS DOCUMENT IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.  
HK#126435.9582/MP118  
February 20, 27, 2026

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
**CASE NO.: 2025-CA-012647-O**  
**DIV NO.: 40**  
**MARRIOTT OWNERSHIP RESORTS, INC.**  
**Plaintiff,**

**vs.**  
**ROBERT W. REICH, et. al.,**  
**Defendants.**  
**NOTICE OF ACTION BY PUBLICATION AS TO COUNT IX**  
TO THE FOLLOWING DEFENDANT WHOSE RESIDENCE IS UNKNOWN:  
**TO: EDWARD REINHEIMER**  
8575 SAN MARCELLO DR  
UNIT 202  
MYRTLE BEACH, SC 29579-5924  
The above named Defendant is not known to be dead or alive and, if dead, the unknown spouses, heirs, devisees, grantees, assignees, lienors, creditors, trustees, or other claimants, by, through under or against said Defendant and all parties having or claiming to have any right, title or interest in the property described below.  
**YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED** of the institution of the above-styled foreclosure proceedings by the Plaintiff, MARRIOTT OWNERSHIP RESORTS, INC., upon the filing of a complaint to foreclose a mortgage and for other relief relative to the following described property:  
**COUNT IX**  
38 Interests (numbered for administrative purposes: GA9902 & GA9903 & GA9904 & GA9905 & GA9906 & GA9907 & GA9908 & GA9909 & GA9910 & GA9911 & GA9912 & GA9913 & GA9914 & GA9915 & GA9916 & GA9917 & GA9918 & GA9919 & GA9920 & GA9921 & GA9922 & GA9923 & GA9924 & GA9925 & GA9926 & GA9927 & GA9928 & GA9929 & GA9930 & GA9931 & GA9932 & GA9933 & GA9934 & GA9935 & GA9936 & GA9937 & GA9938 & GA9939) in the MVC Trust ("Trust") evidenced for administrative, assessment and ownership purposes by 9500 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 01, 2023 (subject to Section 3.5 of the Trust Agreement).

**AND** you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any to the complaint, upon EDWARD M. FITZGERALD, ESQUIRE, Holland & Knight LLP, 200 S. Orange Avenue, Suite 2600, Orlando, Florida 32801, attorneys for the Plaintiff, on or before thirty (30) days from the first day of publication herein and file the original with the Clerk of the above-styled Court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter, otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.  
DATED on this 13 day of FEBRUARY, 2026.  
Tiffany Moore Russell  
Clerk of the Court  
BY: /s/ Rosa Avilés  
As Deputy Clerk  
Civil Division  
425 N. Orange Avenue  
Room 350  
Orlando, Florida 32801  
CIRCUIT COURT SEAL  
CONFORMED COPY TO:  
EDWARD M. FITZGERALD  
HOLLAND & KNIGHT, LLP  
200 S. Orange Avenue,  
Suite 2600  
Orlando, Florida 32801  
Ph. (407) 244-5198  
ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF  
If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator, Human Resources, Orange County Courthouse, 425 North Orange Avenue, Suite 510, Orlando, Florida, (407) 836-2303, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.  
THIS DOCUMENT IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.  
HK#126435.9582/MP118  
February 20, 27, 2026

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
**CASE NO.: 2025-CA-011906-O**  
**DIV NO.: 35**  
**MARRIOTT OWNERSHIP RESORTS, INC.**  
**Plaintiff,**

**vs.**  
**LORI PARKER-GLADSTEIN aka LORI (NMN) PARKER-GLADSTEIN, et. al.,**  
**Defendants.**  
**NOTICE OF ACTION BY PUBLICATION AS TO COUNT VIII**  
TO THE FOLLOWING DEFENDANT WHOSE RESIDENCE IS UNKNOWN:  
**TO: ESA T. RAMIREZ**  
8345 VANPORT AVE  
WHITTIER, CA 90606  
**AND**  
**ELENA Z. VARGAS**  
8345 VANPORT AVE  
WHITTIER, CA 90606  
The above named Defendants are not known to be dead or alive and, if dead, the unknown spouses, heirs, devisees, grantees, assignees, lienors, creditors,

trustees, or other claimants, by, through under or against said Defendant and all parties having or claiming to have any right, title or interest in the property described below.

**YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED** of the institution of the above-styled foreclosure proceedings by the Plaintiff, MARRIOTT OWNERSHIP RESORTS, INC., upon the filing of a complaint to foreclose a mortgage and for other relief relative to the following described property:  
**COUNT VIII**  
4 Interests (numbered for administrative purposes: D95623 & D95624 & D95625 & D95626) in the MVC Trust ("Trust") evidenced for administrative, assessment and ownership purposes by 1000 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 01, 2020 (subject to Section 3.5 of the Trust Agreement).

**AND** you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any to the complaint, upon EDWARD M. FITZGERALD, ESQUIRE, Holland & Knight LLP, 200 S. Orange Avenue, Suite 2600, Orlando, Florida 32801, attorneys for the Plaintiff, on or before thirty (30) days from the first day of publication herein and file the original with the Clerk of the above-styled Court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter, otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.  
DATED on this 6th day of February, 2026.  
Tiffany Moore Russell  
Clerk of the Court  
BY: /s/ Nancy Garcia  
As Deputy Clerk  
CIRCUIT COURT SEAL  
CONFORMED COPY TO:  
EDWARD M. FITZGERALD  
HOLLAND & KNIGHT, LLP  
200 S. Orange Avenue,  
Suite 2600  
Orlando, Florida 32801  
Ph. (407) 244-5198  
ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF  
If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator, Human Resources, Orange County Courthouse, 425 North Orange Avenue, Suite 510, Orlando, Florida, (407) 836-2303, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.  
THIS DOCUMENT IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.  
HK#126435.9564/MP115  
February 13, 20, 2026

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
**CASE NO.: 2025-CA-012647-O**  
**DIV NO.: 40**  
**MARRIOTT OWNERSHIP RESORTS, INC.**  
**Plaintiff,**

**vs.**  
**ROBERT W. REICH, et. al.,**  
**Defendants.**  
**NOTICE OF ACTION BY PUBLICATION AS TO COUNT IX**  
TO THE FOLLOWING DEFENDANT WHOSE RESIDENCE IS UNKNOWN:  
**TO: EDWARD REINHEIMER**  
8575 SAN MARCELLO DR  
UNIT 202  
MYRTLE BEACH, SC 29579-5924  
The above named Defendant is not known to be dead or alive and, if dead, the unknown spouses, heirs, devisees, grantees, assignees, lienors, creditors, trustees, or other claimants, by, through under or against said Defendant and all parties having or claiming to have any right, title or interest in the property described below.  
**YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED** of the institution of the above-styled foreclosure proceedings by the Plaintiff, MARRIOTT OWNERSHIP RESORTS, INC., upon the filing of a complaint to foreclose a mortgage and for other relief relative to the following described property:  
**COUNT IX**  
38 Interests (numbered for administrative purposes: GA9902 & GA9903 & GA9904 & GA9905 & GA9906 & GA9907 & GA9908 & GA9909 & GA9910 & GA9911 & GA9912 & GA9913 & GA9914 & GA9915 & GA9916 & GA9917 & GA9918 & GA9919 & GA9920 & GA9921 & GA9922 & GA9923 & GA9924 & GA9925 & GA9926 & GA9927 & GA9928 & GA9929 & GA9930 & GA9931 & GA9932 & GA9933 & GA9934 & GA9935 & GA9936 & GA9937 & GA9938 & GA993

and all others who claim an interest in a 2015 Infiniti Q50 VIN JN1B7ARXFM401091, which was seized on or about the 24th day of January, 2026, at or near the intersection of Apopka-Vineland Road and Woodridge Park Drive, Orange County, Florida. Said property is in the custody of the Sheriff of Orange County. A Complaint for forfeiture has been filed in the above-styled Court. **I HEREBY CERTIFY** that this Notice is being served pursuant to the notice provisions of Florida Statutes 932.701-707, this 11th day of February, 2026. /s/ Jose C. Campa Jose C. Campa Assistant General Counsel Florida Bar No. 105781 Orange County Sheriff's Office Legal Services P.O. Box 1440 Orlando, FL 32802 (407) 254-7170 Jose.campa@ocsoff.com February 20, 27, 2026

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO.: 2025-CA-012379-O DIV NO.: 37**

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

**vs. TONY WANYIU CHENG, et. al., Defendants.**

**NOTICE OF ACTION AS TO COUNT V TO THE FOLLOWING DEFENDANTS WHOSE RESIDENCE IS UNKNOWN: TO: BRYAN C. CAPRICE**

2309 HICKORY ROAD ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401 AND LEAH B. CAPRICE 1286 PATAPSCO ROAD ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401

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

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

**COUNT V** Unit Week 16'X in Unit 1411 in HAO CONDOMINIUM, according to the Declaration of Condominium thereof, as recorded in Official Records Book 6017 at Page 0143 in the Public Records of Orange County, Florida, and any amendments thereof.

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

DATED on this 3RD day of FEBRUARY, 2026. Tiffany Moore Russell Clerk of the Court By: /s/ Rosa Avilés Deputy Clerk Civil Division 425 N. Orange Avenue Room 350 Orlando, Florida 32801 CIRCUIT COURT SEAL CONFORMED COPY TO: EDWARD M. FITZGERALD HOLLAND & KNIGHT, LLP 200 S. Orange Avenue Suite 2600 Orlando, Florida 32801 Ph. (407) 244-5198 ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator, Human Resources, Orange County Courthouse, 425 North Orange Avenue, Suite 510, Orlando, Florida, (407) 836-2303, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711. THIS DOCUMENT IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. HK#110528.0797/HO211 February 13, 20, 2026

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO.: 2025-CA-011906-O DIV NO.: 35** **MARRIOTT OWNERSHIP RESORTS, INC. Plaintiff,** vs. **LORI PARKER-GLADSTEIN aka LORI (NMN) PARKER-GLADSTEIN, et. al., Defendants.** **NOTICE OF ACTION BY PUBLICATION AS TO COUNT IX** TO THE FOLLOWING DEFENDANT WHOSE RESIDENCE IS UNKNOWN: **TO: FRANK PADGETT JR.** 43801 WATER BAY TER LEESBURG, VA 20176 AND **SHERINE D. PADGETT** 43801 WATER BAY TER LEESBURG, VA 20176 The above named Defendants are not known to be dead or alive and, if dead, the unknown spouses, heirs, devisees, grantees, assignees, lienors, creditors, trustees, or other claimants, by, through under or against said Defendant and all parties having or claiming to have any right, title or interest in the property described below.

**YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED** of the institution of the above-styled foreclosure proceedings by the Plaintiff, MARRIOTT OWNERSHIP RESORTS, INC., upon the filing of a complaint to foreclose a mortgage and for other relief relative to the following described property:

**COUNT IX** 4 Interests (numbered for administrative purposes: B11210 & B11211 & B11212 & B11213) in the MVC Trust ("Trust") evidenced for administrative, assessment and ownership purposes by 1000 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 September 01, 2020 (subject to Section 3.5 of the Trust Agreement). AND you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any to the complaint, upon EDWARD M. FITZGERALD, ESQUIRE, Holland & Knight LLP, 200 S. Orange Avenue, Suite 2600, Orlando, Florida 32801, attorneys for the Plaintiff, on or before thirty (30) days from the first day of publication herein and file the original with the Clerk of the above-styled Court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter, otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.

DATED on this 9 day of February, 2026. Tiffany Moore Russell, Clerk of Courts By: /s/ Rasheda Thomas Deputy Clerk Civil Division 425 N Orange Ave Room 350 Orlando, FL 32801 CIRCUIT COURT SEAL CONFORMED COPY TO: EDWARD M. FITZGERALD HOLLAND & KNIGHT, LLP 200 S. Orange Avenue, Suite 2600 Orlando, Florida 32801 Ph. (407) 244-5198 ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator, Human Resources, Orange County Courthouse, 425 North Orange Avenue, Suite 510, Orlando, Florida, (407) 836-2303, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711. THIS DOCUMENT IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. HK#126435.9566/MP115 February 13, 20, 2026

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE PERSONAL PROPERTY OF THE FOLLOWING TENANTS WILL BE SOLD FOR CASH TO SATISFY RENTAL LIENS IN ACCORDANCE WITH FLORIDA STATUTES, SELF STORAGE FACILITY ACT, SECTIONS 83.806 AND 83.807, CONTENTS MAY INCLUDE KITCHEN, HOUSEHOLD ITEMS, BEDDING, TOYS, GAMES, BOXES, BARRELS, PACKED CARTONS, FURNITURE, TRUCKS, CARS, ETC. THERE IS NO TITLE FOR VEHICLES SOLD AT LIEN SALE. VEHICLES SOLD AS IS AND FOR PARTS ONLY. OWNERS RESERVE THE RIGHT TO BID ON UNITS. LIEN SALE TO BE HELD ONLINE ENDING TUESDAY MARCH 3rd 2026 AT THE TIMES INDICATED BELOW. VIEWING AND BIDDING WILL ONLY BE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT www.storage treasures.com BEGINNING 5 DAYS PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED SALE DATE AND TIME! ALSO VISIT www.personalministorage.com/orlando-fl-storage-units/ FOR MORE INFO.**

**PERSONAL MINI STORAGE APOPKA-1365 E SEMORAN BLVD., APOPKA, FL 32703-AT 10:30 AM: UNITS:**

- #306-Khalilah Hammond;
  - #211-Mercier Michel;
  - #416-Oreste Mesidor;
  - #440-Jason Eaton;
  - #502-Kade Noble;
  - #545 Daniel E Luttis;
  - #1013-Ashley Peron;
  - #1128-Sean O'Connell
- February 13, 20, 2026

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO. 2026-CA-001087 DIVISION 36**

**IN RE: FORFEITURE OF \$1,782.00 U.S. CURRENCY NOTICE OF FORFEITURE To Guillermo L. Valdes Jimenez, and all persons who claim an interest in a \$1,782.00 U.S. CURRENCY seized on or about 12/18/2025 at or about SR 408 E. & Andes Ave., Orlando, FL, Orlando, Orange Co., FL. Said property is in the custody of the City of Orlando Police Dept. Any owner, entity, bonafide lienholder, or person in possession of the property when seized has the right to request an adversarial preliminary hearing for a probable cause determination from the circuit court within 15 days after initial receipt of notice by sending a written request to undersigned counsel by certified mail, return receipt requested. A petition for forfeiture has been or will be filed in the above-styled court.**

/s/ Shannon Hesse Shannon Gridley Hesse Police Legal Advisor Orlando Police Department 1250 W. South Street Orlando, Florida 32805 (407) 246-2464 Fla. Bar No. 528633 shannon.hesse@orlando.gov February 20, 27, 2026

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO.: 2025-CA-011906-O DIV NO.: 35**

**MARRIOTT OWNERSHIP RESORTS, INC. Plaintiff,** vs. **LORI PARKER-GLADSTEIN aka LORI (NMN) PARKER-GLADSTEIN, et. al., Defendants.** **NOTICE OF ACTION BY PUBLICATION AS TO COUNT III** TO THE FOLLOWING DEFENDANT WHOSE RESIDENCE IS UNKNOWN: **TO: CLARK JASON THOMPSON** 2211 LUZ WAY OCEANSIDE, CA 92056

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

**YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED** of the institution of the above-styled foreclosure proceedings by the Plaintiff, MARRIOTT OWNERSHIP RESORTS, INC., upon the filing of a complaint to foreclose a mortgage and for other relief relative to the following described property:

**COUNT III** 14 Interests (numbered for administrative purposes: L92133 & L92134 & L92135 & L92136 & L92137 & L94044 & L94045 & L94046 & L94849 & L94850 & L94851 & L94852 & M04842 & M04843) in the MVC Trust ("Trust") evidenced for administrative, assessment and ownership purposes by 3500 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 01, 2016 (subject to Section 3.5 of the Trust Agreement). AND you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any to the complaint, upon EDWARD M. FITZGERALD, ESQUIRE, Holland & Knight LLP, 200 S. Orange Avenue, Suite 2600, Orlando, Florida 32801, attorneys for the Plaintiff, on or before thirty (30) days from the first day of publication herein and file the original with the Clerk of the above-styled Court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter, otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.

DATED on this 5th day of February, 2026. Tiffany Moore Russell Clerk of Courts By: /s/ Rasheda Thomas As Deputy Clerk Tiffany Moore Russell, Clerk of Courts Civil Division 425 N Orange Ave Room 350 Orlando, Florida 32801 CIRCUIT COURT SEAL CONFORMED COPY TO: EDWARD M. FITZGERALD HOLLAND & KNIGHT, LLP 200 S. Orange Avenue, Suite 2600 Orlando, Florida 32801 Ph. (407) 244-5198 ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator, Human Resources, Orange County Courthouse, 425 North Orange Avenue, Suite 510, Orlando, Florida, (407) 836-2303, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711. THIS DOCUMENT IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. HK#126435.9559/MP115 February 13, 20, 2026

**IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO.: 2024-CC-010799-O ALFONSO CONTRERAS, Plaintiff,**

**LUIS GERARDO MONCADA GOMEZ and MARIA DANIELA VARGAS, Defendants.** **NOTICE OF ACTION** **Word Global Mortgage, with a mailing address of 58 E Main Street #2, Apopka, FL 32703 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: Phillemon Ministries, Inc February 20, 2026**

**YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED** that an action for Damages for Breach of Contract and Property Damage has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to, on John A. Morey, Esq., of the Morey Law Firm, P.A., the Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 250 N. Orange Ave., Suite 1220, Orlando, FL 32801, on or before March 9, 2026, and file the original with the clerk of this court either before service on the plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition.

January 21, 2026 Tiffany Moore Russell, Clerk of Courts /s/ Sandra Jackson Deputy Clerk Civil Division 425 N Orange Ave Room 350 Orlando, FL 32801 CIRCUIT COURT SEAL Exhibit "A" January 30, February 6, 13, 20, 2026

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO. 2024-CA-005729-O DIV NO.: 48**

**MARRIOTT RESORTS HOSPITALITY CORPORATION, a South Carolina Corporation, Management Agent on behalf of MVC TRUST OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC., a Florida not for profit corporation, and All Owners as Agent, Plaintiff,** vs. **JANE E. STEMPLE Defendants.** **NOTICE OF SALE AS TO COUNT VIII TO: JANE E. STEMPLE** 222 STANTON DRIVE BUFFALO GROVE, ILLINOIS 60089 **NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered on February 3, 2026, in the cause pending in the Circuit Court, in and for Orange County, Florida, Civil Case No. 2024-CA-005729-O, the Office of Tiffany Moore Russell, Orange County Clerk of the Court will sell the property situated in said County described as:

**COUNT VIII** 10 Interests (numbered for administrative purposes: 686530 & 686531 & 686532 & 686533 & 686534 & 686535 & 686536 & 686537 & 686538 & 686539) in the MVC Trust ("Trust") evidenced for administrative, assessment and ownership purposes by 2500 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, 2013 (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 a.m. on the 18th day of March, 2026** online at [www.myorangeclerk.realforeclose.com](http://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 February 4, 2026. DATED February 4, 2026. /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, (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 #126435.7994 MORI #ORANGE February 20, 27, 2026

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 #126435.7994 MORI #ORANGE February 20, 27, 2026

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE No.: 2026-DR-001028-O Division: 46**

**YANA OKUNO, Petitioner,** and **ALEXANDER VOLFF, Respondent.** **NOTICE OF ACTION FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE TO: ALEXANDER VOLFF** 6456 S GOLDENROD RD, UNIT A, ORLANDO, FL 32822

**YOU ARE NOTIFIED** that an action for Dissolution of Marriage has been filed against you and that you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Yana Okuno, whose address is 6456 S GOLDENROD RD, UNIT A, ORLANDO, FL 32822, on or before March 26, 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 2/2/2026 Tiffany M. Russell Clerk of Court CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT BY: Keydrah Gumbs (Deputy Clerk) CIRCUIT COURT SEAL February 6, 13, 20, 27, 2026

**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 **True Word Global Mortgage**, with a mailing address of 58 E Main Street #2, Apopka, FL 32703 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: Phillemon Ministries, Inc February 20, 2026

**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 **Chargeback Navigator**, with a mailing address of 920 Wekiva Springs Rd, Unit 915017, Longwood FL 32779 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: Tried And True Business Consulting LLC February 20, 2026

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO.: 2024-CA-000748-O DIV NO.: 39**

**MARRIOTT OWNERSHIP RESORTS, INC. Plaintiff,** vs. **WALTER F JEWELL, DECEASED, et al., Defendants.** **NOTICE OF SALE AS TO COUNT IV TO: DYANNA MICHELE MATTHEWS AS INDIVIDUAL, AS GUARANTOR AND AS TRUSTEE OF THE DYANNA MICHELE MATTHEWS SEPARATE PROPERTY TRUST DATED 04/18/12, DECEASED, THE ESTATE OF DYANNA MICHELE MATTHEWS, DECEASED AND ANY UNKNOWN SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES OR OTHER CLAIMANTS BY AND THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST, SAID DEFENDANT 6 PASEO PENSAMIENTO RANCHO SANTA MARGARIT, CA 92688**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered on February 17, 2026 in the cause pending in the Circuit Court, in and for Orange County, Florida, Civil Case No. 2024-CA-000748-O, the Office of Tiffany Moore Russell, Orange County Clerk of Court will sell the property situated in said County described as:

**COUNT IV** 4 Interests (numbered for administrative purposes: C26642 & C26643 & C26644 & C26645) in the MVC Trust ("Trust") evidenced for administrative, assessment and ownership purposes by 1000 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 01, 2014 (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 MARCH 25, 2026, online at [www.myorangeclerk.realforeclose.com](http://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 February 18, 2026. DATED this 18th day of February, 2026. /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 #126435.7994 MORI #ORANGE February 20, 27, 2026

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 #126435.7994 MORI #ORANGE February 20, 27, 2026

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, STATE OF FLORIDA CIRCUIT CIVIL Case No. 2025-CA-009646-O ARENA REC ORIGINATION FINANCING SPV, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, Plaintiff,**

**v. 7400 CANADA AVENUE, LLC, a Florida limited liability company, et al., Defendants.** **NOTICE OF SALE** **NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that pursuant to the Amended Uniform Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered on February 17, 2026, in the cause pending in the Circuit Court, in and for Orange County, Florida, Civil Case No. 2025-CA-009646-O, wherein Arena Rec Origination Financing SPV, LLC, is the Plaintiff, and 7400 Canada Avenue, LLC, et al., 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 1: (Fee Simple Estate)** Lot 3, less the North 22 feet and Lot 4, less the South 20 feet, INTERNATIONAL COVE, according to the plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 12, Pages 18 and 19, Public Records of Orange County, Florida. **PARCEL 2: (Non-exclusive Easement Estate)** **TOGETHER WITH:** Non-Exclusive Easement(s) as set forth and created by that certain Notice of Restrictions, Grant of Easement and Agreement for Maintenance as recorded in Official Records Book 3393, Page 1125, as rerecorded in Official Records Book 3395, Page 1623, and rerecorded in Official Records Book 3434, Page 404, Public Records of Orange County, Florida, over, under and across the lands described therein Parcel 1 and Parcel 2 are collectively referred to as the "Land". Plus, Personal Property, Equipment, Improvements, Appurtenances, Lease Rights, Easements, Fixtures, and Intellectual Property, as more particularly described in the Mortgage.

at Public sale to the highest and best bidder for cash starting at the hour of **11:00 o'clock a.m. on March 25, 2026**, online at [www.myorangeclerk.realforeclose.com](http://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 before the clerk reports the surplus as unclaimed. DATED this 19th day of February, 2025. **HOLLAND & KNIGHT LLP** /s/ Noel R. Boeke Noel R. Boeke Florida Bar No. 151830 Primary: noel.boeke@hklaw.com Secondary: danielle.decker@hklaw.com 100 North Tampa Street, Suite 4100 Tampa, FL 33602 Telephone: 813.227.8500 Fax: 813.229.0134

**And** Edward M. Fitzgerald Florida Bar No. 10391 Primary: edward.fitzgerald@hklaw.com Secondary: cindy.valentin@hklaw.com 200 S. Orange Avenue, Suite 2600 Orlando, FL 32801 Telephone: 407.425.8500 Fax: 407.244.5288 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. OUR FILE #126435.8254 MORI #ORANGE February 20, 27, 2026

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO.: 2024-CA-000748-O DIV NO.: 39**

**MARRIOTT OWNERSHIP RESORTS, INC. Plaintiff,** vs. **WALTER F JEWELL, DECEASED, et al., Defendants.** **NOTICE OF SALE AS TO COUNT IX TO: MICHAEL S. SMITH, DECEASED, THE ESTATE OF MICHAEL S. SMITH, DECEASED AND ANY UNKNOWN SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES OR OTHER CLAIMANTS BY AND THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST, SAID DEFENDANT 3000 GALLOWAY RDG APT F303 FITTSBORO NC 27312-8668**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered on February 17, 2026 in the cause pending in the Circuit Court, in and for Orange County, Florida, Civil Case No. 2024-CA-000748-O, the Office of Tiffany Moore Russell, Orange County Clerk of Court will sell the property situated in said County described as:

**COUNT IX** 4 Interests (numbered for administrative purposes: Y90122 & Y90123 & Y90124 & Y90125) in the MVC Trust ("Trust") evidenced for administrative, assessment and ownership purposes by 1000 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 01, 2020 (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 MARCH 25, 2026, online at [www.myorangeclerk.realforeclose.com](http://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 February 18, 2026. DATED this 18th day of February, 2026. /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 #126435.8191

fore 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 #126435.8181 MORI #ORANGE February 20, 27, 2026

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO.: 2024-CA-000748-O DIV NO.: 39**

**MARRIOTT OWNERSHIP RESORTS, INC. Plaintiff,** vs. **WALTER F JEWELL, DECEASED, et al., Defendants.** **NOTICE OF SALE AS TO COUNT XV TO: EMILY MACINTYRE, DECEASED,**



# CLASSIFIEDS

CLASSIFIED DEADLINE: MONDAY 5 P.M.  
classifieds@theapokkachief.com

Call 407-886-2777  
Fax 407-889-4121

## 21. HEALTH AND NUTRITION

**HEALTH CARE FOR** entire family: Pediatrics, Family, Internal, OB/GYN, Dental and Pharmacy. www.chcfl.org. Community Health Centers throughout Central Florida. 225 E 7th Street, Apopka. 407-905-8827.  
JT 0213-0306 TFN 21

## 32. HELP WANTED

**UPS PACKAGING & receiving** PT M-F. Sales clerk, telephone orders. Must live in Apopka. Spanish helpful. 407-889-0002 Ask for Jay.  
B0206-0227 APO 32

## 61. LARGE APPLIANCES

**APOPKA APPLIANCE** offers in home service on washers, dryers, stoves, refrigerators, dishwashers installed. \$50 off service calls with installation. All help vaccinated for virus. Be safe! Free haul away (no matter where you bought your new one). Used appliances available. Service call \$39.99 with repairs. 407-886-2255 or 407-497-7458  
CC 0213-0306 APO 61

## 70. MERCHANDISE MISC.

**TRAILER PARTS FOR** sale. Largest stocking dealer in NW Orange County (Apopka). 407-293-5788. www.surplussteel.com.  
B 0206-0227 SUR 70

**OVER 400 LP ALBUMS** for sale. Make an Offer. You pick up! 407-399-6359  
CA 0220-0313 BLA 70

## 81. AUTOS FOR SALE

**USED CARS. NEW cars.** Low upfront pricing. No dealer fees. 407-972-1678. Mullinaxfordfl.com  
JT 0130-0220 MUL 81

**2004 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE** in good condition. Runs and drives well. Great for daily driving. \$4,000 239-633-3968  
CC0130-0220 REA 81

*Tell Them You Saw It In The Classifieds*

Place Your Classified Today:  
407.886.2777

## 130. REAL ESTATE

### 131. VACANT LAND

**5 ACRE PLOT:** 541 E. Osceola Rd., \$250k "no Realtors" 407-682-7898 leave message, financing available.  
B 0213-0306 IRV 131

### 133. HOMES FOR SALE

**BUYING, SELLING,** rentals or property management. We're your friend in the business. Rogers & Rogers Realty. 407-880-8888.  
CC 0220-0313 ROG 133

**I Have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith 2 Timothy 4:7**

First 15 words \$12, each additional word \$.50 each.

**Yard Sale**  
This is a Benefit for Good Neighbor Place  
When: March 1st 9am-3pm  
Where: 1000 New Jersey Ave Altamonte

## 136. MOBILE HOMES. RV'S FOR SALE

**2BD/2BA VALENCIA** Estates 55+. 557 Hawkins Cir., Apopka Close to bus line, \$18,000 OBO. 407-808-4499.  
CC0206-0227 KEL 136

### 139. APARTMENT/ CONDOS FOR RENT

**1 BEDROOM COTTAGE** for rent. 5226 Braford Rd., Apopka 32712. Black Tie Realty, Barbara DeLoach 321-229-5968  
B0206-0227 DEL 139

### 140. HOMES / DUPLEXES FOR RENT

**DUPLEX FOR RENT:** 2bd/2 full baths, utilities included. \$2,000 a month, \$2,000 security. call Larry 407-947-6041  
CC0130-0220 CLA 140

## 142. ROOMS FOR RENT

**SWEENEY'S ROOMS** Cleanest. Quietest. WIFI, Internet. Multiple locations. Call Dwayne 321-271-6773. sweeneysrooms4rent.com  
CC 0213-0306 JAC 142

## 142. ROOMS FOR RENT

**ROOMS FOR RENT:** ZELLWOOD area, weekly rentals available. 407-435-1792  
CC 0213-0306 GRA 142

**ROOM FOR RENT** \$800, \$200 deposit, \$25 application fee. 26' Trailer for sale; Moving Sale: nicotine; alcohol; bunkbeds; fresh eggs; clothes; shoes; for sale. 407-715-9010  
CC0130-0220 WIL 142

### 143. OFFICES FOR RENT

**DOWNTOWN APOPKA** shop with office zoning MU-D (multiple use downtown) \$2,500 per month 48 W. 4th Street. 407-539-4212 Previously: Apopka Auto Upholstery.  
CC0220-0313 FIT 143

**WE ARE HIRING!**  
Join us!  
Sales Specialists  
Service Advisors  
Service Valet  
Service Technicians  
(Line, Master, Express, and Diesel)

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Full-time and part-time opportunities available in Orlando, Winter Park, Maitland, and Sanford.  
View All of Our Career Opportunities:  
[www.HollerClassic.jobs](http://www.HollerClassic.jobs)

## FLORIDA STATEWIDE

STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED ADS FOR WEEK OF: 02/16/2026 - 02/22/2026

- Home Improvement/Service**  
PROTECT YOUR HOME from pests safely and affordably. Roaches, Bed Bugs, Rodent, Termite, Spiders and other pests. Locally owned and affordable. Call for a quote or inspection today 1-833-542-1732 Have zip code of property ready when calling!
- Miscellaneous**  
Donate your vehicle to help find missing children and prevent abduction. Fast free pickup, running or not, 24 hr response. No emission test required, maximum tax deduction.

Support Find the Children, call: 1-833-546-7050.

**3. Medical**  
ATTENTION OXYGEN THERAPY USERS! Discover Oxygen Therapy That Moves with You with Inogen Portable Oxygen Concentrators. FREE information kit. Call 1-833-661-3729

**4. Medical**  
Attention: VIAGRA and CIALIS USERS! A cheaper alternative to high drugstore prices! 50 Pill Special - Only \$99! 100% guaranteed. CALL NOW: 1-877-349-1243

**5. Medical**  
STOP OVERPAYING FOR HEALTH INSURANCE! Reduce premiums and out-of-pocket costs while getting the coverage you need! Call now for a competitive free quote.

1-877-351-3442. Plus... Income based government subsidies are available for those that qualify!

**6. Home Improvement/Service**  
BATH & SHOWER UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Affordable prices - No payments for 18 months! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Senior & Military Discounts available. Call: 1-833-754-2465

**7. Wanted to Buy**  
CASH PAID FOR HIGH-END MEN'S SPORT WATCHES. Rolex, Breitling, Omega, Patek Philippe, Heuer, Daytona, GMT, Submariner and Speedmaster. These brands only! Call for a quote: 1-833-641-0211

**8. Wanted to Buy**  
We Buy Vintage Guitar's! Looking for 1920-1980 Gibson, Martin, Fender, Gretsch, Epiphone, Guild, Mosrite, Rickenbacker, Prairie State, D'Angelico, Stromberg. And Gibson Mandolins/Banjos. These brands only! Call for a quote: 1-833-641-6789

**9. Wanted to Buy**  
We Buy Houses for Cash AS-IS! No repairs. No fuss. Any condition. Easy process: Call, get cash offer and get paid. Call today for your fair cash offer: 1-321-603-3026



ADVERTISE YOUR GARAGE/YARD SALES IN "CLIP 'n SAVE" 407-886-2777

**ADVERTISE YOUR WEEKEND. Garage, Yard or Estate Sale**  
#66 "CLIP 'n SAVE" Friday - Sunday  
BEAR LAKE UMC YARD SALE - MISCELLANEOUS and baked goods, Saturday February 21, 8am-12pm. 1010 Bear Lake Road, Apopka 32703  
CC0220 BEA 66

# SERVICE DIRECTORY

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<p><b>PACKING &amp; SHIPPING</b></p> <p>Apopka Pack &amp; Ship</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shipping Services</li> <li>Package Drop Off</li> <li>Office Supplies</li> <li>Pro Packing</li> </ul> <p>407 220 0410 2246 E Semoran Blvd Apopka, FL 32703</p>	<p><b>PRESSURE WASHING</b></p> <p>We specialize in pressure washing, softwashing, and more to transform your residential or commercial property from dull to dazzling.</p> <p><b>NUJGS</b></p> <p>10% Discount With This Ad! (407) 729-5049 https://nugspropertywashing.com</p>	<p><b>ROOFING</b></p> <p><b>EVANS ROOFING</b></p> <p>40+ Years Experience Reroofs &amp; Repairs</p> <p>407-295-4944 CCC1333038</p>	<p><b>ROOFING RESTORATION</b></p> <p><b>ALLEGIANCE</b></p> <p>ROOF RESTORATION &amp; COATINGS</p> <p>\$\$\$ Save Money vs. Replacement On: Flat Roofs • Metal Roofs • Mobile Homes • Tile Roofs • Rubber Roofs • Asphalt Roofs</p> <p>15-Year Warranty Superior Durability &amp; Energy Efficient Senior   Military Discounts Residential • Commercial 407-455-2636</p>	<p><b>TREE SERVICE</b></p> <p>All Your Outdoor Needs!</p> <p><b>MALTBY'S</b> TREE SERVICE &amp; LANDSCAPING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Irrigation</li> <li>Tree Removal</li> <li>Tree Trimming</li> <li>Grapple Truck Service</li> <li>Landscape Maintenance &amp; Installation</li> </ul> <p>JAMES MALTBY Owner Licensed &amp; Insured 321-689-5866</p>

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