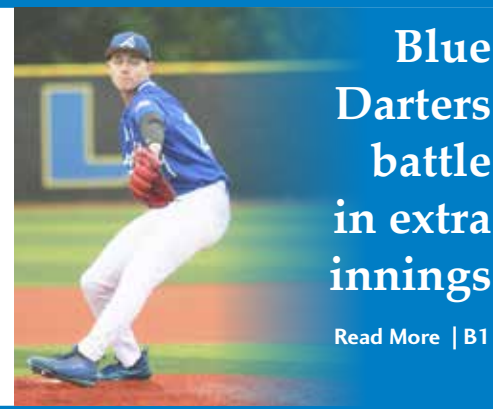


The Apopka Chief

A MAINSTREET DAILY NEWS PUBLICATION

Friday, April 10, 2026 / FREE



Blue Darters battle in extra innings

Read More | B1

Candidates make final push amid early voting surge

Over 3,400 votes cast by Thursday

By Teresa Sargeant Reporter

Apopka voters have already pulled off surprises this election season, and strong early voting numbers indicate another one is in store.

After the March 10 general election brought two new City Commission members and eliminated incumbent Mayor Bryan Nelson from contention, early voting



Photo by Dana O'Connor

Commissioner Christine Moore



Photo by Dana O'Connor

Commissioner Nick Nesta

in the April 14 runoff election is surpassing expectations, surging past the 9% turnout mark early Thursday.

According to the Supervisor of Elections office,

turnout stood at 3,549 voters, or 9.04% of the 39,260 registered voters, as of Thursday morning. Of those voters, 1,717 ballots were cast during early voting, while 1,832 were submitted by mail.

Apopka's roughly 21% turnout in the March 10 election was slightly better than four years ago but still typical for a local race held at an off time of year, according to University of Central Florida political science professor Aubrey Jewett. He expected participation to sharp-

ly decline in the mayoral runoff, likely to around half the March electorate, making the race a turnout contest between the two candidates' core supporters.

"If you could turn out 2,500 voters, you probably have an excellent chance of winning," he said.

Candidates Christine Moore and Nick Nesta continue to make their case to voters ahead of the April 14 runoff election, including through

ELECTION, A7

APOPKA HIGH LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS



Photo by Dana O'Connor

The "urchin" ensemble for Apopka High School's production of Little Shop of Horrors dances for the audience Wednesday night. The nightly show runs through Friday. See more photos on A5.

Community rallies for Apopka family after girl's death



Courtesy of GoFundMe

Community members have rallied around the family of 4-year-old Kamaria Simmons (pictured), who died after being struck by a vehicle in an April 1 driveway crash in Apopka.

Vigil, fundraiser follow a fatal driveway crash

By Teresa Sargeant Reporter

A candlelight vigil took place Saturday at a residence in Apopka, bringing together family members, friends and others connected to the family.

The child, identified by her family as Kamaria Simmons died after being struck by a vehicle April 1, according to the Florida Highway Patrol. Troopers said the crash occurred around 7:15 p.m. at Robinson Avenue and 13th

fundraiser drawing participation from across the area.

CRASH, A5

Anderson recuses herself from board

Withdrawal follows post backing Moore

By Sarah Merly Reporter

City Commissioner Nadia Anderson recused herself from all canvassing board proceedings related to the April 14 mayoral runoff election in an April 2 statement submitted to the city.

"This voluntary recusal is made to ensure public confidence in the canvassing and

certification process," Anderson said in her statement. "I will not attend, participate in, or vote on any matters before the canvassing board concerning this election. This recusal is not intended as, and shall not be construed as, an admission of a conflict of interest, bias, or legal disqualification, but is undertaken solely in the interest of maintaining the highest standards of fairness and transparent-

RECUSAL, A7



Photo by Dana O'Connor

Commissioner Nadia Anderson speaks at the March 18 Apopka City Commission meeting.

Quest teaches culinary skills to Apopka special needs community

Participants created desserts from around the world

By Sarah Merly Reporter

Adults with developmental disabilities gathered Wednesday at the Quest Training Center to create desserts from across the globe, marking the sixth week of Quest's "Culinary Creations" class.

"As the saying goes,

"You can give a man a fish, or you can teach him how to fish," said Clement "Clem" Daniel, who serves as the center's activity coordinator. "We are trying to teach them the core values of living in the community, living at home with themselves and their families."

After receiving a "passport," the 16 participants visited six stations, with each station representing a different country. Desserts included Venetian crepe wraps, "Parisian" chocolate

fondue dip, the "Zen Garden" mochi-style parfait, and more, according to a Monday press release.

"Culinary Creations" instructor Anjelicia Wilson said she developed the eight-week curriculum for Quest after setting up a mock restaurant at the center.

"The residents really liked it, so that inspired me to come up with a curriculum that was designed to help them come up with healthy snacks that require minimum to no heat—

meaning a lot of things that they learned to prepare in my eight-week culinary course, they can make at home, and they're not things that require a stove or necessarily supervision," Wilson said. "We've made things like finger sandwiches, salads, fruit salads, things like that."

Wilson also emphasized to participants the importance of best health practices in the kitchen.

COOKING, A5

Aungst backs Nesta for Apopka mayor



Photo by Rey Villavicencio

Nesta speaks with Apopka Fire Chief Wil Sanchez.

Nesta campaign did not respond

By Teresa Sargeant Reporter

Former Apopka mayoral candidate Matthew Aungst said Tuesday on Facebook that he is endorsing City Commissioner Nick Nesta in the April

14 runoff election, while sharply criticizing Orange County Commissioner Christine Moore.

Aungst, who announced his candidacy in August 2025 and withdrew in December citing concerns about splitting the vote among challengers,

ENDORSEMENT, A4

Opinion

The Apopka Chief

Trusted local news since 1923

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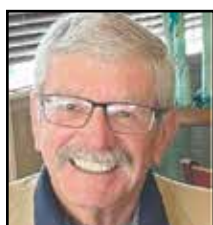
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The moon seemed a lot closer before we could get there

When Apollo 8 circled the moon in 1968, it was a big deal, as it is this time with Artemis. Sending humans that far out into space is an incredible achievement, the sort of event that captures the world's attention.

Columnist



Jake Vest

At least it does now that we can do it. Before it was possible, a trip like that was kind of a yawner.

The crew of the 1966 Starship Enterprise wouldn't have wasted a Photon Torpedo on an uninhabited chunk of rock so boringly close to home. In that same year that "Star Trek" was first stumbling onto one occupied planet after another in distant galaxies, Robert Heinlein published a novel in which the moon was handy enough to serve as a prison colony. Getting there would be as difficult and exciting as a bus ride.

By the time Heinlein and Capt. Kirk came onto the scene, writers had already spent a lot of time pondering that nearest big thing in the sky. It could still tickle the imagination in the earlier 1950s. Commando Cody, Sky Marshal of the Universe, did some good work up there on Saturday morning TV, fighting the Radar Men from the Moon. And 1953's "Catwomen of the Moon" opened the eyes of a lot of young Earthmen by dressing the shapeily title characters in black unitards.

The Catwomen were the remnants of a 2-million-year-civilization, surviving in a cave with a couple of giant moon spiders and apparently some personal trainers, dieticians, and an endless supply of hairspray and cosmetics.

Somehow, even in the gullible Eisenhower Era, stories like this got hard to sell. Maybe it was the fact that anybody with a good set of binoculars could see that the place was not covered in 500-acre spiderwebs or crawling with Radar Men.

Then again, Americans of that

day may have lost interest when they learned it would be impossible to light a cigarette up there.

For whatever reason, the imagination moved on. By the late '50s and early '60s the dream of going to the moon had been left in the rearview mirror of science fiction, with stories generally focusing on Mars and beyond—way beyond.

To get there we needed hyperdrives and Warp speeds on starships the size of large office buildings, complete with sliding doors, roomy corridors and lots of people in bellhop uniforms walking back and forth, or sitting and monitoring control panels.

Somebody has to be ready to initiate the Cloaking Shield or turn on the Tractor Beam—often a dishy babe dressed much like a Catwoman of the Moon, except in shinier material. Apparently, the average starship also has a Hair Salon and a boutique.

And they never have to stop for groceries. How does that work?

Oh well, it doesn't have to be believable, just imaginable. That's why the space between our ears, unlike the real thing, is full of Death Stars, warlords, malicious microbes, galactic Battlestars, and valiant figures like Warrant Officer Ripley, a woman who had to singlehandedly do battle with icky aliens who like to explode out of human stomachs.

Unfortunately, these flights of fantasy might make it tempting to underestimate the true heroics of space travel. Reality can't compete—or can it?

How's this for a story line of a heroic battle with ickiness? Christina Koch just traveled half a million miles crammed into a glorified flying fuse box with three men and a faulty toilet.

You probably won't ever see that story told on the large screen because, as a line from another movie told us, "You can't handle the truth."

City completes new strategic plan

I would like to share some of the details of our just-completed Strategic Plan 2026–2031.

With the financial help of Duke Energy, our team here at the city, along with the commissioners and residents of Apopka, have been collaborating for over six months (20+ planning sessions) to produce this document that can now be found on our city website.

The five strategic focus areas include Quality of Life, Infrastructure and Transportation, Organizational Health, Economic Vitality, and Safe and Healthy. Each strategic focus area has objectives and performance measures to quantify the results.

Our strategic plan will align our vision, mission and core values with goals that can be measured. With general revenues and expenses just crossing the \$100 million mark, we need to make sure that we are prioritizing what our community wants and needs.

As background to our plan, some interesting statistics include: the median age of Apopka is 38.6, our average household size is 2.98 and our median

Apopka Mayor



Bryan Nelson

household income is \$102,697.

One statistic that pleased me was our home ownership percentage, which is 75%, showing that Apopka has a true sense of community and is not a transient population.

Our mission statement is clear and concise: "We deliver accessible, high-quality programs and services, ensure public safety, and strive to enhance the quality of life in our community."

Our aspirational vision statement is, "To be Central Florida's most cherished hometown, celebrated for our vibrant community and beautiful natural environment."

The core values that we deem extremely important include

Community-First, Accountable, Professional, and Committed which will help deliver on the promises to Apopka and its residents.

The strategic plan is more successful when day-to-day decisions and actions have the plan always front and center. It begins with staff-level planning putting priorities into actionable steps with measurable objectives, timelines and committed responsibilities.

Departments must develop work plans that align with the strategic plan to make sure that the daily operations support the long-term goals and aspirations. The objectives must have timelines with defined roles to hold the team accountable, giving staff ownership to carry out the mission that is provided in this document.

This approach will become the go-to document that all our decisions are based on, giving everyone clarity about our mission. I am proud of the staff who helped develop this plan and look forward to the implementation phase over the next five years.

OCPS juggling many building projects

As I have shared before, keeping up with maintenance on more than 220 buildings is a big job. I think OCPS does a pretty good job of doing it. Thanks to the half-penny sales tax that was recently renewed by our generous voters for another 10 years, our public school district can keep up with all the building maintenance and upgrades that are constantly needed.

The facilities team at OCPS is always busy with hundreds of projects happening daily, from new HVAC systems and carpet replacements to painting and grounds upkeep.

In fact, at my recent facilities update, the chief of facilities shared with me that he had ongoing projects happening in 200 buildings.

In District 7 alone, there are 60 projects totaling \$144 million currently underway in various stages, from design to close-out. Here are some local Apopka projects that are happening now.

Apopka High School is about to finish a major multi-system upgrade totaling around \$20 million. The school is getting new exterior paint, an auditorium refresh, digital marquee

Orange County School Board, District 7



Melissa Byrd

upgrades and system upgrades. These upgrades include the intercom, cameras, intrusion detection and/or fire alarms.

Wekiva High School will also be receiving digital marquee upgrades and an auditorium refresh, as well as a major HVAC renovation and carpet replacement. Wekiva is also receiving parking lot cameras, something we hope to put in place at more schools soon.

Our middle schools are getting some much-needed upgrades and attention as well. Piedmont and Apopka Middle are both scheduled to undergo comprehensive renovation projects in the next couple of years.

Piedmont Lakes Middle is wrapping up a complete HVAC replacement costing more than

\$17 million. Wolf Lake Middle is getting new carpet and exterior paint. Both schools are getting system upgrades to intercoms, cameras, intrusion detection and fire alarms.

Finally, our elementary schools are not being left out. Rock Springs Elementary is receiving a chiller replacement.

Lakeville and Wolf Lake Elementary schools are getting a refresh for their cafeteria sound systems, and Wolf Lake is getting carpet replacement.

Clay Springs, Lakeville, Lovell and Phillis Wheatley will all have new exterior paint. Rock Springs and Wolf Lake will both receive playground sunshade replacements as well.

Finally, several schools will be receiving system upgrades to intercoms, cameras, intrusion detection and fire alarms. Those elementary schools are Apopka, Dream Lake, Lakeville, Phillis Wheatley, Rock Springs, Wolf Lake and Zellwood.

It takes a lot of work to keep our schools updated, safe and maintained. I'm grateful we are able to do the work so our children can go to beautiful and safe schools every day.

About The Apopka Chief

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

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

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

www.theapokachief.com



You may pick up The Apopka Chief at the following locations in and around Apopka

- 7-Eleven: 1117 E. Semoran Boulevard
- 7-Eleven: 1439 W. Orange Blossom Trail
- AdventHealth Apopka: 2100 Ocoee Apopka Road
- Apopka City Hall: 120 E. Main Street
- Apopka High School: 555 Martin Street
- Apopka Life Care Center: 1443 Clarcona Road
- Apopka Pack & Ship: 2246 E. Semoran Boulevard
- Apopka Utilities Billing: 150 E. 5th Street
- Apopka Vape Shop: 216 N. Park Avenue
- Arco Grocery: 439 S. Central Avenue
- Beef 'O' Brady's: 1410 Rock Springs Road
- BP Station: 2684 E. Semoran Boulevard
- BWI Companies, Inc.: 3700 W. Orange Blossom Trail
- Chase Bank: 1 E. Main Street
- Chevron Apopka: 1025 S. Orange Blossom Trail
- Circle K: 489 E. Keene Road
- Circle K: 277 E. Main Street
- City Discount Beverage & Smoke: 370 E. Main Street
- Clarcona Resort Condominium Association: 3000 Clarcona Road
- Cohil Family Dentistry: 2525 E Semoran Blvd
- Coin Laundry: 805 N. Park Avenue
- CVS Pharmacy: 2311 E. Semoran Boulevard
- CVS Pharmacy: 65 E. Main Street
- Dream Lake Elementary School: 500 N. Park Avenue
- Fairwinds Credit Union: 1621 S. Orange Blossom Trail
- Griffin's General Store: 262 W. Michael Gladden Boulevard
- Hampton Inn & Suites Orlando-Apopka: 321 S. Lake Cortez Drive
- Jeff's Bagel Run: 2107 E. Semoran Boulevard, Suite C
- John Bridges Community Center: 445 W. 13th Street
- KOA Journey Apopka: 3800 W. Orange Blossom Trail
- Lula Mae's Eatery: 940 S. Central Avenue
- McDonald's: 223 E. Main Street
- Mobil: 454 E. Main Street
- New Hope Missionary Baptist Church: 927 S. Central Avenue
- North Orange Branch Library: 1211 E. Semoran Boulevard
- One Florida Bank: 21 E. 3rd Street
- Optical Eyeland: 730 S. Orange Blossom Trail
- Orange County Clerk of Courts: 1111 Rock Springs Road
- Publix Super Market at Kelly Park Crossing: 3080 W. Kelly Park Road
- Publix Super Market at Wekiva Plaza: 1545 Rock Springs Road
- P&W Market: 131 E. 13th Street
- Robinson Family Restaurant: 301 W. Main Street
- Rock Springs Bar & Grill: 4939 Rock Springs Road
- Rodeway Inn: 1317 S. Orange Blossom Trail
- Sam's Discount Food Store: 2662 Apopka Boulevard
- Seacoast Bank: 345 E. Main Street
- Sobik's Subs & Wing Way: 247 W. Main Street
- Solaris Healthcare Apopka: 305 E. Oak Street
- St. Paul A.M.E. Church: 1012 S. Park Avenue
- Stephanie's Pub & Irish Eatery: 1061 W Orange Blossom Trail
- Sunoco: 2971 W. Orange Blossom Trail
- Temple of Faith: 1028 Marvin C. Zanders Avenue
- The Apopka Chief: 400 N. Park Avenue
- The Hills: 1100 Roger Williams Road
- The UPS Store: 1631 Rock Springs Road
- The Valley: 5100 Round Lake Road
- Trader Mae's Decor Market: 2001 Rock Springs Road
- Trulieve: 2121 W Orange Blossom Trail
- United States Post Office - Apopka Branch: 581 N. Park Avenue
- United States Post Office - Plymouth Branch: 900 Plymouth Sorrento Road
- Valencia Estates Mobile Home Park: 547 Drage Drive
- Verona Café: 220 Edgewood Drive
- Victoria Plaza: 921 W. Orange Blossom Trail
- Walgreens: 1490 Rock Springs Road
- Walgreens: 125 E. Main Street
- Wawa: 1615 S. Orange Blossom Trail
- Wekiva High School: 2501 Hiawassee Road
- Wellsprings Assisted Living: 700 E. Welch Road
- World o' Suds Coin Laundry: 430 E. Main Street
- Zellwood Station: 2126 Spillman Drive

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Apopka advances policies for Planning Commission, CRA appointments

Officials seek consistency as residents question timing, enforcement

By Teresa Sargeant
Reporter

As Apopka officials moved to write new rules for how members are appointed to the Planning Commission and the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) boards, residents pressed them on why the changes are coming now and how residency, qualifications and attendance standards would be enforced.

The City Commission did not take a formal vote at the April 1 City Commission meeting but directed staff to incorporate feedback and return with draft ordinances for both boards, which play key roles in land use decisions and redevelopment planning.

The draft policies were prepared at the commission's request following a prior meeting and are meant to establish a clear framework moving forward.

"This policy establishes a consistent, transparent process for appointing members," interim City Administrator Radley Williams told the commission, adding that staff is seeking direction on any changes before bringing back a formal ordinance.

Under the drafts, applicants would be required to live within Apopka and submit materials including a résumé and conflict-of-interest disclosure. Vacancies would be publicly



Photo by Rey Villavencio

The City Commission reviewed draft policies for appointments to the Planning Commission and Community Redevelopment Agency Board.

advertised through the city's website, social media and other channels, and staff would review applications and present qualified candidates to the City Commission for final appointment.

The CRA draft includes preferences for candidates with business, development or community leadership experience. The Planning Commission version is framed around professional and technical expertise and would give preference to applicants with relevant backgrounds, including potential environmental or wetlands knowledge.

Vice Mayor Diane Velazquez raised concerns about attendance and participation, citing past issues with board members not regularly showing up.

Velazquez, who, along with Mayor Bryan Nelson, had requested the new appointment policies, spent much of the dis-

cussion asking for changes to term lengths, qualifications and attendance expectations.

Williams said the draft does not set strict attendance limits but includes performance and attendance as factors during reappointment.

"There's a note here [that] in consideration of reappointment performance and attendance are reviewed before reappointment consideration," he said.

Public comment focused largely on the timing and implementation of the proposed changes.

Resident Albert McKimmie urged the commission to clearly define how residency requirements would be enforced.

"If we're going to have a policy that we're going to verify residency, let's apply it across the board; let's apply it to all commissioners when they apply, because that's some-

thing that needs to be done, and it needs to be stipulated how we're going to verify residency," McKimmie said.

Another speaker, Sylvester Hall, questioned why the policies are being introduced at this stage.

"Why is it such a great thing for you to do on your way out, when it should have been done on day one, when you came in?" Hall asked.

Others emphasized the need for broader and more open recruitment. Resident Rob Olsen said positions should be widely advertised and based on both expertise and interest.

"You want to have someone have interest," Olsen said. "All these positions have just stood in the past and said they need to be posted, that people need to have the opportunity to express their interest and to be considered."

The appointment policy discussion ties back to when the City Commission voted 3-2 on March 18 to approve Nelson's appointment of Malika Harrison to the Planning Commission.

Harrison, who recently ran for City Commission Seat 4 in the March 10 election, replaces Howard Washington, who resigned March 13 due to health reasons, according to an email to the mayor.

The appointment drew pushback from City Commissioners Nick Nesta and Velazquez—who were the dissenting votes—as well as several residents, who raised concerns about timing, transparency and the broader appointment process.

Doctor joins race for House District 39

Jarod Fox to challenge incumbent Doug Bankson

By Sarah Merly
Reporter

Orlando physician Jarod Fox announced his campaign for Florida House District 39 in a challenge to incumbent Republican state Rep. Doug Bankson.

"As a physician, it's critical that my patients can afford the life-saving medicines that my colleagues and I are prescribing," Fox, a Democrat, said in a Wednesday press release. "With costs out of control, Floridians are often forced to decide between medical care, groceries, and rent. I'm running because District 39 deserves a leader focused on real solutions,

fighting to lower healthcare costs and protect public education."

Fox filed to run on March 2. According to his campaign website, Fox prioritizes healthcare cost reductions, public education funding, and investing in small businesses.

Fox and his family live in Winter Garden, attending Mosaic Church and supporting kids' sports leagues. He currently serves as a medical doctor at Orlando Health, with a specialty in infectious diseases.

Bankson, an Apopka pastor, served as a city commissioner before joining the Florida Legislature in 2022.

House District 39 includes northwest Orange County and west Seminole County. The Florida general election is scheduled for Nov. 3.



Courtesy of the Fox for Florida campaign

Jarod Fox will run against incumbent Doug Bankson for the Florida House District 39 seat.

VOTE

NESTA
FOR CITY OF APOPKA MAYOR

EARLY VOTING:
MONDAY- SUNDAY, APRIL 6 - APRIL 12, 2026
7:00 AM - 7:00 PM

ELECTION DAY:
TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2026
7:00 AM - 7:00 PM

City weighs Live Local appeal over disputed 'intent'

State law does not define 'notice of intent'

By Teresa Sargeant
Reporter

The Apopka City Commission spent more than an hour at its April 1 meeting grappling with a key legal question that could shape whether a proposed workforce housing project can move forward: What exactly counts as "intent" under the state's Live Local Act.

After extensive debate, the commission voted 3-2 to grant the developer's appeal, with Commissioner Nick Nesta and Vice Mayor Diane Velazquez in opposition.

At the center of the dispute was whether the developer's emails, signed forms and communications with city staff constituted a legally sufficient "notice of intent" under the Live Local Act—a term the statute does not define, leaving commissioners to apply their own interpretation.

The appeal involves a proposal by Dora Point LLC to build a multi-family development at 1265 Rock Springs Road. City staff denied the request, concluding the project did not qualify to proceed under the 2024 version of the Live Local Act



Photo by Rey Villavincencio

The Apopka City Commission has reviewed a Live Local Act appeal regarding a property at 1265 Rock Springs Road.

before a July 1, 2025, change that excluded the Wekiva study and protection areas from new Live Local projects.

The roughly 4.56-acre property at 1265 Rock Springs Road is designated for commercial use, where multi-family housing would not typically be allowed without the Live Local Act.

City attorney Cliff Shepard said

the issue was whether the applicant took action that triggered development rights before that deadline.

"The question is, did the applicant trigger Live Local rights before July 1, 2025?" Shepard said, adding that "intent does not equal entitlement."

Staff argued the developer's communications—primarily emails asking about density, setbacks and

other requirements—were typical early-stage inquiries, not a formal step that would qualify as a notice of intent under the law.

Because the property lies within a Wekiva protection area that was excluded from new Live Local projects under rules taking effect July 1, staff concluded the project no longer qualified to proceed under the earlier law.

But the applicant's attorney, Jimmy Crawford, argued the city applied too narrow of an interpretation of the statute, which allows projects to proceed if an application, written request or notice of intent was submitted before the law changed.

"The statute says exactly what it says," Crawford told commissioners.

He pointed to December 2024 verification forms signed by the city's planning manager, along with emails referencing the specific property, as evidence the city had clear notice of the project.

"I don't know how clear you could be," Crawford said, citing language stating the developer "would be pursuing the site under the Live Local guidelines."

Supporting that argument, Natalie Arrowsmith, the project's realtor, told commissioners the develop-

ment team had ongoing discussions with city staff.

"We did have multiple communications with the city staff via phone call," Arrowsmith said, adding she met with staff to discuss whether the project qualified under the Live Local Act.

Commissioners acknowledged the law leaves room for interpretation. Commissioner Nadia Anderson noted the city has no formal standard for determining intent.

"There's no process. We don't have a form," she said. "So, it's hard to say that they didn't meet the standard."

Shepard maintained that intent must rise to a level that triggers administrative review, not just general interest.

"The question really boils down to ... do you think it goes from inquiries ... to a notice of intent?" he said.

Commissioners appeared divided, with some questioning whether the developer demonstrated an "intent to proceed," while others referenced a similar case the city previously lost in court.

Crawford warned denial could lead to litigation, noting state law allows the prevailing party to recover attorney's fees.

ENDORSEMENT

FROM A1

framed the race as a clear choice, urging voters to back Nesta despite his own reservations about Nesta's leadership.

"Do I have questions about Nick Nesta? Yes, I do," Aungst wrote. "I don't know yet if he's the strong, decisive leader Apopka truly needs."

Aungst alleged that Moore and individuals "operating on her behalf" were behind "every baseless rumor" and "every whisper campaign" during his mayoral

campaign.

"Christine Moore would be a disaster for this city. NOT 'maybe.' NOT 'we'll see.' A DISASTER," he said. "This is not about policy disagreements. This is about character and conduct."

Casting the race as a decisive moment for the city, Aungst urged voters to rally behind Nesta, arguing the outcome will hinge on turnout and voter engagement.

"With Nick, there is at least

a chance, a fighting chance, that Apopka can change course," he said.

The March 10 general election saw no candidate secure a majority of the vote, resulting in a runoff between Moore and Nesta.

As of press time, Nesta had not publicly responded to or shared Aungst's endorsement on his campaign Facebook page.

Brian Mater, Nesta's campaign manager, told The Apopka Chief the campaign did not issue

a response because Aungst did not contact them prior to making the endorsement.

Mater added that, while the campaign is not expecting additional endorsements in the coming week, it is not ruling out the possibility.

The April 14 runoff will determine Apopka's next mayor following incumbent Bryan Nelson's elimination in the three-way March election.

Nesta's endorsers during the

runoff include The Apopka Professional Firefighters Association Local 5293; Kimberly Buchheit, former Orange Soil and Water Conservation District Seat 2 supervisor; City Commissioner-elect Yesenia Baron, who won the special election for Nesta's Seat 4 in the March 10 election; and former City Commissioner Kyle Becker.

— With reporting by Sarah Merly

The Importance of Programs for Seniors By Commissioner Christine Moore



The health and welfare of our senior population is of the utmost importance to me. This population deserves more attention and a broader variety of services. Here's what I will do if elected Mayor of Apopka on April 14th.

Food Insecurity Programs

At three locations, Alonzo Williams Park, Fran Carlton Center, and a new location at the Northwest Recreation Complex, I plan to partner with the Second Harvest Food Bank to address food insecurity. This new program should not come from a hike in taxes, rather through private partners. I will also work with other local non-profits and faith-based partners to keep pantries full.

Safe Neighborhoods

I will beef up community policing with an emphasis on seniors. Liaisons can be developed to look in on vulnerable adults. Older adults very often are fearful to communicate with law enforcement and thus remain fragile. A new senior community liaison program can pair one senior with another. Again, no new tax dollars are needed as it will be a voluntary program.

Robust Senior Program Offerings

I am eager to build a therapy pool for seniors. Therapy pools typically offer an independent chairlift, exercise rails, massage jets, and ramped entries for wheelchairs. The opportunity to exercise daily and build stamina is essential as we age. Additionally, I will survey senior citizens to determine what additional variety of classes they would like to pursue. From the interactions thus far, I have heard requested cooking classes, especially cooking for one, more opportunities to play cards and board games, experience dancing, and hear seminars on financial matters such as estate planning and wills.

Housing Needs

Too many seniors are stuck in large homes with nowhere to relocate. It is imperative our Community Development Office monitor and plan for sufficient senior housing for those at a variety of income levels. We could also offer a senior home partner program for those wishing to share expenses. I also support faith-based organizations partnering with affordable housing non-profits right here in Apopka on appropriate church parcels. The could build a few small cottages all the way up to a mid-size senior facility depending upon the acreage available. I cannot wait to get started working on senior issues. All it takes is your vote on April 14th.

Apopka Deserves Moore!

Political advertisement paid for and approved by Christine Moore for City of Apopka Mayor

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ANNUAL
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APOPKA HIGH LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS



Photo by Dana O'Connor

The cast of Little Shop of Horrors takes a bow at its debut performance Wednesday night. Apopka High School students performed on Thursday night and will perform their final show on Friday.



Photo by Dana O'Connor

Lucas Lively (left) plays Orin, a dentist addicted to nitrous oxide, as Angel Urbaez's Seymour looks on.

COOKING

FROM A1

"We've been talking a lot about health and sanitation—making sure you properly wash your hands and learning how you prevent food-borne illnesses," she said. "So not only are they learning how to properly prepare meals and snacks, but they're also learning food safety."

Daniel called the cooking program "empowering," noting one family's testimonial in particular.

"We actually had one parent tell us that when the client came one evening, they were about to get dinner started, and they came in and they saw the client starting to get dinner," Daniel said. "It got them emotional—because think of all the years of you having to do this, and then at one moment, you realize, 'I don't have to worry about the survival of the person I'm caring about.'"

Both Daniel and Wilson said they feel particularly drawn to the developmentally disabled community, but for different reasons. Wilson called each of her students "sweet as pie," since they love to give hugs. Daniel credited his work for building his character.

"Working with them has taught me things about myself," Daniel said. "When I was a little child, I got pushed out of a window, and I got hurt bad. I was in a coma for



Photo Sarah Merly

Anjelicia Wilson shows a participant how to make one of the desserts.

weeks, and there are some clients here that—they're in their situation because of similar cases. It gives me humility to realize that could have easily been me. That is the fulfilling thing about me being here—making me thankful every day."

After completing the eight-week program, participants will receive certificates of completion. Wilson will then begin leading a storytelling course that will involve dancing and painting, according to Daniel.



Photo Sarah Merly

A volunteer helps a participant near the United Kingdom dessert station.

CRASH

FROM A1

Street, when a sport utility vehicle moved forward from a private driveway and struck the child, who was standing near the vehicle. She was transported to Arnold Palmer Hospital, where she was pronounced deceased.

The driver, a 37-year-old Apopka woman, was not injured and remained at the scene. She was the child's mother, according to the FHP.

The crash is being investigated as a traffic homicide, though no charges have been filed, FHP said.

In a Friday Facebook post, the girl's father, Michael Simmons, thanked the community and announced plans for the vigil.

"I can't fully express how much the calls, texts, and love being shown mean to our family during this time," Simmons wrote. "We are truly grateful for each and every one of you who has reached out and supported us."

"This Saturday, we will be hosting a candlelight in honor of our beautiful daughter, Kamaria Simmons," he added. "Family and friends will gather to celebrate her life, her light, and the love she brought into all of our lives."

In the days since the crash, community members have organized efforts to support the girl's family.

A GoFundMe campaign created to assist with funeral costs identifies Simmons as a coach with Sorrento Babe Ruth youth baseball. The fundraiser, organized by Melissa Wingate on behalf of Simmons, raised \$12,040 from 121 donors toward a \$16,000 goal as of Tuesday morning.

"As many of you know, baseball is more than just a game—it's a family," the fundraiser states. "Coach Mike has always shown up for our players, our teams, and our community. Now it's our turn to show up for him."

In a statement posted on its Facebook page, Sorrento Babe Ruth said its community was "heartbroken" and shared a link to the same fundraiser while offering support to the family.

"We ask that you please keep Coach Mike Simmons and his entire family lifted in your thoughts and prayers as they navigate this unimaginable loss," the statement said. "Out of respect for the family's privacy, we will not be sharing additional details."

Visitation will be 5-7 p.m. on April 17 at New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, 927 S. Central Ave., Apopka. Service will start at 11 a.m. on April 18 at First Baptist Church of Apopka, 441 S. Highland Ave., Apopka.

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Rock Springs Elementary to launch STEAM program next school year

Applications opened April 1

By Sarah Merly
Reporter

Rock Springs Elementary School is set to launch Apopka's first elementary-level STEAM Scholastic Academy next academic year.

"I just want to bring fun back to the classroom, where kids are learning and engaging in activities that really pique their interest and make them excited about learning and coming to school every



Photo by Sarah Merly

Rock Springs Elementary is located at 2400 Rock Springs Road.

day," said Rock Springs principal Robin King.

To prepare for the program launch, King said teachers will train at the Or-

lando Science Center, revise existing curriculum and develop new lesson plans for those accepted into the program's first year. All stu-

dents outside of the STEAM program will also have the opportunity to join STEAM students for an activity once a month.

"We will have one day of the month on a Friday where we'll run a Wednesday bell schedule, and at the end of the day, we'll use the extra time where every student on campus is going to participate in some kind of an engineering/science hands-on task," King said.

King plans to hire a full-time STEAM teacher and open an on-campus STEAM lab for the program's second year.

"Kids would go there maybe one day a week, and they would just learn about different components of science, technology, engineering and math in that class," King said. "We did buy some supplies for this, where we have little robots that they can code to make the robots move and have students build structures to understand how gravity impacts us as humans, but also other objects."

Those identified as advanced students will have the opportunity to participate in the STEAM academy's gifted program, which will provide an "accelerated curricu-

lum" and "independent exploration," according to an OCPS flyer.

"As an individual who grew up in classrooms where there was problem-based learning, I really enjoyed it, and it really sparked imagination and had me think creatively about the world around me," King said. "I just think that it's important that we make learning fun again."

Applications opened on April 1. Interested families may contact the school at rocksprings_es@ocps.net for more information.

Renewal Church partners with Rolling Hills Community Church at new location

By Sarah Merly
Reporter

Renewal Church recently launched Sunday services at Rolling Hills Community Church, with Renewal moving permanently from its former location at 2335 Appy Lane.

"This partnership reflects the heart of who we are," said Renewal pastor Jason Henderson. "It's about unity, stewardship, and creating a space for people to encounter hope and grow in their faith. With all of the renewal happening around the building, we're living up to our name."

Renewal is currently conducting renovations and repairs throughout the property, which also provides Renewal "a dedicated children's building de-



Photo by Ken Frazier

Renewal hosts its first communion at the new location.

signed to provide a safe, engaging, and faith-filled environment for kids of all ages," according to a March 31 press release.

"We've seen incredible growth in families," said Renewal Kids leader Traci Kieffer. "Having a space specifically designed for children allows us to better serve families and create meaningful ex-

periences for all learners, where they can learn about Jesus in a way that connects with them."

Renewal ministry director Judy Henderson said the partnership was based upon Rolling Hills' aging congregation and Renewal's outgrowing of its Appy Lane space.

"There was a lady in our church who ap-

proached us and said, 'We think that you should talk to my neighbor,' and he happened to be an elder at Rolling Hills Church," she said.

After multiple conversations, Renewal and Rolling Hills signed an intent to merge. The churches will not officially merge until December 2027, due to Rolling Hills' current agreement with the Alliance of Reformed Churches.

"We're grateful to see the building filled with new energy and families," said Ron Pruim, the Rolling Hills elder who had the initial conversation with Pastor Jason Henderson. "This partnership reflects a shared heart for the community and the next generation."

Foliage Sertoma Club sponsors Apopka Serves, Lifeboat Project

Club donates \$1,250 total

By Sarah Merly
Reporter

The Foliage Sertoma Club of Apopka donated a total of \$1,250 to two local charities at its Tuesday meeting.

Foliage Sertoma donated \$1,000 to The Lifeboat Project, a local nonprofit supporting survivors of human trafficking. The Apopka Serves Foundation received the other \$250, continuing Foliage Sertoma's partnership with the nonprofit's various programs.

"Foliage Sertoma Club of Apopka's mission is to be a service to mankind, and we believe giving to The Lifeboat Project helps meet their needs and honors our mission," said Foliage Sertoma president Eric Mock in a text message to The Apopka Chief. "Foliage Sertoma Club of Apopka is [also] proud to work alongside and offer a small financial gift to Apopka Serves Foundation."



Courtesy of Bev Winesburgh

L-R: Chad Creech from the Apopka Serves Foundation, club president Eric Mock, The Lifeboat Project's Emese Asztalos, and Piros Pazaurek.

Foliage Sertoma's nomination period for its 2026 Service to Mankind Honoree remains open through April 10. Those wishing to submit a nomination may find the form at foliagesertoma.org/forms/. Foliage Sertoma will honor selected individuals at an April 28 community dinner at the Fran Carlton Center.

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THEME: INSECTS

ACROSS

1. Ira ____ of NPR
6. Mr. Turkey
9. Gives the boot
13. Between octet and decet
14. Ginger one
15. Spherical bacteria
16. Popular ursine meme star
17. Public health org.
18. Mountaineer's tool (2 words)
19. *Fly larva
21. *World's noisiest insect
23. Comic book shriek
24. Like some excuses
25. Food safety org.
28. Man Ray's genre
30. Temporarily, legally speaking (2 words)
35. Like unpleasant awakening
37. 4th down kick
39. Quarter-round molding
40. Computer operating system
41. Metal bar
43. Mine passage
44. Antonym of exhume

DOWN

46. Expert
47. Strip of wood
48. Throws
50. It will
52. Concurrence word
53. Silo contents
55. Romanian money
57. *Bee's bounty
60. *Boll weevil, e.g.
63. Aquarium scum
64. *Lightning bug trap?
66. Brandish
68. Part of a flower
69. Bonanza find
70. Courtroom excuse
71. Whiskey grain, pl.
72. Coniferous tree
73. #52 Across, pl.

5. Not impromptu
6. Diplomat's asset
7. Antediluvian
8. Hajj destination
9. Cocaine plant
10. Got an A
11. March Madness org.
12. *Number of legs on an insect
15. Famous Roman orator
20. Giraffe's striped-legged cousin
22. Mischief-maker
24. Opposite of energetic
25. * ____ fly, first living creature sent to space
26. "I don't know," casually
27. #43 Across, pl.
29. * ____ beetle, world's strongest insect
31. *Shape of a ladybug or carpet beetle
32. Not tomorrow, not yesterday
33. Like basketball's final eight
34. *Lepidoptera members, not butterflies
36. Demi Moore and Bruce Willis, e.g.
38. Reason for suit
42. Tutu fabric
45. Duran Duran's 1984 hit, with The
49. "Monkey ____, monkey do"
51. Wiggle room
54. "Have a great time!"
56. Useful
57. Performance with acts
58. Lecherous look
59. "Betcha Can't Eat Just One" brand
60. Tea or beer
61. Hawaiian flower garlands
62. Major European river
63. Acronym, abbr.
65. "Roses ____ red"
67. Bad-mouth, slangily

CROSSWORD

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THIS WEEK'S PUZZLE ANSWERS

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

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RECUSAL

FROM A1

cy in the City’s election process.”

According to the city charter, the canvassing board reviews ballots and certifies election results.

Anderson’s recusal follows a comment she posted on Facebook endorsing Orange County Commissioner Christine Moore for the Apopka mayoral race.

“As a sitting commissioner who has served alongside Nick Nesta for the past two years, I am speaking from direct experience,” Anderson said in the comment. “In my view, his leadership style and actions do not reflect what is best for

the future of Apopka. While Commissioner Moore was not initially my first choice, when comparing the two candidates, I believe Moore is the better option for our city.”

In response to Anderson’s Facebook comment, Apopka resident Brian Mater, who is also Nesta’s campaign manager, hand-delivered a complaint to City Clerk Susan Bone on April 2.

“It has come to our attention that Commissioner Anderson publicly stated on social media that although one candidate ‘was not her first choice,’ she be-

lieves that candidate is ‘the better option for the City of Apopka,’” Mater said. “This statement clearly expresses support for a candidate in the same election for which the canvassing board is responsible for reviewing ballots, evaluating provisional votes, overseeing tabulation procedures, and certifying final results.”

Mater had requested that, if Anderson did not voluntarily recuse herself, the city would appoint an alternate board member “to ensure the integrity and public confidence in this election process.”

“While we recognize

and respect Commissioner Anderson’s service to the City, members of a municipal canvassing board are expected to maintain strict neutrality during the election certification process,” Mater said. “Publicly advocating for one candidate during an active election being canvassed creates a reasonable appearance of partiality and undermines public confidence in the impartial administration of the election.”

In a phone interview, Mater said the complaint was of his own volition and should be regarded separately from his position working for the Nesta campaign.

“This request is made in the interest of protecting transparency, fairness, and voter confidence in the City of Apopka’s election procedures,” Mater said in the complaint. “Maintaining appearance as well as the reality of impartial election oversight is essential to preserving trust in the outcome of this important municipal election.”

Anderson told The Apopka Chief that her decision to recuse herself was not related to the complaint.

In recent city meetings, she has twice criticized Nesta from the dais, saying he helped orchestrate a resi-

duency lawsuit and a complaint against her real estate license.

In an email to the Chief, she reiterated her preference in the mayoral runoff.

“I cannot support or stand with anyone who, in my view, uses their position to demean others, undermine city staff, or contribute to divisiveness within our community,” Anderson said. “My decision is rooted in my expectations for integrity, accountability, and respect in leadership. I will always stand on those principles and advocate for what I believe is in the best interest of Apopka.”

ELECTION

FROM A1

social media posts, door-knocking and sign-waving.

Policy differences, public endorsements and political alliances have shaped the runoff. Both candidates have also addressed governance and leadership style following voters’ decision on March 10 to retain the city’s strong-mayor form of government.

Nesta led the general election field with 41.6% of the vote, followed by Moore with 31.85%. The winner of Tuesday’s election will be sworn in alongside other newly elected officials on April 28.

Early voting started Monday and continues from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. through Sunday at the Apopka Community Center (519 S. Central Ave.). Early voting is also available from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Orange County Supervisor of

Elections Office (119 W. Kaley St., Orlando), but only through Friday.

Runoff highlights

The latest campaign finance reports—dated from March 14 to March 27—show Moore leading Nesta, having received \$16,350 in contributions, compared to Nesta receiving \$3,765 plus a \$50 in-kind contribution. Within the same treasurer’s report period, Moore’s expenditures were \$8,788.06 while Nesta’s were \$1,133.67, according to documents obtained from the city clerk’s office and reviewed by The Apopka Chief.

Moore’s total monetary contributions to date were \$111,086 and expenditures totaled \$82,692.32. Nesta’s total monetary contributions were \$19,591, while expenditures totaled \$13,972.58.



Photo by Dana O'Connor

Political signs sit outside the Apopka Community Center.

On March 23, Moore and Nesta faced off in the only mayoral debate of the runoff where they outlined differing approaches to development and growth, infrastructure and governance.

Moore, who currently serves as Orange County’s District 2 commission-

er, pointed to her regional experience and relationships at the county level, while Nesta highlighted his local governing record and familiarity with city operations.

During her closing statement, Moore highlighted collaboration with other government agencies and her experience in office.

“With Christine Moore, you’ll have a positive, collaborative relationship with county, state and federal agencies,” she said. “I will have no conflicts of interest as I will serve as your full-time mayor, and I will ensure growth pays for itself.”

In his closing statement, Nesta emphasized his commitment to residents, transparency and leadership as a city commissioner.

“Apopka deserves leadership that isn’t afraid to ask the hard questions, challenge bad decisions and put residents’ needs first,” he said.

Candidates snag endorsements

In the weeks following the general election, both candidates have received endorsements from local officials, organizations and community figures, reflecting broader political alignments within Apopka and Orange County.

Moore has secured endorsements from several current and former elected officials and community leaders, including Orange County Sheriff John Mina, five former Orange County commissioners and seven former Orange County School Board members.

Nesta has earned backing from local groups and public safety advocates, including the Apopka Professional Firefighters Association, which cited his support for staffing, training and fiscal priorities, as well as Yesenia Baron, commissioner-elect to Nesta’s seat.

“Commissioner Nesta understands the importance of protecting Apopka’s natural treasures, supporting our small businesses, and ensuring that growth is guided by vision and responsibility,” Baron wrote in a bilingual statement Nesta posted on his Facebook page. “He brings thoughtful, solution-oriented leadership and a clear plan for our city’s future. Most importantly, he is ready to implement the changes Apopka needs.”

A notable development

in the runoff has been Nelson’s post-election alignment with Moore, his political rival. Following his third-place finish, Nelson dropped his residency lawsuit against her and said he would support Moore in the runoff.

The alliance added a new dynamic to the race, as Nelson’s support could influence the 2,147 voters who backed him in the general election. The partnership stopped short of a formal endorsement but included coordinated outreach to voters and potential transition planning.

In her statement, Moore credited Nelson with strengthening the city’s finances, expanding higher-paying job opportunities, eliminating red-light cameras and promoting community engagement.

“It is vitally important to grow on these successes from day one in office,” Moore said.

Nesta said the alliance came as no surprise.

“The results from the March 10th election demonstrated that residents are paying close attention and want to have a real conversation about the future of our community,” Nesta wrote in a Facebook post. “Our campaign will remain focused on the issues that matter most to the people of Apopka: responsible leadership, trust, strengthening our community, and addressing the challenges our city faces.”

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POLICE BEAT

APD issues 127 citations March 29-April 4

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In the period from March 29-April 4, 2026, the Apopka Police Department received 1,585 calls for service, responded to 47 crashes, issued 127 citations, and made 29 arrests. Burglaries: 5 vehicles, 3 residences, 2 businesses. Juveniles were charged with trespassing-failure to leave property on order of owner; resist officer-obstruct without violence (X4); battery on person 65+ years of age; robbery-sudden snatch without firearm/weapon; probation violation-child in violation of imposed conditions; loitering-loiter/prowl in unusual place

or manner (X5).

The following adults were arrested and charged:

Karen Calderon Paredes, 32, 1819 Daffodil Ave., Apopka, larceny-other theft.

Maria Zambrano Sanchez, 33, 1819 Daffodil Ave., Apopka, larceny-other theft.

Pedro Gomez-Perez, 39, 823 S. Orange Blossom Trail, Apopka, DUI-unlawful blood alcohol 0.15 or higher.

Courtney Dean Burke, 51, 321 Seasons Ct., Apopka, drug equipment-possession and/or use; drugs-possession of controlled substance without prescription.

Darvin Dave Pierre-Louis, 20, 1316 Foxforrest Cir., Apopka, out-of-county warrant.

Cornelius Prenell Smith, 50, general delivery, Orlando, resist officer-obstruct without violence; larceny petit theft-merchandise farm transit 2+ prior conviction.

Jeffery Starmy Lampkin, 57, 539 Basie Pl., Orlando, larceny petit theft-merchandise

farm transit 2+ prior conviction; moving traffic violation-driving while license suspended, habitual offender.

Tyrone Moss, 63, 221 W. 20th St., Apopka, resist officer-obstruct without violence; burglary-unoccupied conveyance unarmed.

Rondrique Shonkay McMath, 49, 171 Rand Ct., Apopka, drugs-possession of controlled substance without prescription; moving traffic violation-driving while license suspended revocation, equivalent status 3rd subsequent violation.

Bobby Houston Bridges, 49, 1349 S. Highland Ave., Apopka, battery on specified personnel (X3); simple assault on specified personnel; resist officer with violence (X2); intimidation-threaten death/harm to law enforcement officer/state attorney/Assistant State Attorney; larceny petit theft-merchandise farm transit 2+ prior conviction.

Alfredo Jose Zamora, 67, 864 Lake Jackson Circle, Apopka, damage proper-

ty-criminal mischief damage property \$1,000+; burglary of occupied structure unarmed.

Kelly Elyse Woods, 48, 6312 Wynglow Ln., Orlando, drug equipment-possession and/or use; drugs-possession of controlled substance without prescription (MDMA); drugs-possession of controlled substance without prescription (cocaine).

Anthony Lopez Parker, 60, 612 N. 5th St., Haines City, out-of-county warrant; moving traffic violation-driving while license suspended, habitual offender.

Miguel Diego Guillermo, 27, Apopka, battery-touch or strike; out-of-county warrant-Orange County.

Daniel Charles Sookdeo, 27, 774 Welch Hill Cir., Apopka, drug equipment-possession and/or use; drugs-possession of controlled substance without prescription.

Ja Vonte` Tykie Nunn, 33, 1149 Allegro Pl., Dundee, battery-touch or strike.

Maurice Devonta Clark,

35, 1846 Spruce Ridge Dr., Orlando, trespassing-failure to leave property on order of owner.

Tuesday Lynn West, 46, 803 E. Magnolia St., Apopka, drugs-possession of controlled substance without prescription; drug equipment-possession and/or use.

Samuel C. Rodriguez Chereña, 46, 1860 Daffodil Ave., Apopka, drugs-possession of controlled substance without prescription; drug equipment-possession and/or use; out-of-county warrant.

Erniece Angel Louis, 19, 928 Wilson Ridge Dr. #1821, Orlando, stalking-sexually cyber harasses another person; larceny grand theft-property dwelling/curtilage \$40-\$750; burglary of occupied dwelling unarmed.

Troy Lee James, 39, 2109 Boy Scout Rd., Apopka, drugs-possession of controlled substance without prescription.

Bryan Mark Gilman, 30, general delivery, Apopka, lar-

ceny petit theft-merchandise farm transit 2+ prior conviction; obstructing justice-tamper with evidence in criminal proceeding.

Jaime Jose Marin Izarza, 31, 5300 Cinderlane Pkwy., Orlando, grand theft-property value \$750-\$5,000,

Ramon Vincent Caro, 32, 142 W. Michael Gladden Blvd., Apopka, battery-touch or strike.

Eviley De Jesu Romero Linares, 33, 5312 Cinderlane Pkwy., Orlando, grand theft-property value \$750-\$5,000.

Javier Chona, 33, 3615 Benito Juarez Cir., Apopka, family offense-civil writ of attach.

Marguita Munique McMiller, 37, general delivery, Orlando, other agency warrant.

Berisha Nakay Williams, 47, 1168 S. Hawthorne Ave., Apopka, other agency warrant.

Lan T. Nguyen, 55, general delivery, Orlando, larceny petit theft-merchandise farm transit 2+ prior conviction.

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Apopka softball extends win streak to 6 games

Blue Darters beat Mount Dora, Boone

By Vinnie Cammarano
Reporter

After capturing the Metro Conference Championship last week against Boone, Apopka's softball team came back home to shut out Mount Dora, 5-0, Tuesday night, stretching the Blue Darter winning streak to six games.

Mia Aeschilman started in the pitcher's circle against the Hurricanes (8-8), allowing one hit and no runs through the first two innings

to earn the win. Apopka (12-4) caught immediate fire on offense and did all its damage during those two early frames.

After Alicia Lopez opened the first with a double to right field, Taylor Smith stepped to the plate and launched a no-doubt missile over the right field fence for her third home run of the year.

Up 2-0 in the second inning, Shylah Pino sparked a two-out rally with a singled to center. Lopez brought her home with another double. After Smith walked, both

runners moved ahead on a wild pitch. Riley Ford then scored them with a line drive to left field to make it 5-0.

In the top of the third inning, Ava Millspaugh stepped into the pitcher's circle and struck out the side. She kept the Hurricanes scoreless and only allowed one baserunner for the remainder of the game.

Both teams cruised through multiple hitless innings as the rest of the game moved quickly. The Blue Darter offense finished with six hits and did not strike out at the plate. Aeschilman and

Millspaugh combined on a two-hit shutout.

On April 4, Apopka's Metro Conference Championship game in Boone held a completely different story, with the Blue Darters needing to overcome a one-run deficit.

This was the first conference championship in many years that featured the winners from the Metro West and Metro East.

The ballgame started with a plethora of base hits for Apopka. Singles for Pino and Lopez led to a fielder's choice hit from Smith, where

Boone got the force out at third base. Sydney Bartkin lined a single to right field to load the bases, then Ford ripped a grounder through the infield to score Lopez.

Boone made a great play at the plate, gunning out Smith sliding home. But with two outs, Ava Gonzalez lined a single into left field to score Bartkin and make it 2-0.

Boone's answer came in the bottom of the second after a double and sacrifice bunt put a runner at third. An RBI single and a sacrifice fly tied



Photo by Vinnie Cammarano
Ava Millspaugh delivers a pitch against Horizon.

SOFTBALL, B3

Apopka falls in extra-inning thriller



Photo by Vinnie Cammarano

Collin Van Fleet applies the tag at home plate after right fielder JD Edge made a strong throw to cut down the game-winning run in the seventh inning.

Collin Van Fleet, JD Edge make highlight plays

By Vinnie Cammarano
Reporter

On a rainy Wednesday night at Orel Hershiser Field in Orlando, Apopka baseball

battled through slick conditions and extra innings but fell just short in a 3-2 walk-off loss to The First Academy Royals.

Head coach Scott Garland praised his team's composure in difficult conditions while pointing to missed offensive opportunities as the difference.

"It's tough to play in these conditions, but they didn't let it bother them," Garland said. "They took care of business in the field, but we just didn't have enough offense tonight. We got guys in scoring position and couldn't come up with that hit when we needed it."

The Blue Darters (13-

9) wasted no time setting the tone.

In the top of the first inning, third-hole batter Collin Van Fleet jumped on a pitch and nuked it deep over the left field fence for a solo home run, giving the Blue Darters an immediate lead.

BASEBALL, B2

Wekiva honors flag football seniors

Mustangs fight to the end against Lake Brantley

By Vinnie Cammarano
Reporter

Senior night at Wekiva brought emotion and resilience to Mustang Field, as the school honored nine seniors before falling to Lake Brantley, 19-6, on April 2.

Despite the loss, head coach Alex Vazquez praised the girls for playing under tough circumstances.

"I'm proud of the girls. They fought hard even though we're undermanned," Vazquez said. "We got hit by a strep throat bug, so we were down four starters. Playing eight girls against 15 is tough, but they fought the whole way. A couple of mistakes go our way, and we might be back in this game."

Wekiva (5-7) recognized Iyianna Bridgman-Johnson,



Photo by Vinnie Cammarano

Seniors pose with their senior night posters and Coach Alex Vazquez.

Kimani Miller, Jayla Bernard, Kiamora Antrum, Eliana Edouard, Makayla Bell, Ashley Llera, Kyana Soto and Paris Blackwood prior to kickoff—a group Vazquez has coached over the past two seasons and watched grow both on and off the field.

The Mustangs opened the game with possession and showed early promise. A short completion and roughing the passer penalty moved the chains, and Soto broke

free across the middle for a gain to midfield. Another penalty pushed Wekiva into Lake Brantley territory, but the drive stalled on fourth down after an incompleteness.

Defensively, the Mustangs brought energy. Wekiva forced a fourth down near midfield on Lake Brantley's opening drive and came up with a stop, swarming to shut down a short-yardage run.

Momentum quickly shifted on the Mustangs' next

possession.

On the second play of the drive, a pass was intercepted and returned for a touchdown, giving Lake Brantley an early 7-0 lead after the extra point.

Quarterback Kiamora Antrum looked to respond, using her legs to pick up 15 yards over the next series and move Wekiva downfield. However, a pair of incompleteness and a short gain forced a punt.

In the second quarter, the Patriots extended their lead. After a defensive stand was negated by a roughing the passer penalty, Lake Brantley drove into the red zone. Soto nearly came up with an interception on a pass break-up near the goal line, but afterward the Patriots connected on a short touchdown pass. Wekiva stopped the extra point but trailed 13-0.

The Mustangs continued

FLAG FOOTBALL, B3

Wekiva water polo splashes through district tournament

Boys late rally against Bishop Moore falls short

By Vinnie Cammarano
Reporter

Wekiva's boys and girls water polo teams took the pool Tuesday night at Winter Park High School for the district semifinals, facing two tough opponents in matches that ended in defeat.

The girls team (2-12) ran into a strong Winter Park squad (13-8) and fell 13-1 despite a defensive effort that showed strength in parts of the game.

Winter Park set the tone early, scoring on its opening possession before capitalizing on turnovers to build a quick lead. The Wildcats added two more goals before Wekiva could settle in, and a late score at the end of the first quarter made it 4-0.

Despite the deficit, the Mustangs showed resilience on the defensive end in the second quarter. Wekiva forced multiple shot clock violations, disrupting Winter Park's rhythm. Bryanna Hernandez blocked two separate passing lanes before coming up with a steal, highlighting the team's effort.

Goalkeeper Sydney Cooper also played strong for Wekiva. She delivered a series of tough saves, including a one-handed stop that prevented another scoring opportunity and kept the game from getting out of hand early.

Offensively, Wekiva struggled to break through against a strong Winter Park defense. Senior Avery Megargee generated several chances, including a long-range attempt and another shot off a foul that forced a quality save from the Wild-

cats' goalkeeper.

Winter Park continued to control possession and added to its lead, going into halftime up 7-0.

The third quarter saw both teams trade turnovers and defensive stops. Megargee fired a long-distance shot late in the period that was stopped, keeping the Mustangs off the board heading into the final quarter.

Winter Park extended its lead early in the fourth, continuing to find openings offensively.

Wekiva avoided the shutout in the closing minutes. With just under two minutes remaining, the Mustangs found Megargee in the middle, where she finished for Wekiva's lone goal of the match. The Wildcats added late scores to close out the 13-1 win.

Wekiva vs Bishop Moore boys

The Wekiva boys team (14-7) delivered a much tighter contest in its semifinal matchup against Bishop Moore (10-7), rallying from an early deficit before falling 11-9.

Head coach Todd Stieger pointed to the slow start and aggressive play as key factors in the loss.

"My boys definitely struggled this game," Stieger said. "That team we faced played really, really aggressive water polo, and it takes a lot to adapt to that. We didn't show up to play the first quarter."

Bishop Moore struck first and quickly built momentum, taking advantage of early possessions to go up 3-0. Wekiva struggled to find its footing offensively in the opening minutes, with shots either saved or missing the mark.

WATER POLO, B3



Photo by Vinnie Cammarano

Holden Pedrick rises up to whip in a shot late against Bishop Moore.

Shellcrackers bite big in Lake Kissimmee

Hello Folks,
We're finally gettin' some rain this week, and I just want to thank all of you for your prayers. The rain will not only help our lakes, but our yards, as well! Thanks again for your prayers.



GOIN' FISHIN'

Jim Keck
Correspondent

The fishin' is still doin' good, or really good, dependin' on what you're fishin' for. I spoke to John Bitters, and he reports that folks're catchin' specks in Lake Jessup up under the 417 bridge. Along with the specks, folks're catchin' buckets of catfish. Most of the specks in Lake Monroe and in the St. Johns River have slowed down a good bit, and now it's a waiting game for the shell-

crackers.

The shellcrackers are still goin' strong in Lake Kissimmee. Folks're gettin' their limits fishin' in the pads. The bass fishin' in the Butler Chain is still doin' good with plenty of bass bein' caught in the 1- to 2-pound range. So... topwater baits early in the mornin', and lipless crankbaits when they come up

schoolin'!

And, the bass are still schoolin' in the northern end of the St. Johns River from Astor to Hontoon Island. Folks're still catchin' em on lipless crankbaits, Bitter's Vibe, and Bitter's Swimmers. There is a big shad spawn goin' on in the Harris Chain and the Kissimmee Chain. You need to keep an eye out for schoolers feedin' on the shad; usually you'll have bass feedin' on the shad!

Lake Fairview bass fishin' is still good. Folks're catchin' plenty of bass durin' the daylight hours as well as in the evenin'. There are plenty of schoolers in the Maitland Chain, and folks

are even catchin' em from the shoreline. You'll do best with shiners fished over the submerged hydrilla and eelgrass throughout the chain.

I've got to say the bass fishin' is a little slow on Johns Lake. Last week on the Wednesday night shootout, it only took 10.20 pounds to win. The team of Adan Edgington and Uby Rosell won the tournament, and they also had Big Bass that hit the scales at 5.90 pounds. There were 20 boats that fished that night.

At the Headwaters (down at Fellsmere), the fishin' is doin' really good. Folks're gettin' on the water and catchin' plenty of bass on

shiners down there.

And, a little further on down the state, the bass fishin' on Lake Okeechobee is goin' great guns! There's a tournament called The Roland Martin Marine Center Series that's held out of Roland Martins Marine in Clewiston on the south side of the "Big O." The team of King and Clement won that tournament with five bass that hit the scales at 34.40 pounds. The team of McBeath and Stephens caught the Big Bass of the tournament, and it weighed in at 8.35 pounds. There were 32 teams that had bags the weighed over 20 pounds. In all, there were 111 teams that fished the tourna-

ment. Also, there were five bass brought to the scales that weighed in at over 8 pounds. So, it's safe to say, the bass fishin' on the south end of Lake Okeechobee is doin' just fine!

Well, folks that's it for this week. I hope you get a chance to do some fishin' this week or over the weekend. The rain we're havin' this week has dropped the temperatures a little bit, so it should be really nice on the water.

See ya next week!
Tip of the week: It's time to go fishin'!

SAVE A FEW AND GOOD LUCK!

BASEBALL

FROM B1

On the mound, Camron Pennock matched that energy. After the Royals' leadoff batter reached on an infield hit, Pennock quickly picked him off at first base to erase the threat. Despite an error, Pennock settled in and struck out the next two batters to keep Apopka in front.

The Blue Darters had chances to add on early. Nico Posluszny lined a single past shortstop in the second, but Apopka couldn't bring him around.

Pennock continued to battle through traffic in the bottom half, working around two walks by striking out the side.

In the third, Pennock allowed a single and a pair of walks to load the bases with two outs. With pressure mounting, the Royals chopped a ball to third, where Jez Hamrick charged and made a strong throw across the diamond to preserve the 1-0 advantage.

Hamrick led off the fourth with a double into right field and advanced to third on a groundout, but the Blue Darters couldn't



Photo by Vinnie Cammarano

Jez Hamrick leads off of third base.

capitalize.

Aiden Rieli came on in relief and delivered a clean fourth inning, but the Royals broke through in the fifth. A leadoff double and a wild pitch moved a runner into scoring position, and a sacrifice fly to center field brought him home to tie the game at 1-1.

Apopka responded immediately.

Van Fleet was hit by a pitch, and courtesy runner Chance Saunders stole second to get into scoring position. After Hamrick drew an intentional walk and Pennock executed a bunt to move both runners up, Saunders broke for home on a wild pitch and slid in safely, giving Apopka a 2-1 lead.

Once again, however, the Blue Darters were un-



Photo by Vinnie Cammarano

Aiden Rieli on the mound in relief, winds up a pitch.

able to add insurance, leaving runners on base.

In the sixth, after Rieli walked the first two batters, Tyler Spaid came on in relief, but a perfectly placed bunt loaded the bases with no outs. A sacrifice fly tied the game at 2-2, though Apopka limited the damage by throwing out a runner attempting to advance and recording a strikeout to escape the inning.

Both teams were held scoreless through seventh inning, but not without drama.

In the bottom half, The First Academy threatened a walk-off after loading the bases. Anthony Raymond came in to pitch and delivered. A deep fly ball to right field looked like it could end the game, but JD Edge made the catch and fired a strike to the plate. Van Fleet handled the throw perfectly and applied the tag to cut down the winning run at home, preserving the tie and sending the Apopka dugout into celebration.

Raymond coaxed another flyout to escape the inning and force extras.

Apopka's offense had one last chance in the eighth. Spaid worked a full count and reached on an errant throw, but the Blue Darters couldn't bring him home, flying out to end the frame.

In the bottom half, the Royals capitalized.

A hit batter and a walk put immediate pressure on Apopka, and after multiple bunt attempts, The First Academy successfully laid

one down the third base line to load the bases. With one out, a chopper to shortstop proved difficult to handle, and the runner came home to score the winning run, sealing the 3-2 victory.

Garland highlighted the team's defensive effort, particularly the game-saving play at the plate.

"Defense was as solid as it's been, and JD comes up with that big throw to the plate," he said. "As usual, Collin is sound behind the plate and took care of business."

With the postseason approaching, Garland emphasized the urgency for his team moving forward.

"We've got to win," he said. "We're sitting as an 8 seed in the region, and if there's any upset and we don't win the district, we're going to get knocked out. So we've got to win. That's the bottom line."

Apopka will close out its regular season at home Thursday against Olympia before turning its full attention to the district tournament.

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WATER POLO

FROM B1

Cameron Parry got the Mustangs on the board with a deep shot, and Holden Pedrick followed with a spinning backhand finish off a distant pass to make it 4-2 by the end of the first quarter.

Defensively, goalkeeper Jaison Harris kept Wekiva within reach. He made multiple saves, including stops on point blank attempts and breakaways, while John Foster contributed with a crucial block to disrupt a scoring chance.

Bishop Moore extended its lead in the second quarter, capitalizing on miscommunication near the goal and converting on a breakaway to go up

6-3, then 7-3 at halftime. Wekiva continued to struggle creating space offensively, often overshooting or turning the ball over under aggressive pressure.

The Mustangs responded in the third quarter with their best stretch of the night.

After Bishop Moore scored to open the half, Parry answered with a goal, then added another following a strong defensive sequence. Nicholas Woodward chipped in with a goal, and Pedrick blasted a shot past the keeper on a counter-attack to bring Wekiva within one at 8-7.

Harris continued to anchor the

defense, including a highlight save where he came out of the goal to stuff a breakaway attempt, helping fuel the Mustangs momentum.

Wekiva completed the comeback early in the fourth quarter.

After forcing a turnover, Pedrick pushed the ball up the pool and found Foster in the middle for a close-range finish, tying the match at 8-8.

Bishop Moore responded quickly.

Following a timeout, the Hornets regained the lead with a nifty sidarm shot, then capitalized on back-to-back turnovers by Wekiva, converting both into breakaway goals to stretch the lead to three with under two minutes

remaining.

Wekiva had chances to close the gap, creating open looks for Pedrick, but the Bishop Moore goalkeeper came up with several big saves down the stretch. Harris answered with multiple late stops of his own, including back-to-back saves on another breakaway and rebound, but the Mustangs couldn't convert offensively in the final moments.

Bishop Moore controlled possession in the closing seconds to seal the 11-9 win.

Coach Stieger noted familiarity with needing to come out stronger.

"We got down and we came back,

but we do that sometimes. When you don't come out with the right attitude, you don't project the right score."

Despite the loss, Wekiva finished third in the district and will advance to the regional tournament as the No. 6 seed in its bracket.

Stieger emphasized the need to capitalize on opportunities moving forward.

"We had nine chances on our man-up offense and only scored one time," he said. "We're going to heavily focus on that and just playing the right game. We've got to come out with the right attitude and finish the chances we should score."

FLAG FOOTBALL

FROM B1

to battle.

Paris Blackwood provided a spark with a 20-yard completion up the sideline, then followed with another catch to move the offense into Lake Brantley territory. Antrum connected with Bernard and benefited from another penalty to push the ball inside the 25-yard line.

Facing fourth-and-one, Wekiva had a chance to cut into the deficit, but the pass was deflected.

Wekiva's defense answered again late in the half, but the offense didn't have enough time to capitalize and went to the locker room down 13-0.

Lake Brantley added to its

lead in the third quarter. A deflected pass was intercepted and returned for a touchdown, extending the margin to 19-0.

After stopping Lake Brantley's next possession, the Mustangs finally broke through late in the third quarter. Antrum rolled left and found Hunt along the sideline. Hunt made the first defender miss, then outran the rest down the sideline for a touchdown, putting Wekiva on the board at 19-6.

Lake Brantley threatened to respond, driving deep into Wekiva territory, but Hunt came up big again—this time on defense—stepping in front of a pass near the end zone for an interception to halt the drive.

Soto added an interception late, and Blackwood made one of the night's most impressive plays, hauling in a deep jump ball between four defenders and turning it into a 20-yard gain. With under a minute remaining, Wekiva took a few final shots downfield, but couldn't convert.

As the clock ran out, the scoreboard showed a loss, but the effort told a different story.

Vazquez, who was passionate and vocal on the sideline throughout the game, emphasized his love for the program.

"I just like giving back to the kids. I love the sport, I love football, and I love that these

girls are getting an opportunity to play a game that I love," he said. "It's about them, not me. I just try to make them love this game as much as I do."

For the senior class, the night marked the end of their high school football careers and a reflection of how far they've come.

"The last two years I've got to work with them, they are leaps and bounds better than they were," Vazquez said. "Even though the record's not where we want it to be, they're so much better than last year. The way they listen, the way they take direction, the way they fight until the very end—it's just something to see."



Photo by Vinnie Cammarano

Dangerous collision at midfield results in a great pass breakup on fourth down for the Mustangs.

SOFTBALL

FROM B1

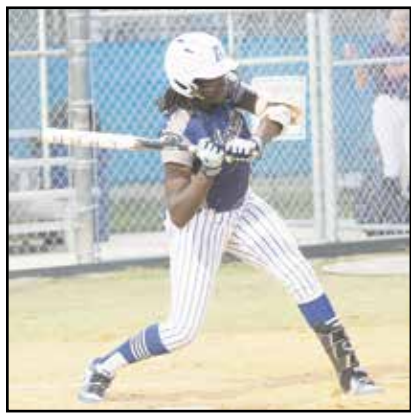


Photo by Vinnie Cammarano

Taylor Smith lays off a ball on the plate.

the game for the Braves.

In the third inning, Apopka left a runner in scoring position and Boone capitalized. A leadoff single forced a pitching change to Millspaugh. Another single advanced the runner, and a sacrifice fly to right field gave the Braves the lead. Millspaugh fanned the last batter, but the Blue Darters had work to do.

They got right to it in the fourth. Callie Sowers reached first on an error, and Lopez made them pay for it, drilling a line drive double to left to tie the game.

After a three up, three down bot-

tom of the fourth from Millspaugh, Apopka retook its lead with an emphatic hit. Victoria Shaw stepped into the batter's box with one out and drove a moonshot over the center field fence for the 4-3 lead.

Millspaugh kept the Apopka lead intact through the fifth and sixth, inducing multiple groundouts and flyouts while striking out a batter.

In the top of the seventh, the Blue Darters stamped down an exclamation point.

With two outs, Hagan McGatlin started a rally with a double to

left. Sowers scored her with a single. Pino doubled to center to drive her in, and Lopez followed with a single to center. On an errant throw to the infield, Pino scored and Lopez advanced, making it 7-3.

Boone intentionally walked the dangerous Smith, but it didn't work in their favor as Bartkin smoked a line drive to the right field gap to score both runners and blow the game wide open, 9-3.

Millspaugh a logged strikeout and two groundouts to end the game and ignite a championship celebration from the Lady Darters.

Apopka finished with 15 hits and only struck out once. Aeschilman and Millspaugh combined for five strikeouts.

Lopez has been stellar and a key piece to their six-game win streak. In this stretch, she is batting a .636 with 15 hits, 11 RBIs, and 9 runs scored.

Pino continues her consistent production at the top of the lineup, batting .550 with 12 hits, eight runs, and five stolen bases. Ford added nine hits and six RBIs during the win streak.

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VERSE OF THE WEEK

"When your words came, I ate them; they were my joy and my heart's delight, for I bear your name, Lord God Almighty."

—Jeremiah 15:16

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Sanford

Driver's Mart
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FOR 90 DAYS***



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Driver's Mart Sanford
105 N. Oregon St.
Sanford, FL 32771

Driver's Mart Winter Park
1970 SR 436
Winter Park, FL 32792

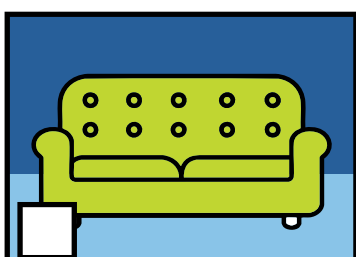
DriversMartUSA.com

Sanford: 407-646-3500
Winter Park: 407-645-1234

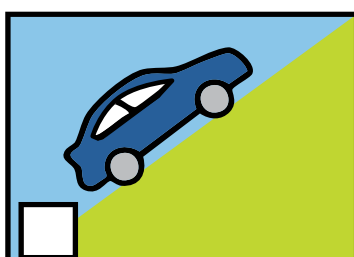
Fuel the Fun at HollerClassic.com/games

This or That...

Driver's Edition



Comfort



Capability



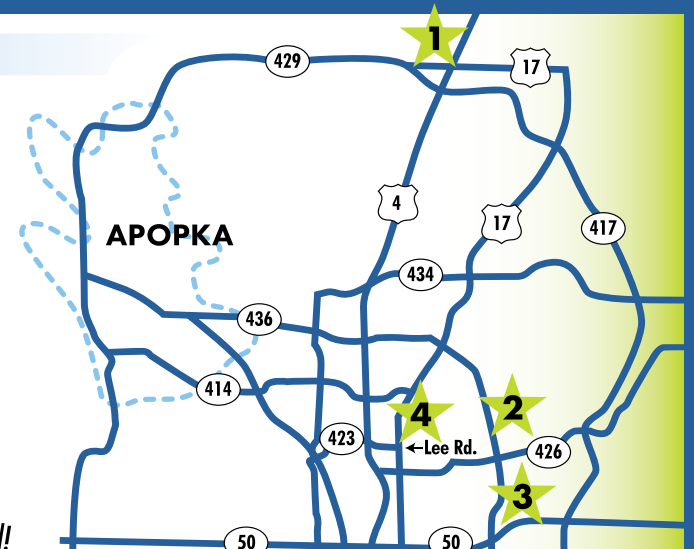
Select and enter your answer.

04/10/2026

Store Locator

- ★ **Driver's Mart**
Sanford
- ★ **Driver's Mart**
Winter Park
- ★ **Holler Honda**
Buy Smart — Be Happy®
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*Apopka's Neighbors —
Just 25 Minutes Down the Road!*



SHOP NEW

SHOP USED

SHOP CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

Friday, April 10

Comics Spring Sale

4 p.m. at 8010 Sunport Drive, Orlando

A weekend warehouse sale featuring comics, collectibles, games and more with discounts increasing daily. Sales runs April 10-12.

Spring Friday Nights

5 p.m. at 445 N. Park Ave., Winter Park

Live music performances take place in the galleries during evening hours.

Couples Date Night

6 p.m. at 975 W. Fairbanks Ave., Orlando

Couples create custom candles while enjoying mimosas, charcuterie and a guided conversation game.

Cheers To Change

6 p.m. at 777 E. Princeton St., Orlando

A disco-themed fundraiser with music, dancing, food and a silent auction supporting survivors of trauma and violence.

Cheese and Charcuterie

6 p.m. at 1225 N. Orange Ave., Orlando

Participants build a spring-themed charcuterie cup in this hands-on workshop.

Sunshine State Soirée

6 p.m. at 290 Holden Ave., Orlando

An outdoor evening with Florida-inspired food, drinks, live music and auctions supporting

conservation efforts.

Maitland Jazz and Blues Festival

6 p.m. at 1776 Independence Lane, Maitland

A festival featuring live jazz and blues performances from acclaimed artists.

Orlando Shakes

7 p.m. at 812 E. Rollins St., Orlando

A fast-paced theater performance exploring democracy, equality and the Constitution.

In-Store Author Signing

7 p.m. at 3018 Corrine Drive, Orlando

Author Jahquel J signs copies of his latest book and meets attendees.

Saturday, April 11

Orange Blossom Jazz Festival (Day 2 of 2)

8 a.m. at 3710 Jason Dwellley Parkway, Apopka

The second day of a jazz festival featuring live performances and entertainment.

Rummage Sale

9 a.m. at 1052 W. Morse Blvd., Winter Park

A sale featuring household items, books, decor, and clothing benefiting the Winter Park Library's Teen Advisory Board scholarship fund.

Cookies & Milk with a Cop

11 a.m. at 1211 E. Semoran Blvd., Apopka

A family-friendly storytime event with local police officers.

Florida Groves Festival

Noon at 4603 W. Colonial Drive,



Courtesy of Coliseum of Comics Warehouse

The Coliseum of Comics Spring 2026 Warehouse Sale is running April 10-12, featuring comics, collectibles, and games with increasing discounts.

Orlando

A festival featuring live music, including performances by Honey Hounds, along with vendors and entertainment.

In-Store Author Signing

Noon at 3018 Corrine Drive, Orlando

Author C.G. Coppola meets attendees and signs copies of their work.

Collective Corner Market

Noon at 195 N. Rosalind Ave., Orlando

A pop-up book shop featuring romance titles at Lake Eola Park.

Line Dancing

6:30 p.m. at 40 E. Fifth St., Apopka

A beginner-friendly line dancing event with music, food, and drinks.

Sunday, April 12

"Where the Wild Things Are"

9:30 a.m. at 1300 S. Denning Drive, Winter Park

A children's theater series where participants explore storytelling,

puppetry, and performance while bringing the story of Max to life.

Morning Tea

10:30 a.m. at 2416 N. Mills Ave., Orlando

A family-friendly tea experience featuring curated teas, sandwiches, and pastries in a garden-inspired setting during Art in Bloom.

Monday, April 13

Stained Glass Butterfly

4:30 p.m. at 1211 E. Semoran Blvd., Apopka

A hands-on workshop where participants create a stained glass-inspired butterfly using simple materials. Ages 18+.

Mark This Moment

7:30 p.m. at 1000 Holt Ave., #2730, Winter Park

An evening featuring personal stories, speakers, and worship.

Tuesday, April 14

Jazz Ensemble II Concert

8 p.m. at 4000 Central Florida Blvd., Orlando

Bang performance featuring a mix of jazz.

Headbangers Ball Cover Show

8 p.m. at 1042 N. Mills Ave., Orlando

Show featuring tribute performances covering bands like Danzig, Slayer, and Tool.

Wednesday, April 15

Candle Making

6:00 p.m. at 975 W. Fairbanks Ave., Orlando

A networking event for entrepreneurs featuring a hands-on candle-making experience and opportunities to connect with other business owners.

Coming up at the APOPKA AMPHITHEATER Spring concert series

APRIL 18

International Jazz Day presented by HAPCO - 5 p.m.-7 p.m. (Free)

MAY 2

The Fire Rhythms Band - 5 p.m.-7 p.m. (Free)

MAY 16

The Dave Matthews Tribute Band - 5 p.m.-7 p.m. (Free)

MAY 23

R&B Picnic Fest with Ball Greezy & Sunshine Anderson - 4 p.m.-10 p.m. (Ticketed Events)

3710 Jason Dwellley Parkway

Dumplings, casserole and a table full of comfort

We have a lovely (and simple to follow) recipe for chicken and dumplings from a blog named The Novice Chef Blog. I quote, "This Southern Homemade Chicken and Dumplings recipe is made completely from scratch for the ultimate comfort food dinner! Made with tender chicken and rolled (flat) dumplings in a rich, savory broth!" It makes enough for 10 servings. That's enough for company or a good-sized family!



Ree Drummond of *The Pioneer Woman.com* has some wonderful recipes, including one called Sausage Breakfast Casserole. This one is an "easy make-ahead breakfast casserole."

Here is a recipe for Sweet Potato Fries from Marvin Woods that he has in his book, titled *The New Low-Country Cooking*. This one looks scrump-dilly-icious! He says, "Simple to make, these are a nice change of pace from ordinary French fries. I serve these fries with steak or pork chops, but they work well with most anything that you would ordinarily serve with French fries."

Neoma Knox's Broccoli and Cauliflower Salad is so tasty. Neoma was our General Manager for many years, but she has left this life behind. We loved her very much. She did leave us her spectacular broccoli and cauliflower salad (which I personally have eaten and could not get enough of!) along with many beautiful memories. We thank New Vision Community Church for sharing the recipe in their book titled, *Feeding the Flock*.

SOUTHERN HOMEMADE CHICKEN AND DUMPLINGS

From thenovicechefblog.com

INGREDIENTS:

For the Soup:

- 3 pounds chicken, any chicken pieces you want
- 3 medium carrots, cut into half moons
- 3 celery ribs, sliced
- 1 large white or yellow onion, diced
- 3 garlic cloves, halved
- 2 sprigs fresh thyme, optional
- 6 cups water, or chicken broth (for

more flavor)

- 1 tablespoon white vinegar
- 1 tablespoon chicken bouillon (like Better Than Bouillon)
- 1/2 teaspoon freshly cracked black pepper, plus more for garnish
- 2 bay leaves
- 3 tablespoons cornstarch, optional for thickening

For the Dumplings:

- 2 cups all-purpose flour, plus more for dusting counter
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/3 cup shortening, cold, or butter
- 3/4 cup buttermilk, cold

INSTRUCTIONS:

For the Soup: 1) In a large deep heavy bottom pot, like a Dutch oven, add the chicken, carrots, celery, onion, garlic, thyme, water, vinegar, bouillon, pepper, and bay leaves. Bring to a simmer over medium-high heat and cook for 30 minutes. 2) **For the Dumplings:** While the soup is cooking, combine the flour, baking powder, and salt in a medium sized bowl. Use a fork and cut in the shortening until small pea sizes remain, then stir in the buttermilk. Mix it all together and knead for 30 seconds. 3) Dust a flat surface with flour and roll out the dough to about 1/4 inch thickness. (Add extra flour if your dough is sticking while rolling it out.) 4) Use a knife or pizza cutter to slice the dough into 1" by 2" rectangle pieces (does not need to be exact in size). Let the dough dry while the soup continues to cook. 5) **Back to the Soup:** When the chicken is cooked, remove it from the soup and shred it. Remove the thyme sprigs and discard. Stir the chicken back into the soup. 6) Bring soup back to a low boil (over medium heat) and drop the dumpling pieces into the soup a few at a time, stirring often so they don't all stick together. Cook for 15 to 20 minutes, until they are tender and cooked through. Dumplings may start to sink a little to the bottom as they finish cooking and they soak up the broth. 7) **Thicken if Needed:** The soup will have thickened while adding the dumplings; however, if the broth is too thin for your tastes, combine 3 tablespoons of water and the cornstarch and pour into the broth, gently stirring to combine. Cook

for about 5 minutes, until thickened. 8) Remove from the heat, taste and adjust salt and pepper if needed and serve immediately!

SAUSAGE BREAKFAST CASSEROLE

Recipe from ThePioneerWoman.com

- Butter or nonstick spray
- 1 pound breakfast sausage (such as Jimmy Dean)
- 4 scallions, chopped, white and green parts, divided
- 1 red bell pepper, chopped
- 10 eggs
- 1-1/4 cup heavy cream
- 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
- 2 teaspoons hot sauce, optional
- 1-1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon black pepper
- 2 cups shredded sharp cheddar cheese, divided (8-ounce portions)
- 1 30-ounce package frozen shredded hash browns, thawed

1) Grease 9 x 13-inch (or other 3-quart) baking dish with butter or nonstick spray. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. 2) Heat a large skillet over medium-high heat. Add the sausage and break up into small pieces with a wooden spoon. Cook the meat until no pink pieces remain, about 6-8 minutes. Add the red bell pepper and white and light-green parts of the scallions, and cook 3 more minutes. Transfer to a plate to let cool slightly. 3) Meanwhile, in a large bowl, whisk together the eggs, heavy cream, mustard, hot sauce, salt, black pepper and about one-half of the remaining green parts of the scallions (save the rest to sprinkle on top of the casserole once baked.) Gently fold in 1-1/2 cups of cheese, the THAWED hash-browns, and the sausage mixture into the egg mixture. Transfer all to the baking dish and smooth into an even layer. 4) Cover with aluminum foil and bake for 50 minutes. Remove the foil, and top with the remaining 1/2-cup of cheese. Increase the oven temperature to 400 degrees and finish baking until the center of the casserole is set (not jiggly) and the top is slightly golden, 10-15 more minutes. Let rest 10 minutes, top with the remaining green parts of the scallions, then serve.

SWEET POTATO FRIES

The New Low-Country Cooking by Marvin Woods

- 1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 1/2 teaspoon chili powder
- 1/2 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon celery salt
- 1/4 teaspoon ground coriander
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cumin
- Vegetable oil for deep frying
- 6 sweet potatoes, cut into julienne strips

In a small bowl, stir together the nutmeg, chili powder, cayenne, celery salt, coriander, and cumin.

In a deep fryer or a large deep skillet, heat the oil over medium-high heat until it registers 375 degrees Fahrenheit on a deep-fat thermometer. Add the sweet potato strips and cook until crispy and golden, 5 to 7 minutes. Using a slotted spoon, transfer the cooked sweet potatoes to several layers of paper towels to drain. Sprinkle with the spice mixture.

NEOMA KNOX'S BROCCOLI AND CAULIFLOWER SALAD

Recipe from New Vision Community Church's *Feeding the Flock*

Salad:

- 1 bunch cauliflower
- 1 bunch broccoli
- 5 strips crisp bacon
- 1/2 cup medium size red onion
- 1/2 cup golden raisins

Dressing:

- 1 cup mayonnaise
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 tablespoon cider vinegar

Break and cut broccoli and cauliflower into bite-sized pieces. Broccoli stems may be used if peeled to soft center. (Hint: large pieces are easy to strip.) Break bacon into small pieces. Slice the onion into rings. Mix all the ingredients together.

Dressing: Combine mayonnaise, sugar and vinegar; pour over the salad and mix well. Refrigerate in air-tight container. Chill at least four hours; tip container to spread dressing evenly throughout.

NOTICE OF SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLE
Pursuant to Florida Statute 713.585, **Autopoint General Repair & Sales** will sell at public sale for cash the following described vehicle(s) **2016 DODGE CHALLENGER** VIN#2C3CDZF33GH101260 located at lienor's place to satisfy a claim of lien. Lien Amt: \$4,695.40. Sale Date: May 4th, 2026 08:00 AM. At Location Address 1455 West Landstreet Rd Suite 403 Orlando Fl 32824 and phone # 407-859-9901. 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. April 10, 2026

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT ORANGE COUNTY FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION
File No. 2026-CP-350-O
Division
IN RE: ESTATE OF RODNEY LEE LYON DECEASED.
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the estate of Rodney Lee Lyon, deceased, whose date of death was October 17, 2025, is pending in the Circuit Court for Orange County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 425 N. Orange Avenue, Orlando, Florida 32801. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.
All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.
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 April 3, 2026.
Personal Representative:
/s/ Regina Martin
Regina Martin
15288 Centralia Road
Brooksville, Florida 34614
Attorney for Personal Representative:
/s/ Seton T. Hengsbach
Seton T. Hengsbach, Esquire
Florida Bar Number: 071957
Hengsbach & Hengsbach, P.A.
5438 Spring Hill Drive
Spring Hill, Florida 34606
Telephone: (352) 683-1963
Fax: (352) 683-3847
E-Mail: info@naturecoastlaw.com probate@naturecoastlaw.com
April 3, 10, 2026

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE MENTAL HEALTH DIVISION
CASE NUMBER: 2022-CP-001267-O
DIVISION Probate
IN RE: STEVIE BONFA DECEASED.
NOTICE OF UNCLAIMED PROBATE FUNDS DEPOSITED IN COURT REGISTRY
Notice is given that, pursuant to section 733.816, Florida Statutes, unclaimed probate funds of \$7621.88 are being held for STEVIE BONFA in the registry of court, deposited per order of 07/14/2025 in the Estate of STEVIE BONFA, deceased; case number 2022-CP-001267-O. The Clerk of the Circuit Court will deposit these funds with the Department of Financial Services no less than six months after the posting or the first publication of this notice, after deducting fees and any costs of publication. Any person or entity entitled to such funds may obtain them by compliance with applicable provisions of Section 733.816, Fla. Stat., within 10 years from the date of deposit with the Department of Financial Services, after which time the funds will escheat to the state.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the official seal of this Court, on this the 7th day of April, 2026.
Tiffany Moore Russell
Orange County
Clerk of the Circuit Court
425 N. Orange Ave.,
Ste. 335
Orlando, FL 32801
By: Mayra I Cruz
Deputy Clerk
CIRCUIT COURT SEAL
Publish: The Apopka Chief
April 10, May 8, 2026

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE MENTAL HEALTH DIVISION
CASE NUMBER: 2018-CP-002959-O
DIVISION Probate
IN RE: SHANTI COOPER DECEASED
NOTICE OF UNCLAIMED PROBATE FUNDS DEPOSITED IN COURT REGISTRY
Notice is given that, pursuant to section 733.816, Florida Statutes, unclaimed probate funds of \$2,020.00 are being held for ESTATE OF SHANTI COOPER in the registry of court, deposited per order of 01/26/2026 in the Estate of SHANTI COOPER, deceased; case number 2018-CP-002959-O.
The Clerk of the Circuit Court will deposit these funds with the Department of Financial Services no less than six months after the posting or the first publication of this notice, after deducting fees and any costs of publication. Any person or entity entitled to such funds may obtain them by compliance with applicable provisions of Section 733.816, Fla. Stat., within 10 years from the date of deposit with the Department of Financial Services, after which time the funds will escheat to the state.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the official seal of this Court, on this the 7th day of April 2026.
Tiffany Moore Russell
Orange County
Clerk of the Circuit Court
425 N. Orange Ave.,
Ste. 335
Orlando, FL 32801
By: Mayra I Cruz
Deputy Clerk
CIRCUIT COURT SEAL
Publish: The Apopka Chief
April 10, May 8, 2026

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE MENTAL HEALTH DIVISION
CASE NUMBER: 2025-CA-006692-O
DIV NO.: 36
MARRIOTT OWNERSHIP RESORTS, INC. Plaintiff,
vs.
ALFORD M. PETTIS, et al., Defendants.
NOTICE OF SALE AS TO COUNT III
TO: GABRIELA MONTIEL FONT VASCO DE QUIROGA
3833 COL. EL YACUI
MEXICO, DF 05320
MEXICO
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered on March 31, 2026 in the cause pending in the Circuit Court, in and for Orange County, Florida, Civil Case No. 2025-CA-006692-O, the Office of Tiffany Moore Russell, Orange County Clerk of Court will sell the property situated in said County described as:
COUNT II
Unit Week 45 in Unit 2212, in LAKESHORE RESERVE CONDOMINIUM, according to the Declaration of Condominium thereof, as recorded in Official Records Book 9741 at Page 2312 in the Public Records of Orange County, Florida, and any amendments thereof.
at Public sale to the highest and best bidder for cash starting at hour of 11:00 a.m., on the 13th day of MAY, 2026, online at www.myorangeclerk.realforeclose.com. Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale. Submitted for publication to The Apopka Chief on April 1, 2026.
DATED this 1st day of April, 2026.
/s/ EDWARD M. FITZGERALD
EDWARD M. FITZGERALD, ESQ.
FLORIDA BAR NO. 0010391
HOLLAND & KNIGHT LLP
If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator, Human Resources, Orange County, Courthouse, 425 N. Orange Avenue, Suite #510, Orlando, Florida (407) 836-2303, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.
OUR FILE #121350.0261
MORI #ORANGE
April 3, 10, 2026

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE MENTAL HEALTH DIVISION
CASE NUMBER: 2022-CP-001267-O
DIVISION Probate
IN RE: STEVIE BONFA DECEASED.
NOTICE OF UNCLAIMED PROBATE FUNDS DEPOSITED IN COURT REGISTRY
Notice is given that, pursuant to section 733.816, Florida Statutes, unclaimed probate funds of \$7621.88 are being held for STEVIE BONFA in the registry of court, deposited per order of 07/14/2025 in the Estate of STEVIE BONFA, deceased; case number 2022-CP-001267-O. The Clerk of the Circuit Court will deposit these funds with the Department of Financial Services no less than six months after the posting or the first publication of this notice, after deducting fees and any costs of publication. Any person or entity entitled to such funds may obtain them by compliance with applicable provisions of Section 733.816, Fla. Stat., within 10 years from the date of deposit with the Department of Financial Services, after which time the funds will escheat to the state.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the official seal of this Court, on this the 7th day of April, 2026.
Tiffany Moore Russell
Orange County
Clerk of the Circuit Court
425 N. Orange Ave.,
Ste. 335
Orlando, FL 32801
By: Mayra I Cruz
Deputy Clerk
CIRCUIT COURT SEAL
Publish: The Apopka Chief
April 10, May 8, 2026

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE MENTAL HEALTH DIVISION
CASE NUMBER: 2018-CP-002959-O
DIVISION Probate
IN RE: SHANTI COOPER DECEASED
NOTICE OF UNCLAIMED PROBATE FUNDS DEPOSITED IN COURT REGISTRY
Notice is given that, pursuant to section 733.816, Florida Statutes, unclaimed probate funds of \$2,020.00 are being held for ESTATE OF SHANTI COOPER in the registry of court, deposited per order of 01/26/2026 in the Estate of SHANTI COOPER, deceased; case number 2018-CP-002959-O.
The Clerk of the Circuit Court will deposit these funds with the Department of Financial Services no less than six months after the posting or the first publication of this notice, after deducting fees and any costs of publication. Any person or entity entitled to such funds may obtain them by compliance with applicable provisions of Section 733.816, Fla. Stat., within 10 years from the date of deposit with the Department of Financial Services, after which time the funds will escheat to the state.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the official seal of this Court, on this the 7th day of April 2026.
Tiffany Moore Russell
Orange County
Clerk of the Circuit Court
425 N. Orange Ave.,
Ste. 335
Orlando, FL 32801
By: Mayra I Cruz
Deputy Clerk
CIRCUIT COURT SEAL
Publish: The Apopka Chief
April 10, May 8, 2026

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE MENTAL HEALTH DIVISION
CASE NO.: 2025-CA-006692-O
DIV NO.: 36
MARRIOTT OWNERSHIP RESORTS, INC. Plaintiff,
vs.
ALFORD M. PETTIS, et al., Defendants.
NOTICE OF SALE AS TO COUNT III
TO: CHRISTOPHER GRANT ROWLEDGE
7222 OSAGE ST
ALLEN PARK, MI 48101
TRACY ROWLEDGE, DECEASED
7222 OSAGE ST
ALLEN PARK, MI 48101
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered on March 31, 2026 in the cause pending in the Circuit Court, in and for Orange County, Florida, Civil Case No. 2025-CA-006692-O, the Office of Tiffany Moore Russell, Orange County Clerk of Court will sell the property situated in said County described as:
COUNT III
Unit Week 12 in Unit 3214, in LAKESHORE RESERVE CONDOMINIUM, according to the Declaration of Condominium thereof, as recorded in Official Records Book 9741 at Page 2312 in the Public Records of Orange County, Florida, and any amendments thereof.
at Public sale to the highest and best bidder for cash starting at the hour of 11:00 a.m. on the 13th day of MAY, 2026, online at www.myorangeclerk.realforeclose.com. Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale. Submitted for publication to The Apopka Chief on April 1, 2026.

RESORTS, INC. Plaintiff,
vs.
ALFORD M. PETTIS, et al., Defendants.
NOTICE OF SALE AS TO COUNT II
TO: GABRIELA MONTIEL FONT VASCO DE QUIROGA
3833 COL. EL YACUI
MEXICO, DF 05320
MEXICO
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered on March 31, 2026 in the cause pending in the Circuit Court, in and for Orange County, Florida, Civil Case No. 2025-CA-006692-O, the Office of Tiffany Moore Russell, Orange County Clerk of Court will sell the property situated in said County described as:
COUNT II
Unit Week 45 in Unit 2212, in LAKESHORE RESERVE CONDOMINIUM, according to the Declaration of Condominium thereof, as recorded in Official Records Book 9741 at Page 2312 in the Public Records of Orange County, Florida, and any amendments thereof.
at Public sale to the highest and best bidder for cash starting at hour of 11:00 a.m., on the 13th day of MAY, 2026, online at www.myorangeclerk.realforeclose.com. Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale. Submitted for publication to The Apopka Chief on April 1, 2026.
DATED this 1st day of April, 2026.
/s/ EDWARD M. FITZGERALD
EDWARD M. FITZGERALD, ESQ.
FLORIDA BAR NO. 0010391
HOLLAND & KNIGHT LLP
If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator, Human Resources, Orange County, Courthouse, 425 N. Orange Avenue, Suite #510, Orlando, Florida (407) 836-2303, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.
OUR FILE #121350.0261
MORI #ORANGE
April 3, 10, 2026

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE MENTAL HEALTH DIVISION
CASE NO.: 2026-CA-000213-O
DIV NO.: 34
MARRIOTT OWNERSHIP RESORTS, INC. Plaintiff,
vs.
JFFREY CHARLES WHITE, et al., Defendants.
NOTICE OF ACTION BY PUBLICATION AS TO COUNT IV
TO THE FOLLOWING DEFENDANT WHOSE RESIDENCE IS UNKNOWN:
TO: TEYRA HURTT, AS INDIVIDUAL, AS GUARANTOR, AND AS TRUSTEE OF THE TEYRA HURTT LIVING TRUST UNDER AGREEMENT DATED APRIL 9, 2007, AS AMENDED AND RESTATED APRIL 22, 2014, AND AMENDED AND RESTATED DECEMBER 2, 2015
20611 FIELDSTONE DR
NOVI, MI 48374
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., a Florida not for profit corporation, and All Owners as Agent, Plaintiff, vs. EDMUND ROBERT STEWART, et al., Defendants.
NOTICE OF ACTION BY PUBLICATION AS TO COUNT VI
TO THE FOLLOWING DEFENDANT WHOSE RESIDENCE IS UNKNOWN:
TO: CONNIE S. STEWART aka CONSTANCE S. STEWART, DECEASED
3405 E 58TH PL
TULSA, OK 74135-7846
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 VI
8 Interests (numbered for administrative purposes: V78101 & V78102 & V78103 & V78104 & V78105 & V78106 & V78107 & V78108) in the MVC Trust ("Trust") evidenced for administrative, assessment and ownership purposes by 2000 Points (250 Points for each Interest), which Trust was created pursuant to and further described in that certain MVC Trust Agreement dated March 11, 2010, executed by and among First American Trust, FSB, a federal savings bank, solely as trustee of Land Trust No. 1082-0300-00, (a.k.a MVC Trust), Marriott Ownership Resorts, Inc., a Delaware corporation, and MVC Trust Owners Association, Inc., a Florida corporation not-for-profit, as such agreement may be amended and supplemented from time to time ("Trust Agreement"), a memorandum of which is recorded in Official Records Book 10015, Page 4176, Public Records of Orange County, Florida ("Trust Memorandum"). The Interests shall have a Use Year Commencement Date of January 01, 2019 (subject to Section 3.5 of the Trust Agreement).
AND
6 Interests (numbered for administrative purposes: 867708 & 867709 & 867710 & 867711 & 867712 & 867713) in the MVC Trust ("Trust") evidenced for administrative, assessment and ownership purposes by 1500 Points (250 Points for each Interest), which Trust was created pursuant to and further described in that certain MVC Trust Agreement dated March 11, 2010, executed by and among First American Trust, FSB, a federal savings bank, solely as trustee of Land Trust No. 1082-0300-00, (a.k.a MVC Trust), Marriott Ownership Resorts, Inc., a Delaware corporation, and MVC Trust Owners Association, Inc., a Florida corporation not-for-profit, as such agreement may be amended and supplemented from time to time ("Trust Agreement"), a memorandum of which is recorded in Official Records Book 10015, Page 4176, Public Records of Orange County, Florida ("Trust Memorandum"). The Interests shall have a Use Year Commencement Date of January 01, 2013 (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 April/02/2026
Tiffany Moore Russell
Clerk of the Court
By: /s/ Michelle Zayas
As Deputy Clerk
425 North Orange Ave.
Suite 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#110513.2147/GV474
April 10, 17, 2026

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE MENTAL HEALTH DIVISION
CASE NUMBER: 2022-CP-001267-O
DIVISION Probate
IN RE: STEVIE BONFA DECEASED.
NOTICE OF UNCLAIMED PROBATE FUNDS DEPOSITED IN COURT REGISTRY
Notice is given that, pursuant to section 733.816, Florida Statutes, unclaimed probate funds of \$7621.88 are being held for STEVIE BONFA in the registry of court, deposited per order of 07/14/2025 in the Estate of STEVIE BONFA, deceased; case number 2022-CP-001267-O. The Clerk of the Circuit Court will deposit these funds with the Department of Financial Services no less than six months after the posting or the first publication of this notice, after deducting fees and any costs of publication. Any person or entity entitled to such funds may obtain them by compliance with applicable provisions of Section 733.816, Fla. Stat., within 10 years from the date of deposit with the Department of Financial Services, after which time the funds will escheat to the state.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the official seal of this Court, on this the 7th day of April, 2026.
Tiffany Moore Russell
Orange County
Clerk of the Circuit Court
425 N. Orange Ave.,
Ste. 335
Orlando, FL 32801
By: Mayra I Cruz
Deputy Clerk
CIRCUIT COURT SEAL
Publish: The Apopka Chief
April 10, May 8, 2026

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE MENTAL HEALTH DIVISION
CASE NUMBER: 2018-CP-002959-O
DIVISION Probate
IN RE: SHANTI COOPER DECEASED
NOTICE OF UNCLAIMED PROBATE FUNDS DEPOSITED IN COURT REGISTRY
Notice is given that, pursuant to section 733.816, Florida Statutes, unclaimed probate funds of \$2,020.00 are being held for ESTATE OF SHANTI COOPER in the registry of court, deposited per order of 01/26/2026 in the Estate of SHANTI COOPER, deceased; case number 2018-CP-002959-O.
The Clerk of the Circuit Court will deposit these funds with the Department of Financial Services no less than six months after the posting or the first publication of this notice, after deducting fees and any costs of publication. Any person or entity entitled to such funds may obtain them by compliance with applicable provisions of Section 733.816, Fla. Stat., within 10 years from the date of deposit with the Department of Financial Services, after which time the funds will escheat to the state.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the official seal of this Court, on this the 7th day of April 2026.
Tiffany Moore Russell
Orange County
Clerk of the Circuit Court
425 N. Orange Ave.,
Ste. 335
Orlando, FL 32801
By: Mayra I Cruz
Deputy Clerk
CIRCUIT COURT SEAL
Publish: The Apopka Chief
April 10, May 8, 2026

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE MENTAL HEALTH DIVISION
CASE NO.: 2025-CA-006692-O
DIV NO.: 36
MARRIOTT OWNERSHIP RESORTS, INC. Plaintiff,
vs.
ALFORD M. PETTIS, et al., Defendants.
NOTICE OF SALE AS TO COUNT III
TO: CHRISTOPHER GRANT ROWLEDGE
7222 OSAGE ST
ALLEN PARK, MI 48101
TRACY ROWLEDGE, DECEASED
7222 OSAGE ST
ALLEN PARK, MI 48101
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered on March 31, 2026 in the cause pending in the Circuit Court, in and for Orange County, Florida, Civil Case No. 2025-CA-006692-O, the Office of Tiffany Moore Russell, Orange County Clerk of Court will sell the property situated in said County described as:
COUNT III
Unit Week 12 in Unit 3214, in LAKESHORE RESERVE CONDOMINIUM, according to the Declaration of Condominium thereof, as recorded in Official Records Book 9741 at Page 2312 in the Public Records of Orange County, Florida, and any amendments thereof.
at Public sale to the highest and best bidder for cash starting at the hour of 11:00 a.m. on the 13th day of MAY, 2026, online at www.myorangeclerk.realforeclose.com. Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale. Submitted for publication to The Apopka Chief on April 1, 2026.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE MENTAL HEALTH DIVISION
CASE NUMBER: 2022-CP-001267-O
DIVISION Probate
IN RE: STEVIE BONFA DECEASED.
NOTICE OF UNCLAIMED PROBATE FUNDS DEPOSITED IN COURT REGISTRY
Notice is given that, pursuant to section 733.816, Florida Statutes, unclaimed probate funds of \$7621.88 are being held for STEVIE BONFA in the registry of court, deposited per order of 07/14/2025 in the Estate of STEVIE BONFA, deceased; case number 2022-CP-001267-O. The Clerk of the Circuit Court will deposit these funds with the Department of Financial Services no less than six months after the posting or the first publication of this notice, after deducting fees and any costs of publication. Any person or entity entitled to such funds may obtain them by compliance with applicable provisions of Section 733.816, Fla. Stat., within 10 years from the date of deposit with the Department of Financial Services, after which time the funds will escheat to the state.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the official seal of this Court, on this the 7th day of April, 2026.
Tiffany Moore Russell
Orange County
Clerk of the Circuit Court
425 N. Orange Ave.,
Ste. 335
Orlando, FL 32801
By: Mayra I Cruz
Deputy Clerk
CIRCUIT COURT SEAL
Publish: The Apopka Chief
April 10, May 8, 2026

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE MENTAL HEALTH DIVISION
CASE NUMBER: 2018-CP-002959-O
DIVISION Probate
IN RE: SHANTI COOPER DECEASED
NOTICE OF UNCLAIMED PROBATE FUNDS DEPOSITED IN COURT REGISTRY
Notice is given that, pursuant to section 733.816, Florida Statutes, unclaimed probate funds of \$2,020.00 are being held for ESTATE OF SHANTI COOPER in the registry of court, deposited per order of 01/26/2026 in the Estate of SHANTI COOPER, deceased; case number 2018-CP-002959-O.
The Clerk of the Circuit Court will deposit these funds with the Department of Financial Services no less than six months after the posting or the first publication of this notice, after deducting fees and any costs of publication. Any person or entity entitled to such funds may obtain them by compliance with applicable provisions of Section 733.816, Fla. Stat., within 10 years from the date of deposit with the Department of Financial Services, after which time the funds will escheat to the state.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the official seal of this Court, on this the 7th day of April 2026.
Tiffany Moore Russell
Orange County
Clerk of the Circuit Court
425 N. Orange Ave.,
Ste. 335
Orlando, FL 32801
By: Mayra I Cruz
Deputy Clerk
CIRCUIT COURT SEAL
Publish: The Apopka Chief
April 10, May 8, 2026

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE MENTAL HEALTH DIVISION
CASE NO.: 2025-CA-006692-O
DIV NO.: 36
MARRIOTT OWNERSHIP RESORTS, INC. Plaintiff,
vs.
ALFORD M. PETTIS, et al., Defendants.
NOTICE OF SALE AS TO COUNT III
TO: CHRISTOPHER GRANT ROWLEDGE
7222 OSAGE ST
ALLEN PARK, MI 48101
TRACY ROWLEDGE, DECEASED
7222 OSAGE ST
ALLEN PARK, MI 48101
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered on March 31, 2026 in the cause pending in the Circuit Court, in and for Orange County, Florida, Civil Case No. 2025-CA-006692-O, the Office of Tiffany Moore Russell, Orange County Clerk of Court will sell the property situated in said County described as:
COUNT III
Unit Week 12 in Unit 3214, in LAKESHORE RESERVE CONDOMINIUM, according to the Declaration of Condominium thereof, as recorded in Official Records Book 9741 at Page 2312 in the Public Records of Orange County, Florida, and any amendments thereof.
at Public sale to the highest and best bidder for cash starting at the hour of 11:00 a.m. on the 13th day of MAY, 2026, online at www.myorangeclerk.realforeclose.com. Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale. Submitted for publication to The Apopka Chief on April 1, 2026.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE MENTAL HEALTH DIVISION
CASE NO.: 2025-CA-006692-O
DIV NO.: 36
MARRIOTT OWNERSHIP RESORTS, INC. Plaintiff,
vs.
ALFORD M. PETTIS, et al., Defendants.
NOTICE OF SALE AS TO COUNT III
TO: CHRISTOPHER GRANT ROWLEDGE
7222 OSAGE ST
ALLEN PARK, MI 48101
TRACY ROWLEDGE, DECEASED
7222 OSAGE ST
ALLEN PARK, MI 48101
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered on March 31, 2026 in the cause pending in the Circuit Court, in and for Orange County, Florida, Civil Case No. 2025-CA-006692-O, the Office of Tiffany Moore Russell, Orange County Clerk of Court will sell the property situated in said County described as:
COUNT III
Unit Week 12 in Unit 3214, in LAKESHORE RESERVE CONDOMINIUM, according to the Declaration of Condominium thereof, as recorded in Official Records Book 9741 at Page 2312 in the Public Records of Orange County, Florida, and any amendments thereof.
at Public sale to the highest and best bidder for cash starting at the hour of 11:00 a.m. on the 13th day of MAY, 2026, online at www.myorangeclerk.realforeclose.com. Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale. Submitted for publication to The Apopka Chief on April 1, 2026.

DATED this 1st day of April, 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 #121350.0262
MORI #ORANGE
April 3, 10, 2026

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE MENTAL HEALTH DIVISION
CASE NO. 2025-CA-012575-O
DIV NO.: 39
MARRIOTT RESORTS HOSPITALITY CORPORATION, a South Carolina Corporation, Management Agent on behalf of MVC TRUST CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, INC., a Florida not for profit corporation, and All Owners as Agent, Plaintiff,
vs.
EDMUND ROBERT STEWART, et al., Defendants.
NOTICE OF ACTION BY PUBLICATION AS TO COUNT VI
TO THE FOLLOWING DEFENDANT WHOSE RESIDENCE IS UNKNOWN:
TO: CONNIE S. STEWART aka CONSTANCE S. STEWART, DECEASED
3405 E 58TH PL
TULSA, OK 74135-7846
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 VI
8 Interests (numbered for administrative purposes: V78101 & V78102 & V78103 & V78104 & V78105 & V78106 & V78107 & V78108) in the MVC Trust ("Trust") evidenced for administrative, assessment and ownership purposes by 2000 Points (250 Points for each Interest), which Trust was created pursuant to and further described in that certain MVC Trust Agreement dated March 11, 2010, executed by and among First American Trust, FSB, a federal savings bank, solely as trustee of Land Trust No. 1082-0300-00, (a.k.a MVC Trust), Marriott Ownership Resorts, Inc., a Delaware corporation, and MVC Trust Owners Association, Inc., a Florida corporation not-for-profit, as such agreement may be amended and supplemented from time to time ("Trust Agreement"), a memorandum of which is recorded in Official Records Book 10015, Page 4176, Public Records of Orange County, Florida ("Trust Memorandum"). The Interests shall have a Use Year Commencement Date of January 01, 2019 (subject to Section 3.5 of the Trust Agreement).
AND
6 Interests (numbered for administrative purposes: 867708 & 867709 & 867710 & 867711 & 867712 & 867713) in the MVC Trust ("Trust") evidenced for administrative, assessment and ownership purposes by 1500 Points (250 Points for each Interest), which Trust was created pursuant to and further described in that certain MVC Trust Agreement dated March 11, 2010, executed by and among First American Trust, FSB, a federal savings bank, solely as trustee of Land Trust No. 1082-0300-00, (a.k.a MVC Trust), Marriott Ownership Resorts, Inc., a Delaware corporation, and MVC Trust Owners Association, Inc., a Florida corporation not-for-profit, as such agreement may be amended and supplemented from time to time ("Trust Agreement"), a memorandum of which is recorded in Official Records Book 10015, Page 4176, Public Records of Orange County, Florida ("Trust Memorandum"). The Interests shall have a Use Year Commencement Date of January 01, 2013 (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 April/02/2026
Tiffany Moore Russell
Clerk of the Court
By: /s/ Michelle Zayas
As Deputy Clerk
425 North Orange Ave.
Suite 350
Orlando, Florida 32801
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

LOT 171, OF WATERMARK PHASE 1B, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 84, PAGES 32 THROUGH 37, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA.

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: April 2, 2026
/s/ Brian L. Rosaler
By: 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
25-52387
Published in: THE APOPKA CHIEF
April 10, 17, 2026

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO. 2025-CA-004816-O
DIV NO.: 34
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.
SANDRA E. VORPAHL, et al.,
Defendants.
NOTICE OF SALE AS TO COUNT II
TO: PAUL MANDEL, DECEASED, THE ESTATE OF PAUL MANDEL, DECEASED AND ANY UNKNOWN SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES OR OTHER CLAIMANTS BY AND THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST, SAID DEFENDANT
9204 S MASSASOIT AVENUE
OAK LAWN, IL 60453
ESTHER MANDEL, DECEASED
9204 S MASSASOIT AVENUE
OAK LAWN, IL 60453
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered on March 31, 2026, in the cause pending in the Circuit Court, in and for Orange County, Florida, Civil Case No. 2025-CA-004816-O, the Office of Tiffany Moore Russell, Orange County Clerk of Court will sell the property situated in said

County described as:
COUNT II
Unit Week 33 in Unit 3320, 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.
at Public sale to the highest and best bidder for cash starting at the hour of 11:00 a.m. on the 13th of MAY, 2026 online at www.myorangeclerk.realforeclose.com. Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale. Submitted for publication to The Apopka Chief on March 31, 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 #110523.1997
MRHC #ORANGE
April 3, 10, 2026

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO.: 2025-CA-006692-O
DIV NO.: 36
MARRIOTT OWNERSHIP RESORTS, INC. Plaintiff,
vs.
AL FORD M. PETTIS, et al.,
Defendants.
NOTICE OF SALE AS TO COUNT IV
TO: JERRY N. KREUZIMAN
861 E EDWARDS AVE
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46227
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered on March 31, 2026 in the cause pending in the Circuit Court, in and for Orange County, Florida, Civil Case No. 2025-CA-006692-O, the Office of Tiffany Moore Russell, Orange County Clerk of Court will sell the property situated in said County described as:
COUNT IV
Unit Week 17 in Unit 3111, in LAKESHORE RESERVE CONDOMINIUM, according to the Declaration of Condominium thereof, as recorded in Official Records Book 9741 at Page 2312 in the Public Records of Orange County, Florida, and any amendments thereof.
at Public sale to the highest and best bidder for cash starting at hour of 11:00 a.m., on the 13th day of MAY, 2026, online at www.myorangeclerk.realforeclose.com. Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale. Submitted for publication to The Apopka Chief on April 1, 2026.
DATED this 1st day of April, 2026.
/s/ EDWARD M. FITZGERALD
EDWARD M. FITZGERALD, ESQ.
FLORIDA BAR NO. 0010391
HOLLAND & KNIGHT LLP
If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator, Human Resources,

Orange County, Courthouse, 425 N. Orange Avenue, Suite #510, Orlando, Florida (407) 836-2303, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.
OUR FILE #121350.0263
MORI #ORANGE
April 3, 10, 2026

A-AAA Key Mini Storage
1001 S Semoran Blvd
Orlando FL 32807
407-401-9422
M30@trustedstoragepros.com
NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
In order to satisfy a contractual landlord's lien, under the provisions of the Florida Self Service Storage Act, public notice is hereby given that the following described property located at A-AAA Key Mini Storage 1001 S Semoran Blvd Orlando FL 32807, will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder for Credit/Debit unit at www.storageauctions.com on April 23, 2026 at 11:30AM.
NAZARIO DAMIANO VARGAS: Power tools, totes, tires, ladder, construction materials
YAROSLAV VILOTNIK: Moving supplies, moving blankets, tie down straps
IRIS JEANNETTE SANTIAGO: Pool table, table, chairs, totes, boxes, decor
ADRIAN THOMPCKINS: Table, boxes, blender, kitchen items
ADRIAN LAMAR THOMPCKINS: Table, boxes, blender, kitchen items
MARCUS DAWSON: Clothes, electronics, scooters, bags, suitcases, dolly, table
MARCUS ANTHONY DAWSON: Clothes, electronics, scooters, bags, suitcases, dolly, table
PAULO PINHO HAYDEN: Furniture, flat screen TV, electronics, décor, mini fridge, boxes, bags, patio furniture, luggage, office furniture
PAULO FRANCISCO GOMES PINHO FILHO: Furniture, flat screen TV, electronics, décor, mini fridge, boxes, bags, patio furniture, luggage, office furniture
Publish: The Apopka Chief
April 3, 10, 2026

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA
File No. 2025-GA-000157-O
PROBATE DIVISION
IN RE: GUARDIANSHIP OF JAYDEN MAHONE
Minor
NOTICE OF ACTION
TO: JAMOCIA MAHONE
Last Known Address:
5001 Catspaw Ct.
Orlando, Florida 32808
YOU ARE NOTIFIED that a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of Minor (Property) has been filed in this Court regarding the property interests of your minor child, JAYDEN MAHONE. The property involved includes real estate located at 5493 Rolling Meadows Rd., Randleman, NC 27317, valued at approximately \$300,000.00. This action is limited to the management and protection of the minor's property and does not seek to terminate your parental rights or alter the current physical custody of the minor. This notice shall be published once each week for four (4) consecutive weeks in The Apopka Chief, a newspaper published in Orange County, Florida. The first publication date is April 3, 2026. You are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to this action on Petitioner's attorney, whose name and address are:
John A. Morey, Esq.
Morey Law Firm, P.A.

250 N. Orange Ave.,
Suite 1220
Orlando, FL 32801
Email: johnamorey@gmail.com/
service@moreylawfirm.com
on or before May 3, 2026, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court at 425 N. Orange Ave., Orlando, FL 32801, either before service on Petitioner's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise, a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the petition.
WITNESS my hand and the seal of this Court on this 31st day of March, 2026.
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
By: Deputy Clerk
April 3, 10, 17, 24, 2026

A-AAA Key Mini Storage
5285 S Orange
Blossom Trail
Orlando, FL 32839
M29
m29@trustedstoragepros.com
689-800-7333
NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE In order to satisfy a contractual landlord's lien, under the provisions of the Florida Self Service Storage Act, public notice is hereby given that the following described property located at A-AAA Key Mini Storage 5285 S Orange Blossom Trail Orlando, FL 32839, will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder, payment will only be accepted with Credit/Debit at 11:00AM
Solanyeli Colon-Totes Clothes Hamper Hat Toiletries
Solanyeli Colon Rodriguez-Totes Clothes Hamper Hat Toiletries
Publish: The Apopka Chief
April 3, 10, 2026

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO. 2025-CA-004816-O
DIV NO.: 34
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.
SANDRA E. VORPAHL, et al.,
Defendants.
NOTICE OF SALE AS TO COUNT VI
TO: CYNTHIA BROWN
575 SPRINGDALE AVE
EAST ORANGE, NJ 07017-2012
THOMAS L. BROWN, SR., DECEASED
575 SPRINGDALE AVE
EAST ORANGE, NJ 07017-2012
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered on March 31, 2026, in the cause pending in the Circuit Court, in and for Orange County, Florida, Civil Case No. 2025-CA-004816-O, the Office of Tiffany Moore Russell, Orange County Clerk of Court will sell the property situated in said County described as:

COUNT VI
Unit Week 50 in Unit 9352, 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.
at Public sale to the highest and best bidder for cash starting at the hour of 11:00 a.m. on the 13th of MAY, 2026 online at www.myorangeclerk.realforeclose.com. Any person claiming an

interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale. Submitted for publication to The Apopka Chief on March 31, 2026.
DATED March 31, 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 #110523.2003
MRHC #ORANGE
April 3, 10, 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 **FOCUS FORWARD CONSULTING**, with a mailing address of 681 PRIMROSE WILLOW WAY, APOPKA, FL 32712 and a principal office located in ORANGE County, intends to register the said name with the Florida Dept. of State, Division of Corporations, Tallahassee, Florida. Owner: MIND & BODY INTEGRATIVE PEDIATRICS LLC
April 10, 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 **Rou Marcellus**, with a mailing address of 1931 Beardsley Dr, 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: Mirou Marcellus
April 10, 2026

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE MENTAL HEALTH DIVISION
CASE NUMBER: 2025-CP-000679-O
DIVISION Probate
IN RE: KEVIN ARTHUR OHARA
DECEASED
NOTICE OF UNCLAIMED PROBATE FUNDS DEPOSITED IN COURT REGISTRY
Notice is given that, pursuant to section 733.816, Florida Statutes, unclaimed probate funds of \$21,025.26 are being held for BRADLEY DANIEL OHARA in the registry of court, deposited per order of 11/05/2025 in the Estate of KEVIN ARTHUR OHARA, deceased; case number 2025-CP-000679-O.
The Clerk of the Circuit Court will deposit these funds with the Department of Financial Services no less than six months after the posting of the first publication of this notice, after deducting fees and any costs of publication. Any person or entity entitled to such funds may obtain them by compliance with applicable provisions of Section

733.816, Fla. Stat., within 10 years from the date of deposit with the Department of Financial Services, after which time the funds will escheat to the state.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the official seal of this Court, on this the 7th day of April, 2026.
Tiffany Moore Russell
Orange County Clerk of the Circuit Court
425 N. Orange Ave.,
Ste. 335
Orlando, FL 32801
By: Mayra I Cruz
Deputy Clerk
CIRCUIT COURT SEAL
Publish: The Apopka Chief
April 10, May 8, 2026

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
File Number: 48-2026-CP-000724-O
IN RE: ESTATE OF DOYNE MAX FISCUS, Deceased.
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the estate of DOYNE MAX FISCUS, deceased, File Number 2026-CP-000724-O, whose date of death was February 3, 2026, is pending in the Circuit Court for Orange County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 425 North Orange Avenue, Orlando, FL 32801. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.
All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM. The personal representative has no duty to discover whether any property held at the time of the decedent's death by the decedent or the decedent's surviving spouse is property to which the FL 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. 732.221, Florida Statutes.
All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. ALL CLAIMS NOT SO FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FL STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.
NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.
The date of first publication of this Notice is April 10, 2026.
Personal Representative:
LAURA F. FINFROCK
Attorney for Personal Representative:
JOY M. GOFF-MARCIL
Florida Bar No. 0983047
2500 W Lake Mary Blvd,
Suite #218
Lake Mary, FL 32746
Tel. No. (407) 894-7311
joyformailand@gmail.com
April 10, 17, 2026

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

A PUBLIC HEARING ON FINAL CERTIFICATION ON ASSESSMENT ROLLS TO IMPOSE THE UNIFORM METHOD FOR COLLECTION OF NON-AD VALOREM SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS

Notice is hereby given that the City Council for the City of Apopka will conduct a public hearing and subsequently adopt a resolution to Certify the Street Lighting and Neighborhood Improvement Non-Ad Valorem Final Assessment Roll for the imposition of annual non-ad valorem special assessments for the specified purposes on the dates and times as follows in the areas designated and specified herein. Each individual non-ad valorem special assessment shall be billed on the Orange County Annual Tax Bill for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2026, and annually thereafter for the collection of all associated costs and expenses applied to the designated areas as applicable.

The public hearing for Non-Ad Valorem Special Assessments shall be before the City Council of the City of Apopka in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 120 E. Main Street, Apopka, Florida, for the purpose of receiving public comment on the imposition of the assessments, as follows:

Development/Sub-Division or District Name	Final Certification
Avian Pointe (Street Lighting District)	May 6, 2026 at 1:30 PM
Gardenia Reserve (Street Lighting District)	May 6, 2026 at 1:30 PM
Golden Orchard (Street Lighting District)	May 6, 2026 at 1:30 PM
Ivy Trails (Street Lighting District)	May 6, 2026 at 1:30 PM
Meadowlark (Street Lighting District)	May 6, 2026 at 1:30 PM
Oak Pointe (Street Lighting District)	May 6, 2026 at 1:30 PM
Oaks @ Kelly Park (Street Lighting District)	May 6, 2026 at 1:30 PM
Cimarron Hills (Street Lighting District)	May 6, 2026 at 1:30 PM
Mainline Village (Street Lighting District)	May 6, 2026 at 1:30 PM

Florida Statutes (F.S.) require us to advise you that a failure to pay these special assessments will cause a tax certificate to the issued against the property which may result in the loss of title, F.S. 197.3632(4)(b).

Notification of the Assessment has been provided by use of the Orange County TRIM (Truth in Millage) notice.

The non-ad valorem special assessments are for the reasonable and necessary costs and expenses associated with the services being provided.

The Special Assessment Districts may only apply to the Designated District Areas, identified herein, where the City Council at the request of the developer intends to impose a special assessment for the purpose of providing developmental street lighting for the safety and welfare of the residents whom reside within the designated district area.

The entire cost of the assessment shall be entirely apportioned to the property owners within the district receiving the benefited service. The assessment will continue to be billed by the Orange County Tax Collector on the annual Orange County Tax Bill.

All affected property owners have the right to appear at the public hearing and the right to file a written objection with the City Clerk's Office within 20 days of the publication of this notice. If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the City Council with respect to any matter considered at the hearing, such person will need a record of the proceedings and may need to ensure that a verbatim record is made, including the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be made. In accordance with the American with Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation or an interpreter to participate in this proceeding should contact the City Clerk's Office at 407-703-1794 at least three (3) days prior to the date of the hearing.

The following tables designate the areas where the various non-ad valorem special assessments will apply and the annual assessment amount per parcel.

Development/Sub-Division Name (Residential Lot)	Resolution Number	Old Annual Amount	New Annual Amount
Avian Pointe (Street Lighting District)	2026-10	\$356.00	\$436.00
Gardenia Reserve* (Street Lighting District)	2026-11	\$146.50	\$157.00
Golden Orchard* (Street Lighting District)	2026-12	\$176.90	\$195.50
Ivy Trails (Street Lighting District)	2026-13	\$176.20	\$183.76
Meadowlark (Street Lighting District)	2026-14	\$122.25	\$141.00
Oak Pointe (Street Lighting District)	2026-15	\$128.00	\$138.00
Oaks @ Kelly Park (Street Lighting District)	2026-16	\$126.00	\$195.00
Cimarron Hills (Street Lighting District)	2026-17	\$225.00	\$282.12
Mainline Village (Street Lighting District)	2026-18	\$440.00	\$472.21

* Part of the West Kelly Park Street Lighting District

Copies of the Resolutions detailing the legal description of the areas to be assessed are available for inspection at the City Clerk's Office in City Hall, located at 120 E. Main Street, Apopka Florida, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.


If you have any questions regarding the assessments, please contact the Special Assessments Coordinator at 407-703-1700, Monday through Friday between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Publish date of April 10, 2026

The Apopka Chief TRUSTED LOCAL NEWS SINCE 1923

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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 0410-0501 TFN 21

31. EMPLOYMENT WANTED

32. HELP WANTED

Tax Process & Controls Manager;

PS KIS LLC; Orlando, FL, 40 hr/wk, 9am-5pm, Mon-Fri, \$116,106Yr; Bach Deg in Bus, law, Finance, Acctg, or Econ. 5 yr exp req. Dsgn/maint phse-gtd tax/compl methodol (plan,data reqs, .test,quant,valid,rptg),incl RACI charts, risk/matl thres & doc stds;est rev chkllsts,ver-ctrl'd wps & src-filing trace;align procs w/int ctrl fwk;map/imprv E2E wrkflws recurring tax/compl oblgis;impl x-ledger recons,excp hndlg & dlne ctrls;def integrity chks & tie-outs btwn ERP/acctg & tax subledgers;monitor KPIs(timelss,accur,compltns);lead tax/compl wrkstrm buy/sell-side dilig & reorgs;id issues,quant expos/credits & doc remed/integ plans;coord inputs acctg,tax,legal,HR/payroll & ops;prep status chkpts & mng deliverables int ldrshp & ext aud;prod concise rpts(findings,expos ranges,impact sums,remed roadmaps) mgmt/board;upd stds/templates & mentor jr analysts rev discipline & doc qual;
Resume to Marcus.segnini@kisconsult.com

61. LARGE APPLIANCES

APOPKA APPLIANCE Spring special: In home service calls \$39.95 with repairs. Free haul-a-way on your spring cleaning. 407-886-2255 or 407-497-7458
CC 0327-0417 APO 61

70. MERCHANDISE MISC.

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B 0403-0424 SUR 70

70. MERCHANDISE MISC.

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CC 0410 WAT

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cc0327-0417 APO

81. AUTOS FOR SALE

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JT 0313-0403 MUL 81

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ck0327-0424 HER

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CC 0403-0424 GRA

First 15 words \$12, each additional word \$0.50 each.

Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that heareth my word, and believeth Him that sent me, hath eternal life, and cometh not into judgment, but hath passed out of death into life.
John 5:24

130. REAL ESTATE

131. VACANT LAND

5 ACRE PLOT IN LAKE County (Pine Lakes Ford Rd area); 330 X 660, High & Dry, dirt road, has a deep well, power pole, \$225K. Possible financing available. call 407-682-7898. Leave message.
B 0403-0424 IRV

133. HOMES FOR SALE

BUYING, SELLING, rentals or property management. We're your friend in the business. Rogers & Rogers Realty. 407-880-8888.
CC 0320-0410 ROG 133

136. MOBILE HOMES. RV'S FOR SALE

2BD/2BA VALENCIA Estates 55+. 557 Hawkins Cir., Apopka Newly remodeled with a nice layout. Close to bus line, \$15,900 OBO. 407-808-4499.
cc0403-0424 KEL 136

REDUCED: 1 BD COTTAGE for rent. 5226 Bradford Rd. Apopka 32712. Black Tie Realty, Barbara DeLoach 321-229-5968
CC 0410-0501 DEL

Tell Them You Saw It In The Classifieds

142. ROOMS FOR RENT

SWEENEY'S ROOMS Cleanest. Quietest. WIFI, Internet. Multiple locations. Call Dwayne 321-271-6773. sweeneysrooms4rent.com
CC 0410-0501 JAC 142

ROOMS FOR RENT Zellwood area, weekly rentals. 407-435-1792 jeromegrantsr@gmail.com
CC 0403-0424 GRA

143. OFFICES FOR RENT

DOWNTOWN APOPKA shop with office zoning MU-D (multiple use downtown) 48 W. 4th Street. 407-539-4212 Previously: Apopka Auto Upholstery.
cc0220-0313-0410 FIT 143

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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: 1-321-603-302



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