

Bingo

The Northwest Orange Republican Women, Federated held a bingo fundraiser. See page 12A.



Sports

Logan Gilbert's journey to becoming an MLB All-Star See page 1B.



Subscribe online today for 52 editions a year! \$30 in Orange County

(\$35 out of county) Price Includes E-Edition

The Apopka Chief

Your trusted local news source

©2024 The Apopka Chief

Volume 102 Number 30

Friday, July 26, 2024 / 50 cents

Community Redevelopment Agency reviews FY2025 budget

By Teresa Sargeant
Apopka Chief Staff

The Apopka Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) fiscal year 2025 budget remains the same except for two major changes to two projects, the city wayfinding signs program and the community-oriented policing program for the downtown area.

The fiscal year 2024 budget is currently at \$1,449,201.

The CRA Board convened on Wednesday, July 17, at Apopka City Hall Council Chambers. No motion was taken to vote.

The city wayfinding signs were budgeted for FY2025 for \$65,000; the budget was \$100,000 for FY2024. The difference is for the remaining costs of the signs' footer installations. The city is working



The Community Redevelopment Agency District focuses on revitalizing the downtown area, which includes Fifth Street (pictured.)

with FastSigns on these installations, according to Bobby Howell, planning manager and interim CRA executive director.

The wayfinding sign program consists of 10 signs, which will get installed at various points in the CRA District such as

the museum, Kit Land Nelson Park, and police and fire departments.

The other major change to the FY2025 budget is the

community oriented policing program, which will be budgeted at \$125,000 in FY2025; it was \$100,000 in FY2024. The program is

in the process of launching with the police department. Additional budgeted funds are in place to pay for additional time for officers if necessary.

Other CRA projects in the works are the Downtown Apopka Trail, which is still out for bid and managed by city recreation director Radley Williams; and the skate park/pump track, which will be constructed near the Fran Carlton Center.

The CRA budget approval meeting is currently scheduled for Wednesday, August 21, at 6 p. m., in the Apopka City Hall Council Chambers.

The CRA Redevelopment Trust Fund, established by Ordinance No. 783 on June 16, 1993, uses Tax Increment Funding

See CRA Page 3A

Matriarch celebrates 106th birthday



Virginia Bankson celebrates her 106th birthday on Wednesday, July 24, at Brookdale Wekiwa Springs in Apopka. She celebrated with her family, friends, and nursing home staff. Family, including Florida House Representative Doug Bankson, shared stories about the matriarch. Mrs. Bankson is a retired educator.

Dr. Nicholas Grounds is new Chamber head

Dr. Nicholas Grounds has been tapped to be the new executive director of the 111-year-old Apopka Area Chamber of Commerce, the Chamber announced this week.

"We are excited to be led by another extraordinary business leader with many diverse attributes to serve the community," the Chamber said in a news release. "Please plan to attend the Hob Nob and welcome Dr. Nicholas Grounds and his wife, Kathleen, to the Apopka community."

Grounds started his career at Chase Manhattan Bank in London, England, U.K., managing a computer system that generated marketing information for senior management; and becoming the youngest senior supervisor Chase London ever had at age 21.

For two decades Grounds served as senior vice president with Tradition North America Inc., New York, N.Y., a leading



Dr. Nicholas Grounds

interdealer broker of money market instruments.

After moving to Florida, Grounds was a financial advisor for seven years with Prudential and Evershore Financial Groups before serving as executive director for five years of The British American Chamber of Commerce of Central Florida. He then took the reins as executive director of Tiger Bay of Central

See GROUNDS Page 3A

Gas district presents City Council with energy choice initiative ordinance

By Teresa Sargeant
Apopka Chief Staff

The Apopka City Council approved 5-0 the first reading of an ordinance, which would require future subdivisions and re-

subdivided areas be developed with natural gas infrastructure and related improvements.

Presented to the City Council by Lake Apopka Natural Gas District (LANDG) on Wednesday,

July 17, Ordinance No. 3070 is for an energy choice initiative that would give homeowners the freedom to choose their most preferred energy source.

According to a city of Apopka staff report in the

Wednesday, July 17, council agenda packet, via Ordinance No. 3070, the developer will pay the cost of the natural gas infrastructure, as has been the case with

See CITY Page 4A

North Orange Branch Library temporarily closed

By Teresa Sargeant
Apopka Chief Staff

Orange County Library System (OCLS) has temporarily closed its North Orange Branch Library due to the building's high humidity and water intrusion that's causing a musty smell at the branch.

Closed since Tuesday, July 16, OCLS has no established reopen date at this time for the branch located at 1211 E. Semoran Blvd., Apopka. Meanwhile, OCLS brought in a consultant to remediate the problem in the building.

"At this point in time, I don't know (when the

branch will reopen). I can look a little further once consultant does work, but at this time they'll have to pull up the carpet. so, it'll take time to get done," said Erin Sullivan, OCLS spokeswoman.

Information from the OCLS website about the North Orange Branch temporary closing states, "While the consultant does not say that people cannot be in the building, we feel that being overly cautious and closing to address the issues is the best course of action."

Library patrons may

See LIBRARY Page 5A



Signs announcing North Orange Branch's temporary closing fill the front entrance of the closed building in this Wednesday, July 24, photo.

This week Section A

Opinion 2A
Bus. Review 3A
Public Notices 4,6A
Golden Chief 8A
Dining & Ent. 9A
Worship 10A
Kapers 11A
Classified 13-14B

Section B

Sports 1B
Public Notice 2B
Legal ads 5-12B
Classified 14B
Service Dir. 14B

Find Public Notices
Online at: TheApopkaChief.com/public-notices OR
FloridaPublicNotices.com



Apopka Event of the Week

Until further notice, the North Orange Branch Library, 1211 E. Semoran Blvd., Apopka, has been closed for repairs due to water damage and ensuing problems. All events that have been scheduled at this branch have been discontinued. Notification will be published when the North Orange Branch re-opens.

Quotable

This community from the beginning has been receptive and appreciative of his many intuitive strengths.

John Ricketson's families expressing their gratefulness

Opinion

The Apopka Chief A weekly newspaper founded in 1923

Publisher John Ricketson, Reporters Teresa Sargeant, Marshall Tempest, Neal Fisher, Marketing Director Jackie Trefcer, General Mgr Emeritus Neoma Knox, Mar. 28 1956 - Oct. 12, 2023, Feb. 12, 1929 - Sept. 18, 2021

Our position

JR's families express their appreciation of sentiments

The Apopka Chief and The Planter newspaper family and the Johnnie (JR) Ricketson family would like to thank the community of Apopka for all of the well wishes and hugs that have been shared on JR's freedom from cancer on July 16 at 84 years of age.

With the passing of JR, we lost a long-time newspaper publisher, community leader and a true Apopka historian. This community from the beginning has been receptive and appreciative of his many intuitive strengths.

The outpouring of condolences and prayers are truly felt. The numbers of cards, flower arrangements and drive-by hugs are very much appreciated.

JR grew up in Winter Park and his family moved here in the 50s. His mother Annie Lee worked downtown Apopka in Shepard's Drug Store for many years. He enlisted in the US Army, got married, had kids, dipped his toes in the newspaper business (which he truly loved), came back here in the 80s to purchase and publish The Apopka Chief newspaper which he said "belonged to the community and he was temporarily in charge."

He was involved with the Apopka Area Chamber of Commerce, the Foliage Sertoma Club, the Rotary Club of Apopka, VFW Post 10147 and countless events, festivals and parades.

JR worked with others to establish the John H. Land Apopka Community Trust on the passing of one of the longest serving mayors in the United States, the 60-year Mayor whom he admired and trusted.

He truly loved the city of Apopka, its citizens and the surrounding areas.

The Ricketson family thanks you, Apopka. You are amazing. There will be a celebration of life gathering at Victory Church Apopka, 509 S. Park Avenue, on August 3 at 11 a.m.

JR's son Jerry found the fol-

lowing poem cut from an old newspaper, yellowed with age, among the many items piled on Ricketson's desk at work.

We pray these words speak to you as they have spoken to the family.

I'M FREE Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free. I'm following the path God has laid, you see, I took his hand when I heard him call. I turned my back and left it all.

I could not stay another day, To laugh, to love, to work, or play. Tasks left undone must stay that way, I found that peace at the close of the day.

If my parting has left you a void, Then fill it with remembered joys. A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss, Oh yes, these things I too will miss.

Be not burdened with times of sorrow, I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow. My life's been full, I savored much, Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.

Perhaps my time seemed all too brief. Don't lengthen it now with undue grief. Lift up your hearts and peace to thee; God wanted me now; He set me free.

Anonymous

2 PLACES THAT HAVE EXPERIENCED SEVERE POWER OUTAGES:



Back-to-School Bash, Bike Rodeo planned

I'm excited to announce a new annual event I will be hosting for families in the downtown Apopka area - the District 2 Back-to-School Bash and Bike Rodeo on Saturday, August 3rd. I'm keen on returning families to our wonderful trail system in District 2. I'm also protective of children on their journey to and from school each day.

I must confess after 10 years on the school board; I have not recently hosted any back-to-school events. However, I'm back refreshed and excited about this inaugural District 2 Back-to-School Bash and Bike Rodeo held at Apopka Memorial Middle School, 425 N. Park Ave., Apopka in the south parking lot from 8:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.

County Commissioner District 2



Christine Moore

An event at which 150 bikes and helmets will be given away requires some wonderful partners. Walt Disney World, Orange County Government, and Advent Health made this event possible. Thank you so much. I could not have been successful without partners and the District 2 office staff.

Bike Walk Central Florida will be offering four skills courses for young cyclists. They are also coordinating all as-

pects of the free bike and helmet giveaway. Volunteers will be assisting Bike Walk by retrieving bikes from storage, adjusting seats, and making any needed easy repairs.

My biggest worry is transporting, loading, and unloading 150 bikes from several Walmarts to the school. If I didn't have so many wonderful volunteers from People of Wekiwa Springs, Lockhart, Southern Apopka, and Clarcona-Ocoee groups, this event wouldn't be possible either. Thank you to Danny, Mateo, Sandy, Dave, Laura, and Alphonso for going above and beyond. Additionally, they cleaned up a property adjacent to the school parking lot last Saturday in the 90-degree heat.

See MOORE Page 6A

Local schools were/are a priority

As I contemplated this week's column and how to honor a man we all knew and loved so, I found myself struggling for the right words to express the loss felt in losing a community icon, Mr. John Ricketson. I find myself feeling sad but at the same time so incredibly grateful that I had the honor of knowing him and living in this community that was most certainly made better by having him in it.

His deep love for his community is well documented in the numerous

Orange County School Board, District 7



Melissa Byrd

ways he served his community throughout the years. He was such a shining example of a servant leader and one that we would all do well to emulate.

As the elected school

board member, John allowed me to share school news and insights with the community each week, and I am incredibly grateful for that. He made our local schools a priority and it shows each week in our hometown paper with numerous stories and updates about news, sports and other happenings of our schools.

This kind of focus from a local newspaper is quite unique. As I shared last year when we lost our

See BYRD Page 6A

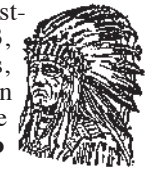
This Week In God's Word

The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever. — Isaiah 40:8

Mema Says

Respect heals all relationships; sometimes it's only your heart.

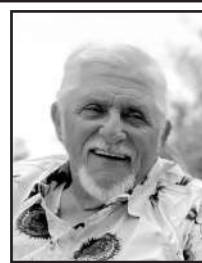
The Apopka Chief is published every Friday and entered as Periodicals, postage paid at Apopka Post Office, under the Act of Congress of March 23, 1879. The Apopka Chief newspaper is published by Foliage Enterprises, Inc., every Friday at 400 N. Park Avenue, Apopka, Fla., 32712-3417. An annual subscription is \$25 in Orange County and \$30 outside Orange County, Phone 407-886-2777. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Apopka Chief, PO Box 880, Apopka, Fla., 32704-0880.



Israel is an example of stepping up to bring people together

"I can handle this job all by myself." So goes the old song of yesteryear. I was listening to it the other day while reading an article concerning the leadership of Benjamin Netanyahu over the nation of Israel. The United States of America as been one of the greatest allies and a friend of Israel since their nation planted the Star of David banner on Jewish ground in 1948.

Now, with the failures of this administration looming large over our ties



Ike Hayden

to Israel, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and the nation of Israel have chosen to advise us (the U.S.), they can handle the job of making peace with Saudi Arabia and other nations in Western Asia by

furthering the Abraham Accord without the assistance of the fly-by-night administration that has bowed to the Ayatollahs and Mullahs of Iran.

I love the example of Israel stepping up and making the effort of bringing people together, not just for themselves, but for the purpose of building trust and cooperation between nations that, in the past, have been enemies.

In the meantime, the United States is being propelled toward an unfor-

tunate end as a free nation. We have had many of our Constitutional rights trampled under the guise of "protection" from a virus that was nowhere near as deadly as was the Swine Flu of years ago. Oh, but we did not have Dr. Fauci to lead us into the abyss of masking, and endless vaccinations.

Closing schools was not for health reasons. How else could they dumb down Americans without using the children as instruments of persuasion. In retro-

spect, we see the damage our children have suffered, the jobs that were lost, and parents that were led to desperation by concern for their children.

Suddenly everyone in the news, was "expert" in the field of illnesses, especially Covid. Businesses had to close their doors, funerals were closed off to all but the immediate family, even terminally ill patients in hospitals were denied the visits of loved ones who wished to comfort the beloved and share last hours

with them.

Going out of the house without a mask (or two) and a bottle of hand sanitizer was a dreaded affair. Everyone that died was Covid-stricken, and all those that lived through it without vaccinations, masking, and separating themselves from everyone at least by six feet were thought to be guilty of attempted murder. All the Draconian measures had nothing to do with protection from the virus, but

See HAYDEN Page 6A

Grounds: New exec., wife will be at Political Hob Nob

Continued from page 1A

Florida.

Grounds holds a degree in sports management and an MBA in leadership and sustainability from the University of Cumbria in England, and a DBA in coaching and mentoring from Warsaw Management University.

Grounds is a graduate of the Leadership Law program at the Orange County Bar Association (OCBA), was a committee member of the Legal Aid Society of the OCBA, and the first patron member of the OCBA. Nick also has a passion for soccer and coached for 17 years and holds a premier coaching license and a director of coaching diploma from the NSCAA. Nick was a scout for Richmond

University, England.

Grounds is married to Kathleen, and they have four grown children and six grandchildren. Their youngest son Michael, 30, is serving with the U.S. Army as an SSG with the 10th Mountain Division, after finishing tours of duty in South Korea, Afghanistan, and Iraq.

Grounds and his wife Kathleen will be at the Chamber's Political Hob Nob at Highland Manor in Apopka on Tuesday, July 30, 5-8 p.m.

At the Hob Nob, attendees can also vote in the straw poll and meet elected officials and candidates.

Pre-registration is \$20 at apokkachamber.org or \$25 at the door.

CRA: District has 633 acres downtown

Continued from page 1A

(TIF) from Orange County and the city of Apopka. All projects and programs are in accordance with Florida Statutes and the CRA Redevelopment Plan 2017~Update.

The CRA Redevelopment Plan 2017~Update provides the programs and projects that were approved by the CRA Board. Projects and programs continue to further the economic and redevelopment goals of the CRA.

Located downtown, the Apopka CRA District is comprised of 633 acres that has a mix of residences, businesses and historic properties.

The local government created the Apopka CRA Board to direct the agency. This board is composed of Apopka City Council members, an Orange County Board of County Commissioners representative, and

other individuals appointed by the local government.

REGAL

Fri., July 26, 2024 thru Sun., July 28, 2024

3D SHOWINGS

DEADPOOL & WOLVERINE (R) 10:30A; 1:50; 3:40; 5:10; 8:30

DEADPOOL & WOLVERINE (R) 9:00A; 9:30A; 10:00A; 11:20A; 12:20; 12:50; 1:20; 2:40; 4:10; 4:40; 6:00; 7:00; 7:30; 8:00; 9:20; 10:20; 10:50

INSIDE OUT 2 (PG) 9:20A; 11:40A; 2:00; 4:30; 6:50; 9:10

DESPICABLE ME 4 (PG) 9:40A; 12:00; 2:20; 4:50; 7:10; 9:30

TWISTERS (PG-13) 10:40A; 1:30; 4:20; 7:20; 10:10

TUES. VALUE DAYS
NOW ONLY \$5.99 + TAX with Regal Crown Club card. (EXCLUDING HOLIDAYS)

WEKIVA RIVERWALK
WEKIVA SPRINGS RD, APOPKA
www.regmovies.com

Rock Springs Realty delivers excellent service, whether you're buying or selling

When you're looking to buy or sell a home anywhere in the Apopka area, you need to find a Realtor® with integrity, years of experience, and a proven track record of success.

For most people, buying or selling a property will be one of the biggest financial decisions you'll make in your entire lifetime. What's most important to consider is hiring the right Realtor & Real Estate Brokerage you can trust who will also look out for "your" best interest, not just their own back pocket!

Today's world of real estate can be complicated and confusing. A good Realtor® will take the time to walk you through each step of the process, explain the contract and disclosures, and give you a full understanding of the closing process. But, also critical to your success is picking someone who is a skilled negotiator that can get you the best deal possible.

You'll find this and more with Apopka's own **Rock Springs Realty, LLC**. They are a full-service real estate brokerage offering residential, investment, and commercial services in the Central Florida market since 2008.

Founded by its managing Broker/Owner Joe Bornstein, his team provides the highest level of service and fosters a culture of efficiency, open communication, and a complete dedication to its clients' needs. The dedicated and experienced



Visit www.RockSpringsRealty.com or call toll free at 877-333-2811 today to learn how they can help with your real estate needs. Pictured above is Rock Springs Realty Broker/Owner Joe Bornstein, Realtors Dawna Hosier, Kelli Crosby, Joanne Montchal, Kyle Moro, and Christine Nejame-Evans.

team of professionals at **Rock Springs Realty, LLC** include Realtors Kelli Crosby, Dawna Hosier, Joanne Montchal, Christine Nejame-Evans and Kyle Moro. The combined experience of this team represents decades of experience and has been voted one of the "Best of Apopka" Real Estate Professionals over the past 12 years.

Using advanced search and listing technology, the **Rock Springs Realty** website will allow you to obtain an "Instant" Home Value Estimate or Search virtually "Every Single" home and property on the statewide MLS system, all at no cost or fee. You can also find detailed information on the "Hottest" Communities in Apopka, informative articles, educational videos and materials, mortgage calculators, market reports, blog articles and

so much more.

If you're curious to know if purchasing a new construction home is a better deal and valued than a resale home, having an experienced Realtor® on your team is vital.

"There are many compelling reasons why you always want to be represented by your own Realtor® when touring, investigating, and negotiating a new construction home with any Builder.

When you walk into a builder's model home and are greeted by the salesperson, it's important to remember they work "FOR" the Builder and have the Builder's best interest in mind, NOT YOURS! That salesperson is not going to fight to get you the lowest price possible, best terms, incentives, and discounts available. The salesperson working for the Builder

makes an extra commission if you don't utilize a Realtor®. The odds are truly stacked against you in this situation," stated Joe Bornstein, **Rock Springs Realty** Broker/Owner.

Rock Springs Realty, LLC is a clear market leader in the greater Apopka area and encourages anyone considering using the company to preview scores of testimonials and closing pictures of their satisfied customers.

Always delivering results, **Rock Springs Realty** understands how to navigate within the current housing market and provide a smooth transaction from beginning to close. Visit them at www.RockSpringsRealty.com or call Toll Free (877) 333-2811 to find out how they can assist you in this rapidly changing market.

Advertisement



Get Your E-edition today!

Read page by page.
Anywhere, Anytime, and on Any Device

In Print. Online. On the Go.

Your Local News. Your Way!

Staying connected is easier than ever...



- Complete Local News Coverage
- Social & Political Changes
- Dining & Entertainment
- Lifestyle & Local Events
- Business & Economic News
- Youth Sports & School News
- Weather & Traffic
- Church News
- Classifieds
- and so much more



Get Your E-edition
Call or Subscribe Online!
The Apopka Chief

Your Trusted Local News Source

E-mail: News@TheApopkaChief.com
Ads@TheApopkaChief.com
www.TheApopkaChief.com

Like us on Facebook. Get important news when it happens.
 400 N. Park Ave., Apopka, FL 32712
 Phone: 407-886-2777 • Fax: 407-889-4121

EVANS ROOFING

NEW ROOF & REPAIRS

407.295.4944



Lawn Maintenance
Pressure Washing
Yard Clean-Up
Leaf Removal

Total Ground Maintenance

352.729.2507

www.faithworkstotalground.com

Shelley's Septic Tanks

FREE ESTIMATES 407-889-8042

Hours: Monday - Friday 7AM - 5PM

Environmentally Friendly Company!
Licensed & Insured
State Certified

Emergency Services Available After Hours

6505 W. Jones Ave.,
Zellwood, FL 32798

RSR
Rock Springs Realty, LLC
Residential & Investment Real Estate

- **Selling:** What's your home worth in the current market? Call for a No-Obligation "Home Evaluation" Report
- **Buying:** Search "ALL" homes for sale in Apopka www.RockSpringsRealty.com

CALL Joe Bornstein, Broker: (407) 252-8092
VOTED "BEST OF APOPKA" REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONAL



WORKPLACE SCREENING INTELLIGENCE

Helping Employers and Employees
Get Back to Work Safely and Stay COVID Free

LABORATORY TESTING

- ✓ Drug Screening Nationally
- ✓ Covid Screens
- ✓ Titer Testing
- ✓ New Transferrin Gold TB Test

Call: 800-338-5515 or Email: info@workplacescreening.com
www.workplacescreening.com

IN NEED OF A CHURCH HOME?
Perhaps a Sunday service is not the best time for you.

Ministries of Good Life

Offers a nondenominational service every Saturday at 11AM.
Join us for praise and worship and the word of God.

Pastor Glenn and Myrna Morris • 2501 Apopka Blvd., Apopka, FL
For more information email MinistriesofGoodLife@gmail.com
Watch us live on Facebook @ 11 AM Saturday mornings!

Please Support These Businesses & Service Organizations.

They Care About You & Are Investing in the Community.

City: Ordinances for energy choice initiative became nationwide

Continued from page 1A

all essential utilities.

"The costs of installing natural gas infrastructure in already developed subdivisions, and retrofitting existing homes to allow homeowners to use natural gas

appliances is exceedingly expensive," the staff report states. "Whereas, the costs of installing natural gas infrastructure in subdivisions up-front, as they are being constructed, are significantly lower than the costs of retrofitting developments

after the fact. The absence of natural gas in a development takes away the citizens' and residents' choice to benefit from the energy source that best supports their lifestyle."

Earlier this year, the LANGD Board of Directors approved energy choice initiative ordinances for presentation to cities of Apopka, Winter Garden, and Clermont. Winter Garden and Clermont will be presented the same ordinance, said Brent Haywood, general manager/CEO of LANGD.

Ordinances upholding energy choice for homeowners have become more commonplace across the nation, Haywood said. He himself has collaborated with multiple municipalities on it, the closest to Apopka being Leesburg.

"Well, I just think it'll be nice that we are able to give our residents an option whether they want to have electric or whether they want to have gas," said

City Commissioner Alexander Smith, who is also a LANGD board member. "So, by allowing this ordinance to pass, it would give our residents that option. And a lot of the residents would like gas, especially for cooking. So, I think it's a good ordinance."

Apopka Resident Albert McKimmie agreed with Smith on his point about people having the option of electricity or gas as an energy source. However, McKimmie doesn't like the idea of monopolies.

"When you make an ordinance to put in gas lines, firstly, I want to know who's paid for it. Is it the developer that's paid for the gas lines or is it Lake Apopka that's paying for the natural gas lines? In effect, if it's Lake Apopka that's paying for the gas lines, what you are proposing is setting up a monopoly because it means that later on, no other gas company whos's decided to come in and compete with Lake

Apopka could compete with them because it's Lake Apopka gas lines," McKimmie said.

McKimmie said he advocated for some time for the city of Apopka to offload Lake Apopka Natural Gas District.

"I think that the money that we could get from selling Lake Apopka Natural Gas would settle all the screw ups in the infrastructure that this mayor has contributed to," McKimmie said. "We could certainly still allow Lake Apopka Natural Gas to supply gas, but we should be looking at privatizing all our public utilities, and the money that comes from Lake Apopka Natural Gas' sale could be used to do that."

The Apopka City Council's second reading and adoption of Ordinance No. 3070 is scheduled for Wednesday, August 7.

LANGD's energy loss in its three parent cities was about \$35.9 million per year because natural gas

hadn't been utilized in the majority of the homes.

The Energy Information Administration report from the Department of Energy states that this past winter's heating cost was an estimated \$67.3 billion, with natural gas in the mix; if there was a full electrification, it would be \$204 billion for heating costs just for a single winter.

The electrification movement proposes the move to an all-electric, single-source model that eliminates the use of natural gas and natural gas products. A single-source energy model would eliminate competition, thus allowing electric companies to monopolize the energy landscape and deprive consumers' right to choose their energy source, Haywood said at the LANGD Board of Directors March 25 meeting.

Electrification lives on the misconception that electricity is equivalent to

See CITY Page 7A

Wekiwa Springs Baptist Church

Would like to invite you and your family to join us

Sunday school @ 9:00am
 Sunday morning service @ 10:15am
 Evening service:
 Sunday/Wednesday @ 6:00pm

Worship music and message from GOD's word
 Everyone welcome!

584 N. Wekiwa Springs Road Apopka, FL 32712
 407-886-7864 • www.wsbcapopka.org

community health centers

Now Hiring

Pediatrics OB/GYN
 Family Medicine Dental
 Internal Medicine Pharmacy

AFFORDABLE HEALTHCARE FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY!

407-905-8827

225 E 7TH ST, APOPKA, FL 32703

[WWW.CHCFL.ORG](http://www.chcfl.org)

CENTERS THROUGHOUT CENTRAL FLORIDA!

Essential Eye Care & Optical

As we begin to see more patients, we are implementing extra precautionary measures within our practice to keep everyone as healthy and safe as possible. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us at (407) 893-2733 via call or text.

OUR SERVICES

Comprehensive Eye Health Exams
 On-Site Lab
 Great Frame Selection

Glasses & Contact Lenses, Dry Eye Evaluation, Glaucoma/Macular Degeneration Care, Diabetic Eye Exams/Red Eye Clinic

20% OFF Glasses
 Expires 8/31/24.

2300 E. Semoran Blvd, Suite G, Apopka, FL 32703
 (407) 893-25EE (2733) • Dr. David Dada, Optometrist

Book online: www.essentialeyecareoptical.com

MAKE IT mullinax Ford 0% APR financing

SUMMER SALES EVENT on 1,700 New Fords!

Mach-E, Escape, Edge, Explorer, Expedition, F-150 & F-150 Lightning

NO PAYMENT 90 DAYS NO PAYMENT

Available on the following models: 24MY Escape, 24MY Edge, 24MY Explorer, 24MY Expedition, 24MY F-150, 23/24MY Mach-E, 23/24 F-150 Lightning, Exclude Raptor. Customer can defer first payment up to 90 days. 0% APR financing for 36 mos. at \$27.78 per mo. per \$1,000 financed, regardless of down payment. Offer requires credit approval and financing through Ford Credit. Not all buyers will qualify. Residency restrictions apply. See salesperson for qualifications. Ends 7/31/2024.

1551 E. Semoran Blvd., Apopka, FL • www.MullinaxFordFL.com • 407-972-1678

Like us on **Facebook**

Get important news when it happens!

News that can affect you and your family

The Apopka Chief
 The Voice of the Community Since 1922

Get Your E-edition today!
 Read page by page anytime, anywhere and on any device.

www.TheApopkaChief.com
 Subscribe, Renew or Pay Online!

- In Depth Business & Economic News
- Social & Political Changes
- Park & Recreational News
- School & Youth Sports
- Advertising Opportunities
- Elementary & Middle School Updates in Chief Junior
- Developments that can affect you and your family

400 N. Park Ave., Apopka, FL 32712 • P.O. Box 880, Apopka, FL 32704-0880
 407-886-2777 • Fax 407-889-4121
 E-mail: News@TheApopkaChief.com • Ads@TheApopkaChief.com

The Bath or Shower You've Always Wanted IN AS LITTLE AS 1 DAY

\$1000 OFF AND **No Payments & No Interest for 18 Months***

Military & Senior Discounts Available

OFFER EXPIRES 9/30/2024

BCI BATH & SHOWER **CALL NOW! (855) 729-3984**

*Includes product and labor; bathtub, shower or walk-in tub and wall surround. This promotion cannot be combined with any other offer. Other restrictions may apply. This offer expires 9/30/2024. Each dealership is independently owned and operated. **Third party financing is available for those customers who qualify. See your dealer for details. ©2024 BCI Acrylic Inc.

CITY OF APOPKA PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

REPEAL AND REPLACEMENT OF THE TRANSPORTATION ELEMENT OF THE APOPKA COMPREHENSIVE PLAN ADOPTION HEARING

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Florida Statutes Section 163.3184 and the Apopka Code of Ordinances, Part III, Land Development Code, Article II, Section 2.4.7(B) that the City of Apopka proposes to amend the Comprehensive Plan by repealing and replacing the Transportation Element.

ORDINANCE NO. 3029

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF APOPKA, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE CITY OF APOPKA COMPREHENSIVE PLAN; REPEALING AND REPLACING THE TRANSPORTATION ELEMENT IN ITS ENTIRETY; PROVIDING FOR LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Notice is given that a public hearing for the adoption of the proposed amendment to the Florida Department of Commerce will be held by the **City of Apopka City Council** at its regularly scheduled meeting in the City Council Chambers of the Apopka City Hall, 120 E. Main Street, Apopka, Florida on **Wednesday, August 7, 2024, beginning at 1:30 p.m.**, or as soon thereafter as possible.

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

Apopka City Council
 Apopka Planning Commission
 Community Development Department

July 26, 2024

Publish: The Apopka Chief 177108

TRUGREEN
 Live life outside.®

Save now with **50% OFF*** Your First Application

Get the most out of your lawn this spring.

SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT TODAY!
1-855-520-1525

*Special price is for first Lawn service only. Requires purchase of annual plan, for new residential EasyPay, MonthlyPay, or PrePay customers only. Valid at participating TruGreen locations. Availability of services and/or products may vary by geography. Not to be combined with or used in conjunction with any other offer or discount. Additional restrictions may apply. Consumer responsible for all sales tax. **Guarantee applies to annual plan customers only. BBB accredited since 07/01/2012. ©2024 TruGreen Limited Partnership. All rights reserved. In Connecticut, B-0153, B-1390, B-0127, B-0200, B-0151.

Recent AHS graduate participates in D.C. summer internship program

A recent Apopka High School graduate was tapped to participate in a summer internship program, which culminates in the youth traveling to the nation's capital for a one-week national leadership summit.

Bank of America recently announced that four Central Florida high school juniors and seniors, including Colin Poon a recent Apopka High School graduate – were selected as Student Leaders (#BofAStudentLeaders), an eight-week paid summer internship connecting students to employment, skills development and service.

These community-minded students will gain practical work and leadership experience and receive financial education coaching from Bank of America's Better Money Habits curriculum, while working

with local nonprofits, including Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Florida, all while earning competitive wages.

From July 22-27, the Student Leaders traveled to Washington, D.C. for a week-long, all-expenses-paid, national leadership summit to learn how nonprofits, governments and businesses collaborate to meet local needs. Thursday, July 25, is National Intern Day.

This is the 20th year Bank of America has offered the Student Leaders intern program in Central Florida. Nearly 100 high school students have been selected as Student Leaders since the program began in 2004.

"By providing career and leadership development opportunities for teens for 20 years, we continue to help develop the next gen-

eration of skilled workers, which is essential to the region's long-term economic growth," Naveed Shujaat, president, Bank of America Central Florida, was quoted as saying in a news release. "The exceptional teens selected for the Student Leaders program will not only gain practical work and life experience, but the community will in turn gain help from local nonprofits and a diverse pipeline of talent as these young adults enter the local workforce."

As an Asian American, Colin has found multiple ways to bring together Asian American students, promote cultural understanding and connect students with the larger Asian American community in Central Florida. He does this by serving as co-president of Recognizing and Experiencing Asian Cul-

tural Heritage (REACH) of Central Florida, which organizes cultural events throughout the year. He is also the president and founder of Asian Students in Apopka (ASIA), the first organization on his school campus to educate students about Asian culture.

Along with Student Leaders, Bank of America is connecting more than 60 teens and young adults to paid jobs and internships with the city of Orlando through its Summer Youth Employment Program, and partnerships with ELEVATE Orlando, Job Partnerships of Florida and Junior Achievement of Central Florida to expose students to emerging industries, guest speakers, college tours and job shadowing to prepare them for their post-secondary journey.

Library: 2nd Apopka branch on back burner

Continued from page 1A

visit neighboring branches in Eatonville, Fairview Shores, Hiawassee, West

Oaks and Winter Garden, the website advises.

As for a possible second branch in the Apopka area, OCLS will not move

forward at the moment on that project since OCLS is focused on establishing two new branches, Horizon West and Lake Nona.

Design and other pre-construction work is being done at both locations but no ground has been broken yet, Sullivan said.

MALTBY'S

Tree Service & Landscaping

Do you have trees that need attention before a storm hits? If so, call us today!
LOCALLY OWNED AND OPERATED
CELEBRATING OVER 20 YEARS OF SERVICE



- Tree Trimming & Removal
- Landscape Installation
- Stump Grinding
- Grapple Truck Services

321-689-5866

Call us today for a free consultation and estimate.

JAMES MALTBY
Owner

Licensed
& Insured



LET US GUIDE YOU

- HEALTH
 - MEDICARE
 - CREMATION
 - ACCIDENT
 - DENTAL
 - LIFE
 - CRITICAL ILLNESS
- SE HABLA ESPAÑOL

Compass Health Insurance.com
3030 East Semoran Blvd., #184
Apopka, FL 32703 407-758-9487

Next to Gators Dockside (in Colonial Shoppes at Bear Lake)

Your Local Agency for

Florida Blue



**It's more than just cremation;
it's a tribute to a life well-lived.**
Explore our compassionate cremation options at Highland Memory Gardens and Funeral Home.


HIGHLAND FUNERAL HOME
HIGHLAND MEMORY GARDENS



3329 East Semoran Blvd.
Apopka, FL 32703
407-869-1188
highlandfh.com

We Make It Personal.®



The average person waits
SEVEN YEARS
to get their hearing checked.

That's **seven years** of missed laughs.
Seven years of missed conversations.
Seven years of missed moments.

Schedule an appointment to hear what the next seven years hold for you.

407.358.7045 | APOPKA
352.326.5253 | LEESBURG

Apopka
200 North Park Ave, Ste B
Leesburg
1108 W Dixie Ave
CentralFloridaAudiology.com




CENTRAL FLORIDA
Audiology

Amy Davis, Au.D.
Cynthia Quintana, Au.D.

OLD GLASSES & HEARING AIDS WANTED



The Mt. Dora Lions Club will use your recyclable eye glasses for the program "Project Right to Sight."



Foliage Sertoma Club, working with Dr. Amy Davis at Central Florida Audiology, will collect and recycle hearing aids for Apopka citizens with hearing needs.



If you have old glasses or hearing aids, you no longer need, please take them to

The Apopka Chief and The Planter Newspapers
or Apopka Office Supply
400 N. Park Ave., Apopka
407-886-2777



JOB NOW HIRING



community health centers



Pediatrics



Family Medicine



Internal Medicine



OB/GYN



Dental



Pharmacy

AFFORDABLE HEALTHCARE FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY!

407-905-8827

225 E 7TH ST, APOPKA, FL 32703

WWW.CHCFL.ORG



CENTERS THROUGHOUT CENTRAL FLORIDA!

City: State law, passed in 2021, prevents local govts. from banning fuel sources

Continued from page 4A

natural gas in affordability, dependability and cleanliness, Haywood explained.

In June 2021, Florida House Bill 919, which Governor Ron DeSantis signed into law effective July 2021, prevents local governments from banning fuel sources and pro-

jects the rights of those who currently have the choice to use natural gas. However, that didn't stop developers – mostly outside the area – from taking it upon themselves to deny homeowners energy choice, Haywood said.

According to the American Public Gas Association, families are losing more than \$1,000 per year in energy cost without a choice.

Families in LANGD's parent cities are losing more than \$35.9 million per year as a result of natural gas not being used or whereas it is not a choice. This number was based on the data collected from the 2020 Census data combined with LANGD's service territory data.

Yandell: Belief in own power is false security

Continued from page 6A

tain if we continue to invest our future in the technologies that can immediately self-destruct or be destroyed.

And finally, the truth comes out. The song "All My Hope is in Jesus" says more than the world is willing to accept. "All my hope is in Jesus. Thank God my yesterday's gone, yes, all my sins are forgiven. I've been washed by the blood."

If anyone has not realized that hope in this world is hopeless, perhaps that song will open a few eyes. We keep seeing the sign, "Wake up America." That may have a much deeper meaning than we realize.

Dependence on the

technological advances of mankind rather than our Creator God is shortsighted and foolish. Those products are susceptible to attacks from many angles and sooner or later, those attacks will come.

Proverbs 3: 5 "Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding."

It certainly appears the world has come to the point of "leaning unto our own understanding."

Electricity and the internet have led us to believe we are indestructible and immovable. Believing we have all we need through our own power and the power sold to us leaves us helpless in our false sense of security.

Many in our world are living under false senses of security. I have been reprimanded several times for teaching a faith based belief in the Lord Jesus as crucified and resurrected as the only eternal salvation. While I am convinced of that partly because of Biblical accuracy, much of the world is not.

This is a certain Biblical admonition and the fulfilled prophesy and other real-world concepts such as nutrition, economic, parenting and science prove this. God certainly knew these things before mankind did.

The finding of the Dead Sea Scrolls in 1947 definitely proves the authenticity and age of the Bi-

ble writings.

Many will not concede that their Creator knows more than they do. I'm not sure if I find this laughable or a characteristic of pitiful ignorance.

As long as humankind places our faith and trust in man's knowledge (and gadgetry), we will fall short of the fuller enlightenment offered by the scriptures.

Isaiah 12: 2 "Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the Lord Jehovah is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation."

Van Yandell is a retired Industrial Arts teacher, an ordained gospel evangelist and missionary, from Fredonia, Kentucky

School Crossing Guards needed

Adult school crossing guards are needed by Orange County. Paid positions are open near most neighborhood schools.

Adult school crossing guards are employed by the Sheriff of Orange County to protect children attending elementary and middle schools in all parts of the county. School crossing guards are paid \$17.31 per hour and only work two hours a day.

Cash allowances are paid for recruiting assistance and

good attendance. Training, protective clothing and safety equipment are provided at no expense to the guards.

Candidates for employment must meet the minimum requirements which are: be able to perceive potential traffic hazards; be sufficiently agile to move swiftly to avoid danger; be able to comprehend and communicate fluently in verbal and written English; be legally eligible to work in the United States, be at least 18 years of age, and have a clean criminal

history (any arrest history will be individually evaluated).

To view job postings and/or to apply online, visit the school crossing guard unit on the website at www.ocso.com, or call 407-836-4082.

The Orange County Sheriff's Office is an equal opportunity employer.

Its address is: OCSO, Human Resources Division, 2500 W. Colonial Dr., Orlando 32804, or Post Office Box 1440, Orlando, FL 32802-01440.

Got EVENTS?

PUBLICIZE THEM...

Use Our Online Forms:

www.theapopkachief.com

Call The Apopka Chief at 407-886-2777, or email news@theapopkachief.com

SMILE WITH Confidence!

Schroeder Dental Group

Katrina M. Schroeder, DMD

COSMETIC & GENERAL DENTISTRY

Call Now For An Appointment 407-886-1611



\$45 CLEANING
Schedule Your Next Cleaning and Save!

*Valid for new patients only. Subject to exam by doctor. Does not include periodontal gum disease treatment. Not to be combined with any other offer. Transferable. Please share with your family and friends. Expires 8/31/24.

New Patients Welcome!

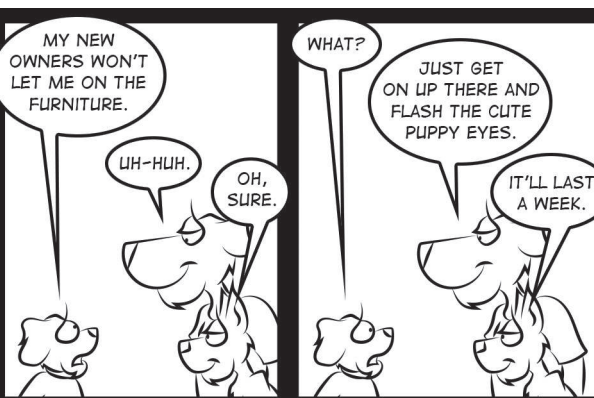
MyApopkaDentist.net Emergency Appointments Available
527 Wekiva Commons Cir., Apopka, FL [invisalign/ZOOM!](https://www.invisalign.com)

Gracework Community Church

SATURDAY SERVICES

Bible Study 10:00 AM
Worship 11:30 AM
Livestream:
tinyurl.com/4ak7933j

9913 Bear Lake Rd., Apopka, FL
graceworkcc@gmail.com
321-228-4599



Best of Apopka!
PARK AVENUE ANIMAL HOSPITAL
847 N. Park Ave, Apopka FL 407-880-9446
WWW.PARKAVENUEVETS.COM

INFORMATION YOU CAN USE TO KEEP IN TOUCH:

WEBSITE:
theapopkachief.com

E-MAIL:
news@theapopkachief.com
ads@theapopkachief.com

PHONE: 407-886-2777

FAX: 407-889-4121

400 N. Park Ave., Apopka, FL 32712



Lawn Maintenance
Pressure Washing
Yard Clean-Up
Leaf Removal

Total Ground Maintenance

352.729.2507

www.faithworkstotalground.com

LET US TELL YOUR BUSINESS STORY!

E-mail ads@TheApopkaChief.com
or call 407-886-2777 to find out about our Business Profile program.
Visit www.theapopkachief.com
Helping you is our business!

Be prepared before the next power outage.



It's not just a generator.
It's a power move.

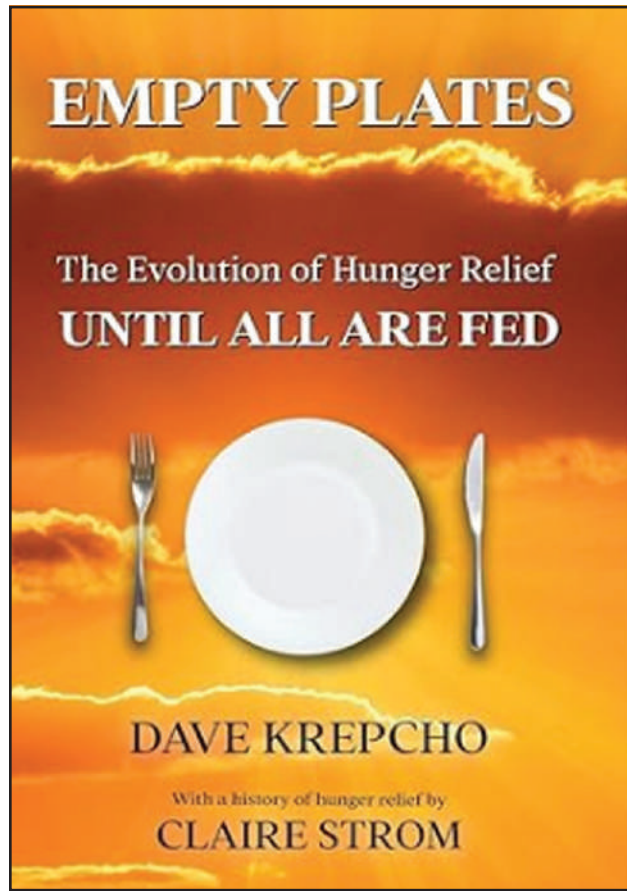
Receive a free 5-year warranty with qualifying purchase* - valued at \$535.

Call 407-753-7287 to schedule your free quote!

GENERAC

*Terms and Conditions apply.

Former nonprofit CEO to sign book about hunger relief



With one in eight neighbors at risk of experiencing hunger on any given day, Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida has seen a growing need for food assistance in recent years. That's why leaders are inviting the community to attend a book signing event on Thursday, August 8 for "Empty Plates: The Evolution of Hunger Relief".

Written by Apopka resident Dave Krepcho, who served as Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida President and CEO for 17 years, the book documents the history of hunger relief efforts while inspiring new solutions. It pays tribute to the early pioneers of the food bank movement while also providing valu-

able insights on how leadership, vision and culture can increase any organization's impact.

Attendees will be able to purchase a new copy of the book or bring one for Dave to sign. A portion of book sales will go to Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida. Learn more about the book at davekrepcho.com.

Attendees will be able to purchase a new copy of the book or bring one for Krepcho to sign. A portion of book sales will go to Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida.

While registration is not required, RSVPs are welcome. To sign up visit feedhopenow.org/empty-plates.

Book signing of "Empty Plates"

WHEN: Thursday, Aug. 8, 5:30 p.m. – 7 p.m.

WHERE: Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida
411 Mercy Drive, Orlando

Got EVENTS?

PUBLICIZE THEM...

Use Our Online Forms:
www.theapokkachief.com

Call The Apopka Chief at **407-886-2777**,
or email news@theapokkachief.com

NICK'S
AIR CONDITIONING & HEATING

HVAC PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

- Duct Cleaning
- Attic Insulation
- HVAC Maintenance and Installation
- Equipment and Duct Repair

407-489-5060

www.nicksacandheat.com

Georgia Peaches

NOW ONLY
\$31.99
SAVE \$5
Reg. Price \$36.99

1-877-885-1767 or
visit PittmanDavis.com/P4YN07

Only \$31.99 (reg. \$36.99) Satisfaction completely guaranteed.
Valid through 08/08/24 at noon or while supplies last. *Pittman & Davis*
IC: P4YN07

What if help was around the corner?

Bundle home & auto

Shren Yeager
Agent

49 E 3rd St Ste A
Apopka, FL 32703-4245

Bus: 407-880-3167
www.theyeagerbomb.com

Availability and amount of discounts and savings vary by state.
State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company, State Farm Indemnity Company,
State Farm Fire and Casualty Company, State Farm General Insurance Company, Bloomington, IL
State Farm County Mutual Insurance Company of Texas, State Farm Lloyds, Richardson, TX
State Farm Florida Insurance Company, Winter Haven, FL

Dining AND Entertainment

Please support our local businesses.

Stephie's Pub & IRISH EATERY

Full-Service Restaurant & Irish Pub

Traditional Irish Food served at its BEST.
We only use air fryers & convection ovens.

Closed Monday
Tues., Wed. & Thurs. 3pm-11pm
Fri. & Sat. 11:30am to midnight
Sunday 11:30am - 9pm

Events & Entertainment

Every Tues., Krazy James Karaoke @ 7pm
Fri., Jess Farnsworth @ 7pm
Sat., Celtic Band McIntyre @ 7pm
Sun., Jackbox Trivia w/Safia Valines 6-8 pm

Check out our Full Menu at WWW.STEPHIESPUB.COM
1061 W Orange Blossom Trail, Apopka
407-703-8195

Welcome to Caffé Positanos,
where food is our passion

- Our sauces are made fresh daily
- The house salad dressing is made from scratch
- Only the finest ingredients are used

Caffé Positano

Call us for take out orders!

We are located at
3030 E. Semoran Blvd,
Apopka, FL 32703 • 407-774-8080
1665 WP Ball Blvd, Sanford, FL 32771 • 407-531-1151
Visit us at www.caffepositanos.com

SUDOKU ANSWERS

PUZZLE CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 2B

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

Puzzle Solution

	R	A	B	B	I	S		S	A	L	I	N	E		
M	A	D	E	I	R	A		A	B	A	L	O	N	E	
A	B		A	N	A	L	O	G	I	Z	E		D	A	
H	I	N	D	S		A	U	G		E	A	G	E	R	
D	E	U	S		S	A	T	E	S		C	R	A	N	
I	S	M		R	A	M		D	K	G		O	R	E	
			E	X	E	C				R	O	G	U	E	S
A	C	R	I	S							W	U	N	D	T
B	R	A	V	E	D					M	A	I	D		
R	U	T		T	A	R		P	O	N		H	U	S	
E	S	O	P		B	A	S	A	L		T	O	N	E	
A	A	R	O	N		P	I	P		S	A	G	E	R	
S	D		S	A	T	I	R	I	C	A	L		A	U	
T	E	H	E	R	A	N		S	A	R	C	A	S	M	
	S	E	R	A	P	E			T	R	I	A	G	E	

The Crossword Puzzle is found on page 2B

Summer Like You Mean It With

WORLD-FAMOUS PERFECTION

- The world's most tender, flavorful steaks, extra-aged to perfection.
- The juiciest air-chilled chicken, tastiest pork, and so much more.
- Every bite is a 100% guaranteed gourmet experience you'll crave.

OMAHA STEAKS

SINCE 1917

8 FREE BURGERS (A \$23.99 VALUE)

75432SVL separately \$234.99 **\$99.99**
SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY PRICE

ORDER NOW! » OmahaSteaks.com/GrillFaves2416
1.877.694.0131 Ask for 75432SVL

Savings shown over aggregated single item base price. 8 free 4 oz. burgers will be sent to each shipping address that includes SKU 75432. Limit 2 on select items at these exclusive prices. While supplies last. Items may be substituted due to inventory limitations. Standard shipping rates will be applied and are subject to change. Minimum purchase and other restrictions may apply. Some products may not be available for sale in your area. Sales are subject to OmahaSteaks.com/terms-of-use-OSI. Expires 06/30/24. | 24M6132 | Omaha Steaks, LLC

Let's Talk About Jesus

The comedian Jim Gaffigan has a funny bit where he says he hopes everyone is comfortable and then says "I want to talk to you about Jesus." He's probably right in thinking that people who open the conversation with an invitation to talk about Jesus, or religion in general, are going to make others uncomfortable. But why is that? From my own personal experience, when people talk about religion it often feels slightly judgmental, which is to say that if you don't agree with what the person says about Jesus you feel like they think you're a heretic, or worse, an infidel. It's a rare conversation about religion where both sides let the other person say

and think whatever they happen to say or think. There is often a tendency in these conversations to persuade the other person, and that is what feels judgmental: if you're trying to persuade me then you must think I'm wrong. Even when someone is being completely open-minded and tolerant in their views there is this same tendency to think that everyone should be equally open-minded, and some people are so firmly convinced that their beliefs are correct that this open-mindedness strikes them as agnosticism. The "who am I to say?" folks and the "I know in my heart this is true" folks will forever be at odds.
- Christopher Simon



Do you have church news you would like us to publicize?

Use Our Online Forms: www.theapokkachief.com

Call **The Apopka Chief & The Planter** at 407-886-2777, fax 407-889-4121, or email news@theapokkachief.com

Obits

JOSEPH ANTHONY MIGLIORI (Joe), 87, passed away on July 3, 2024, in Tavares. Born on March 1, 1937, in Woodville, Ohio. He was preceded in death by son, Greg Migliori. He is survived by: wife, Rosalie Migliori; children, Greg Migliori, Amy Hardesty, Jamie June, Sue Miller, and Todd Migliori; 14 grandchildren; 7 great-grandchildren.

...
ERMA LEE MULLINIX NEFF, 93, died July 10, 2024. She is survived by: daughter, Jackie Sturno (Jim); two grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

...
PRAY



LOOMIS FAMILY FUNERAL HOMES
VISIT OUR ONLINE OBITUARY
LOOMISFUNERALHOMES.COM

Erma Lee Mullinix Neff



Erma Lee Mullinix Neff, 93, died July 10, 2024. She lived in Apopka, Florida, for 35 years before moving to Mt. Dora. She is survived by her daughter, Jackie Sturno (Jim); two grandchildren, Somer Froemming (Jason) and Ryan Sturno (Siobhain); and three great-grandchildren, Samantha Froemming, Ronan Sturno, and Brendan Sturno.

Baldwin Brothers Funeral Home in Tavares is handling the arrangements.
Condolences may be shared at www.baldwincremation.com/obituaries/erma-lee-neff/

Honor Your Loved Ones
Call 407-886-2777 to find out about our designed Obituaries and Memorials or visit www.TheApopkaChief.com/obituaries

But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint. Isaiah 40:31

In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.
Matthew 5:16

Add Your Church To Our List. Call (407) 886-2777

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY Wednesdays, 10 a.m. Holy Tabernacle Church
2501 Apopka Blvd.
Call for more info: 407-928-8617

407-886-3388
"Attend your place of worship this week"
MARVIN C. ZANDERS FUNERAL HOME
232 W. Michael Gladden Blvd.
Apopka, Florida 32703

In the fear of the Lord is strong confidence: and his children shall have a place of refuge.
Proverbs 14:26

State Farm
Shren Yeager
49A East 3rd Street, Apopka
407-880-3167
Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.®

"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." 2 Chronicles 7:14

Apopka Auto Upholstery
48 W. 4th Street, Apopka (behind Advance Discount Auto)
407-889-0011
In business 45 years
Charlene & Paul Fitzgerald, Owners

Maximize your marketing dollars by FOCUSING your advertising campaign on a concentrated market!

Visit us online at TheApopkaChief.com

Wisdom is the principal thing; Therefore get wisdom. And in all your getting, get understanding. Proverbs 4:7

But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint. Isaiah 40:31

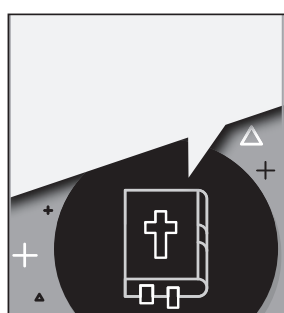
When you advertise in this section, you get the best of both worlds: low-cost ads AND targeted advertising!

Newspaper readers are ACTIVE CONSUMERS!
As a group, they have tremendous buying power!

Let's Talk About Jesus

(See message above.)

"Accept the one whose faith is weak, without quarreling over disputable matters."
Romans 14:1 NIV



In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

Matthew 5:16

Maximize your marketing dollars by FOCUSING your advertising campaign on a concentrated market!

- AME**
St. Paul AME
407-889-4464
- Anglican**
Anglican Community Fellowship
Find us at: theacf.net
- Apostolic**
Apostolic Church of Jesus
407-886-2556
- Assembly of God**
Apopka Assembly of God
407-886-2806
One Church
Markham Woods
407-774-0777
- Baptist**
Apopka First Baptist
407-886-2628
First Antioch Missionary Baptist Church
407-963-5398
First Baptist Church of Mount Dora
352-385-2222
First Baptist Church of Sanlando Springs
407-788-6801
First Baptist Sorrento
352-383-2241
First Baptist Church of Sweetwater
407-862-3893
First Baptist Church of Tangerine
352-383-7920
First Baptist Church of Zellwood
407-889-0509
Forest Avenue Baptist Church
407-886-4374
Fountain of Life Baptist Church of Apopka, Inc.
407-814-8322
Gospel Centered Church
800-924-6850
Hope Baptist Church
407-886-6980
Lockhart Baptist Church
407-295-1133
Northside Baptist Church
407-884-4443
One Way Christian Church
www.onewaychristianchurch.com
The Church at Oak Level
407-656-1523
Pleasant View Baptist Church
407-886-6717
Riverside Baptist Church
407-295-3850
Springs Community Baptist Church
407-889-2240
St. Luke's Full Gospel Baptist Church
352-735-9199

- Trinity Baptist Church
407-886-2966
Wekiwa Springs Baptist Church
407-886-7864
- Bible**
Bear Lake Bible Chapel
407-563-3931
- Biblical Science**
IDMR
321-948-3298
- Catholic**
St. Francis of Assisi
407-886-4602
- Charismatic Episcopal**
Ascension Church, CEC
407-880-9555
- Christian**
Christ Centered Christian Church
321-331-0036
Journey Christian Church
407-884-7223
Real Life Christian Church
352-735-LOVE
- Christian Science**
Christian Science Church
407-389-4200
- Church of Christ**
Apopka Church of Christ now with Plymouth*
Central Church of Christ
407-869-1419
Plymouth (and Apopka) Church of Christ*
407-886-1466
Bear Lake United Methodist Church of Christ
407-862-1531
Zellwood United Methodist Church
407-889-4426
- Moravian**
Rolling Hills Moravian Church
407-332-8380
- Nazarene**
Calvary Church of the Nazarene
407-889-2148
Apopka Springhill Church of the Nazarene
407-884-8322
- Non-Denominational**
Anointed Word Family Worship Center
407-886-4989
Casa De Oración Internacional
321-239-7680
Center of Faith Church for All People
407-464-9375
Church on the Edge
407-869-1133
City of Destiny (The)
407-884-6322
Compass Community Church
407-880-6110

- New Covenant Perfecting Ministries
407-880-8898
- Holiness**
St. Elizabeth Church of God by Faith
407-886-6290
St. Matthew Holiness
407-889-2274
Temple of Faith Church
407-884-6960
- Independent**
True Temple of God
407-880-8181
- Interdenominational**
New Vision Community Church
407-886-3619
Northwest Community Church
407-578-2088
One Accord Christian Fellowship Church
407-523-3002
- Jewish**
Congregation Beth Am
407-862-3505
Congregation of Reform Judaism
407-645-0444
- Lutheran**
St. Paul Lutheran
407-889-2634
- Methodist**
First United Methodist
407-886-3421
Bear Lake United Methodist
407-862-1531
Zellwood United Methodist
407-889-4426
- Moravian**
Rolling Hills Moravian Church
407-332-8380
- Nazarene**
Calvary Church of the Nazarene
407-889-2148
Apopka Springhill Church of the Nazarene
407-884-8322
- Non-Denominational**
Anointed Word Family Worship Center
407-886-4989
Casa De Oración Internacional
321-239-7680
Center of Faith Church for All People
407-464-9375
Church on the Edge
407-869-1133
City of Destiny (The)
407-884-6322
Compass Community Church
407-880-6110

- Dayspring Community Church
407-814-4996
Everlasting Covenant Christian Center
407-884-8598
Faithworks Church
302-293-1391
Freedom Fellowship
407-299-6311
Freedom Ministries
407-886-6006
Grace Gospel Church
321-438-4554
Grace Pointe Church
407-889-3383
Grace Community Church
321-228-4599
Happy Hill Ministries
407-889-0583
Holy Tabernacle Church
407-928-8617
Hosanna To The Highest Ministries
407-491-4266
Inspire
407-415-6218
Ministries of Good Life
407-703-7464
New Life Praise Worship Center
407-880-3421
New Beginning Worship Center
352-455-9173
New Life Word of Faith
321-460-8205
Orlando Church of Christ
407-823-7370
Philemon Ministries
407-718-7179
Rejoice in the Lord Ministries
407-814-7643
Remnant Christian Center
407-703-7346
Renewal Church
407-410-5378
Servants of God Ministries
407-814-8255
Sorrento Christian Center
352-735-4447
Spirit of Life Christian Church
407-886-4570
Tangerine Community Church
352-383-4173
The Shabach Church
407-445-1230
True Words of God Tabernacle of Meeting
407-227-8829
Victory Church World Outreach Center
407-889-7288

- Pentecostal**
Church in the Son
407-246-0001
Faith Fellowship Church
407-741-3750
Ministerios Getsemani
407-310-8672
Prince of Peace Pentecostal Missionary Church, Inc.
407-889-9269
Pentecostals of Apopka
407-889-3802
Way of Grace Ministries
407-292-9998
- Presbyterian**
First Presbyterian of Apopka
407-886-5943
St. Andrews Presbyterian Church
407-293-6802
- Reformed Church in America**
Rolling Hills Community Church
407-886-7664
- Seventh-day Adventists**
Apopka Seventh-day Adventist
407-889-2812
Florida Living SDA Church
407-284-7472
Forest Lake
407-869-0680
Franco-Haitian
407-296-4368
Genesis Spanish
509-264-4873
Maranatha Seventh-day Adventist
407-290-1800
Mount Olive
407-886-0430
Orlando Filipino Seventh-day Adventist
407-292-9210
Orlando Vietnamese Seventh-day Adventist
407-339-4974
Patmos Chapel SDA
321-870-8583
Pine Hills
407-291-4816
Plymouth-Sorrento
407-884-0595
- Templo Biblico**
Templo Asamblea Bíblica Lake Howell Branch Chapel
407-814-4465
- Unity**
Unity Church of Christianity
407-295-9181
- Ukrainian**
St. Mary's (Protectress) Ukrainian
407-880-1640 • 386-848-9888

FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES

Congress cannot make a law that favors the establishment of one particular religion; that prohibits the free exercise of religion; or that restricts freedom of speech or of the press, or the right of the people to gather and engage in peaceful demonstration and to petition the government for redress of their grievances.

www.TheApopkaChief.com | news@theapokkachief.com | 407-886-2777

Please support these advertisers that support your freedom to worship.

NORWF hosts bingo fundraiser at pub

On Monday, July 15, the Northwest Orange Republican Women, Federated (NORWF) held a bingo fundraiser at Stephie's Pub and Irish Eatery in Apopka.



Paddy the Leprechaun celebrating with Lillian Finno.



The NORWF prize committee (l to r) Louise Fortunato, Sandy Bove, and Brenda Solomon.



The Grand Prize of the evening was a \$50 gift certificate to Papa Deisel's Barbeque, a new BBQ restaurant in Apopka. The photo shows winner Martha Decker receiving the prize for the final coverall game from Papa Deisel David Rollins and his wife Janisette with NORWF Acting President Marty Harrison.



INCREASE THE VALUE OF YOUR HOME WITH NATURAL GAS AND SAVE MONEY.

At Lake Apopka Natural Gas, we're helping families connect to affordable, reliable, and efficient natural gas, with appliances that pay dividends for years to come. Studies show a home with natural gas has a **6% greater resale** value than an all-electric home.



GENERAL SERVICE: AUTO-BASICS

Auto technicians say the key to keeping vehicles running well – today and down the road – is routine maintenance. Yet many drivers tend to stall when it comes to keeping up with some everyday auto-basics. A recent survey by the Car Care Council found 25% of cars had low or dirty engine oil, 13% had low or contaminated brake fluid, 18% had dirty air filters, 17% had inadequate cooling protection or low coolant levels, 16% needed new windshield wiper and 27% had low or contaminated washer fluid, 18% needed new belts. Overall, 89% of vehicles were in need of at least one service or repair.

**MAINTENANCE –
YOUR PROTECTION!**



J & K Automotive
FAIR • HONEST
DEPENDABLE
All Work Guaranteed
Serving Satisfied Customers
Since 1987

CERTIFIED AIR CONDITIONING SPECIALISTS • COMPUTER DIAGNOSTIC EQUIPMENT

**Now Hiring
Mechanic**

- Wheel Balance & Alignments
- Tune Ups • Brakes
- Shocks
- Fuel Injection
- Service Oil Change
- C.V. Joints
- Tires

Now Offering ANYWHERE CARE
National Limited Warranty
& 24-Hr. Roadside Assistance

1012 E. Semoran Blvd. Apopka 407-880-3530
Mon.-Fri. 8-5:30 • Closed Saturday
www.JandKAutomotiveinc.com

St. Reg. #MV05682
Become a Fan on Facebook: J & K Automotive



KEEP THOSE WHEELS ROLLING...

**AOK
TIRE MART**

For the Finest in Tires & Service!

MICHELIN



VALUABLE COUPON

Cooling System & Radiator Flush

\$1500 OFF

- The Reg. Price
- Dexcool Extra
- Most Vehicles

Expires 8/31/24. Not valid with other promotions or offers. Redeem only at AOK Tire Mart.

CrossClimate® 2
60,000 Miles Manufacturer's Treadwear Limited Warranty (H.M.V.)
• Wet & Dry Traction • Long-lasting Treadlife
ALL-SEASON PERFORMANCE

Choose from a wide selection of Michelin® and BFGoodrich® brand tires!

200 W Main Street Apopka, FL 32703
407-889-7074
www.aoktiremart.net

MICHELIN BFGoodrich

"If you're on a mission to fix your transmission call..."

ATW

ALL TRANSMISSION WORLD

Central Florida's Oldest & Largest Transmission & Total Car Care Company

- Transmission Se Habla Español
- Clutches • CV Axles
- Foreign & Domestic

Chamber of Commerce
ACCREDITED BUSINESS

1150 E Semoran Blvd. Ste. B Apopka, FL, 32703
407-880-9300
alltransmissionworld.com



NAPA

GLENN JOINER & SON, INC
NATIONALLY KNOWN, FAMILY OWNED SINCE 1937
AUTO PARTS

Import • Domestic Tractor • Golf Cart
Marine • Heavy Truck • Light Truck
Lawn Mower • Industrial Supplies
Paint & Body Supplies
All Car Care Needs
New & Old

SPONSOR OF CHASE ELLIOT CAR #9



250 E. 3rd St., Suite B, Apopka 407-889-5222
13202 W. Colonial Dr., Winter Garden 404-656-4141
napaonline.com

ROUTINE MAINTENANCE WILL HELP motorists address minor issues before they become more complicated and more expensive repairs.



D-I-WHY?

Take back your weekends. The businesses in our service directory are here to handle all of your home improvement needs.

Check out the Service Directory Pages

The Apopka Chief & The Planter
www.TheApopkaChief.com

What are the requirements for Florida public school kindergarten admission?

Does compulsory school attendance apply to Prekindergarten (VPK)?

No. Florida's Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Program has a separate set of enrollment and attendance requirements, which are not included under the authority of public K-12 compulsory school attendance laws. VPK is the result of a 2002 constitutional amendment, which required a voluntary prekindergarten program for all four-year-old children in Florida by fall 2005. In January 2005, Governor Bush signed a VPK Program bill into law designed to prepare four-year-olds for successful entry into kindergarten. The law allows a parent to voluntarily enroll an eligible child (four years old by September 1 and residing in Florida) in a free VPK program beginning in August or September of the 2005-2006 school year. The first summer VPK program will be offered in 2006. For information regarding registration and VPK Programs in your area, please visit Florida's Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Program website at <http://www.floridaearlylearning.com/>.

What are the requirements for Florida public school kindergarten admission?

Does Florida law specify an age requirement for admission into a public school first grade?

No. However, Florida law does specify that all children who have attained the age of six years or who will have attained the age of six years by February 1 of any school year are required to attend school regularly during the entire school term. (Section 1003.21(1)(a)1, Florida Statutes). Although Florida law does not provide a specific age requirement for enrollment to public first grade, the provisions of Florida law related to kindergarten admission and student progression dictate that first grade enrollment be limited to (1) students who turn six years old on or before September 1 who have successfully completed kindergarten; and (2) out-of-state students who turn six years old after September 1 who meet the age requirement for public kindergarten admission from the transferring state, and who have successfully completed kindergarten.

Can a child whose birth date is after September 1 who has completed a Florida nonpublic school kindergarten program be admitted into a Florida public school first grade?

No. A child who has satisfactorily completed the requirements for a nonpublic kindergarten from which the district accepts transfer of academic credit, but who does not turn six on or before September 1 of the school year, would be admitted into kindergarten and progress according to the district's student progression plan. (Section 1003.21(1)(b), Florida Statutes). We recommend that the parent(s) contact the director of elementary education at the local school district to address concerns regarding progression and available curricula

BUY Something! SELL Something!
Perhaps you may want to **TRADE** something!

The Apopka Chief & The Planter Classification: # _____
407-886-2777; fax 407-889-4121 _____ (1)
email: classifieds@theapokachief.com _____ (2)
www.theapokachief.com _____ (3)

Classified Ad SPECIAL _____ (4)
Get 4 Weeks for the _____ (5)
Price of 3! _____ (6)

You can run your ad 4 weeks _____ (7)
for the price of 3. _____ (8)
That means a 15-word ad* _____ (9)
or less is only \$9.50 per week _____ (10)
when you prepay. _____ (11)
Prepay \$28.50 for three weeks and _____ (12)
then you get the 4th week FREE! _____ (13)
(That means no cost to you.) _____ (14)

***Extra words are 50¢ each.** _____ (15)*

Clip and mail to:

The Apopka Chief & _____ (16)
The Planter _____ (17)
PO Box 880, _____ (18)
Apopka, FL 32704-0880 or _____ (19)
400 N. Park Avenue, _____ (20)
Apopka, Fl 32712

Your Name: _____

Address: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____ Phone: _____

Send us Your News • Email: news@theapokachief.com

CLASSIFIED

CLASSIFIED INDEX

- 01. TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY
- 10. ANNOUNCEMENTS
 - 12. Counseling
 - 13. Good Things To Eat
 - 14. Legal Services
 - 15. Lost and Found
 - 16. Notices
 - 17. Personals
 - 18. Vacation Information
 - 19. Wanted
 - 20. Antiques & Collectibles
 - 21. Health & Nutrition
- 30. EMPLOYMENT
 - 31. Employment Wanted
 - 32. Help Wanted
 - 33. Part-Time Help Wanted
- 40. FINANCIAL
 - 41. Business Opportunities
 - 42. Money To Lend
 - 43. Mortgages Wanted
 - 44. Financial-Misc.
- 50. ANIMALS AND LIVESTOCK
 - 51. Horses
 - 52. Pets
 - 53. Animals & Livestock-Misc.
- 60. MERCHANDISE FOR SALE
 - 61. Appliances, Large
 - 62. Appliances, Small
 - 63. Farm Supplies & Equipment
 - 64. Foliage For Sale
 - 65. Furniture
 - 66. Garage Sales
 - 67. Musical Instruments
 - 68. Nursery Supplies
 - 69. Sporting Goods
 - 70. Merchandise-Misc.
 - 71. Jewelry
 - 72. Computers/Electronics
- 80. TRANSPORTATION
 - 81. Autos For Sale
 - 82. Boats For Sale
 - 83. Motorcycles For Sale
 - 84. Recreational Vehicles For Sale
 - 86. Trucks For Sale
- 87. Vans For Sale
- 88. Transportation For Hire
- 89. Trailers For Sale
- 90. AUTOMOTIVE
 - 91. Automotive Repair & Parts
 - 92. Auto Accessories
 - 93. Auto Detailing
 - 94. Automotive-Misc.
- 110. SERVICES
 - 111. Child Care
 - 112. Home
 - 113. Landscaping
 - 114. Professional
 - 115. Elderly Care
 - 116. Services-Misc.
 - 117. Cemetery
- 120. SCHOOLS
 - 121. Professional
 - 122. Trade
- 130. REAL ESTATE
 - 131. Vacant Land
 - 132. Condominiums For Sale
 - 133. Homes For Sale
 - 134. Townhomes/Duplexes For Sale
 - 135. Manufactured Homes For Sale
 - 136. Mobile Homes/RVs For Sale
 - 137. Commercial Property For Sale
 - 138. Homes To Share
 - 139. Apartments/Condos For Rent
 - 140. Homes/Duplexes For Rent
 - 141. Mobile Homes or Lots For Rent
 - 141A. Manufactured Homes For Rent
 - 142. Rooms For Rent
 - 143. Offices For Rent
 - 144. Commercial Property For Rent
 - 145. Real Estate Wanted
 - 146. Exchange
 - 147. Nurseries for Sale or Rent

Classified Ad Deadline is Monday at 5 p.m., Classifieds@theapokachief.com

<p>01. TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY</p> <p>BE ENCOURAGED You may remember seeing me on the street with my sign. Ever wonder what I was about? "When Jesus is your Savior, I will see you in Heaven." I leave you with these words: "Be encouraged." 1 Thesalonians 5:11 E 0712-0802 DAV 01</p> <p>THE END IS HERE! Give your life to the Lord. "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." - John 3:16 E 0712-0802 RUB 10</p>	<p>14. LEGAL SERVICES</p> <p>20. ANTIQUES AND COLLECTIBLES</p> <p>SOMETHING OLD? It may be another person's treasure. Call to place your information here. 407-886-2777 0726-0816 OFC 20</p> <p>21. HEALTH AND NUTRITION</p> <p>HEALTH CARE FOR entire family: Pediatrics, Family, Internal, OB/GYN, Dental and Pharmacy. www.chcfl.org. Centers throughout Central Florida. 225 E 7th Street, Apopka. 407-905-8827. JT 0726-0816 TFN COM 21</p>	<p>32. HELP WANTED</p> <p>ARE YOU LOOKING for an experienced lawn maintenance crew member? If you have need for a maintenance person, call 407-886-2777 to place your ad here. CC 0726-0816 CHI 32</p>	<p>32. HELP WANTED</p> <p>APPLIANCE REPAIR Learn how. Must have driver's license, be mechanically inclined. Having own tools a plus. No drugs. 407-497-7458. CC 0712-0802 EDW 32</p> <p>LAWN MAINTENANCE help needed. Must have experience. Must be ready to work. 407-880-8048. CC 0712-0802 TAY 32</p>
---	--	--	---

Advertise Your Need for Skill & Talent Here
Call 407-886-2777

30. GENERAL EMPLOYMENT Publisher's Notice
Federal and State laws prohibit advertising expressing a discriminatory preference on the basis of race, age, sex, color, national origin, religion, handicap or marital status. *The Apopka Chief & The Planter* will not knowingly accept advertisement for employment which is in violation of the law.
Employment Advertising Standards of Acceptance
Employment Classifications are intended to announce bona fide employment offers only. Employment advertising must disclose the specific nature of the work being offered. Some employment categories may charge fees. If any advertiser does not comply with these standards, please notify a Classified Sales Representative at 407-886-2777.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING
Call the Professionals in Our Advertising Department for Assistance with a Customized Advertising Campaign.
Call 407-886-2777 or email ads@theapokachief.com



Classified Ads are continued on next page.

