

Sendoff

The community will wish Apopka Reilly Cardella well as she heads to the Miss Florida Competition. See page 12A.



Sports

Apopka Pop Warner is the foundation of Blue Darter football See page 1B.



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Volume 102 Number 24

Friday, June 14, 2024 / 50 cents



Photo courtesy of Orange County Sheriff's Office/Facebook

Recently, detectives confirmed that the human remains discovered in Apopka in 1993 belonged to Richard Wick, 48 (pictured left). An investigation by the Orange County Sheriff's Office found that Wick was a victim of homicide and now seeks the public's help in solving this case.

Remains of homicide victim are identified 30 years after discovery

Thirty years after human remains were discovered in Apopka, detectives were able to confirm that they belonged to 48-year-old Richard Wick, Orange County Sheriff's Office (OCSO) confirmed on its Facebook page on Tuesday, June 11.

On October 2, 1993,

hunters discovered skeletal remains in a vacant lot on Binion Road near Apopka, according to the post.

"An OCSO investigation revealed evidence that the person was a victim of homicide, but despite extensive efforts, the remains were unidentified for 30

years," the OCSO Facebook post states.

"Thanks to advancements in genetic genealogy and OCSO's partnership with Othram Labs, detectives have recently confirmed the remains to be those of 48-year-old Richard Wick."

OCSO is now seeking

the public's help for information that could help solve this case. Anyone who knew Wick or has details about his life or the circumstances leading to his death in 1993 is asked to contact the OCSO Cold Case Unit at 407-836-4357 or call Crimeline at 800-423-TIPS (8477).



Photo courtesy of Main Street Apopka

"Paws Working Hard For Apopka" Incumbent Dog Mayor Asher is supporting The Heartland Haven Foundation, Apopka.

Vote for second Apopka Dog Mayor beginning June 15

Meet the candidates for Apopka Dog Mayor 2024 and get ready to vote for your favorite canine online starting Saturday, June 15.

This year marks the second Apopka Dog Mayor election. The inaugural election in 2023 raised more than \$19,800 in \$1-donation votes, for five Central

Florida Animal Rescues and after more than 5,600 votes, the incumbent candidate, Asher, was elected the city's first-ever Honorary Dog Mayor.

Early online voting begins Saturday, June 15, at apopkadowmayor.com and will continue through Elec-

See DOGS Page 3A

County is 'building better together,' says Demings

On Friday, June 7, residents and community leaders gathered at the Linda Chapin Theatre inside the Orange County Convention Center to hear Orange County Mayor Jerry L. Demings' 2024 State of the County address. In his speech, the Mayor focused on Orange County's accomplishments and challenges over the past year. He emphasized its strategic public, private and philanthropic partnerships that have fostered a community culture of building better together.

"We've had a year of remarkable achievements and continued strong economic growth," he said. "It's also been a year filled with opportunities, challenges and significant mile-



Orange County Mayor Jerry L. Demings presents the 2024 State of the County address at the Linda Chapin Theatre inside the Orange County Convention Center on Friday, June 7.

stones that have helped shape our community."

The Mayor reminded everyone that to build bet-

ter, the County must remain financially strong, and Orange County Government once again received Fitch's

highest triple-A rating across the board. Building on a strong economy, the County continued to see

commercial and residential activity growth, issuing

See COUNTY Page 5A

Celebrate Juneteenth with festival and parade

Transform Outreach is hosting the fifth annual Apopka Juneteenth with a parade and a festival.

Juneteenth is celebrated every year on June 19 to commemorate the end of slavery in the United States.

The Apopka Juneteenth will be on Saturday, June 15. The parade starts at 2 p.m. at the Apopka Community Center/VFW Building on 519 S. Central Ave., Apopka.

The festival will start at 3:30 p.m. at Alonzo Williams Park, 225, M.A. Board St., Apopka.

Fire department starts youth camp



Monday, June 10, kicked off the Apopka Youth Fire Experience at the Billie Dean Community Center Summer Camp. This week, June 10 to 14, campers explored the world of fire safety. They had the opportunity to tour Apopka fire stations, learn about the tools and techniques employed by the firefighters, and gain insights into the different roles within the department.

Photo courtesy of Apopka Fire Department/Facebook

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



Apopka Event of the Week

On Tuesday, June 18, from 5:30-6:30 p.m., at the North Orange Branch Library, 1211 E. Semoran Blvd., in the meeting room, there will be a Writing Clearly Intermediate class. The class focuses on complex grammar, phrases, sentence structure, and vocabulary building. This is an Intermediate English Language Learners class.

Quotable

Happy Father's Day to all the dads (and granddads, uncles, brothers, stepdads, great-granddads, great-uncles, mentors, Christian role models, and, well, everyone)!"

Guest editorial shares humorous stories about Father's Day

Opinion

The Apopka Chief
A weekly newspaper founded in 1923

Publisher
John Ricketson
Consultant Emeritus
John Peery
Mar. 28 1956 - Oct. 12, 2023

Reporters
Teresa Sargeant
Marshall Tempest
Neal Fisher

Marketing Director
Jackie Trefcer
General Mgr Emeritus
Neoma Knox
Feb. 12, 1929 - Sept. 18, 2021

Our position

Smiles can be enjoyed by all
when celebrating Father's Day

By Tim Wesemann
Guest editorialist

While we pray June holds many blessings for you, we also hope you will take time to celebrate the gift of dads and the blessings that come with Father's Day. As you celebrate the men in your life and your church, enjoy these smiles!

Happy Father's Day to all the dads (and granddads, uncles, brothers, stepdads, great-granddads, great-uncles, mentors, Christian role models, and, well, everyone)!

Yep, That's My Dad

I live several hours from my parents. Since I wouldn't make it home for Father's Day, I mailed Dad his gift—a money belt. A few days later, I got a thank-you note that read, "Thank you for the money belt, son. What a waist of money! Love, Dad."

The next year, I got my dad a universal remote for Father's Day. He turned to me and said, "Son, this changes everything!"

My dad loves giving me nuggets of wisdom from his life experience. Last week, he wisely told me to avoid pawn shops so I don't get rooked.

I called my dad to wish him well on Father's Day. My mom answered. I heard her muffled voice telling my dad I wanted to talk to him. My mother got back on the phone and said, "Your dad wants me to tell you that he can't talk right now. He's reading a book about the history of glue and he just can't seem to put it down." Yep, that's my dad.

Milking Father's Day for All It's Worth

Eight-year-old Megan's excitement about the Father's Day gift she made for her dad was more than obvious. Over the past week, her mom helped her with the project and Megan was more than confident her dad would love it. After all, it was his favorite thing! He had told her that last week when they had breakfast together.

Because of the shape, and since it was liquid, she decided not to wrap it. Instead, she put a bow on top of the plastic milk jug that contained his present. She removed the label and wrote "Happy Father's Day! Love,

Megan" on the jug. As the family gathered around the table on Father's Day morning, Megan quickly set her gift in front of her dad. She excitedly called out, "Happy Father's Day, Daddy! Mommy and I made this for you. I know you'll love it!"

Megan's dad had a surprised and confused look on his face as he unscrewed the lid and looked into the jug. It looked like some kind of a milk concoction, but he wasn't sure. That is, until Megan explained:

"Remember when I finished my cereal last week and I was going to pour out the extra milk left in the bottom of the bowl? You told me you couldn't believe I was throwing it away because that was your favorite part. Well, all week mommy and I have been saving our cereal milk and pouring it in this milk jug for you! And when I spent Friday night at Jill's house next door, I had her family pour their cereal milk in it, too, so the jug would be full! Go ahead, Daddy! Drink it! It's your favorite! And I know it will be your favorite Father's Day present ever!"

With that, Dad did what every dad would do. He lifted the jug to his mouth and took a good long drink. Ah, the joys of fatherhood!

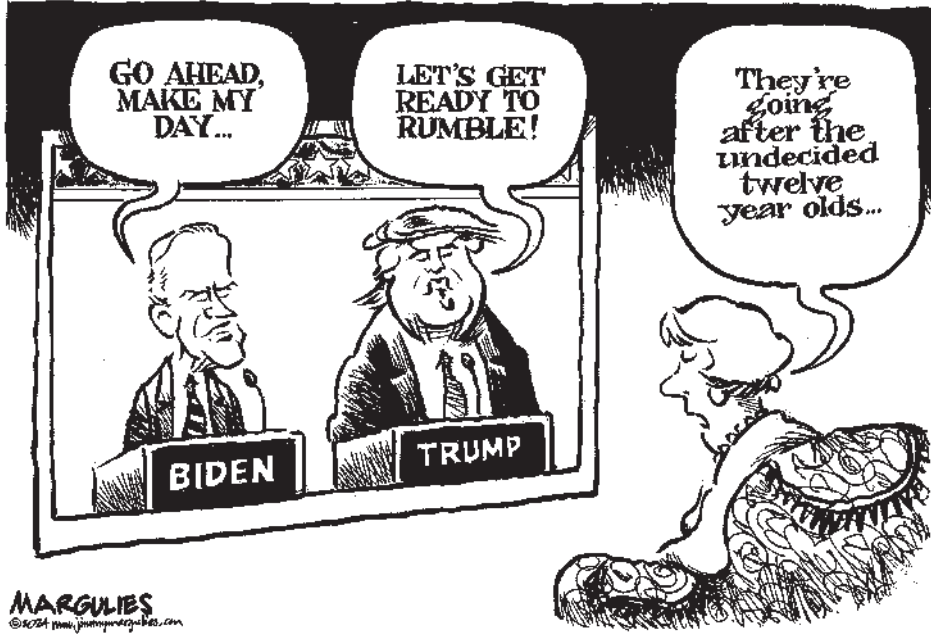
Reading between the Lines

Seven-year-old Macy couldn't wait to ride the roller coaster at the amusement park. Her dad was concerned that it might be too scary for her, but she insisted. In fact, she ended up riding it three times that day.

The following year they returned to the park and, of course, Macy headed right for that same roller coaster. Macy and her dad took their place in the long line. Soon Macy seemed a bit apprehensive. As they moved slowly through the winding line, she soberly studied a number of signs warning riders about the high speed of the roller coaster. As they moved closer Macy said, "Dad, I don't think I want to go." Her dad was surprised and wondered why, since she enjoyed it so much last time. She looked at one of the signs and then back at her dad and said, "This year, I can read."

Happy Father's Day!

Christ To All website



Principles of clean-up in manual

I've learned a few things about cleaning up an entire community. I recently wrote a draft manual of the program and will have it available by fall for members of my Neighborhood Leader Program. Nevertheless, the principles in the manual are sound and utilize a collaboration or team approach. If your corridor looks bad, I suggest you attend the August Quarterly Neighborhood Leaders' Meeting on August 15th at Wekiva High School. However, I will also share more about the program in the column.

When I say an area "looks bad," it is important to qualify what that means. Dissecting, or even noticing, the issues is the first step towards improvement. Typical problems include trash thrown in the

County Commissioner
District 2



Christine Moore

rights-of-way, grass not cut regularly, broken or missing segments of sidewalks, sidewalks black and slippery, cars parked horizontally on sidewalks and front yards, garbage cans not stowed on the side of a home, law enforcement standards for crime prevention not being followed (trees trimmed up a minimum of six feet and hedges down lower than three feet and sufficient lighting on the property), and large item pick-ups for trash reg-

ularly left in the rights-of-way.

First, I look at what the county or a city could do to jump start solutions. That begins with fixing sidewalks and completing sidewalk gaps. I recently had Orange County Public Works begin fixing the broken sidewalks and completing gaps along Sheeler Avenue. Much of this work will be completed before December 2024. I also use the 311 system to turn in large item pick-ups left week after week along roadways. It has inspired others in the community to do even more.

Property owners must be part of the solution. We can all pick up trash in our right-of-way. We can all cut large tree limbs, cut down

See MOORE Page 4A

June 12th tragedy fuel for change

Editor's note: In remembrance of the 49 people who lost their lives in the June 12, 2016, Pulse nightclub shooting, Hope CommUnity Center has issued the following statement honoring the victims.

At Hope CommUnity Center, we bow our heads in sacred remembrance of the 49 souls whose lives were tragically and brutally taken on this day 8 years ago.

Then, we lift our eyes towards a more just future, gather our collective energy, step forward with deter-

mination and resolve, and stand firmly with the LGBTQIA+ community, especially those who reside at the intersection of LGBTQIA+ and immigrant identities.

*We honor the lives that were lost every single day, not just with thoughts and prayers, but with action.

*We fight back against state laws that target and criminalize innocent people from both LGBTQIA+ and immigrant communities.

*We host the annual Apopka Pride which in

2023 had over 350 people in attendance.

*We form a group called the QTIs (Queer Transgender Immigrants), which began as a support group with 5 members less than 2 years ago, and now is over 80 members strong and a force for powerful advocacy of LGBTQIA+ immigrants.

June 12th will always be a day of grief and remembrance. But, it will also forever serve as the fuel that powers our impatient demands for freedom and justice.

This Week In God's Word

Whoever walks in integrity walks securely,
but whoever takes crooked paths will be found out.
Proverbs 10:9

Mema Says

You can't make
everyone happy, you're
not pizza!

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.



My Dad was a man who did extraordinary things with his love

My Mom and Dad were married in a small town in Southern Indiana and as we drove to "Down Home" to Paragon, Indiana we would pass the road that led to that city. We never took the time to go there but as we came abreast of the road, Dad would pull off to the side of the road and he would pull Mom to him, give her a big kiss and tell her how much he loved her.

My sister and I nev-



Ike Hayden

er forgot those times of Dad's devotion to our mom. It encouraged us that, no matter what happened, we were secure in our parents' love. My sister was a romantic and she would question

Mom about how she met Dad and all the particulars, but Mom would always reply, "Your dad is the most handsome man I ever saw." Sometimes she would be walking with us somewhere and she would mention it again without any reason.

I believe everyone has a treasured memory of parental involvement in their growing up. Even some of our friends who grew up without parents had someone in their lives

who filled the role.

When I was a kid, we had an Orphan's Home where children lived who had lost their parents or were just turned over because the parents could not afford to keep them. Sometimes, the unwed mothers did not want the burden and shame of having a baby out of wedlock. We were all schoolmates, and, occasionally, Dad would sign one of my friends out for a weekend, and af-

ter chores, we would go hunting or fishing.

My dad loved helping others and especially young men that needed someone to teach them gun safety, or fishing tips. Some of those school-day chums remembered Dad after they were grown and put out on their own at eighteen.

My dad was not an extraordinary guy, but when I look back at the extraordinary things he accomplished, I regret

that I didn't spend more time with him after my military service. My sister and I always assumed it was Mom that was the one who saw to the needs of our lives, and somehow worked around Dad to supply them.

When Dad passed away, we quickly learned it had been Dad who supplied the wherewithal and let Mom have all the credit. My dad was a big man

See HAYDEN Page 4A



“Be Someone’s Hero: Adopt!”
Hank is supporting Suncoast Bas-
set Rescue.



“Furry Friends For a Happier
Home”
Joy is supporting All Hound
Rescue of Florida.



“Unleashing Apopka’s Pawtential”
Walter is supporting The C.A.R.E.
Foundation.

Photos courtesy of Main Street Apopka

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SHAME YOU CAN'T GO INSIDE LIKE ME.

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Dogs: Four canines are running for Dog Mayor, \$1 donation equals one vote

Continued from page 1A

tion Day on Saturday, July 27. Each \$1 donated equals one vote.

In addition to online voting, canine candidates will be out on the campaign trail, where in-person \$1

voting will take place.

Throughout their campaign, each candidate will advocate for a chosen local pet rescue center and donate a portion of all proceeds collected during their campaign and elected term.

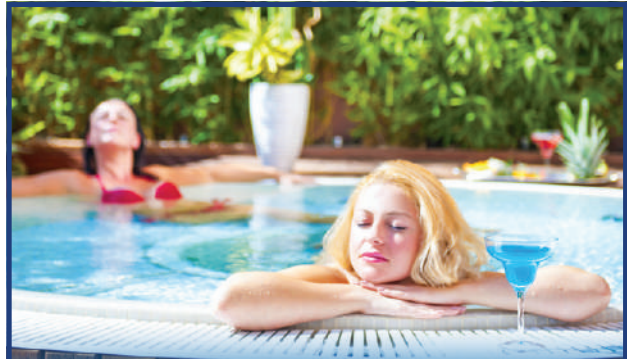
The winning dog will

promote the Apopka community, advocate on behalf of all animals who call Apopka home, and support the city of Apopka Commissioners in their projects.

The Apopka Dog Mayor program, with the support of the Apopka City

Council, is a Main Street Apopka program and was established in 2023.

For candidates' pop-up schedule as well as more information about the Apopka Dog Mayor 2024 program, visit apopkadog-mayor.com.



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Hats off to all fathers who are men – those who accept responsibility

This isn't going to be one of those sentimental Father's Day articles, even though that is what I would prefer. This article will have a bit of an edge to it. Please excuse my bluntness, but fatherhood is serious business, and for me to sugarcoat or evade the truth about it would benefit nobody.

Here goes: What does my peculiar title mean? Aren't all fathers men? No, they are not. All fathers are male, but not all fathers are men. Maleness is a biological identity, a physical reality, a matter of hormones and organs. Manliness, on the other hand, is a matter of character, an intangible quality, a demonstrated achievement of maturity that not all adult males attain.

Several years ago,

I wrote about an appalling situation in our country—the fact that the second leading cause of death of pregnant women in the U.S. is homicide, usually perpetrated by the father of the unborn child. Some males are so selfish and antisocial that they reduce their lover to an object that they will destroy rather than allow her to give birth to the precious life that they have conceived together.

It is a socioeconomic fact that one of the two leading causes of long-term poverty in America is for women to bear children out of wedlock. (The other leading cause is failing to complete high school.) For a male to use a lover for a few moments of pleasure and then abandon her to a lifetime of poverty because he doesn't want the respon-

sibilities of fatherhood is cruelly selfish. Don't do it, fellows.

Fatherhood is one of life's most momentous choices. Males can become men by accepting the responsibilities of fatherhood, by marrying and committing themselves to full-time partnership in raising, teaching, and financially supporting their offspring. Alternatively, males can opt for bachelorhood, "freedom" (from responsibility) and let their lover bear the psychological and financial cost of intimacy.

Let us salute the fathers who are men—those who have accepted the responsibilities of raising their children. These are the men who become genuine dads to their children—loving them, spending their hard-earned pay on them,

and most importantly of all, being there for them both in times of joy and times of need.

I can vouch for the irreplaceable role a dad plays in a child's life. "Pop," my uncle, gave my mother and me a home in the absence of my biological father. Pop was a man in the fullest sense of the word—hardworking, unselfish, and always willing to serve above and beyond the call of duty. In addition to giving more than a decade of his life in hazardous military and military-related service to his country (no desk jobs for Pop!), he also committed himself to raising me. Many males would have balked at raising another man's son. Pop's thought process would have been this (he never told me, but I know how he thought):

Here's a boy who, through no fault of his own doesn't have a father; his mother, my sister-in-law, even though we don't get along, has neither the income nor skill set nor emotional capability to raise him by herself; ergo, they'll live with us and I'll help raise the boy.

The dear teacher I had for first and second grades, Mrs. Talley, told me years later that I was rather undisciplined and unfocused during most of my two years as her pupil. Pop was gone then. He was working in the bleak Arctic, superintending construction of the DEW (Distant Early Warning) Line—the string of radar installations at the northern extreme of North America. According to Mrs. Talley, as soon as Pop's work was complet-

ed and he returned home, I shaped up. Pop set the tone. He enforced standards of right and wrong, and he demanded that I meet his expectations of me. The result? I started to fulfill my potential.

For some men, being a full-time dad to children is the greatest joy in life. For others, it isn't easy. But to each good man who sticks it out, who loves his children and helps to raise them, you have earned our respect and appreciation. Your work as a dad has blessed your children and strengthened our society.

Happy Father's Day, men!

*Dr. Mark W. Hendrickson
Institute of
Faith & Freedom
Grove City College*

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE SMALL-SCALE FUTURE LAND USE AMENDMENT CITY OF APOPKA

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Secs. 163.3184 and 166.041(3)(c), Florida Statutes and the Apopka Code of Ordinance, Part III, Land Development Code, Article II, Section 2.4.7.B, that **JOSEPH LEWIS** has made an application to the City of Apopka Planning Commission and the City Council for a **CHANGE IN THE FUTURE LAND USE DESIGNATION FROM RESIDENTIAL LOW TO INDUSTRIAL FOR 0.57 +/- ACRES.** This application relates to the following described properties:

ORDINANCE NO. 3051
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF APOPKA, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE FUTURE LAND USE ELEMENT OF THE APOPKA COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF THE CITY OF APOPKA; CHANGING THE FUTURE LAND USE DESIGNATION FROM RESIDENTIAL LOW TO INDUSTRIAL FOR PAVE A LOT ASPHALT MAINTAINANCE INC GENERALLY LOCATED EAST OF S HIGHLAND AVENUE, AND NORTH OF E 10TH STREET, OWNED BY JOSEPH LEWIS, COMPRISING 0.57 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.



Parcel Identification Numbers: 15-21-28-0000-00-106
Contains: 0.57 +/- acres

NOTICE is given that a public hearing for Ordinance No. 3051 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, July 17, 2024 beginning at 7:00 P.M.** or soon thereafter.

Affected parties and the public may appear at the above listed hearings to speak. The proposed Future Land Use Application 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

June 14, 2024

Publish: The Apopka Chief

17650

Moore: Be more than a consumer

Continued from page 2A

hedges, and have personal lighting installed on the property. It has been reported to me many times about high crime rates and incidents of homelessness. A team approach between the county and residents can assist in remedying the problems.

Here are the current corridors being worked on by "people groups." If you see your corridor here, please consider joining the team. If you don't see your corridor here, call my office at 407.836.5850 and we will help you start a new team.

People of Southern Apopka – Apopka Blvd. and Sheeler Ave. and Rd.

People of Wekiwa Springs – Wekiwa Springs, Votaw, Thompson, and Welch roads

People of Lockhart – Rose Ave., Eden Park Rd., Magnolia Homes and West Beggs roads

People of Clarcona Ocoee – Clarcona Ocoee Rd. and Powers Dr.

I am in the process of organizing these corridors into more stable teams. Every team needs an overall leader, membership developer, clean-up coordinator, and trash pick-up strategy. We meet before "people group" meetings or "clean-ups."

Statistically there are only about 50 percent of citizens who engage and help

Hayden: Dads need to be real men

Continued from page 2A

and it seemed he never needed to ask for help from me (maybe it was my attitude!), but the evening he died, he asked me to help him sit on the edge of the bed for a moment. After sitting him up, which was a job (he was in an Oxygen Tent), I asked if I could spend the night with him. With much labored breathing he told me to go home and stay with Mom.

My dad died at 3:15 a.m., and his last request of me was to assure him that Mom would have my sister and me there to support her. I believe Dad knew it was his time to go, and his main concern was making sure Mom would be comforted.

Fathers ought to be a daughter's first hero, not because he does heroic things, but because he does everyday chores in a heroic way. Dads make sure the kids and mom are protected, sheltered, clothed, fed, and then he feeds on the contentment that comes from carrying out his calling.

A father may be stuck in a job he dislikes immensely, but goes to work faithfully because his family is the most important part of his life on earth, and

improve their communities. Seventy percent of residents are simply consumers. However, according to author of "Loving Your City", Peter Kageyama, there is hope to increase the number of engaged citizens.

Kageyama recommends creating small, "artsy" projects to create interest and develop the individuality of the area. I'm interested in partnering with citizens on projects. In fact, I am offering an Artistic Corridor of the Year Contest with \$500 for a winner in each of the "people group" areas. However, funding must be raised for the projects by the citizens.

Low-cost ideas for building greater engagement from residents include: murals, tree art gardens, beautification of entranceways, fence staining and fence art, cyclist respite stations, tree planting, and more. Grants are available from the county and AARP.

Do you care enough about your area of District 2 to start a project, join a corridor care team, or get involved in my Neighborhood Leaders Program?

Do you have cool ideas to share on keeping District 2 safe from crime, preserving property values, and improving the community's overall quality of life?

Please call or email me at District2@ocfl.net or 407.836.5850. Your engagement is needed to improve the entire district!

they depend on him.

Dads do not give to get, they give... The best thing a dad can give to his son is not everything he wants, but the knowledge of how to do all the things he needs to know for daily living.

To the dads out there that are giving without thought of getting and are teaching their young men the rules to being a man, I salute you. You are among a dying breed, but you are doing the right thing.

My dad always told me to do the thing that is right, even if it is not popular. The greatest thing in the world is not popularity, but it is the peace and satisfaction of seeing your greatest calling achieved in your children.

The woke generation wants our children and they are doing everything they can to gain a foothold in the separation between we parents and our children.

We need the real dads, not fathers, but real men who long to raise a family for GOD, family, and our beloved nation.

Like the saying goes. "Anyone can be a father, but it takes a special man to be a DAD!"

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!!

ALL ABOUT APOPKA

The Apopka Chief

Established 1923
(USPS 545-440)

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. The Apopka Chief newspaper is published by Foliage Enterprises, Inc., every Friday at 400 North 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, P.O. Box 880, Apopka, Fla., 32704-0880.

The Apopka Chief is a consistent award-winning community weekly newspaper and a member of the Florida Press Association. The newspaper won the group's award as its best newspaper in 1982, 1987, and 1988, the only three-time winner. Letters to the editor are welcome, but must be signed and include a daytime telephone number, address,, or email address for verification. Management reserves the right to edit letters.

www.theapokkachief.com, news@theapokkachief.com



City of Apopka Telephone Numbers

City Hall	407-703-1700
Mayor's Office	407-703-1701
City Administrator	407-703-1649
City Clerk	407-703-1704
Community Devel.	407-703-1712
Code Enforcement	407-703-1738
Finance Dept.	407-703-1725
Fire (non-emerg.).....	407-703-1756
Parks and Rec. Dept.	407-703-1741
Police Chief	407-703-1769
Police (non-emerg.).....	407-703-1771
Job Line	407-703-1743
Solid Waste Collect.....	407-703-1731
Street Maintenance	407-703-1731
Utility Billing	407-703-1727
Medical, fire emergency.....	911
The city of Apopka was chartered in 1882. It is located at 28°30 north latitude and is 150 feet above sea level. Its population is about 48,000 and its total area is more than 30 sq. mi. www.apopka.net	

Orange County Telephone Numbers

Animal Services.....	407-836-3111
Auto/Boat Tags.....	850-617-2000
Building Dept.	407-836-8550
County Mayor	407-836-7370
County Commission.....	407-836-7350
County Attorney	407-836-7320
Clerk of the Court	407-836-2065
Elections Supervisor.....	407-836-2070
Fire/Rescue	407-836-3111
Solid Waste	407-836-6601
Garbage Collection.....	407-703-1731
Health Dept.	407-836-2600
Hunting/Fishing Lic	888-347-4356
Parks and Rec. Dept.	407-836-6200
Property Appraiser	407-836-5044
Sheriff Administrative	407-254-7000
Non-Emerg. Complaint.....	407-836-4357
Utilities	407-836-5515
All other departments	407-836-3111
Medical, fire emergency.....	911
www.orangecountyfl.net	

Other Area Numbers of Note

U.S. Senators	
Rick Scott (Rep.)	202-224-5274
Marco Rubio (Rep.).....	407-254-2573
U.S. Representative	
Daniel Webster (Dist. 11).....	352-241-9220
State Representatives	
Doug Bankson	407-476-6787
Carolina Amesty (Dist. 45).....	unknown
State Senators	
Geraldine Thompson (Dist.11)	407-297-2045
Orange County Commissioner	
Christine Moore	407-836-7350
Orange County Public Schools	
Pupil assignment.....	407-317-3233
Bus routes.....	407-317-3800
Superintendent.....	407-317-3200
School Board.....	407-317-3200
Miscellaneous	
The Apopka Chief	407-886-2777
Museum of the Apopkans.....	407-703-1707
Chamber of Commerce.....	407-886-1441

Willis gets on dean’s list at Anderson U.

Riley Willis of Apopka was named to the dean’s list at Anderson University in Anderson, S.C., for the spring 2024 semester, the university announced on Wednesday, June 12.

To be named to the Dean’s List, students must maintain a 3.5 grade point average or higher for the semester.

Anderson University is a Christian university offering bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees on campus and online. Anderson University is the no. 2 private university in South Carolina, according to niche.com, is among U.S. News and World Report’s “Best Regional Universities South,” and is on the publication’s “Most Innovative,” and “Best Online Programs” lists.

County: Address highlighted how challenges have been handled

Continued from page 1A

development

*\$100 million for accelerated transportation projects

*74 million visitors generated \$87.6B in economic impact

*91,000 patients served at Orange County’s Primary Access Network

*24,000 acres of land protected for conservation

“We’re building better together through partnerships in affordable housing, public safety, and transportation,” concluded Mayor Demings. “We’re building better together by supporting our businesses, innovation and entrepreneurs. We’re building better together by increasing access to behavioral health services. We’re building better together by preserving and sustaining our environment, and we’re building better together by embracing diversity and promoting arts and culture that uplift our community. If you want to live in a better community, we can only build better together.”

more than 80,000 permits with a development value of \$2.2 billion.

The address also highlighted how the county aggressively addresses the affordable housing crisis, growth-related transportation, and environmental challenges. It also mentioned four industries integral to our thriving economy: tourism and hospitality, agriculture, simulation and technology, and life sciences and medical technologies.

As part of his address, the Mayor outlined initiatives and accomplishments in other high-priority areas such as health services and public safety, mental and behavioral health, sustainability and the environment, sense of community and community engagement, and sports, arts and culture. Some additional highlights include:

*Orlo Vista Flood Mitigation Project removed 23,000 dump trucks of dirt

*2,300 affordable housing units built or under

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Workplace Screening Intelligence is providing drug screens physicals, titer screening, and general health screening. To schedule a drug screening, titer screening for healthcare workers, call 844-573-8378. Pictured above is Phil Dubois, founder, and CEO of Workplace Screening Intelligence.

gence:

Philip Dubois is the founder and CEO of **Workplace Screening Intelligence**. His knowledge represents over 30 years of excellence in service and support to thousands of employers, hospitals, clinics, and other stakeholders in the laboratory testing industry.

He’s an expert in the field of drug testing, titer testing, and other lab tests, including all aspects of alcohol testing. His resume includes extensive know-how in the various means of testing as well as federal and state testing laws, company policy development, and risk remediation.

Dubois is a former chairman and executive board member of the Drug and Alcohol Testing Industry Association, Inc., (DATIA). As chairman of DATIA, a 1,600-member group based in Washington, D.C., he championed the effort for the employer’s rights to a safe and drug-free workplace and for safer and drug-free roads. He is a board member of National Drug and Alcohol Screening Association (NDASA), chairman of the Government Affairs Committee, and a member of the Political Action Committee (NDASA PAC).

Dubois is a for- Advertisement

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Grandma gets her own McDonald's Mcflurry

Last week, Rita Foss was celebrated like any beloved grandma should be. She was given a surprise that included her family and friends as part of McDonald's nostalgic butter-scotch McFlurry campaign, dubbed the Grandma McFlurry.

Foss is 85 years old and started by greeting customers in the lobby of the Rock Springs McDonald's in Apopka five months ago. Her love for people and helping others creates a positive atmosphere, and she shares her eternal opti-

mism with her young management team, who nominated her for this distinction.

"I love McDonald's and love people," Foss said. "I learn something new daily and truly enjoy working in the fun, social environment."

McDonald's enjoyed her story so much that they sent her a special gift that included two golden McFlurry spoons, a new pink visor, a knitting kit, and a soft McFlurry-themed blanket.



Photos courtesy of Anna Lane

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- Apopka Chief rack, 400 N. Park Ave.
- Apopka High School
- Apopka Quick Mart (BP), Hwy 436 & Lake Cortez Dr.
- Apopka Vape, N. Park Ave. (across from the old Fla. Hosp. location)
- CenturyLink headquarters, SR 436
- Chevron Diamond Gas - Hwy 441 & Plymouth-Sorrento Rds
- Chevron Market, Hwy 441 & Roger Williams Rd.
- Circle K, Ocoee-Apopka Blvd.
- Circle K & BP, Hwy 441 S. of Walmart
- Circle K, Keene Rd / Clarcona
- Citgo, 441 & Boy Scout Blvd (Plymouth)
- Citgo, Rock Springs Rd. (behind store by mail boxes)
- CVS #3748 - corner of Park Av & Hwy 441.
- Discount Beverage & Smoke (Across from Checkers, Highway 441
- Circle K (Shell) #2404, Sheeler Rd at corner of Apopka Blvd.
- Circle K (Marathon) #6157, S. Park Avenue
- Circle K (Shell) #2334, Rock Springs Rd & Kelly Park Rd
- Circle K #1288, Welch Rd & Wekiva Springs Rd.
- Circle K (Marathon) #1063, Zellwood, 2691 Highway 441
- Compare Fresh Market, 436 behind Aaron's
- Crosby's Motor Inn, Hwy 441 & Errol Parkway (Errol Estate)
- Lula Mae's Eatery, Central Ave S.
- Marathon, Main St. (midland downtown)
- McDonald's, Highway 441 (downtown)
- Mobil, (Citgo) Hwy 441 (next to Burger K)
- Orange County Service Center, N. Park Ave.
- Perkins Restaurant Hwy 441, in Victoria Plaza Parking Lot)
- Plymouth Post Office, Plymouth/Sorrento Rd
- Porkies BBQ, Highway 441 (downtown)
- Post Office, N. Park Ave. (Martin St)
- Publix, Park Ave/Rock Springs Rd. & Welch Rd.
- Sam's Discount, Overland & Apopka Blvd.
- Sun Resort, 3000 Clarcona Rd.
- Sunoco Happy Foods, Hwy 441 & Plymouth-Sorrento Rd.
- Trader Mae's, Rock Springs Rd
- UPS Store (The), Rock Springs & Welch Rd. (Publix shopping center)
- Walgreens, corner of Park Ave and Hwy 441
- Walgreens, N. Park Ave/Welch Rd.
- Wawa Store, 449 W. Main St. - corner of Hwy 441 and Bradshaw
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Orange County Public Schools representatives, local law enforcement agencies and members of the judicial system have officially signed the School Justice Partnership Agreement. The document's goal is to establish a more cohesive and fair approach between schools and law enforcement when addressing issues of student misconduct, school safety, and providing interventions and support services.

OCPS, partners sign school justice partnership agreement

Orange County Public Schools has officially signed the School Justice Partnership Agreement, in partnership with 12 local law enforcement agencies and the judicial system, OCPS announced on June 4.

This agreement lays out guidelines for how to handle instances of student misconduct, with an emphasis on finding alternatives to arrest for less serious offenses that do not pose a threat to school safety. The goal is to establish a more cohesive and fair approach between schools and law enforcement when addressing issues of student misconduct, school safety, and providing interventions and support services.

The policies implemented must include steps for referring students to mental health services as needed, as well as procedures for conducting behavioral threat assessments in accordance with the guidelines set by the Office of Safe Schools. Teams dedicated to managing threats within schools consist of individuals with expertise in counseling, teaching, school administration, and law enforcement.

"This collaboration with our law enforcement partners signifies a commitment to fostering a secure and nurturing environment within our schools. We will ensure that our academic programs are not only designed to educate but also to promote a cul-

ture of safety and positivity for all students," said OCPS Superintendent Maria Vazquez.

Judicial partners include Chief Judge of the Ninth Judicial Circuit, Office of the State Attorney Ninth Judicial Circuit, Office of the Public Defender Ninth Judicial Circuit, and Orange County Clerk of Courts.

Law enforcement partners include Orange County Sheriff's Office, Orlando Police Department (PD), Apopka PD, Belle Isle PD, Eatonville PD, Edgewood PD, Maitland PD, Oakland PD, Ocoee PD, Windermere PD, Winter Park PD, Winter Garden PD.

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DeSantis signs \$116.5 B state budget, less than last year’s

By Andrew Powell
The Center Square

Florida Governor Ron DeSantis signed the state budget during a news conference in Tampa on Wednesday, June 12.

The state budget, House Bill 5001, comes with a price tag of \$116.5 billion but is less than what was allocated in the fiscal 2023-2024 budget. DeSantis said the bottom line is providing historic support for education,

conservation efforts, transportation and infrastructure along with significant tax relief.

“We are proud to maintain a AAA credit rating,” DeSantis said. “Florida is rated higher than the federal government and we’re going to continue to keep it that way ... Since taking office, largely because we’ve been prudent and we’ve been fiscally responsible.”

DeSantis noted that Florida has the lowest debt-

per-capita than any other state and added that it was important to keep spending in check and one way he did that was by using his line-item veto authority.

The two-term Republican governor used his line-item veto pen to slash \$949.6 million in spending from this year’s budget.

“We did close to a billion dollars worth of line-item vetos and part of that is just a reflection of we wanted to keep the budget

within a certain parameter, some of the stuff I don’t think was appropriate for state tax dollars,” DeSantis said.

DeSantis pointed out that he has no issue vetoing unnecessary appropriations because he wants to prioritize paying down state debt, having large surpluses and growing the “rainy day fund.”

“So, less spending than last year, record investments, this is the most we’ve ever spent for trans-

portation and infrastructure, for building roads, for doing all the things that we need to do,” DeSantis said.

Since 2019, the state has provided over \$6 billion in tax relief for Florida businesses and residents despite not having a state income tax. DeSantis noted this is because Florida has the best policies and added that job growth in the private sector has increased by almost 250,000 jobs from April 2023 to the present.

DeSantis noted that his administration is responsible for the largest amount

of money ever provided for education, which includes scholarship programs and public universities. Environmental restoration and stewardship have also been top priorities for the Legislature.

“This budget will include \$1.25 billion that can only be used to increase teacher salaries,” DeSantis said. “No money to unions, no money to bureaucracy, only for teacher salary and that is more than the state of Florida has ever done.”

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Museum celebrating being ‘55 and Alive’

The Apopka Museum is marking its 55th year this month and the public is invited to celebrate.

The 55 and Still Alive celebration will take place on Saturday, June 22, 2-5 p.m. at the Apopka Museum, 122 E. Fifth St., Apopka.

There will be live music, free cake, dancing, games, fun prizes, and cash bar and food.

Apopka Historical Society President Maribel Brinkle said the museum’s purpose in celebrating 55 years is to preserve Apopka’s historical legacy, honor the work of older generations, and pass it on to the next generation.

“It is a torch we carry from the generations before us,” she said according to a statement. “One we pass on with pride. It is about a commitment to our shared past, present, and future. This celebration is a statement to the dedication of the Apopka Historical Society and all you who support this initiation.”

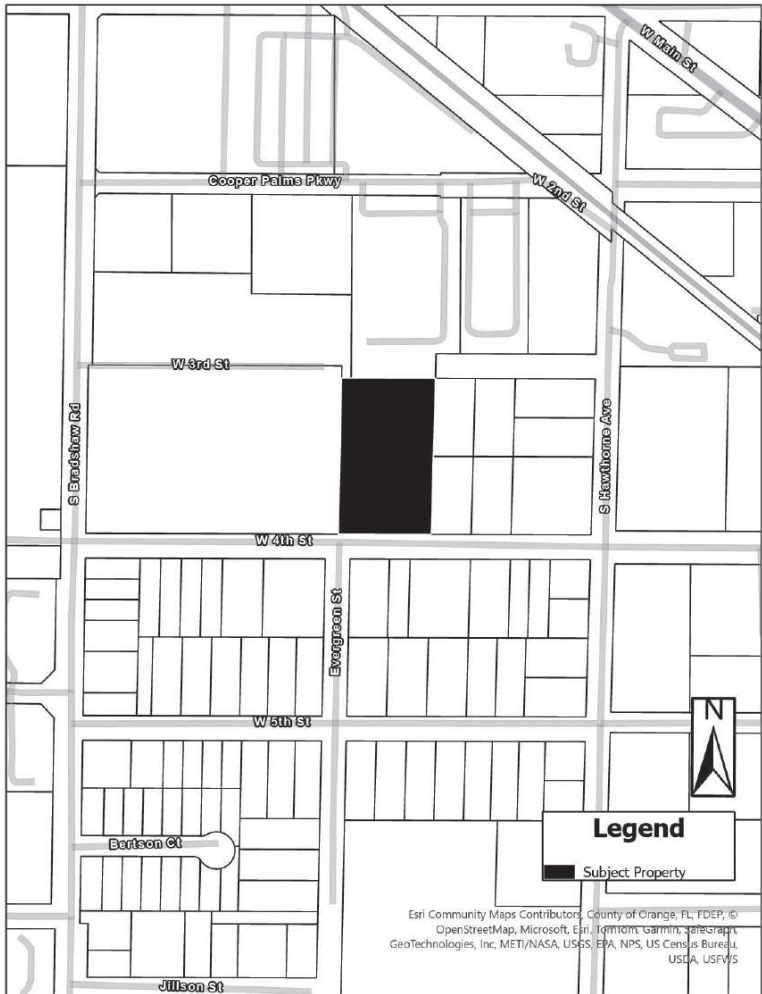
Visit theapokkamuseum.com for more information.


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

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

ORDINANCE NO. 3058
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF APOPKA, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE FUTURE LAND USE ELEMENT OF THE APOPKA COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF THE CITY OF APOPKA; CHANGING THE FUTURE LAND USE DESIGNATION FROM COUNTY RESIDENTIAL MEDIUM TO INDUSTRIAL FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY OWNED BY SFL PARTNERS LLC AND JFJ REAL INVESTMENTS, LLC; LOCATED NORTH OF FOURTH STREET, EAST OF BRADSHAW ROAD AND WEST OF HAWTHORNE AVENUE; COMPRISING 1.97 ACRES, MORE OR LESS; PROVIDING FOR DIRECTIONS TO THE CITY CLERK, SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

ORDINANCE NO. 3059
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF APOPKA, FLORIDA, CHANGING THE ZONING FROM COUNTY R-2 (RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT) TO I-L (LIGHT INDUSTRIAL), FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY OWNED BY SFL PARTNERS LLC AND JFJ REAL INVESTMENTS, LLC; LOCATED NORTH OF FOURTH STREET, EAST OF BRADSHAW ROAD AND WEST OF HAWTHORNE AVENUE; COMPRISING 1.97 ACRES, MORE OR LESS; PROVIDING FOR DIRECTIONS TO THE CITY CLERK, SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.





Pauline Mathius

Pauline Mathius passed away on June 10, 2024, at AdventHealth Hospice Care, Altamonte Springs. She was born in Chicago, Illinois, on November 14, 1950, and has been a resident of Apopka for more than 20 years.

Pauline retired from working for the City of Apopka. Previous to moving to Florida from Chicago, she was employed by TransAmerica Transport.

Pauline was a member of the General Federation of Women's Club, Apopka Chapter, as well as the South Seminole Sertoma Club.

She loved shopping as well as seeking out estate sales throughout the area.

She loved having semi-annual garage sales, game nights with her friends, and working on projects with the Woman's Club, Apopka. Pauline was also known for her adoring love of her kitties Shelby, Skylar, and Tyler.

Pauline is survived by a sister in Chicago, several nieces and nephews, her many friends in the Woman's Club as well as a multitude of friends both near and far.

A celebration of life will be held later in the summer. Donations may be made to Pet Alliance, Orlando, at petallianceorlando.org (go to the way-give/donate to complete the donation form) and REMEMBER to put in the 'additional comments' block 'in memory of Pauline Mathius.'

\$1.25 billion to be earmarked for teacher salary increases

By Andrew Powell
The Center Square

Governor Ron DeSantis held a news conference in Hialeah on Monday, June 10, to announce \$1.25 billion for teacher salary increases.

DeSantis said the funds

for teacher salary hikes are earmarked in the budget over the next five years and pointed out that Florida has ranked tops overall in education by U.S. News and World Report for the past two years.

Since 2019, Florida lawmakers have appropriated \$4 billion in teacher pay raises, which has increased starting teacher pay by nearly \$10,000.

DeSantis noted that this was likely because of Florida's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, which saw other states completely shut down in-person teaching for up to a year and a half. DeSantis said the funds

See TEACHERS Page 12A



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*For a limited time - promotions available for select systems and subscription plans, please call for specific details. Offers are valid for new customers and for the first year of service and cannot be combined with any other offers. \$19.95 is the monthly subscription price for a MobileHelp Classic (at home only) system. There is a one-time \$49.95 processing fee to subscribe to this plan. Equipment shown is the MobileHelp 100 (at home) and on the go system available at a higher monthly cost. Most equipment is included at no cost while actively subscribing and must be returned upon cancellation. Free one month of service offer valid with purchase of Annual plan and includes month 13 at no additional charge. Refer to terms and conditions for specific details. Depending on the promotion chosen, you may receive an additional savings of \$5.00 off the \$11 retail price of Fall Detection service. After first year, Fall Detect pricing reverts to discount price of \$6.25/month when combined with MobileHelp Connect Premium. Fall Detection does not detect 100% of falls. If able, users should push their help button when they need assistance. Fall Detection is not intended to replace a caregiver. MobileHelp is a registered trademark, patented technology. Current GPS location may not always be available in every situation on the cellular network at all times. Expedited shipping offer is for Annual plans made prior to 3 PM EST Mon-Fri. Expedited shipping is standard 2-day -- no deliveries on Saturdays/Sundays or to Hawaii or Alaska. Shipping delays may occur due to situations beyond our control. PC-SPH20202111608 8896-0100 Rev. 1

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SUDOKU ANSWERS

PUZZLE CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 2B

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



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Puzzle Solution

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The Crossword Puzzle is found on page 2B

Custard Ice Cream does not need to churn, but does take some beating

From The *Jones-Morris Family Treasury*, Chicken 'n Rice (quick 'n easy) recipe is shared by Sandra Johansen.



Mark F. Sohn wrote *Hearty Country Cooking*, a James Beard Award Nominee. This book is full of wonderful recipes of Appalachian foods. And, while not Florida recipes, they are foods that many of us love using because the ingredients are easily obtainable and healthful that most of us enjoy and find valuable in our everyday living.

The introduction says, "The recipes and stories here are a synthesis of those loving, creative, and resourceful Appalachian cooks of the 1930s, 1940s, and 1950s who would not let you leave the kitchen until you had eaten. They are the recipes of a gregarious people who have lived in, by, and under the tight mountains and narrow valleys that form the spine of this region. Now you can recreate authentic, home cooked mountain food.

The first recipe is for Summer Garden Vegetable Soup. "Once you have gathered the ingredients and chopped the vegetables, this ten-ingredient soup is a snap. I rate the recipe moderate in difficulty," says Mark Sohn.

By mid-July, in most parts of the central and southern Appalachian mountains, you'll find tomatoes, beans, corn, squash, and bell peppers ripe in our gardens. A good garden will produce for many months, and the rest of the year you'll find these common vegetables in the market. During the winter, many country cooks have the tomatoes, beans, and corn stored in their can house, and they will use them to make Winter Vegetable Soup.

From *Savannah Style*, try the black bean soup. They instruct us to "use only a wooden spoon for stirring." I don't know why and have tried looking it up. Does anyone out there reading this know why they say to "use only a wooden spoon for stirring?"

Our friends in Georgia share Sybil Carter's Grits and Egg Casserole in their wonderful publication, *Plains Pot Pourri*.

From Mrs. John Laurens, we have

Custard Ice Cream, a cooked frozen goodie that you freeze in your refrigerator.

SANDRA JOHANSEN'S CHICKEN 'N RICE (QUICK 'N EASY)
Recipe from *THE JONES-MORRIS FAMILY TREASURY*

- 3 tablespoons oil
 - 1-1/2 cups coarsely chopped celery (or substitute green pepper)
 - 3/4 cup thinly sliced onions
 - 1/4 cup cornstarch
 - 2 cups chicken stock
 - 3 tablespoons soy sauce
 - 2 cups cooked slivered white chicken meat
 - 3 ripe tomatoes cut into wedges
 - 1-1/3 cups Minute Rice or quick-cooking rice
 - Slivered blanched almonds
- Cook onion and celery (or pepper) in oil over low heat until soft. Mix cornstarch with a little of the broth. Then add remaining stock and soy sauce. Add chicken to vegetables. Then add stock, stirring constantly but gently. Cook and stir until sauce is thickened and clear. Add tomatoes. Cook until heated through. Prepare rice according to package directions. Spoon chicken over rice. Sprinkle with almonds.

MARK SOHN'S SUMMER GARDEN VEGETABLE SOUP
Hearty Country Cooking

- 2 cups elbow macaroni or small shells
- 2 pounds fresh tomatoes, cooked, skin removed
- 1 cup water
- 2 cups fresh pole beans, cut in 1/2-inch pieces
- 2 cups fresh kernel corn
- 1 pound (3 cups) diced summer squash, yellow or zucchini
- 1 cup diced onion
- 1 cup green or red bell pepper
- 2 teaspoons salt
- 3/4 teaspoon pepper

1) Cook the macaroni according to the package directions. Drain, rinse, cover, and keep warm. Boil the tomatoes in the water for 10 minutes. Pull the skins off. 2) In a large pot over medium heat, bring the tomatoes and water to a boil. Add the beans, and simmer for 8 minutes. Add the corn,

squash, and onion. Simmer another 8 minutes. Add the bell pepper, salt, and pepper. Stir well, remove from heat. 3) Serve hot or cold, and topped with the macaroni. We serve this soup with Skillet Corn Bread or saltine crackers and a slice of raw sweet onion. Note: Healthy choice alternative: Except for the salt, which you can omit if you have to, this soup is just what the doctor ordered.

BLACK BEAN SOUP
Recipe from *Savannah Style*, a Cookbook by The Junior League of Savannah, Inc.

- 1 pound black beans
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 medium ripe tomato
- 1 bay leaf
- 1/2 medium onion
- 1/2 medium green pepper
- 1 garlic clove, unpeeled and crushed
- ...
- 1/2 cup olive oil
- 1/2 medium onion, chopped
- 1/2 green pepper, chopped
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- 1 level teaspoon crushed oregano
- 1/4 teaspoon cumin
- 2 tablespoons wine vinegar
- 1 tablespoon salt
- ...
- 1/2 teaspoon hot sauce
- 2 tablespoons dry sherry

1) Wash beans and discard imperfect ones. Place in a deep bowl and cover with water 2 inches above beans. Soak overnight. 2) Next day, pour beans into a 3 to 4 quart kettle with the same soaking water. If necessary, add more water so that beans will be covered one inch above. Add to the beans: 2 tablespoons olive oil, whole tomato, bay leaf, 1/2 onion, 1/2 green pepper, crushed garlic clove. Bring to a boil, then lower heat to moderate, cover and cook until beans are tender, about 1 hour. Use only a wooden spoon for stirring. Remove the bay leaf and what is left of the half onion, tomato, pepper and garlic. 3) In a skillet, heat 1/2 cup olive oil and sauté the chopped onion and green pepper until transparent. Add the garlic, crushed oregano, cumin, wine vinegar and salt. Stir to mix well and cook 2 minutes longer, then add to beans. Stir in hot sauce, cover

and cook for a good half hour. Correct seasonings, and add sherry. Serve hot with cooked long grain white rice and raw chopped onions.

SYBIL CARTER'S GRITS AND EGG CASSEROLE
Recipe from *Food Favorites of Plains, Georgia Plains Pot Pourri*

- 1 cup grits
- 4 cups water
- 2 egg yolks
- 2 egg whites, stiffly beaten
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/2 cup sharp cheese, grated
- Salt and pepper to taste

Cook grits with dash of salt and let cool slightly. Add all remaining ingredients, blend well with grits and turn into baking dish. Bake 45 minutes at 325 degrees.

MRS. JOHN LAUREN'S CUSTARD ICE CREAM

Recipe from *Charleston Receipts*, America's Oldest Junior League Cookbook in Print, a Cookbook by The Junior League of Charleston, Inc.

- 1 cup milk
- 1 cup light cream
- 6 egg yolks
- 2 cups heavy cream
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1-1/2 teaspoons vanilla

Scald 1 cup milk and 1 cup light cream. Add gradually to the slightly beaten egg yolks, mixed with the sugar and salt. Cook in double-boiler, stirring constantly, until the custard thickens and coats a spoon. Pour into a bowl and flavor with the vanilla. Cool. Beat the heavy cream until thick but not stiff. Fold into the custard. Pour into freezing tray, set the refrigerator to coldest point, and freeze until firm. Remove from refrigerator, beat and mash mixture in tray until smooth. Freeze again until firm. Remove and beat and mash again. Freeze until firm. Set control back to normal position. Serve with hot fudge sauce or fruit sauce. Serves 8 to 10.

View Kitchen Kapers by Nancy online at www.theapokkachief.com/recipes

JUNE 2024 ★ ★ EVENTS ★ WEEKLY ★ UPCOMING ★ ONGOING ★ ★				
<p>ACHOO! IS OUT Traffic patterns changed. Stormy weather comes and goes! Be careful with your umbrellas. And always watch out for those pedestrians... and ducks. DONT TEXT WHILE DRIVING - Please! YOU WILL PAY A FINE.</p> <p>Children must be five years old on or before September 1 to start kindergarten. To enter first grade, a child must be six years old on or before September 1 and must have successfully completed kindergarten (Florida Statute 1003.21). Immunizations must be current.</p> <p>UNLESS CHANGED: School Start Times for Elementary School & K-8: 8 a.m., Middle School: 9:30 a.m., High school: 7:10 a.m.</p> <p>City of Apopka's Northwest Recreation Complex, 3710 Jason Dwellley Parkway, Apopka 32712, 407-703-1784. On any given weekend, you can see many, many families in attendance at the beautiful complex setting participating in various organized sport programs, Amenities at the complex include: Soccer Fields, Softball Fields, Baseball Fields, Multi-Purpose Fields, Sand Volleyball Courts, Outdoor Basketball Courts, Tennis Courts, Walking Trail, Amphitheater, Playground, Concession Stands.</p> <p>11-mile wildlife drive (complete with directional signs) (opened in 2015) on Lake Apopka shores, by entering from Lust Road off Binion Road, about a mile south of Camp Wewa in the Plymouth area, for one-way drive, 10 miles per hour, with possible wildlife spotting stops. DO NOT FEED THE GATORS - IT MAY CAUSE CLOSING OF THE TRAIL If you are stopping, drive will take more than 1 hour. Drive runs by canals used in muck-farming days. The one-way drive exits on Jones Road in Zellwood. You will see a freshwater marsh system and wildlife dependent on that type of system. The drive is open on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays and federal holidays and is controlled by the county. Open during daylight hours only (one hour after sunrise and one hour before sunset). Official sunrise and sunset times can be found online. The road is closed on other days due to ongoing restoration work. The trail is 11 miles long.</p> <p>WEKIWA SPRINGS STATE PARK is a 7,000-acre Florida State Park in Apopka, Florida. It is located 20 minutes north of Orlando, off Interstate 4 at exit 94, near Altamonte Springs and Longwood. The park also contains the head water of the Wekiwa River. Address: 1800 Wekiwa Circle, Apopka 32712, open from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. For information, call 407-884-4311</p> <p>FRAN CARLTON CENTER OPEN,</p>	<p>for seniors - senior activities at Fran Carlton Center. CALL 407-703-1642 FOR INFORMATION .</p> <p>FRIDAY, JUNE 14</p> <p>ZUMBA FITNESS CLASS, FRIDAYS at 9:00 a.m. at 11 N. Forest Ave., at the Fran Carlton Center.. Call 407-703-1642 for information. .</p> <p>CENTRAL FL CHRISTIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, 1806 S Bay St., Eustis, has Fellowship Friday meetings. For complete details of all chamber events, visit cfchristianchamber.com/events-chamber. Contact: latrondra@cfchristianchamber.com</p> <p>SATURDAY, JUNE 15</p> <p>VFW POST 10147 continues to have its fund raising breakfast on the the third Saturday of the month on MAY 18, from 8-10 a.m. at 519 S. Central Avenue. Cost is only \$7.</p> <p>MUSEUM OF APOPKANS, Saturday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., 122 E. FIFTH STREET, APOPKA. Managed by Apopka Historical Society. Call 407-703-1624 for info.</p> <p>AVIAN RECONDITIONING CENTER, for birds of prey, 323 Lester Rd., Apopka, hours: 9:30-1:30 p.m., The center is open on Saturdays to the public, weather permitting. Call 407-461-1056 for information.</p> <p>SUNDAY, JUNE 16</p> <p>MONDAY, JUNE 17</p> <p>FITNESS CLASS, MONDAYS 9-10 a.m. 11 N. Forest Ave at Fran Carlton Center. Masks not required while exercising, but are when socializing before and after class. Temperature taken on entry. Pre-register. Call 407-703-1642 for info.</p> <p>CRAFTS & CHATTER: 9:30-12 noon. Fran Carlton Center, 11 N Forest Ave.Masks required. Temperature taken. Pre-register. Call 407-703-1642 for info.</p> <p>OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS meets Mondays at 6:30 p.m., Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit, 601 S. Highland Avenue. If you have a problem with food – overeating, anorexia, bulimia – there is a solution for you. For more information, visit OA.org or call Carrie 781-867-1071.</p> <p>TOASTMASTERS: Forest Lake Church by Zoom. Time: 7 p.m., Open to everyone interested. For information, call 407-761-2943. Club Number: 4899556, District 84, Area D42. Orators of Excellence</p> <p>TUESDAY, JUNE 18</p> <p>THE SERTOMA CLUB meets the</p>	<p>first and third Tuesday of each month, beginning at 11:30-noon, at Beef 'O' Brady's in The Back Room, 1410 Rock Springs Rd., Apopka. Interested community members are encouraged to attend and get acquainted. Meetings have resumed on first and third Tuesdays. Masks are encouraged.</p> <p>SENIOR CHAIR EXERCISE, 9-10 a.m., 11 N. Forest Ave. at Fran Carlton Center. Masks not required while exercising, but are when socializing before and after class. Temperature taken on entry. Pre-register. Call 407-703-1642 for info.</p> <p>ART CLASS. 9:30-12 noon. Fran Carlton Center, 11 N Forest Ave. Masks required. Temperature taken. Pre-register. Call 407-703-1642 for info.</p> <p>WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19</p> <p>The Altamonte Springs / Apopka VFW POST 10147: is NOW OPEN Wednesday and Saturday Mornings from (TIME CHANGE) 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. for coffee and doughnuts. (other hours by appointment only). 3rd Saturday of the month is VFW's fundraising breakfast. Also, evenings of Tribute music are planned. Call 407-889-8266, or email info@vfwpost10147.com for information. The VFW Auxiliary has been formed and is active as well. Don't forget to visit its excellent Military Museum.</p> <p>ZUMBA FITNESS CLASS, 9-10 a.m., 11 N. Forest Ave., at the Fran Carlton Center. Masks not required while exercising, but are when socializing before and after class. Temperature taken on entry. Pre-register. Call 407-703-1642 for info..</p> <p>SENIOR CHAIR EXERCISE, 10-11 a.m., Billie Dean Community Center, 225 M.A. Board St., . Masks not required while exercising, but are when socializing before and after class. Temperature taken on entry. Pre-register. Call 407-703-1642 for info</p> <p>CITY OF APOPKA DRC (Development Review Committee) meets every Wednesday at 9 a.m.-10 a.m. (or as long as necessary) at City Hall, 120 E. Main Street, Apopka. Check for the online version.</p> <p>BRIDGE CLASS. 9:30-12 noon. Fran Carlton Center, 11 N Forest Ave.Masks required. Temperatures taken. Pre-register. Call 407-703-1642 for info.</p> <p>TOPS CHAPTER #646. (Take Off Pounds Sensibly), TOPS, a non-profit organization, will help you reach a weight goal with support from friendly, caring members, education, and rewards. Each Thursday weigh-in begins at 9:00 a.m. – meeting ends at 10:15 a.m.. Come to its</p>	<p>NEW location 220 W. Horatio Avenue, Maitland, FL 32751 to meet with others who have a like-minded goal to lose weight. No products, no specific diet to follow, no meds. Call 407-580-0897 for more information.</p> <p>MUSEUM OF APOPKANS, Open on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 12 noon-5 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m.-1 p.m., 122 E Fifth St. 407-703-1642 for info.</p> <p>EARLY BIRD BINGO at Bahia Shrine Center, 3101 E. Semoran Blvd.. Doors open at 5 p.m., and the early bird game starts at 6 p.m. For more information, call 407-860-8811.</p> <p>TOASTMASTERS: still meeting every WEDNESDAY, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m., by zoom. For more information, call 407-765-2629 or visit www. Apokkatoastmasters.com.</p> <p>THURSDAY, JUNE 20</p> <p>SENIOR CHAIR EXERCISE, 9-10 a.m., 11 N. Forest Ave., at the Fran Carlton Center. Masks not required while exercising, but are when socializing before and after class. Temperature taken on entry. Pre-register. Call 407-703-1642 for info.</p> <p>ROTARY CLUB OF APOPKA - For information, call 407-415-6588. Call for updated information on meetings and location.</p> <p>MUSEUM OF APOPKANS, Open from noon to 5 p.m. on Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 9 a.m.-noon. 120 E Fifth St. Call 407-703-1624 for info.</p> <p>ZUMBA FITNESS CLASS, 9-10 a.m., 11 N. Forest Ave., at the Fran Carlton Center. Masks not required while exercising, but are when socializing before and after class. Temperature taken on entry. Pre-register. Call 407-703-1642 for info.</p> <p>KIWANIS CLUB OF APOPKA IS now meeting MONTHLY on the 3rd Tuesday at 8 a.m. at Seacoast Bank, 345 E Main Street, Apopka. Contact 407-464-4606 for information</p> <p>BROWN BAG LUNCH - Third Saturday of each month, Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit at the corner of Highland and 6th St., Apopka, from 10 a.m.-12 p.m., offer to all who come a brown bag lunch. In addition, men's socks, flip flops, stuffed animals, some clothing, children's books and pet food which is donated by My Pet World, Apopka, may be available. If interested in volunteering, call Debbie at 407-620-5081 for information.</p> <p>APOPKA FOLIAGE TOASTMASTERS CLUB, Monday, 7 p.m., on Zoom, Apopka. 407-765-2629.</p> <p>NWOC FFA Alumni – Monthly meetings (usually the 4th Monday evening in a month during the school year) are open to anyone. (Looking for more information)</p> <p>MUSEUM OF APOPKANS, 122 E 5th Street, Hours open: Wednesday to Friday. from noon-5 p.m., and Saturdays from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.... Admission is free. Contains displays and information about Apopka's history, and has history books for sale. Monthly meetings of Apopka Historical Society are normally held on a Sunday afternoon. For more information, go to www.theapokka-museum.com.</p> <p>CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS are public and will also be broadcast on this shortened link: https://bit.ly/2ABrmb5, and are normally held the first Wednesday at 1:30 p.m., and third Wednesday at 7 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, City Hall,</p>	<p>THE APOPKA ELKS LODGE 2422 meets first and third Tuesdays of month, 201 W. Orange. For more information, call 407-886-1600 or email apopkaelks@aol.com Bar Bingo every Monday night at 7 p.m. promptly.</p> <p>GFWC APOPKA WOMAN'S CLUB, meets at First United Methodist Church, 201 N. Park Avenue. Call 407-880-2111 for more information.</p> <p>CITY OF APOPKA PLANNING & ZONING - usually the second Tuesday of the month. 5:30 p.m. City Council Chambers, City Hall, 120 E. Main St., Apopka. All meetings open to the public. Subject to change with notice. For info., call David Moon, 407-703-1739.</p> <p>BRIDGE GAMES AND CLASSES: Every Monday and Friday morning at 9:15 a.m., at the Lake County Duplicate Bridge Club, 510 W. Key Ave., Eustis. For more information, call 352-315-9934 or visit lakeduplicate.com.</p> <p>COMPUTER CLASSES in both English and Spanish: Available daily or weekly at OCLS North Orange Branch.* Classes are: Computer Basics, Excel, Word Resume Writing, Email for Seniors, ELLIS English Lab, Word, Online Job Searches, Power Point, Internet, Open Lab, How to use a mouse and keyboard, etc. Call OCLS North Orange Branch* for more details.</p> <p>HABITAT VOLUNTEERS: Go to www.habitatseminoleapopka.org, click on volunteers. There are a number of opportunities available at the Restores. Call 407-696-5855 or 407-880-8881 to sign up for information.</p> <p>*****</p> <p>(OCLS) Orange County Public Library North Orange Branch Address: 1211 E. Semoran Boulevard, Apopka 436 (Semoran) and Thompson Road. www.ocls.info. To reserve a space, call 407-835-7323. The library is now open again Mon-Sat. 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m.. and Sunday afternoons</p> <p>*Apopka Area Chamber of Commerce, 180 E. Main St., Apopka. For more info, call 407-886-1441</p> <p>COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR INFORMATION</p> <p>Events, fund raisers, and non-profit organizations Send info: fax 407-889-4121, or email ads@theapokkachief.com Subscribe to The Apopka Chief E-Edition or Home Delivery Call 407-886-2777 or Visit www.theapokkachief.com In County: \$30 with E-edition, or \$25 for just postal delivery. Out-of-County: \$35 with E-Edition or \$30 for postal delivery</p>

Teachers: ‘Kids need to be back in school,’ DeSantis says

Continued from page 10A

tis pointed out that they approached the situation rationally rather than following the “direction of partisan school unions.”

He said, “In Florida, we said, you know what? Kids need to be back in school.”

“I think we had the

highest percentage, 99 to 100 percent in-person education in the 2020-2021 school year. And yet, some other states that had half the kids, had no access to in-person education.”

DeSantis added that the decision to keep Florida schools open during the pandemic was met with much opposition. Florida’s

school union sued, according to DeSantis and also took part in demonstrations against keeping schools open.

“I know there were demonstrations here in Miami, with the school union here trying to say all the kids were gonna die,” DeSantis said. “That was wrong what they were do-

ing; that was politics and putting ideology and their own interests ahead of the interests of students.”

DeSantis added that if the school unions had got their way, the Sunshine State would not be the top state in the U.S. for education and further noted that it was the unions, not the teachers, who wanted schools to remain closed.

“We’ve worked really hard to deliver salary increases,” DeSantis said. “Since 2019 to the present, we’ve had by far the biggest increase in teacher compensation that has ever happened in the history of the state of Florida.”

Florida Department of Education Commissioner Manny Diaz said he is happy to work with a leader

like DeSantis, who prioritizes students’ needs.

“In just the last two years, we have put parental rights back in education, we have removed dangerous and divisive rhetoric like critical race theory, diversity, equity and inclusion and we have made tremendous investments,” Diaz said.



Marvin Lee Wright, 85, of Seville, Florida went home to be with the Lord on Tuesday, May 28, 2024. He was born on June 8, 1938, in Orlando, Florida to the late Levy and Frances Wright of Apopka. He is preceded in death by his sister, Mary Frances (Watters). Marvin leaves behind his wife of 62 years, Mary Agnes Wright and his two sons, Michael (Kelly) Wright, Maxwell (Mindy) Wright; and his two grandchildren, Megan and Max. Marvin was a graduate of Apopka Memorial High School,

Marvin Lee Wright

June 8, 1938 – May 28, 2024

Class of 1956, where he was President of his Senior Class, excelled academically and enjoyed playing football and baseball. After high school, he furthered his education at the University of Florida before dedicating a chapter of his life to the United States Coast Guard, where his love for football continued. Marvin worked for Southern Bell in Orlando for 32 years until his retirement in 1989.

He was a member at First Baptist Church of Apopka, President of Apopka Pop Warner, Charter member of the Apopka Elks Lodge, and a member of the Apopka Bass Club. Marvin used to drag race (with the same car he drove to work), fly planes, had a deep passion for NASCAR, enjoyed hunting, fishing, and frying fish for family and friends.

He also loved fast cars and trucks, was a Chevy man, loved driving a tractor (mowing and disking for hours on end mostly at the deer hunt camp), was crafty at woodworking and was known to love making a fire.

Marvin’s legacy will continue to live on through his family and friends. May he rest in eternal peace.

A celebration of Marvin’s life was held on June 11, 2024, at 6 p.m. at the First Baptist Church of Apopka, followed by food and fellowship at the Apopka Elks Lodge.

In lieu of flowers, the family request that donations be made in Marvin’s memory to The Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Mail: FCA Fellowship of Christian Athletes; 1936 Washington Blvd, Mount Dora, FL 32757

Community will send off Miss Apopka to state competition

The Miss Apopka Scholarship Competition Committee invites the community to wish Reilly Cardella, Miss Apopka 2024, the best of luck as she competes in the upcoming Miss Florida competition.

The celebration will take place on Tuesday, June 18, from 5-6:30 p.m. at the Apopka Museum, 122 E. Fifth St., Apopka.

Cardella will preview her competition wardrobe, talent, and speak to her community service initia-

tive, “Love for Ladybug,” her nonprofit organization dedicated to sending care packages to children fighting cancer.

Miss Florida competition week begins on Wednesday, June 26, at the RP Funding Center in Lakeland, where 37 candidates will compete for the crown and title of Miss Florida.

The Miss Apopka and Miss Florida Scholarship Competitions are preliminary competitions leading to Miss America.



Miss Apopka Reilly Cardella

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