

Paris

Apopka community celebrates Apopka High's Olympic triple jumper Donald Scott. See page 1B.



God Bless America

Sports

Jalen Carter's youth summer camp gets better every year See page 1B.



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# The Apopka Chief

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Volume 102 Number 29

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Friday, July 19, 2024 / 50 cents

## 2025 millage rate decision tabled to July 10 meeting

By Teresa Sargeant  
Apopka Chief Staff

In separate votes, the Apopka City Council voted 5-0 to set the proposed millage rate at 4.6876 and the rollback rate at 3.8384 for the city's fiscal year 2025 budget.

The City Council tabled its decision to set the FY 2025 millage rate from last week at its special July 10 meeting.

Blanche Sherman, city finance director, presented the number at the special Wednesday, July 17, meeting for setting the FY2025 millage rate. The city of Apopka has had one of the area's lowest millage rates at 4.1876. According to Sherman, other cities in the region are looking at increasing their millage rate, too.

The key revenue increases that the city has incorporated in the budget amount to \$12.9 million, without the millage rate increase.

The increases are as follows: ad valorem taxes, \$4.9; utility tax for the electric, about \$1.1 million;

building permits, \$1.9; state revenue sharing, \$628,000; sales tax, \$1.9 million; engineering fees, \$1.2 million; recreation activity and programs, \$159,000; and interest in dividends of money, \$1 million, for a total of \$12.9 million.

The city began with the general fund of about \$89.8 million, and with the use of reserves about \$8.1 million, Sherman said. The city is incorporating another \$1.7-million increase in the millage rate increase going to the 0.25, which is for a contingency for the firefighters union; and another \$1.5-million increase in the millage to have additional funds transferred to the streets fund.

Other items that have been incorporated as a result of this month's city budget workshops and input from the mayor and commissioners is an additional \$455,000.

"Any additional changes at this point comes as a result of an increase in the use of those reserves. And these are excess reserves

See MILLAGE Page 7A

## John Ricketson, longtime Apopka Chief/Planter publisher, dies at 84

By Pat McGuffin  
Special to the Chief

The long-time owner and publisher of *The Apopka Chief* and *The Planter* newspapers passed away Tuesday, July 16, at the age of 84.

Over his 45-year ownership of *The Apopka Chief*, John Ricketson left his mark on this city and thousands of lives. Ricketson had been battling liver cancer for a year.

His family bought *The Apopka Chief* and *The Planter* from WR "Mac" McGuffin in 1979. As publisher, Ricketson helped steer the city of Apopka through its massive growth period.

In addition to owning *The Apopka Chief* and *The Planter* newspapers, John and his wife Eileen have owned Apopka Office Supply for 45 years.

"John was truly a community leader who just happened to be the publisher of the award-winning *Apopka Chief*. He dedicated his life to making sure that the news was covered without bias for anyone who was interested in Apopka," noted Mayor Bryan Nelson.

During his tenure as

owner/publisher of the Apopka newspapers, Ricketson's team won hundreds of journalistic awards through the Florida Press Association, including Best Newspaper of its circulation size in the state over several years.

Ricketson was a member of the Florida Press Association for dozens of years, and served as its president from 1990-1991.

"My memories of John are so vivid. He was a passionate believer in the Apopka community and its future. And of course, he loved talking fishing and family when we were done talking business," said Andy Gardiner, past president of the Florida Senate, and past president of the Apopka Area Chamber of Commerce.

Ricketson has been the past chairman of the Apopka Area Chamber of Commerce from 1984-1991 and was named Businessman of the Year in 2002.

He served as past president of the Apopka Rotary Club, as well as past president of the Foliage Sertoma Club, which puts on the annual Apopka Christmas

See RICKETSON Page 4A

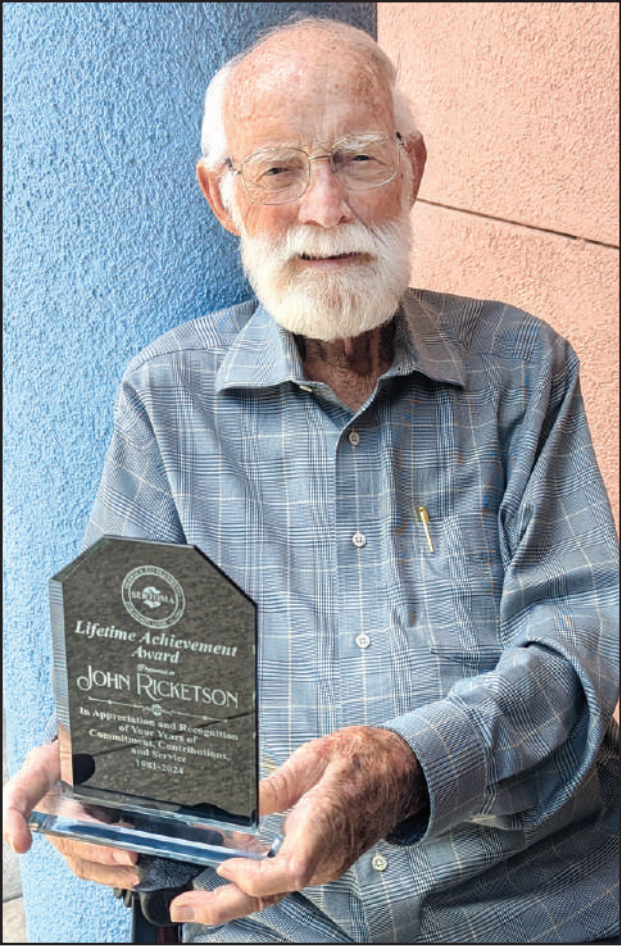


Photo courtesy of Foliage Sertoma Club

John Ricketson, publisher of *The Apopka Chief/The Planter* for more than 45 years, died on Tuesday, July 16, at the age of 84. An indelible part of the Apopka community, "JR" – as he was fondly called by many who knew him – volunteered for and chaired many organizations and boards, such as being past president of the Foliage Sertoma Club of Apopka. On June 25, the club honored JR with the Lifetime Achievement Award for his decades of service.

## Snowy egret flies over Lake Apopka



A snowy egret makes its home among the marshes of the Lake Apopka North Shore and Wildlife Drive, located on the North Shore of Lake Apopka. The drive is free and open to the public each Friday through Sunday and federal holidays. The entrance gate to the 11-mile, one-way drive is located at 2850 Lust Road, Apopka, and is open 7 a.m.- 3 p.m. The exit gate on Jones Avenue in Zellwood closes at 5 p.m. Photo courtesy of St. Johns River Water Management District.

## City Council votes to approve grant, award contracts

The Apopka City Council voted 5-0, across the board, on 10 consent agenda items at its Wednesday, July 17, regularly scheduled meeting. Below are some of the items that fall under the consent agenda.

### DOT grant

Under the consent agenda, the City Council voted to authorize the police chief to accept a Department of Transportation (DOT) grant that the Apopka Police Department applied for and has received.

The \$10,000 grant is for the Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety High Visibility Enforcement and Support Program.

Administered by the Institute of Police Technology and Management at the University of North Florida, the grant will provide overtime funding for enforcement in the following areas: East Main Street from Park Avenue south to Semoran Boulevard, West Main Street from Brad-

See CITY Page 8A

## Fire chief to retire after 22 years with city

By Teresa Sargeant  
Apopka Chief Staff

Apopka Fire Chief Sean Wylam will retire after serving 22 years in the Apopka Fire Department that includes five years in his current post. His retirement is effective October 31.

Wylam made his announcement on Tuesday July 16, at Fire Station No. 3 on Piedmont Wekiwa Road in Apopka before his colleagues, family, and elected officials.

Mayor Bryan Nelson gave Wylam a golden axe as a retirement gift for his

22-years of service with the Apopka Fire Department.

"Over the past 22 years, I have had the privilege to witness our department's growth and resilience, facing numerous challenges together. It is with a mixture of pride and nostalgia that I look back on our collective accomplishments.

There have been incredible changes in the department since I first arrived in 2002. The challenges and changes will undoubtedly continue as the occupation evolves, but I

See FIRE Page 3A



Fire Chief Sean Wylam (l) holds the golden axe that Mayor Bryan Nelson (r) presented to him as a retirement gift for the chief's 22 years of service to the city.

**This week Section A**  
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Bus. Review ..... 8A  
Dining & Ent..... 9A  
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Worship ..... 11A  
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Apopka Event of the Week

On Saturday, July 20, from 10:15-11 a.m., at the North Orange Branch Library, 1211 E. Semoran Blvd., in the computer lab, is the Microsoft Excel-Formulas and Functions. Use the Function Library to find the best fit for your project. Insert financial, logical, lookup, math and text functions. Ages 13-Adult. Must know Microsoft Excel 4. Required skills: None.

Quotable

When you consider all that he has done for the community and individuals, it is inspiring and right to honor his legacy.

Guest editorialist on importance of remembering John Ricketson

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

Chief Publisher 'JR' helped  
shape Apopka for generations

By Patrick McGuffin,  
Guest editorialist

Long-time publisher and owner of *The Apopka Chief* and *The Planter* newspapers, John "JR" Ricketson, passed away at the age of 84 and moved into his eternal reward on July 16, 2024.

His family bought the newspapers in 1979 from my dad, WR McGuffin, and began immediately helping to shape the greater Apopka area into the amazing community that we have today. John and his wife Eileen hit the ground running, and built *The Apopka Chief* into one of the most award-winning newspapers of its circulation size in the state of Florida.

But it wasn't the awards that drove the excellence of *The Apopka Chief*, but JR's commitment to the people, businesses, schools, and City of Apopka.

When Ricketson bought the newspapers, Apopka had a population of less than 13,000, and today its population within the city limits is 57,000 and roughly 100,000 people in the immediate area. People... ordinary people that make up our schools, civic service organizations, the governmental players... all were part of this growth that the newspapers helped build and report on during a generation.

JR was a man of community leadership, and great courage in the face of opposition to change for improvement. He shared vision with community leaders, and reported on their children's activities in schools. One of his most common comments was "the community owns the newspaper, and I just have been entrusted as its caretaker." That always struck me – his overarching concern for the community, and not his own welfare.

He had the uncanny ability to remember most faces and names of people in town that he met, much like former Mayor John Land. Children, adults, young, older, any cultures – he just cared for people with his great big smile on a white-

bearded face. Literally thousands upon thousands of people over those 45 years have been written about and had photos in the local newspapers he owned.

Some people care about and hang with those who are like them. John rubbed shoulders with a whole community of unrelated people who called the Apopka area home, and he did it with grace.

Early in life, I knew him as an employer, then later as a fellow business owner, but most of the time, I, along with thousands of others knew him as a friend. When you consider all that he has done for the community and individuals, it is inspiring and right to honor his legacy.

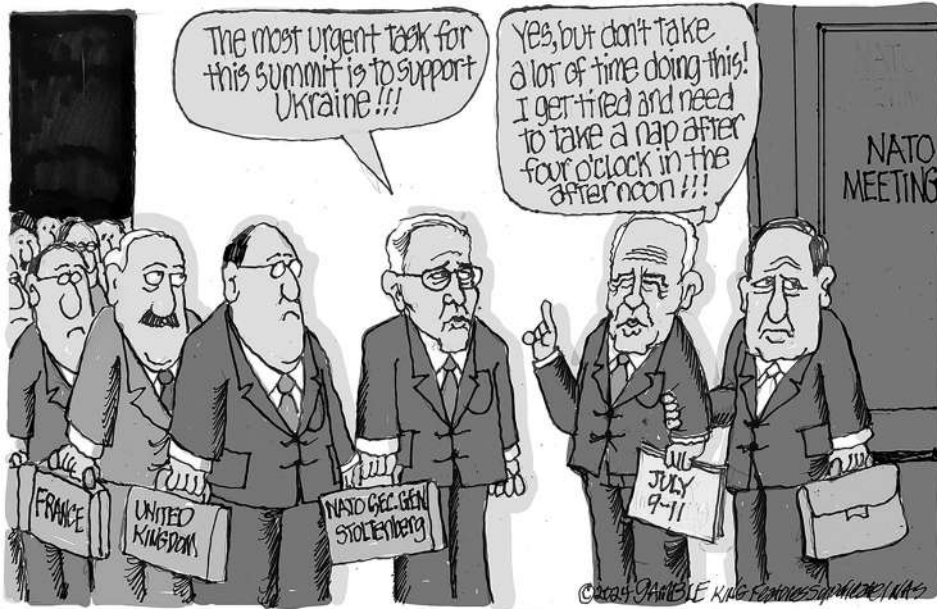
So how do you measure a man like John Ricketson?

- By his discipline in doing hard work day after day.
- By his ability to trust God, in the face of conflicts.
- By how he honors his wife and shares life with his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.
- By how many times he continues to show kindness when done wrong or spoken unkindly of.
- By how many times he resists the easy way out of tough situations.
- By the attitude he keeps when rightly swimming upstream against the flow of popular opinion.
- Or by his faithfulness in doing the ongoing, redundant things in his daily life... like publishing 32,485 editions of his Apopka newspapers without missing one week of publishing!

Honestly, I don't know how you honor a man like John Ricketson, for his impactful life well lived.

He was and is a dear friend of the greater Apopka community who will be missed by us all, as he walks into his heavenly reward with his Lord Jesus.

Thank you, John, for both who you were to us all, and what you did to make our lives better while you were on this planet. You were a gift!



Vision 2050 is in planning stages

Balancing the varying needs of healthy communities is required in good governance. The Board of County Commissioners (BCC) will likely submit two constitutional amendments regarding protecting rural lands and controlling excessive annexations to the citizens for their consideration this November. This is an attempt to reduce costly sprawl and utility expansions into important environmentally sensitive areas. Additionally, property owners should have surety as to what development may be allowed nearby. The county is also developing a new comprehensive plan, known as Vision 2050. State law and county ordinances require developers to preserve 35 percent land in passivity in the Wekiva River Basin area.

County Commissioner  
District 2



Christine Moore

Then on the other side of things, I am working hard on finding a location for a homeless shelter as many are upset finding chronically drug-addicted and mentally ill people camping nearby. The county also funds rental assistance to prevent homelessness. Yet, we know that for every increase in rents and home prices we will see more unhoused. We must find a place for these folks, other than in the jail system, which is an extremely

costly approach.

Don't we all wish that fewer people would move to Central Florida? Growth hasn't paid for itself, yet Orange County has so much opportunity for career and personal advancement. I recently returned from Tallahassee and drove through some impoverished areas along the north-eastern section of US 27. Once I reached Lake County the view drastically changed. Growth and investment was noticeably greater. We live in a great community, with thousands moving to our county.

Therefore, to make sure we are increasing new housing options, I asked for an update on all pending projects in District 2 from our planning department.

See MOORE Page 6A

Schools need up-to-date info

As usual, summer is flying by and we are quickly approaching the start of another school year. The 2024-25 school year will begin on Monday, August 12. As that day draws near, I know many of you will soon begin preparing for the start of school.

If you are not already doing so, please follow your child's school on social media and make sure your contact information is up to date with the school. That way, you can stay connected and receive all the important announcements

Orange County School  
Board, District 7



Melissa Byrd

that are beginning to be shared.

We are already seeing many schools share their "Meet the Teacher" dates, as well as new student orientations and device distribution dates.

These next few weeks are a good time for parents to prepare their students for the upcoming school year while still enjoying the last few weeks of summer.

One of the best places to start is by re-establishing a regular bedtime and wake schedule. Many kids, especially preteens and teens, get on a pretty wacky sleep schedule over the summer.

Sleep is one of the most important factors for a healthy brain and the ability

See BYRD Page 6A

This Week In God's Word

When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."  
— John 8:12

Mema Says

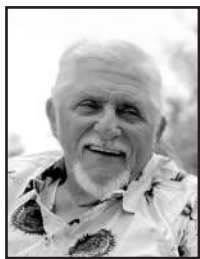
Are you part of the solution?

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Plan was to make women, children dependent on government

The great Greek philosopher, Democritus (470-370 B.C.) wrote that "cheats and hypocrites are those who do everything with words and nothing with actions." That statement, although written many centuries ago describe Joe Biden precisely. Joe Biden has been suckling from the government teat for the past 50 years, first as a congressman, and then as a senator, and I defy anyone to find one piece of legislation or one singular action that has helped



Ike Hayden

the American people positively.

He's been called many names such as the "great healer," et cetera, and he's built his reputation on "reaching across the aisle," but in truth, Joe Biden is

none of these. Philosophers say there are three signs of a hypocrite, and they are: 1. whenever he speaks, he lies. 2. he never keeps his promise, and 3. he betrays his trust whenever he is trusted.

According to this yardstick, Joe Biden qualifies as a hypocrite. Our borders have been left wide open for all kinds of intruders and illegal aliens to bring all manner of contraband, weapons, and drugs into our nation to assist with the ruin of our culture,

and the American dream. This isn't something that just happened, but has been planned and executed by design.

I believe this was planned long before Lyndon B. Johnson became president through the assassination of John F. Kennedy. I believe that LBJ's Great Society promoted and propelled this globalist agenda, and greatly damaged the nuclear families.

The main plan was to make women and children completely dependent on

the governmental handouts, from cradle to grave... and it is working!

Almost 500 billion dollars of our federal budget is committed to housing and welfare. Where are the men of these homes, and why are they not being held accountable for their own children? This situation is similar to the fact that we cannot find illegal aliens to send them back, but you can always find them to give them money.

Same way with irresponsible fathers. They find

ways to buy new cars and go to all the action parks, enjoy the lives of the rich and famous, while the taxpayers take care of their children and their old girlfriends, or wives. There's an old adage, "if you kick a dog long enough, sooner or later, he will bite." That is exactly how the American taxpayer feels now. We are ready to bite. There has never been so much division in our nation since the civil war. We have Dem-

See HAYDEN Page 6A

# Fire: Duran's death isn't reason for retirement, Wylam says

Continued from page 1A

know the men and women of Apopka Fire Department are up to the task," Wylam said.

"As I move into this next chapter of my life, I am confident that the department will continue to thrive and excel under new leadership. I am committed to ensuring a smooth changeover, and will be happily assisting in the transition."

Wylam began his firefighting career at the Eatonville Fire Department in 2001 and joined the Apopka Fire Department in October 2002. In Apopka, he finished the paramedic program in 2004, was promoted to lieutenant in 2007, and then to assistant fire chief in 2014. In 2019, Wylam succeeded Charles "Chuck" Carnesale as fire

chief.

Wylam holds positions with several professional organizations and boards including the Center for Public Safety Excellence, Orange County Operations Chiefs Group, Orange County Emergency Response Team, Orange County EMS Advisory Board, and State Emergency Response Team.

He holds several certifications with the Florida Bureau of Fire of Fire Standards and professional qualifications with the National Board on Fire Service.

Nelson highlighted a few of what he said were over 90 accomplishments that Wylam and his team have done in the last five years for the department's ensured safety, operation efficiency, and administrative effectiveness.

"So out of all these 90, those are the ones I just came up with that were presented to me by the team," Nelson said. "But not only has he accomplished a lot, he's been a mentor to a lot of firefighters here at the city of Apopka. We couldn't be more proud of his service to the city of Apopka and the fire department here in Apopka. He will long be remembered for some of the accomplishments he's given to our community and to our fire department."

Wylam is not "someone who's boisterous with his words. He's not going to get up there and lay it out that way, but he does it with his actions," said Representative Doug Bankson of Florida House 39, Apopka Fire Department chaplain and former city commissioner.

Thanking Wylam for

his service, Bankson acknowledged what the chief did for the department, "...the efficiency that you brought in, the increase to the city just simply by doing your job, working hard, sharpening the pencil, working to try and make everything work, to balance all that goes on here in a very rapidly growing city with lots of change."

Wylam decided that five years would be the limit for his time as chief. "I think one of the biggest things I've always tried to instill, again, this is not about one person, my first officer meeting I ever had, I promised five years (as chief) and the reason for that is because this position, the fire chief position, deserves changeover. It really deserves that fresh look of eyes."

Wylam claimed that

the ensuing matter surrounding firefighter Austin Duran's death in summer of 2022 and the city's subsequent handling of it didn't play a role in his retirement decision.

"As a fire chief, you're faced with numerous tasks and ups and downs and challenges throughout your career. Even the Covid pandemic to dealing with a firefighter's death is never easy, but it's the right way," he said. "It's a part of your job as the chief to handle things like that. And it, certainly again, is more of the five years versus dealing with those things because next year there will continue to be numerous challenges throughout the tenure of the departments."

He said he will help the city transition to a new fire chief adding that his post-retirement plans are to

find employment in the private sector, possibly doing some teaching and working with children's non-profit organizations.

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**A QUIET PLACE: DAY ONE (PG-13)** 11:00A; 1:40; 4:20; 7:20; 10:00

**LONGLEGS (R)** 11:10A; 2:00; 4:50; 7:30; 10:20

**DESPICABLE ME 4 (PG)** 11:20A; 1:50; 4:10; 6:50; 9:20

**INSIDE OUT 2 (PG)** 11:50A; 2:10; 4:30; 7:10; 9:40

**FLY ME TO THE MOON (PG-13)** 12:20; 3:30; 6:40; 9:50

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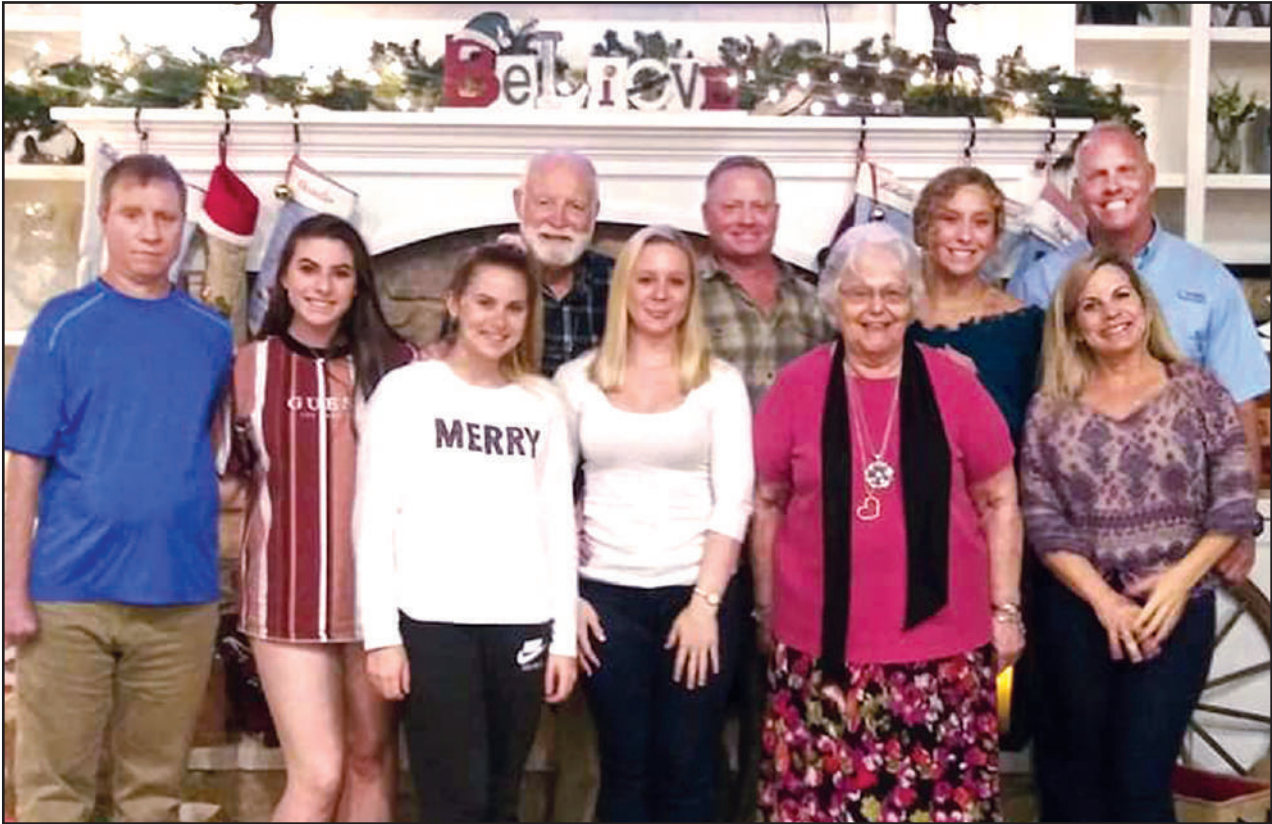
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The Ricketson family on Christmas Day: John is in the back row with son Jerry, granddaughter Payton Ricketson and son Jamey. Pictured in the front row are (l-r) son Joey, granddaughters Madison Strong and Michaela Strong Duytsche, Logan Carney, wife Eileen, and daughter-in-law Lori Strong Ricketson.

## Ricketson: Several awards highlight his success in career, community service

Continued from page 1A

Parade. He was the founding chairman of the Florida Hospital Apopka Foundation from 1984-1987.

The Foliage Sertoma Club of Apopka honored John Ricketson with its Lifetime Achievement Award for his decades of service at the club's June 25 luncheon.

"John, known as JR to most all of Apopka, was the club's stalwart Sergeant at Arms, a position we all know is like a Supreme Court Justice – pretty much for life!" said Beverly Winesburgh, Foliage Sertoma Club member, in an email to *The Apopka Chief*. "A club member

since he first came to Apopka close to a half-century ago, his public support via his newspaper, *The Apopka Chief/The Planter*, has contributed to the club's program successes in so many ways. Not only has he earned a lifetime achievement award from Sertoma National, but John Ricketson truly is owed one for all he continues to contribute to the Apopka community."

Ricketson was vice president of the John Land Apopka Community Trust from 2015-2016.

"I had the pleasure of getting to know Mr. Ricketson (as most called him, JR) through my involvement with the John Land Apopka Community

Trust," said Misty Taylor, president of the John Land Apopka Community Trust. "He was a long-time and dedicated board member. It didn't take long for me to learn that he was a loving and devoted husband, a proud father, and loved his community immensely, for which he was a dutiful and tireless civic servant. The world could use more people in it like John Ricketson and he will be greatly missed by so many."

Ricketson served as chairman of the city of Apopka's 120th anniversary year-long celebration. Representative Doug Bankson of Florida House District 39 recalled first meeting Ricketson when

asked to serve with him on the city's 120th anniversary committee. Bankson said he saw Ricketson as "a servant leader that made everyone feel valued and included," and someone who exemplified life, service, and character as a Christian.

"Every life is important and makes an impact, but none more than our dear friend John Ricketson. I say dear friend not just for myself, but for the city of Apopka. His influence and impact is so deep and varied as to be an iconic treasure to all, even if you had never directly met him. He was a true Southern gen-

See RICKETSON Page 5A

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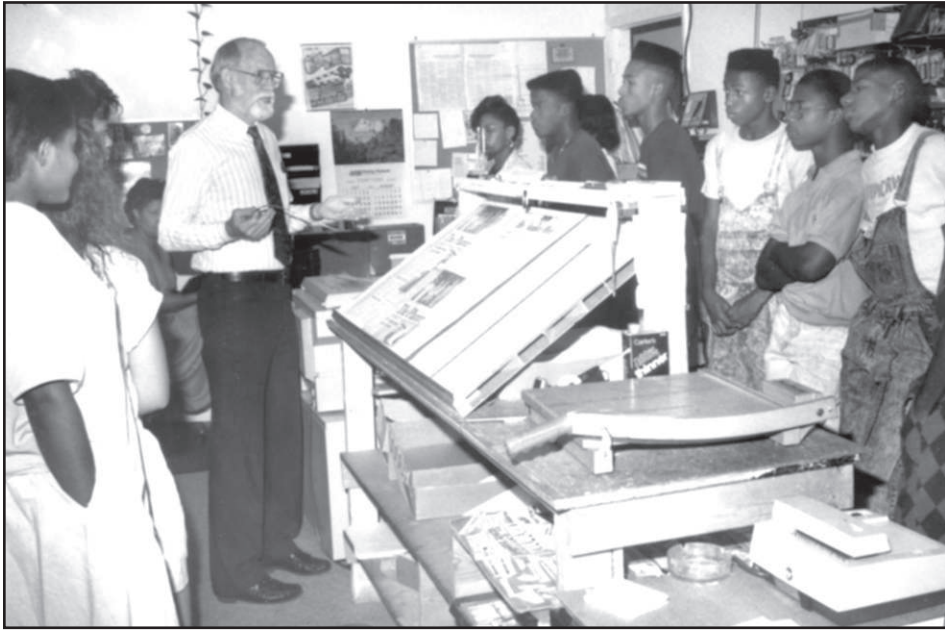
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John Ricketson gives a tour of the previous Apopka Chief building, located on U.S. Highway 441 in Apopka, where Wawa is now located.



John in uniform as a service man for the U.S. Army.

# Ricketson: Several awards highlight his success in career, community service

Continued from page 4A

tleman in every sense of the word, and his wisdom graced everything he put his hand to.”

In 2004, he was honored as the grand marshal of the Sertoma Apopka Christmas Parade, which annually attracts over 20,000 Apopkans.

“I was fortunate enough to have known

John for almost 40 years. He was full of energy and a tireless advocate for Apopka. I can’t think of a single community initiative that he wasn’t involved with in one capacity or another. Without question, he’ll be missed,” said David Rankin, executive vice president of One Florida Bank in Apopka.

In 2006, the Apopka Christian Ministerial Alli-

ance chose Ricketson, together with former Mayor John Land, as recipients of the organization’s first annual Pillar Award.

Born in Dixie Camp, Florida, on March 5, 1940, John moved to Apopka in 1958. He graduated high school in Winter Park, and enlisted in the Army to become a paratrooper. He married his bride Eileen of 60 years, in 1964 and they

have three sons, Jamey, Jerry, and Joey, several grandchildren and great grandchildren.

The publisher started his newspaper career in 1965, and worked with newspapers from Ocala and Gainesville, to Galveston and Beaumont, Texas, back to Clearwater, Florida, for five years before landing in Central Florida.

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# Assassination attempt was made

Editor:

We humans love to sanitize words, make them more palatable. Acceptable. Less threatening.

Assassinate is one of those words that just can't be sanitized. It is what it is defined as: "to murder (usually a prominent person) by sudden or secret attack often for political reasons" to injure or destroy unexpectedly and treacherously."

That's what happened this weekend ... someone attempted to kill President

Donald Trump.

I'm not here pretending to break some news story. That event became a major news story right before our very eyes.

I don't know where one had to be to have missed it. Nevertheless, there are, and will continue to be, multitudes of reports about it for a long time to come. And rightly so.

I guess what I'm doing is thinking out loud, trying to make sense of a senseless act. Something that's

been possible, but ...

I called it shocking, but not surprising.

Who can be surprised that a young man who may, or may not, be able to separate himself from all the anti-conservative, anti-Donald Trump rhetoric and absurdly "real" events we've watched play out on a world-wide stage?

The shooter may have been "sick," who knows? There is one thing I do

See LETTER Page 7A

## PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE ANNEXATION CITY OF APOPKA

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Florida Statutes 171.044, the Apopka Code of Ordinances, Part III, Land Development Code, Article II, Section 2.5.1.A, that **APPIAN ENGINEERING, INC. C/O LUKE M. CLASSON, P.E.** has made an application to the City of Apopka City Council for an **ANNEXATION** of a property located on the southwest corner of Ondich Road and Effie Drive. This application relates to the following described property:

**ORDINANCE NO. 3066**  
**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF APOPKA, FLORIDA, TO EXTEND ITS TERRITORIAL AND MUNICIPAL LIMITS TO ANNEX PURSUANT TO FLORIDA STATUTE 171.044 THE HEREINAFTER DESCRIBED LANDS SITUATED AND BEING IN ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA, OWNED BY PM S-1 REO, LLC; LOCATED ON THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF ONDICH ROAD AND EFFIE DRIVE; COMPRISING 54.85 ACRES, MORE OR LESS; PROVIDING FOR DIRECTIONS TO THE CITY CLERK, SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**



Parcel Identification Number(s): 11-20-27-0000-00-037, 11-20-27-0000-00-069, 12-20-27-0000-00-001, 12-20-27-0000-00-012, 12-20-27-0000-00-046, 12-20-27-0000-00-048  
Contains: 54.85 +/- acres

NOTICE is given that public hearings for Ordinance No. 3066 will be held by the **City of Apopka City Council** at its regularly scheduled meetings 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 and Wednesday, August 21, 2024 beginning at 7:00 P.M.** or as soon thereafter as possible.

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

Apopka City Council  
Apopka Planning Commission  
Community Development Department  
July 19, 2024  
Publish: The Apopka Chief 177073

# Byrd: Consider shopping, sharing

Continued from page 2A

ity to learn new information. Making sure your kids aren't shell-shocked the first week of school when they have to get up early for the first time in a while, can be really helpful for your child and the teachers!

This is also the time to make sure your child has any required sports physicals or immunizations for school. For instance, the state of Florida requires all seventh graders to have the T-dap vaccine.

OCPS requires all high school student-athletes to get an ECG/EKG, a basic, non-invasive heart test once during their high school career. These tests have been offered at many schools for \$20 from our health partners if your pediatrician doesn't perform them. There are also sports physicals being done at various sites around the district. If you need help

finding a resource for a physical or ECG, please reach out to your school.

Another important thing to do in the next couple of weeks is make sure that your students have the important supplies needed for a successful year. Many schools have already released the supply lists.

Please check out local non-profit organizations or contact your school if you need help obtaining school supplies. There are many backpack and supply drives throughout the community to help families during this time. Be sure to like my Facebook page @MelissaByrdOCPS, where I share these events when I see them.

And, if you are able, please consider purchasing twice your child's school supplies and donating the extra set to one of the organizations putting together these drives or to your local school directly. There is

so much need in our community and you can make a difference in a local child's educational success.

Don't forget about the Florida Back-to-School Sales Tax Holiday, July 29 - August 11, 2024. The following qualifying items are exempt from sales tax during this time: Clothing, footwear, and accessories with a sales price of \$100 or less; School supplies with a sales price of \$50 or less; Learning aids and jigsaw puzzles with a sales price of \$30 or less; and computers and related accessories with a sales price of \$1,500 or less, when purchased for non-commercial home or personal use.

It's a great time to get your child back into the swing of things and excited to start a new year. But until that new year starts, continue to make memories, have fun and read together. The time is sure to fly by!

# Moore: Housing projects are needed

Continued from page 2A

ment. Initial entitlements, construction plans, platting, and horizontal and vertical construction all take time. I'm anxious because I do believe a lack of housing supply leads to higher home prices and rents. The reviews for a new subdivision are detailed and costly. Anything local government can do to expedite projects will go a long way to creating much needed new housing.

I have five projects moving on towards completion in all of District 2:

Wekiva Reserve Subdivision on Votaw Road (71 units), Thompson Heights (26 units), Plymouth Sorrento – Affordable House Project (300 multi-family and 180 senior living units), Sable Village on Beggs Road (24 units), and Grassmere in Zellwood (153 units – left 70 percent of land passive)

Remember, impact fees are not paid until the very end of the project. Thus, unfortunately, it is impossible to add capacity before the folks move into the homes. This is like what happens with new schools

and portables. In a perfect world with all the money necessary, these things wouldn't happen.

I am blessed, as are many of you, to live in a suburban subdivision with large lots. However, I'm learning that none of us want to pay enough taxes to keep the necessary roads in good condition in these suburban areas. We are in tough times to make it all work out. I look forward to partnering with *you* and sharing enough information for *you* to help *me* make the best decisions possible.

Enjoy your summer!

# Hayden: Wars won by Americans

Continued from page 2A

ocrats against Republicans we have Independents against everyone else, and it goes on and on and on. They seem to forget that we sent them to Washington to work for the American people, *not* the party of their choice.

It seems as though their main concern is revenge against the other party or how they can get re-elected without doing anything for their constituents. It used to be that you could look over the field of nominees and find people with your concern in mind, in both parties.

They are so focused on trying to change things that they cannot see the things that are working for the American people and have been since our Republic's founding. It's time We the People remind politicians they are to represent our

desires for our country and *not* for a certain political party, or their agenda. We need to remind the different political parties that they are to work as a team *for us*, their employers. They need to remember that neither Democrats nor Republicans won World War One or World War Two – it was we Americans that won the victory in both those wars.

Our politicians need to get over themselves and start acting like representatives of We the People. The Democrats are in power now, and they want to make their presence felt, but they're going about it the wrong way.

We have an election coming up on November 5 that will *hopefully* change the way America is being run.

If the different political parties can't get along, then we are going to have to be like a mommy and daddy

and separate our children when they start fussing and fighting together. The rhetoric and name calling that is going on by the different parties is not good for the United States of America, nor is it good as an example to the rest of the world.

I want our nation to be recognized again as the "city on a hill," and I want to show the rest of the world that we Americans *can* and *will* govern ourselves.

By the grace of GOD, we have just averted a tragedy, and the candidates for the Presidency of the United States of America should be aware of the consequences of talking trash!

Please keep the United States of America in your prayers and remember those that are running for office.

Do your duty:  
VOTE!

**Everybody has an opinion.  
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Send a letter to the Editor online  
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## ALL ABOUT APOPKA

### The Apopka Chief

Established 1923  
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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.theapopkachief.com, news@theapopkachief.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. <b>www.apopka.net</b>	

#### 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
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Parks and Rec. Dept. ....	407-836-6200
Property Appraiser .....	407-836-5044
Sheriff Administrative .....	407-254-7000
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Utilities .....	407-836-5515
All other departments .....	407-836-3111
Medical, fire emergency .....	911
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#### Other Area Numbers of Note

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

# Millage: Rate change needed to cover wages,benefit increases

Continued from page 1A

over our 25-percent reserve per policy,” Sherman said.

During public comment of the meeting, Alex Klepper, Apopka Professional Firefighters representative, said that the city of Apopka doesn’t need to raise the millage rate because of the city firefighters.

Rather, he said the need to raise the millage rate is due to the entire budget including competitive wage and benefit increases for general employees and the Apopka Police Department over the past three years. This included a significant pay raise for Fire

Chief Sean Wylam, his fleet of new F-150 take-home vehicles, as well as the mayor’s salary adjustments, and the future pension he’s about to be eligible to take, according to Klepper.

“Our firefighters haven’t seen a paramedic pay increase since before some of them were even born. It’s incredibly disheartening for them to know that they’re the lowest paid employees in the city. While an intentionally misleading narrative by the guy who’s supposed to have their backs suggests they’re overpaid, we cannot continue to balance the budget on the backs of hardworking firefighters,” Klepper said.

Klepper brought up the retirement announcement Wylam made on Tuesday, July 16, at Fire Station No. 3 on Piedmont Wekiwa Road in Apopka.

“The top-secret surprise retirement ceremony was a perfect summation of the beleaguered run of our fire chief,” Klepper said. “You dragged us through the dirt for two years. You came up here and you said, ‘I want to fix this. It’s my chance to make this right.’ And you did nothing but buy time until you could retire with your pension and sail off into the sunset, no plan for these guys. No plan for the future. No plan for a succession. It’s disgusting. In

your email, you said you prayed about the decision. You prayed to collect a check and you’re a public servant that looked out for yourself first. That’s your legacy.”

Klepper said he “(doesn’t) stand to earn a single dime from that contract “that I’m fighting for, for these guys. I’m not part of that bargaining unit. I am fighting for them because it’s the right thing to pay your employees a fair wage, which we decide to do for every city employee.”

The first FY2025 city budget workshop, which occurred on Monday, July 8, covered administrative, legal services, city clerk, human resources, community de-

velopment, and economic development budget.

The second budget workshop, on Tuesday, July 9, covered information technology and public service. The third budget workshop, on Wednesday, July 10, covered fire and police. The special City Council meeting, for the purpose of setting and approving the millage rate, followed this workshop.

The new fiscal year begins on October 1 and runs through September 30, 2025. The meeting for the public hearing on the FY2025 city budget is Wednesday, September 4, at 5 P.m. in the Apopka City Hall Council Chamber.

# Letter: Politicians have been at war with Constitution, Bill of Rights

Continued from page 6A

know, and it is that there is an overwhelming sickness that has been running rampant in our government(s) for far too long.

It’s gone Unchecked, and Approved of, by “leaders” and media.

If you listen to political press events, or liberal talk show hosts, they’ve looked, and acted, like sharks smelling blood in the water, eager to throw their weapons into the fray.

If you followed the attempts to assassinate President Trump and anyone who dares to support him, you’ve seen that sickness... one that leads people to use

their political, economical power, and fame to keep those of us who don’t see things their way in line. Silenced. Threatened.

That ugliness and threat has come out of the mouths of people like Maxine Waters encouraging people to assault citizens merely trying to have a dinner out with family and friends... like Chuck Schumer, who had the audacity to threaten members of the Supreme Court... like President Biden saying he’d like to take President Trump out behind the shed and beat him. An administration labeling Conservatives as, basically, enemies of our country.

That’s just a drop in the bucket ... I don’t have time or room for more.

If there’s anything good coming out of all this, it’s seeing people begin to stand up to the bullies ... refusing to be silenced ... refusing to vote “the party” because that’s what’s been expected of them historically ... breaking ranks to think about what they believe is good for this country.

Maybe even following through and actually voting their conscience in this next election.

This attempt to murder a front-running presidential candidate should be telling all of us that it’s

time for each of us, on our own, to realize that being an American doesn’t necessarily mean receiving “gifts from the government” in exchange for our vote ... it’s more about realizing that politicians have been at war, for some time now, with our Constitution and our Bill of Rights. Our freedoms.

The decision this election isn’t about closing your eyes and throwing a dart at the ballot and putting an X wherever it lands, it’s about being informed and intentional.

It’s about deciding the kind of America you want to live in and what part you might play in its rise back

to being the greatest country on the planet... or helping to assassinate it!

It’s not up to politicians or snipers with rifles

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Patti Bankson  
Apopka

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# City: Annual funding agreement with MetroPlan is approved

Continued from page 1A

shaw Road to Hawthorne Avenue, East Main Street from Drage Drive to Vick Road, and East Semoran

Boulevard from Semoran Commerce Place to South Wekiwa Springs Road.

### City/MetroPlan funding agreement

The City Council voted to approve the annual funding agreement between the city of Apopka and MetroPlan Orlando for fiscal year 2024-2025 in the amount of \$29,147.

The city of Apopka is a member of MetroPlan Orlando, a federally mandated transportation planning organization that is responsible for implementing the transportation planning process in Orange, Osceola, and Seminole counties.

MetroPlan's board has 20 voting members and five

non-voting advisors comprised of elected officials from the three-county area, the largest cities in the region, and representatives from the region's transportation operating agencies. Apopka is one of five cities in the tri-county area that is a voting member of the board.

MetroPlan receives most of its funding from federal grants, state grants and local per capita assessment and manages an \$8 million annual budget. This local per capita assessment

is paid by the eight local government agencies that have voting members on the MetroPlan Board. The revenue from this funding source is used primarily for general operations and staff salaries.

The annual assessment is calculated using the current University of Florida Bureau of Economic and Business Research population estimates and applying \$0.50 per capita. The total annual local per capita assessment is \$1.5 million. The city of Apopka's as-

essed amount for FY2024-2025 is \$29,147. The assessment is paid on October 1, 2024. Payment will be made from the city's 2024-2025 budget.

### Columbaria contract

The City Council voted to award a contract to Quality Vaults and Monuments, Inc. to purchase and install two more columbaria for the city cemetery.

The city expects to install these two new colum-

See CITY Page 9A



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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.
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# City: Company hired for installation of more columbaria at cemetery

Continued from page 8A

baria, which will be of the same size and dimension as the first two that were installed this past March, by the end of 2024. Quality Vaults and Monuments was the company that installed the first two columbaria.

The contract is in the total bid amount of \$55,680 including a 10 percent contingency of \$5,568, for a total of \$61,248.

The Finance Department received electronic

bids on June 18, 2024.

The city of Apopka maintains and operates the Edgewood-Greenwood Cemetery located at 141 Edgewood St., Apopka.

## Northwest Water Treatment Plant 1.0 MG Ground Storage Tank

The City Council awarded a contract to Prime Construction Group, Inc. for the Northwest Water Treatment Plant 1.0 MG Ground Storage Tank (GST).

The awarded contract in the amount of \$3,169,717.00 will include a 10 percent contingency of \$316,971.70, for a total of \$3,486,688.70.

The finance department received electronic bids on June 4. The purpose of this project is to construct a new 1.0 MG ground storage tank and all appurtenances. CHA Consulting, Inc. is the professional engineering consultant under contract for the design and assistance with

this project.

The submittal for Prime Construction Group, Inc. has been reviewed to include their bid, history, and references. Staff and CHA Consulting, Inc., recommend the full bid contract award to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, meeting specifications to Prime Construction Group, Inc., in the amount of \$3,169,717.

The funding source is the FY2024 water impact fees.

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**SUDOKU ANSWERS**  
**PUZZLE CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 2B**

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

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H	A	M	S	S	H	O	E	S	M	A	U	L
A	G	I	O	H	A	K	U	S	A	G	R	A
M	U	F	F	I	R	A	T	E	C	H	I	T
M	A	F	I	A	A	P	E	R	E	A	C	H
		A	M	E	R	I	C	A	N	S		
O	P	S	G	B	E	T	B	A	P	M	T	
C	H	E	R	U	B	M	I	N	F	E	A	R
H	O	G	A	N	M	A	C	S	A	R	G	E
R	C	A	F	M	E	G	M	I	A	S	M	A
E	A	R	M	I	D	R	A	D	E	A	T	
		S	I	L	I	C	A	T	E	S		
P	A	L	E	A	C	A	T	S	A	B	E	R
F	L	A	G	S	A	R	I	S	T	R	A	Y
F	A	D	O	A	R	E	T	E	E	I	R	E
T	E	E	S	M	E	D	E	A	S	O	L	S

**The Crossword Puzzle is found on page 2B**

# Lazy Day Pot Roast will make your kitchen smell good for hours

In his book, *Hearty Country Cooking*, Mark Sohn, says: "To 'pot-roast' is to braise. Using several cups of liquid and a covered pot, I steam a poor cut of beef slowly until it is tender. The moist heat inside the closed pot will draw out every drop of natural juice. I solve the problem of a dry roast by slicing the roast thinly and across the grain and then moistening it with gravy. In addition to the potatoes, carrots, and onions that I use in this recipe, consider adding cabbage, tomatoes, turnips, sweet potatoes, and celery. For flavor, add whole cloves of garlic, ground cinnamon, leftover coffee, green peppers, and hot banana peppers." Mark calls the recipe "lazy day" pot roast because you may do half of the work the first day. But he adds, when rating the recipe as easy, moderate, or difficult, "No doubt, however, I also think this recipe is rather difficult."

From Marvin Woods' book titled *The New Low-Country Cooking*, we have Country Captain Chicken. He says, "This dish, my updated version, exemplifies the influence of eastern India on the cuisine of the South. Like many Indian dishes, this chicken dish utilizes yogurt, curry, and mint in the marinade before it is grilled. (I also give directions on how to oven-fry the chicken.) As to how its name came about, there seem to be several theories. One is that it originated with an Indian officer who introduced a sea captain to this dish, who then brought the recipe to the United States."

Bob Warden's *Great Food Fast*, subtitled *Bob Warden's Ultimate Pressure Cooker Recipes*, has a recipe called Dirty Rice with Spicy Pork Sausage. Bob says, "While true Cajun Dirty Rice is made with chicken giblets and livers to get its brown color, I make mine with spicy pork sausage (to most people's relief). But just because I don't follow ALL the rules, doesn't mean this doesn't pack a ton of Cajun flavor!" He adds in a note, "To cut the fat: As this is great with pretty much any kind of sausage, ground turkey sausage can be used to cut the fat. You can even use sliced low-fat kielbasa or chicken sausages."

Emily Meggett's Fried Zucchini that we found in *Gullah Geechee Home Cooking* serves 6 to 8 and looks



wonderful. She says, "I think of Fried Zucchini as vegetable chips. I slice my zucchini thin (but not TOO thin, as you'll want to taste the vegetables, not just the breading), and season them with some salt before dipping them in a light batter and dropping them into the frying oil. You should fry these until they're golden brown and serve them immediately. When you are going to fry anything, the oil must be hot enough so that whatever you put in there does not absorb the oil, but not so hot that it smokes."

**POT ROAST**  
**(LAZY DAY POT ROAST)**  
From: Mark F. Sohn's  
*Hearty Country Cooking*  
**One 5-pound rolled and tied bottom round or chuck roast**  
**2-1/2 cups beef broth**  
**10 large carrots, peeled**  
**10 medium potatoes, peeled**  
**4 medium onions, peeled**  
**3 tablespoons all-purpose flour**  
**1 cup sour cream**  
**Yield: 10 servings**

1) Preheat the oven to 275 degrees Fahrenheit. Place the roast in a very large roasting pot.

Add the broth, cover, and bake for 4 to 7 hours. Add the carrots, potatoes, and onions, cover, and bake another 1-1/2 hours. Separate the vegetables, roast, and stock. Cool and refrigerate. 2) The next day, or when the roast is cold, make the brown gravy. Remove and discard the fat from the stock. Pour the broth into a measuring cup, and if needed, add water to make 3 cups. In a small bowl, make a cold roux by moistening the flour with broth, adding 1 tablespoon of broth at a time. Do not add more broth until the flour is smooth. Continue adding cold broth to the flour until it is as thin as tomato juice. Add this back into the broth, and pour into a saucepan. Boil for 1 minute, and remove from the heat. Stir in the sour cream. 3) Lay the chilled roast on a cutting board, and slice it across the grain, about 1/4-inch thick. Cut the potatoes in half and the carrots into thirds. Arrange on a platter, top with half of the gravy, and reheat, covered in the microwave or a warm oven. Reheat the remaining gravy, and serve.

Healthy choice alternative: Omit the sour cream.

Note: This is a meal in one pot. Serve on a platter and offer rolls, real butter, and a green salad. For a big group, add green beans and corn bread.

**COUNTRY CAPTAIN CHICKEN**  
*The New Low-Country Cooking*  
by Marvin Woods  
**1 cup plain yogurt**  
**1/2 cup tomato paste**  
**3 tablespoons chopped fresh mint leaves**  
**2 tablespoons minced garlic**  
**2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice**  
**1 teaspoon curry powder**  
**1 teaspoon chili powder**  
**1 teaspoon ground turmeric**  
**1 teaspoon ground cumin**  
**1 teaspoon ground coriander**  
**1 teaspoon salt**  
**1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper**  
**One 4-1/2- to 5-pound chicken, cut into pieces, rinsed and patted dry**  
**1/4 cup vegetable oil (for oven-fry method only)**

1) In a large bowl, stir together all of the ingredients except for the chicken and the oil. Add the chicken and toss to lightly coat with the marinade. Cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate for at least 12 hours and up to 48 hours. 2) To grill or broil: Remove the chicken from the marinade, letting the excess run back into the bowl. Grill or broil the chicken for 12 to 15 minutes per side, turning occasionally, until it is cooked through and the juices run clear when pierced with the tip of a sharp knife. 3) To oven-fry: Preheat the oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit. Heat the vegetable oil in a large skillet. Remove the chicken from the marinade, letting the excess run back into the bowl. Add the chicken to the skillet skin side down, one piece at a time. Cook for 5 to 7 minutes. Turn the chicken and brown the second side for 5 minutes. Transfer the chicken to a baking sheet and bake for 12 to 15 minutes, or until it is cooked through and the juices run clear when pierced with the tip of a sharp knife.

**DIRTY RICE WITH SPICY PORK SAUSAGE**  
Recipe from *GREAT FOOD FAST*,  
*Bob Warden's Ultimate Pressure Cooker Recipes*  
**2 tablespoons olive oil**  
**8 ounces spicy ground pork sausage**  
**1 small yellow onion, diced**  
**1 small green bell pepper, diced**  
**3 stalks celery, diced**  
**1 tablespoon minced garlic**  
**2 cups long-grain white rice (uncooked)**  
**1 teaspoon dry oregano**

**1 teaspoon chili powder**  
**1 teaspoon paprika**  
**1/4 teaspoon pepper**  
**2-1/4 cups chicken stock or broth**  
1) With the cooker's lid off, heat oil on HIGH or "brown," until sizzling. 2) Place the sausage, onion, bell pepper, and celery in the cooker, and sauté until sausage has browned, about 5-7 minutes. 3) Stir in garlic, rice, oregano, chili powder, paprika, and papper, and sauté 1 additional minute. 4) Add the chicken stock and securely lock the pressure cooker's lid. Set for 4 minutes on HIGH. 5) Let the pressure release naturally for 10 minutes before performing a quick release to release any remaining pressure. Depending on the salt content of the sausage and chicken stock, you may need to salt to taste before serving.

**EMILY MEGGETT'S FRIED ZUCCHINI**  
Recipe from *Gullah Geechee Home Cooking* by Emily Meggett  
**3 medium zucchini, sliced into rounds about 1/8-inch thick**  
**1 tablespoon salt**  
**1 large egg**  
**1/3 cup milk, whole or 2-percent**  
**1/2 cup self-rising flour**  
**2-1/2 cups vegetable oil**

1) Sprinkle the salt evenly onto the zucchini (use more salt if you like veggies a bit more salty). Set the salted zucchini aside. 2) In a large mixing bowl, combine the egg and milk. Add the zucchini slices, and make sure that every slice is coated in liquid. 3) Place the flour in a large paper bag (a grocery bag will do). Remove the zucchini slices from the wet mixture and add them to the bag with flour. Close the top of the bag and shake, shake, shake! Toss the ingredients back and forth, enough to where all of the zucchini slices are coated in the flour. 4) In a 12-inch cast-iron skillet, heat the cooking oil to a high temperature. Drop each zucchini slice carefully into the hot oil, make sure there is enough oil so the zucchini slices will float; cook in batches. Brown the zucchini on both sides until crisp. This should take no more than 5 minutes total. 5) Line a plate with two paper towels, and place the zucchini on the paper towels to allow the oil to drain. Serve immediately.

View Kitchen Kapers by Nancy online at [www.theapokkachief.com/recipes](http://www.theapokkachief.com/recipes)

JULY 2024		★ ★ EVENTS ★ ★		★ WEEKLY ★		★ UPCOMING ★		★ ONGOING ★ ★			
<b>SCHOOL IS OUT</b> Traffic patterns changed. Stormy weather comes and goes! Be careful with your umbrellas. And always watch out for those pedestrians... and ducks. DON'T TEXT WHILE DRIVING - Please! YOU WILL PAY A FINE.		for seniors - senior activities at Fran Carlton Center. CALL 407-703-1642 FOR INFORMATION .		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.		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.		to change with notice. For info., call City Clerk 407-703-1704. Agenda and minutes of meeting can be found online. Once posted, check for any revisions by Tuesday at 5 p.m. before the meeting		meets first and third Tuesdays of month, 201 W. Orange. For more information, call 407-886-1600 or email apopkaeaks@aol.com Bar Bingo every Monday night at 7 p.m. promptly.	
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.		<b>FRIDAY, JULY 19</b>		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		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.		FOLIAGE GARDEN CLUB OF APOPKA, meets the first Thursday of each month, September through May, at 9:45 a.m. at the Alonza William Park / Billie Dean Community Center, 225 M.A. Board St., Apopka. Contact: apopkafgc@gmail.com NO MEETINGS JUNE-AUGUST.		GFWC APOPKA WOMAN'S CLUB, meets at First Methodist Church, 201 N. Park Avenue. Call 407-880-2111 for more information.	
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.		<b>SATURDAY, JULY 20</b>		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.		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 407-660-8811.		FREE PLANT CLINIC in Apopka is open on Tuesdays. Do you have problems with your plants or lawn? Let a Master Gardener help. Orange County residents can bring their questions and samples to UF/IFAS Extension Master Gardener volunteers at the UF/IFAS Mid-Florida Research Education Center (MREC), 2725 Binion Road, Apopka, 32703; 9 a.m.-12 Tuesdays; 407-254-9200. Questions and photos can be emailed to orangecmgv@ifas.ufl.edu. to be answered by Master Gardeners. A free plant clinic for commercial growers is open Tuesdays 1-4 p.m. at the same location.		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.	
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, <b>Walking Trail</b> , Amphitheater, Playground, Concession Stands.		<b>SUNDAY, JULY 21</b>		.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.		<b>THURSDAY, JULY 25</b>		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		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.	
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 hours can be found online. The road is closed on other days due to ongoing restoration work. The trail is 11 miles long.		<b>MONDAY, JULY 22</b>		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.		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.		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.		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.	
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		<b>TUESDAY, JULY 23</b>		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.		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.		APOPKA FOLIAGE TOASTMASTER'S CLUB, Monday, 7 p.m., on Zoom, Apopka, 407-765-2629.		*Apopka Area Chamber of Commerce, 180 E. Main St., Apopka. For more info, call 407-886-1441	
FRAN CARLTON CENTER OPEN,		THE SERTOMA CLUB meets the		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		CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS are public and will also be broadcast on this shortened link: https://bit.ly/2ABrmbs, 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, 120 E. Main St., Apopka. Subject		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)		COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR INFORMATION	
										Events, fund raisers, and non-profit organizations 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 ....	

# Obits

**DEBORAH ANN HOUSTON, NÉE CROTEAU**, 75, of Apopka passed away on Saturday, July 13, 2024. She was born in Lillington, Harnett County, North Carolina in 1949 to Andrew and Mary Croteau. She is survived by: mother, Mary G. Kosinski; sister, Wanda Miller; husband, Mark R. Houston; daughter, Shelly A. Houston; two grandsons.

...

**CHRISTOPHER MICHAEL MCGEE**, 27, passed away on July 9, 2024. He was born on December 3, 1996, in Orlando. Chris is survived by: wife, Darian; mother, Angela; brother, Dylan (Kylie); grandmothers, Anna and Barbara; in-laws, Pam and Billy. He is also remembered fondly by several aunts, uncles, cousins, and his beloved animals.

...

**JOHNNIE ELTON RICKETSON (JR, JOHN)**, 84, passed away on July 16, 2024. Born in Dixie Camp, outside of Steinhatchee, on March 5, 1940 to James Ricketson and Annie Lee Cook Ricketson. He is survived by: wife, Eileen; three boys, Jerry, Joey and Jamey; brother, Tom; Sandra Gibbs; and several nieces, nephews, grandkids, and great-grandkids.

...

See Obituary on page 12A

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

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Proverbs 14:26

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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

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# Two Worlds

Many intelligent people struggle to reconcile their faith in God with their knowledge of science. I was educated to respect the truths of science, and to believe that many of the achievements of the modern world are due mainly to science. In the physical realm, things work pretty much the way science says they do. Billiard balls behave like Newton said they do, and atoms act as Einstein described them. But the realm of spirit is a wholly different thing. If we expect the world of spirit to work according to the laws of science we're bound to be disappointed. Once we

realize that in the realm of spirit, there is a completely different logic, we'll soon come to understand that we have one foot in the physical realm and one in the spiritual realm. And these two realms are often opposed to each other. As we mature spiritually, we begin to see that the realm of spirit is the eternal and more important one. We will all someday leave this physical world behind and therefore we should prepare a place in the spiritual world before we actually go there.

— Christopher Simon

## CHRISTOPHER MICHAEL MCGEE

December 3, 1996 — July 9, 2024

Christopher Michael McGee, born on December 3, 1996, in Orlando, Florida, passed away on July 9, 2024, at the age of 27. Chris shared his birthday with his late father, who passed away in 2021, a bond that always held a special place in his heart.

Chris is survived by his loving wife, Darian; his mother, Angela; his brother, Dylan and his wife Kylie; his grandmothers, Anna and Barbara; and his beloved in-laws Pam and Billy. He is also remembered fondly by several aunts, uncles, cousins, and his beloved animals, who were a significant part of his life. He was an amazing "fur dad" to his babies, always ensuring they were cared for and loved.

Chris graduated from plumbing school and became a licensed plumber, a profession in which he took great pride. He had a passion for the outdoors, enjoying activities such as camping, hiking, fishing and

kayaking. His love for animals was evident to all who knew him, and he found joy in their companionship.

Known for his quick wit and sense of humor, Chris was a jokester who could always bring a smile to those around him. He played football in his younger years, showcasing his athleticism and team spirit. Despite his many talents and accomplishments, Chris remained humble and kind-hearted, endearing him to everyone he met. Everyone that met him loved him.

Chris was not only an amazing husband but also a dedicated provider and Darian's soulmate. His unwavering love and support for his family were the cornerstones of his life, and his legacy of love, laughter, and kindness will live on in the hearts of his family and friends. His presence will be deeply missed, but the memories he created will forever be cherished.



A celebration of Chris's life will be held at Loomis Family Funeral home in Apopka, Florida on July 27, 2024 at 9:00am. In Lieu of flowers please make a Meal Train donation to help Chris's wife with funeral expenses and future household needs <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/gmr7vl?>

Immediately following the service there will be a reception held at Angela's house in Sorrento, FL. We ask that those who attend the reception, please bring a covered dish or dessert to share. You can sign up for your dish by emailing Shelly Bradley @ [shellbrad32@hotmail.com](mailto:shellbrad32@hotmail.com) and she will send you the sign-up link.



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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.

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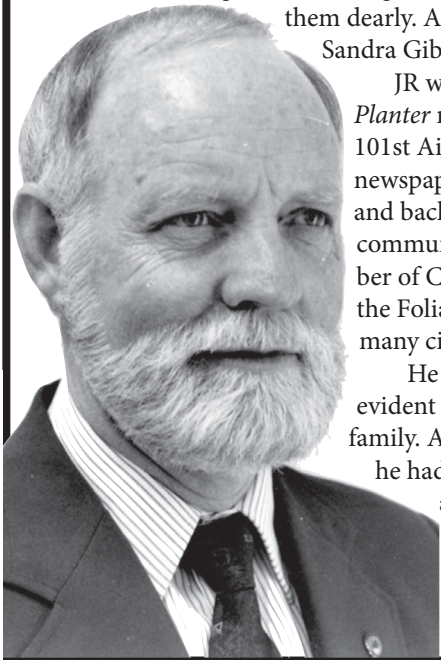
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## Johnnie Elton Ricketson

March 5, 1940 ••• July 16, 2024

Johnnie Elton Ricketson (JR, John) passed away in Hospice care on July 16, 2024 at the age of 84. He was born in Dixie Camp, a railroad camp outside of Steinhatchee, FL., on March 5, 1940, to Monroe Ricketson and Annie Lee Cook Ricketson.

He leaves behind his loving wife Eileen of 60 years , and three sons; twins Jerry, Joey, and younger son Jamey. He also has several incredible nieces, nephews, grandkids and great grandkids that adored him and he loved them dearly. As well as his brother Tom, Lake City, and Sandra Gibbs, Dade City.



JR was the publisher of *The Apopka Chief* and *The Planter* newspapers. He served in the U.S. Army's 101st Airborne Division. He worked at several newspapers during his career from Florida to Texas and back to Florida. He was active in the Apopka community as a member of the Apopka Area Chamber of Commerce, the Rotary Club of Apopka and the Foliage Sertoma Club, as well as participating in many city events. JR was passionate about Apopka.

He was a believer in Christ and that was very evident in the way he lived his life and raised his family. An avid fisherman, he spent any moment he had on the local lakes, and he knew the lakes and waters of Central Florida like his own backyard. There was no one better on or off the water.

Service details will be available at a later date.

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**224** Clarcona Horsemans Park,  
3535 Damon Rd.

**225** John H Bridges Community Center,  
445 W. 13th St.

**226** Apopka Community Center,  
519 S Central Av.

**227** Trinity Baptist Church,  
1022 S Orange Blossom Trail

**228** Hope Baptist Church,  
129 S Wekiwa Springs Rd.

**229** Clay Springs Elementary School  
(555 N Wekiwa Springs Rd) (NEW)

**230** First Methodist Church of Apopka,  
201 S Park Av.

**231** First Methodist Church of Apopka,  
201 S Park Av.

**232** Grace Pointe Church,  
2051 W Lester Rd.

**233** Word of Life,  
1852 Vick Rd.

**234** Orange County Apopka Service Center,  
1111 Rock Springs Rd.

**235** Wekiwa Springs Baptist Church,  
584 N Wekiwa Springs Rd.

**236** Gospel Centered Church,  
4490 Rock Springs Rd.

**237** NW Recreation Complex,  
3710 Jason Dwelley Pkwy.

**238** NOCIA,  
4253 W Ponkan Rd.

**239** Zellwood United Methodist Church,  
5538 W Jones Av., Zellwood

**242** One Way Christian Church,  
2100 W. McCormick Rd. (NEW)

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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.
- Chuck's Wagon, Main St., (Hwy 441)
- 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 & Wekiwa 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
- Wawa Store, 441 & Piedmont Wekiwa across from Walmart
- Wekiwa High School, Hiawassee Rd.
- Winn Dixie #2246 – Hwy 441 (beside Lowe's)
- Zellwood Station (inside MHP)
- Zellwood Truck Stop Diner, Hwy 441
- Zellwood Water Users, Inc., 3262 Robinson St.

Subscribe today for only \$25 per year in Orange County - delivered with your mail! Add E-Edition for an additional \$5.

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**01. TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY**

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**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 Thessalonians 5:11  
E 0712-0802 DAV 01

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**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

**14. LEGAL SERVICES**

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**20. ANTIQUES AND COLLECTIBLES**

**SOMETHING OLD?** It may be another person's treasure. Call to place your information here.  
407-886-2777  
0628-0719 OFC 20

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**21. HEALTH AND NUTRITION**

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**HEALTH CARE FOR** entire family: Pediatrics, Family, Internal, OB/GYN, Dental and Pharmacy. www.chcf.org. Centers throughout Central Florida. 225 E 7th Street, Apopka. 407-905-8827.  
JT 0629-0719 TFN COM 21

**32. HELP WANTED**

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**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 0628-0719 CHI 32

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**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

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**LAWN MAINTENANCE**  
help needed. Must have experience. Must be ready to work. 407-880-8048.  
CC 0712-0802 TAY 32

## Advertise Your Need for Skill & Talent Here

## Call 407-886-2777

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*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.**

# CLASSIFIED

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

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

## 32. HELP WANTED

**PHOTO RESTORATION**  
Experience in digital manipulation. I can reconstruct damaged images. Call Cindy at 407-216-9989 or visit [sweetmemories-photorestoreation.wordpress.com](http://sweetmemories-photorestoreation.wordpress.com)  
E 0628-0719 DAV 31

**HORSE/PET SITTER.**  
I offer experienced care at your barn/home for your well behaved animals. Call Cindy.

## 32. HELP WANTED

407-216-9989. [www.cindyscrittercare.wordpress.com](http://www.cindyscrittercare.wordpress.com).  
E 0628-0719 DAV 31

**PUBLISHED** writer seeking to be hired. I have excellent English skills, and am conscientious, and strive to produce the best result. No too small. Call Cindy 407-216-9989 or visit [www.cindyannlowedavis.wordpress.com](http://www.cindyannlowedavis.wordpress.com).  
E 0628-0719 DAV 31

## 70. MERCHANDISE MISC.

**TRAILER PARTS** for sale. Largest stocking dealer in NW Orange County (Apopka). 407-293-5788. [www.surplus-steel.com](http://www.surplus-steel.com).  
B 0712-0802 SUR 70

**USED APPLIANCES WANTED!**  
Dead or Alive. Will pick up free. Does not matter where they were purchased. Apopka Appliance, 407-886-2255, 407-497-7498.

## 112. HOME

### 114. PROFESSIONAL

**BUSINESS FOR SALE?**  
Advertise it here. Call 407-886-2777 for information on pricing.  
CC 0712-0802 OFC 114

### 117. CEMETERY

**CEMETERY SPACE** for sale? Advertise it here. Call 407-886-2777 for information on 3/4 special.  
0712-0802 OFC 117

**2 MAUSOLEUM SPACES** in Woodlawn Memorial Park, Gotha, FL. 17000 negotiable. 2 plots, Lakeland Memorial Park, Lakeland, FL, 11000 firm. Contact Jack 407-310-7008/Alma 321-439-1435.  
CC 0628-0719 JAC 117

## 121. PROFESSIONAL SCHOOLS

**NEED STUDENTS** in your professional class? Call 407-886-2777 to place your ad here.  
0712-0802 CHI 121

## 130. REAL ESTATE

All real estate herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation, or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

### 131. VACANT LAND

**REDUCED. 1 ACRE** ON Tennessee Avenue, Astatula, FL 34705. Fenced, cleared land. Sign in yard for Barbara DeLoach, Rawls Realty, 321-229-5968.  
CC 0719-0809 DEL 131

**5-ACRE PLOT.** Seminole County. 541 E Oseola Rd., Geneva. 330'x660'. \$250K cash or \$300K finance for 10 years. "No Realtors". Call 407-682-7898.  
W 0712-0802 IRV 131

## 133. HOMES FOR SALE

**FIRST TIME HOME** Buyer... Realtor with 30 years experience will help you thru the maze of home buying. Call and ask for my "Free" book "Buying Your First Home." Call George LaPierre, Broker, Central Florida Real Estate Connection, Inc., 407-592-8096 [www.cfreci.webs.com](http://www.cfreci.webs.com)  
E 0629-0719 LAP 133

## 133. HOMES FOR SALE

**APOPKA & NW** Orange. New, resale, foreclosure homes for sale. 30 years experience with many satisfied buyers. Call George LaPierre, Broker, Central Florida Real Estate Connection, Inc., 407-592-8096 [www.cfreci.webs.com](http://www.cfreci.webs.com)  
E 0629-0719 LAP 133

**SENIORS 55+** Communities: Looking to purchase in a senior community in Central Florida? Many to choose from. Call today for a free list of homes and financing options. Call George LaPierre, Broker, Central Florida Real Estate Connection, Inc., 407-592-8096 [www.cfreci.webs.com](http://www.cfreci.webs.com)  
E 0629-0719 LAP 133

**BUYING, SELLING,** rentals or property management. We're your friend in the business. Rogers & Rogers Realty. 407-880-8888.  
CC 0712-0802 ROG 133

## 135. MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE

**MOBILE HOME.** Lakefront, 2BD/2BA. 550 Valencia Estates. Renovated. Move-In ready. 149,000. Southern Realty Liquidators. Barbara Clefel. 407-808-7117.  
CC 0705-0724 DEL 135

## 140. HOMES/DUPLEXES FOR RENT

**DUPLEX FOR RENT?**  
You can advertise it here using our 3/4 special. Call 407-886-2777 for information.  
CC 0719-0809 OFC 140

**HOUSE FOR RENT** 3 Bedroom / 1.5 Bath. 407-729-6737.  
CC 0628-0719 HIC 140

## 141. MOBILE HOMES OR LOTS FOR RENT

**SMALL 2BD MOBILE** home in gated community. Screened porch. W/D hookup, close to pool. Non-smoking. Monthly 1400. Need first/last months' rent. \$1400 deposit. Background check 150. 407-952-5119.  
CC 0719-0809 HUR 141

## 142. ROOMS FOR RENT

**SWEENEY'S ROOMS**  
Cleanest. Quietest. Wifi, internet. Multiple locations. Call Dwayne 321-271-6773. [sweeneysrooms4rent.com](http://sweeneysrooms4rent.com)  
CC 0629-0719 JAC 142

**550 FEMALE ONLY.** Furnished room/share bathroom. Leave message. Background will be checked. 407-884-7799.  
CC 0712-0719 CAM 142

**WE RENT ROOMS.** Furnished. Everything included. Use of washer/dryer, kitchen. Outside smoking area. Must have stable income. 1200 weekly plus 165 deposit. Absolutely no drugs. 407-448-9658. Couples welcome.  
CC 0705-0726 HUR 142

**FURNISHED ROOM,** Bed, TV and A/C. 1450 month. Ask for Matt 407-968-3643.  
CC 0712-0802 MIL 142

## 42. MONEY TO LEND

**BUSINESS LOANS**  
Banks say No! WE say YES! GET FAST ACCESS TO:  
• Business Funds  
• Business LOCs  
• Equipment Funds  
• GIG Funds  
• ERC Funds and More  
Visit: David Allen Capital. [com/102467369](http://com/102467369) or call 929-326-7938

## 52. PETS

### 53. ANIMALS-LIVESTOCK, MISC.

**HORSE/PET SITTER.** I offer experienced care at your barn/home for your well behaved animals. Call Cindy. 407-216-9989. [www.cindyscrittercare.wordpress.com](http://www.cindyscrittercare.wordpress.com).  
E 0629-0719 DAV 52

## 69. APPLIANCES LARGE.

**\$50 OFF SERVICE** calls Apopka Appliance. Complete repairs in home. Service washers, dryers, stoves, refrigerators. Dishwashers. installed. All help has been vaccinated for virus. Besafe. Free haul away (no matter where you buy a new one at). Used appliances available. Service call 139.99 with repairs. 407-886-2255, 407-497-7458.  
CC 0712-0802 APO 69


## 52. PETS

**PARK AVENUE** Animal Hospital of Apopka wants to help keep your pet healthy. Call 407-880-9446.  
JT NC 0629-0719 PET 52

**NEWBORN PUPPIES.** Need to find buyer. Advertise them here. Call 407-886-2777 and ask about the special.  
0719-0809 OFC 52

**PET NEEDS HOME.** Call 407-886-2777 to let readers know.  
0712-0802 DOFC52

## BROWN'S BERNE DOODLES

 Brown's Bernedoodles  
TikTok: [Brownbernedoodles](https://www.tiktok.com/@brownbernedoodles)  
(352) 232-1725  
[merebyam@gmail.com](mailto:merebyam@gmail.com)

F1bb medium pups ready to join your family today!

- FL Health Cert/1st vaccines/deworm/exam
- low/no shed • expect 35-45 lbs
- free 30 days pet insurance
- genetically tested/clear parents



## 30. 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.

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

Use the Classified Section of  
The Apopka Chief  
and The Planter  
[www.TheApopkaChief.com](http://www.TheApopkaChief.com)  
or Email  
[classifieds@theapokkachief.com](mailto:classifieds@theapokkachief.com)  
Call 407-886-2777  
today to place your ad,  
or fax it to 407-889-4121

15 words, one week, \$9.50;  
OR, you can run your ad  
4 weeks for the price of 3  
for only \$25.50

Take advantage  
of our great rates!

## 84. RECREATIONAL VEHICLES FOR SALE

## 89. TRAILERS FOR SALE

**TRAILER NO LONGER** NEEDED? Call 407-886-2777 to place the advertisement here. Ask about our 3/4 special.  
0712-0802 OFC 89

**CAN'T TRAVEL LIKE YOU ONCE DID?**  
Have a motor home for sale? Advertise it. Call  
407-886-2777

Call: 407-886-2777  
or email us: [classifieds@theapokkachief.com](mailto:classifieds@theapokkachief.com)

**NEED A RENTER OR  
SELL SOMETHING?:**  
ADVERTISE IT!  
[TheApopkaChief.com](http://TheApopkaChief.com)  
or give us a call  
at  
407-886-2777  
[Classifieds@theapokkachief.com](mailto:Classifieds@theapokkachief.com)

## Weekend Sales

#66 "CLIP 'n SAVE"  
0718-0721

**PLAN NOW TO TAKE ADVANTAGE** of the tax cuts planned for school supplies. July 29<sup>th</sup> August 11. Families can save on pens, pencils, computers, clothing, and other school supplies. Clean out the closets now and make room for more.  
CC 0712-0719 OFF 66



## HEY!

Are you starting a new business in Orange county?

If so, your Fictitious Name can be published in The Apopka Chief for only \$25. Your Fictitious Name must be advertised one time before you make application with the Florida Department of Revenue. Call The Apopka Chief at 407-886-2777 for information, or for a copy of the form. The deadline is Tuesday at 5 p.m. for Friday's publication. A copy of an affidavit with a clipping from the paper will be sent to the applicant after publication.

Tell them  
you saw it in  
Classifieds!

## FLORIDA - STATEWIDE

### 1. Dogs, Pets or Livestock

If veterinary care is unavailable or unaffordable, ask for Happy Jack® animal healthcare for cats, dogs, & horses. At Tractor Supply®. Distributed by Florida Hardware 800-793-0926.

### 2. Home Improvement/Service

Don't Pay For Covered Home Repairs Again! Our home warranty covers ALL MAJOR SYSTEMS AND APPLIANCES. We stand by our service and if we can't fix it, we'll replace it! Pick the plan that fits your budget! Call: 1-888-521-2793

### 3. Home Improvement/Service

WATER DAMAGE CLEANUP & RESTORATION: A small amount of water can lead to major damage in your home. Our

trusted professionals do complete repairs to protect your family and your home's value! Call 24/7: 1-866-782-4060. Have zip code of service location ready when you call!

### 4. Home Improvement/Service

PROTECT YOUR HOME from pests safely and affordably. Roaches, Bed Bugs, Rodent, Termite, Spiders and other pests. Locally owned and affordable. Call for a quote or inspection today 1-877-644-9799 Have zip code of property ready when calling!

### 5. DONATE YOUR VEHICLE

to fund the SEARCH FOR MISSING CHILDREN. FAST FREE PICKUP. 24 hour response. Running or not. Maximum Tax Deduction and No Emission Test Required! Call 24/7: 888-815-4341

### 6. Home Improvement/Service

AGING ROOF? NEW HOME OWNER? STORM DAMAGE?

You need a local expert provider that proudly stands behind their work. Fast, free estimate. Financing available. Call 1-888-967-1158 Have zip code of property ready when calling!

### 7. Medical

ATTENTION OXYGEN THERAPY USERS! Discover Oxygen Therapy That Moves with You with Inogen Portable Oxygen Concentrators. FREE information kit. Call 866-472-8591.

### 8. Home Improvement/Service

NEED NEW WINDOWS? Drafty rooms? Chipped or damaged frames? Need outside noise reduction? New, energy efficient windows may be the answer! Call for a consultation

& FREE quote today. 1-888-993-3693. You will be asked for the zip code of the property when connecting.

### 9. Medical

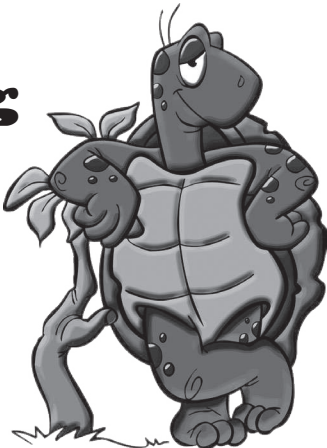
YOU MAY QUALIFY for disability benefits if you have are between 52-63 years old and under a doctor's care for a health condition that prevents you from working for a year or more. Call now! 1-888-222-1803

### 10. Home Improvement/Service

BATH & SHOWER UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Affordable prices - No payments for 18 months! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Senior & Military Discounts available. Call: 1-855-315-1952



**Stop  
Lollygagging  
Around**



If you have a home, auto, or things to sell.  
Place your ad here  
while it's a seller's market.  
Give us a call today  
and let us create your ad.

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