

Masonic visit

The Grand Master visits the 16th Masonic District of the Grand Lodge of Florida. See page 8A.



Sports

Former Apopka student athletic trainer heads to Olympics See page 1B.



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Volume 102 Number 27

Friday, July 5, 2024 / 50 cents

Park projects slated for tentative fall construction

By Teresa Sargeant
Apopka Chief Staff

Four of the current eight active capital projects, which the city parks and recreation department is helming, are tentatively scheduled for construction later this year, department director Radley Williams said at the Wednesday, June 19, City Council meeting.

He gave updates on the fiscal year 2024 capital projects that are in various stages of progress at the Northwest Recreation Complex (NWRC), the Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) in downtown Apopka, and Kit Land Nelson Park along Park Avenue.

"I know there's a lot of interest around these amenity upgrades that we've been working on, so (this presentation is) just to give

you a quick update of where we're at," Williams said.

Skate park and pump track

Funded by the Community Redevelopment Agency, the initial design for the skate park and pump track is done. The next step is to schedule a neighborhood meeting at the Fran Carlton Center, near where the park will be located, get final design approval, and start tentative construction in late 2024.

The city is working with American Ramp Company on this project.

The city budgeted \$500,000 for the skate park and pump track.

Tennis and pickleball facility

The initial design for

See PARKS Page 4A

Five new police officers take oath



Photo courtesy of Apopka Police Department/Facebook

Five new officers took an oath to serve and protect while being sworn-in at Apopka City Hall last week by Apopka Police Chief Michael McKinley. The five new officers were Officer Carlos Arias, Officer Daniel Durazo, Officer Erik Nilsson, Officer Maxwell Francisco, and Officer Nicholas Kasheta. True to tradition, all new officers selected family members to pin their police badges to their uniforms. Four out of the five officers were sponsored by the City of Apopka Police Department and completed their training while being employed by the city. The fifth officer traveled from New Jersey where he served five years with the Paterson Police Department.

Apopka-area FFA color guard presents colors



Photo courtesy of John Cloran

On June 11 at the opening of the FFA (Future Farmers of America) 96th convention in Orlando, the Apopka-area FFA color guard presented the colors in front of some 6,000 FFA members and guests. The Apopka color guard was made up of students from Apopka Memorial Middle School (AMMS), Wekiva High School, and Lakeview Middle School. The FFA color guard members invited Congressman Daniel Webster, of Florida's 11th Congressional District, to come and see them. Webster sent representative Pam Jones from his office to attend. The FFA members were thrilled to meet her and told her about the FFA and the color guard's history. Pictured (l to r) are Pam Jones, representative for Congressman Daniel Webster; John C. Cloran, retired AMMS FFA Advisor and agriculture teacher FFFA color guard members and Duncan Sikes, AMMS FFA advisor and agriculture teacher.

Sales tax holiday covers July

Consumers can purchase qualifying recreation and outdoor items and admissions to entertainment and cultural events exempt from tax during the 2024 Freedom Month Sales Tax Holiday.

Passed by the Florida Legislature and signed into law by Governor Ron DeSantis, the sales tax holiday began Monday, July 1, and extends through Wednesday, July 31.

During the 2024 Freedom Month Sales Tax Holiday, the qualifying recreation and outdoor items and admissions to entertainment and cultural events are exempt from sales tax.

The Department of Revenue created the webpage floridarevenue.com/FreedomMonth to provide information and promotional materials for consumers, businesses and other interested parties.

'I'm watching you'



Many wildlife species, like this gator as photographed on Friday, June 21, can be seen at Apopka 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.

City to hold budget workshops

The Apopka City Council will conduct its budget workshops next month, reviewing all of the city departments' finances for fiscal year 2025.

All workshops will be live streamed on the city's YouTube channel (@CityofApopkaFL) from the Apopka City Hall Council Chambers on the following dates and times:

***Budget Workshop No. 1** on Monday, July 8, at 5 p.m. with Community Development, Economic De-

See CITY Page 3A

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Public Notices.... 4,6A
Bus. Review 5,7A
Dining & Ent..... 9A
Worship 10A
Kapers11A

Section B

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Legal ads..... 11B
Classified..... 12-14B
Service Dir..... 14B

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



Apopka Event of the Week

On Thursday, July 11, from 11 a.m.-noon., at the North Orange Branch Library, 1211 N. Semoran Blvd., in the meeting room, is the Jiggle Man. This Jumping, Jiggling comedy act engages you in awesome music with leaf blowers, balls of all sizes, and giant suits. This provides lots of side-splitting laughter. Recommended for ages 0-12.

Quotable

Instead, focus your actions on those situations that can be improved by your actions.

Guest editorialist on actions to be taken to change the problem of worrying

Opinion

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Our position

The solution to worrying depends on your reaction

Bryan Golden

Author

Guest Editorialist

Everyone is conditioned to worry. Our conditioning begins as soon as we learn to speak. Since we see everyone around us worrying, we emulate their behavior. There are no limits to what you worry about. You worry about the past. You worry about the present. You worry about the future.

You worry about what might happen. You worry about what might not happen. You worry about what other people think, say or do. You worry about the opinion others have of you. You worry about making mistakes. You worry about what you say. You spend so much time and energy worrying that you feel something is wrong if you're not worrying.

Although worry accomplishes nothing, there are many negative impacts. Worry wastes time and energy. All the effort that goes into fretting about an issue is useless. You become drained without anything to show for it.

Worry causes elevated levels of stress. Since worry is ineffective, it provides no resolution for any problems. Your stress level rises as you expend energy with no positive results. You then begin to start focusing on exactly what you don't want. This progression is a downward spiral, which attracts the opposite of what you do want.

There are two categories of situations you will face. There are those circumstances beyond your control, and those you can influence. There is a strong tendency to worry about issues you have absolutely no control over. This causes additional frustration because you aren't able to have any positive impact whatsoever.

There is nothing you can do to change situations beyond your control. Let go of issues you can't do anything about. Instead, focus your actions on those situations that can be improved by your actions.

Worry has a negative impact on the people around you. Those who care about you are concerned about

your stress and frustration. When your nerves become frayed, there is an increased likelihood you will become irritable and angry. Taking your frustration out on others only makes your situation worse.

Worry must be replaced by action. Action is the only thing that can make a positive difference. However, the time and energy you spend worrying diminishes your ability to take action. So, not only are you burning yourself out by worrying, you are missing opportunities for improving your situation by taking appropriate action.

Here are some strategies to avoid the pitfall of worry. Start by cutting free from the past. There's no point worrying about it. It's over. Learn from the past. Don't repeat the same mistakes. Do repeat those strategies that produced desirable results.

Don't worry about other people. You can't control them. You can't change them. The only things you have control over are your thoughts and actions. This is how you overcome a basic pitfall of worry; focus on what you are thinking about and what you are doing instead of what others are doing.

You have been worrying about things all of your life. It's virtually impossible to instantly stop worrying. A more effective approach is to stop worrying in small increments. First, don't worry about anything for just 15 minutes. It's OK, you can do this. Next, don't worry for an hour at a time. As you progress, you can get to the point where you stop worrying for an entire day.

You will experience how nice it feels to be worry-free. You can train yourself to have a worry-free life. Since worry doesn't accomplish anything positive, there is no rational reason to worry. Put your effort into taking whatever positive action is necessary to deal with the issues you face.

Bryan Golden is the author of "Dare to Live Without Limits." Contact him at bryan@columnist.com or visit www.DareToLiveWithoutLimits.com.



Transportation issues are studied

Summertime is just as busy serving on the county commission as the regular year. We have budget meetings, professional development, regular responsibilities, and planning for the fall months. Today, I also entertained a group of high school students in the office about county responsibilities. Many of the students noted knowledge of safety net responsibilities through our Children & Family Services Division as paramount. They had to be reminded about animal control, jail & convention center operations, environmental protection, land use & development and finally, transportation.

It is the transportation issues for which this column will focus. Most Apopkans, and residents of Horizon West and Lake

County Commissioner
District 2



Christine Moore

Nona are begging for more roadway capacity. Our transportation-challenged want more bus and train service. But everyone agrees on increased safety as the number of fatalities, serious injuries and rising insurance costs impacts nearly every family.

I have written extensively about the need for sidewalks and projects in District 2. I won't do that in this article. I will share more about a "field review" of Wekiwa Springs and

Park Avenue/Rock Springs Road I was recently able to take with our Manager of Traffic Engineering, Humberto Castillero. As money is always the major concern, I was inquiring about low-cost ideas we could implement during the scheduled 2025/2026 resurfacing for both roadways.

I must insert here, in case readers have forgotten, the county is in the middle of a study of the entire Northwest Area of the county for growth impacts and budgetary responsibilities between the county and city. I will be hosting the results in a community meeting sometime later this year.

You might also remember that I was able to get MetroPLAN Orlando

See MOORE Page 6A

Administration changes are made

Summer is the time of year when we see many administrative changes at our schools.

With 25,000 employees, there is always going to be a lot of movement. When it comes to administration moves, we always try to make those adjustments during the summer to limit the effects on students.

Administration moves happen for numerous reasons. Our current superintendent, Dr. Maria Vazquez, likes to give administrators as much

Orange County School
Board, District 7



Melissa Byrd

choice as possible and tries to grant requests. For example, some administrators request to move to a school closer to their home. Sometimes administrators are looking for a new challenge

like opening a new school or going to a struggling school to turn it around.

Whatever the reason, the superintendent tries to find the right fit for the administrator. Sometimes very successful principals are asked to move to a school that needs their expertise. And like any other job, some get promotions within the district, move or retire, and others have to move in to fill the vacancies.

We saw all these situations

See BYRD Page 6A

This Week In God's Word

Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord.
Hebrews 12:14

Mema Says

A telltale sign of a gossip is whispering.

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



Everyday courageous actions have changed through the years

There is one trait that has always stood out as truly American.

I'll explain that in a moment, but I also want to ask the question: Are we still in possession of the trait called courage? We watch videos of people being molested, beaten, and some even killed, and where are the men and women who used to step in to put a stop to the bullying, and mayhem?

Our nation was started by fifty-six courageous signers of our Declara-



Ike Hayden

tion of Independence. They could have made deals with King George of England. They were wealthy men of good standing and would have been able to keep up their well-to-do lifestyles, at the expense of the com-

mon everyday people and their rights and freedoms. Courage stepped in and these fifty-six men signed the document, knowing they could be found guilty of high treason against the King of England. If the revolution had been lost, these fifty-six men would have been tortured, hanged, and their bodies would have been quartered and sent to different places so they could never have a final resting place. Everything they owned would have been confiscated by

the state, and their families, and heirs could never own property forever.

Five signers of the Declaration were captured by the British, tortured and hanged. Twelve had their homes ransacked and burned to the ground. Two lost their sons in the war, another had two sons captured by the British. Nine fought and died in the war. That is what they risked, that is what they gave up for the freedom and rights we take for granted. That is called COURAGE!

Courage once was shown in everyday American life. John Wayne once described courage as, "being scared to death but saddling up anyway."

Our past is filled with courageous men and women that pushed on against odds that in some cases were deadly.

Abraham Lincoln comes to mind when thinking of courage. His choice to enter the Civil War was not just to preserve the Union. He could have turned a blind eye to slav-

ery in the South and allowed the Missouri Compromise to continue, but the courage of his convictions would not allow him to ignore the cruelty of slavery, and the inhumanity of one human toward another. Eventually his courage cost him his life.

How about the one hundred thousand Union soldiers that lost their lives in the battle to free the slaves? The evil of slavery was not on their hands any-

See HAYDEN Page 6A

20 become naturalized in Independence Day ceremony

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services presented 20 Orlando-area residents to the United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida for naturalization during a special ceremony yesterday, Thursday, July 4 at Hope Community Center on North Park Avenue in Apopka.

The citizenship candidates are currently permanent residents (green card residents) of the U.S. and have met all the requirements to naturalize, includ-

ing passing a civics exam.

During the ceremony, USCIS Orlando Field Office Director Michael McCleary presented the citizenship candidates to Magistrate Judge Leslie Hoffman Price to administer the Oath of Allegiance. Robert McIntosh, former Hope Community Center board member and current citizenship teacher volunteer, welcomed the new Americans.

The citizenship candidates originate from the following 17 countries: Ar-

gentina, Belarus, Bulgaria, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Guatemala, India, Israel, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Philippines, Russia, South Korea, Spain and Thailand.

This ceremony is part of USCIS' annual Independence Day celebration of the nation's 248th birthday and the anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. USCIS welcomed new U.S. citizens at Independence Day-themed naturalization ceremonies across the country.

City: Council to approve and set millage rate on July 10

Continued from page 1A

velopment, Parks & Recreation, and Administration

***Budget Workshop No. 2** on Tuesday, July 9, 2024 at 5:45 p.m. (following the Apopka Planning Commission) with Information Technology and Public Services

***Budget Workshop No. 3** on Wednesday, July 10, at 5 p.m. with Police and Fire

***Special Council meeting to approve and set proposed fiscal year 2024-25 millage rate** on Wednesday, July 10, at 7 p.m.

Visit the Agenda page

at apopka.gov to learn more about these meetings.

REGAL

Fri., July 5, 2024 thru Sun., July 7, 2024

3D SHOWINGS

DESPICABLE ME 4 (PG) 1:30

INSIDE OUT 2 (PG) 10:10A

DESPICABLE ME 4 (PG) 10:00A; 10:50A; 11:40A; 12:30; 2:20; 3:20; 4:20; 5:00; 6:00; 7:00; 8:40; 9:40

INSIDE OUT 2 (PG) 11:20A; 12:50; 2:00; 3:40; 4:40; 7:20; 10:00

HORIZON: AN AMERICAN SAGA CHAPTER 1 (R) 10:40A; 2:30; 6:10; 9:00

A QUIET PLACE: DAY ONE (PG-13) 11:10A; 1:50; 4:30; 6:30; 7:30; 9:50; 10:30

MAXXINE (R) 11:30A; 2:10; 4:50; 7:40; 10:20

BAD BOYS: RIDE OR DIE (R) 7:10; 10:10

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The Apopka Chief, The Planter & AOS (Apopka Office Supply) would like to thank the generous Apopka area for continuing to donate the gift of sight or hearing for so MANY.



Parks: Projects include inclusive playground and sensory garden

Continued from page 1A

phase one of the \$1.1 million tennis and pickleball facility at the NWRC is complete. The city is planning a neighborhood meeting at the complex about the project, and final design approval is needed.

Construction is tentatively scheduled for late 2024 for an estimated six to nine-week window. Hellas Construction is working on the design build project.

The tennis and pickle-

ball facility has been divided into three phases in the city recreation impact fee capital budget.

Inclusive playground/sensory garden

The NWRC inclusive playground and sensory garden has a final design with “a few last little tweaks,” Williams said.

Budgeted at \$1.06 million, the funds are coming from the parks and recreation capital budget. REP Services is doing the design build project.

The next steps are final design approval and the tentative late 2024 construction. Expectation to build and install would take about 24 weeks.

“It’s a nice, large upgrade to what we currently have out there. The playground equipment is dated,” Williams said.

Exit road and parking

The NWRC exit road and parking – which will be located next to the inclusive playground and sensory garden, according to

Williams – is a \$1.13 million project funded by the recreation impact fee capital project.

The exit road will run along the fence line to a nearby school and include two new grass parking areas with asphalt-paved loops to access them. This will provide additional parking for the playground and for events held at the amphitheater, and give more parking lot egress for vehicles, Williams said.

The design is complete with a pending permit from

the St. Johns River Water Management District. The next steps are to solicit construction bids; construction is tentative for late 2024.

Newkirk Engineering Inc. designed the project.

Multipurpose/soccer fields

The city is soliciting design bids for phase one of the new multipurpose/soccer fields at the NWRC. Phase one is budgeted for \$500,000, with funding to come from recreation impact fee capital.

On June 16, the city released an active bid to solicit contractors for these fields. The bids will close on July 18, Williams said.

“From there we’ll come back to you at the next Council meeting (on Wednesday, July 17) to award a vendor, hopefully,” he added.

LED field lights

The city budgeted \$550,000 for LED light upgrades at pads four, five

See PARKS Page 5A

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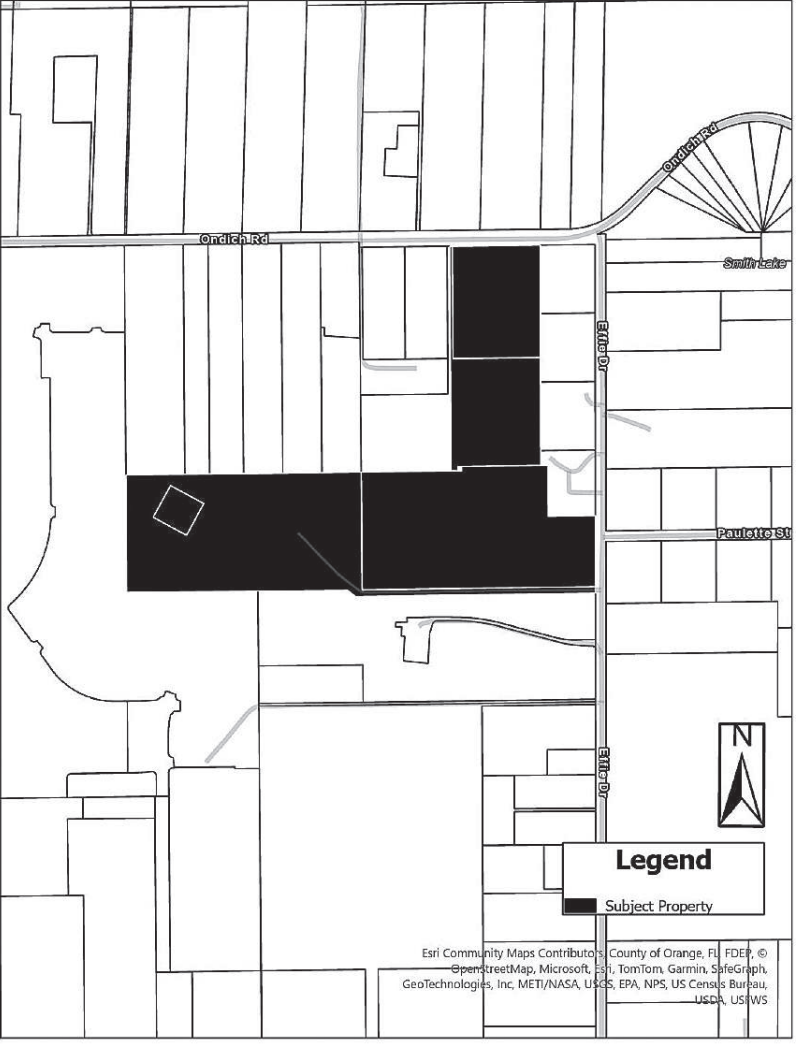
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PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
ANNEXATION
CITY OF APOPKA

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.



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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, July 17, 2024 beginning at 7:00 P.M** and **Wednesday, August 7, 2024 beginning at 1:30 P.M.** or as soon thereafter as possible.

Affected parties and the public may appear at the above listed 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.

Parks: Kit Land Nelson Park gazebo will get rebuilt more as a ‘small amphitheater’

Continued from page 4A

and six at the NWRC; this project is currently in progress.

\$385,000 have been allocated for LED lights to get added to pads 13 and f4, where there have been no lights. Construction of this is scheduled for this July.

Musco is the company handling the design build project of the LED lights.

Funds for all of these field light projects are coming from the parks and recreation capital budget.

Gazebo rebuild

The design is in process for the Kit Land Nelson Park gazebo rebuild project, budgeted at \$250,000 with money from the parks and recreation capital budget. REP Services is the company on this project.

“The plan for this, as discussed

at one of the last meetings, was to move more into a small amphitheater structure at the park, since the park is utilized for a lot of community events,” Williams said, showing three different renderings of the new gazebo.

The next steps are to finish the rebuilt gazebo’s design and architecture. Construction start date is to be determined.

Pocket park

The Eight and Highland Park pocket park is a CRA project budgeted for \$105,000. The park has a public services stormwater project underway.

The next steps are to finalize the plat and to get a park/playground design done. Construction date is to be determined.

REP Services is the pocket park project contractor.

Duran named to dean’s list

Anthony Duran of Apopka has been named to the dean’s list for Graceland University’s 2024 spring term.

Graceland University students with a GPA between 3.25 and 3.64 are named to the dean’s list.

BUSINESS PROFILE

Your Guide to Local Businesses

Lake Apopka Natural Gas District, Protecting Your Energy Freedom

This Fourth of July, as we celebrate our nation’s hard-fought freedoms with fireworks and friends, let’s also take a moment to appreciate the freedom of choice in our everyday lives. From the food we eat to the energy that powers our homes, freedom of choice is a cornerstone of the American dream, and at Lake Apopka Natural Gas District (LANGD), we believe that you should always have the right to choose the fuel source that best fits your budget and needs.

Just as the American dream thrives on diverse opportunities, a varied energy landscape reflects our ideals by offering multiple options for powering our homes and businesses. However, the recent trend toward electrification – a one-size-fits-all approach that dismisses natural gas entirely – threatens this very freedom and overlooks the unique benefits offered by various energy sources. For example, in 2019, Berkeley, California, became the first U.S. city to outright ban natural gas in new developments, and several other municipalities unjustly followed suit.

Thankfully, Florida stands strong with consumers and their right to choose. Enacted in July 2021, House Bill 919 safeguards your energy freedom by prohibiting local governments from



Considering natural gas as the ideal energy solution for your vehicle, home, or business? Reach out to the District marketing team for assistance at (407) 656-2737 ext. 307, marketing@langd.org, or visit www.langd.org for more information.

restricting fuel sources. Meanwhile, cities like Berkeley are finding it tough to maintain natural gas bans as lawsuits mount that challenge the legality of banning natural gas, further emphasizing the importance of energy freedom and the people’s right to choose.

The truth is, natural gas offers a multitude of benefits and advantages over other fuel sources, including:

- **Affordability** – Studies show that natural gas is twice as efficient as electricity – and cheaper, too. In fact, households that use natural gas for heating, cooking and drying clothes save an average of \$1,132 per year compared with homes using electricity for those appliances (American Gas Association), and according to the U.S. Department of Energy, natural gas is 3.3 times more affordable than electricity.
- **Dependability** – While power lines

can be knocked out by storms, natural gas is delivered through underground pipes, keeping your energy flowing safely, even during extreme weather.

- **Cleaner** – As the cleanest-burning fossil fuel available (Forbes), natural gas plays an important role in keeping our environment clean and safe for generations to come. In fact, the increased use of U.S. natural gas is partially responsible for the greatest reduction in U.S. CO2 emissions in recent decades, as much as 32% since 2005 (EnergyInstitute.org).
- **Domestic** – Choosing natural gas strengthens our economic independence. Over 97% of the natural gas used in the U.S. is domestically produced, keeping American energy dollars circulating within our own communities and contributing to a stronger local economy.

This Independence

Day, as we celebrate our freedom and the right to choose, LANGD stands with you. Together, we envision a future where empowered consumers, armed with accurate knowledge, can make energy decisions tailored to their unique needs and preferences, supporting a diverse energy landscape that benefits everyone. For 65 years, LANGD has been a proud partner in our community’s growth and we remain dedicated to delivering affordable, reliable natural gas to our valued community for generations to come.

Want to learn more about making the switch to natural gas? For more information about service options for your home, business or vehicle, please contact the District’s marketing team at (407) 656-2734 x307, marketing@langd.org or visit www.langd.org to learn more.

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Byrd: Promotions are important

Continued from page 2A

ations this year and have several new administrators district-wide and many in the Apopka area about whom I would like to share.

First, I would like to tell you the exciting news that Dr. Fred Ray, the proud principal at Pied-

mont Lakes Middle School, was selected to become the new principal at Ocoee High School. While this is of course sad for our Piedmont community, I am very happy for Ray who is excited about this new challenge in his career to lead one of the top high schools in Orange County, and I'm

excited that he is staying in District 7.

The wildly successful principal of Ocoee High School was hired by Osceola County as the Chief Academic Officer, a tremendous promotion that recognized her talent and

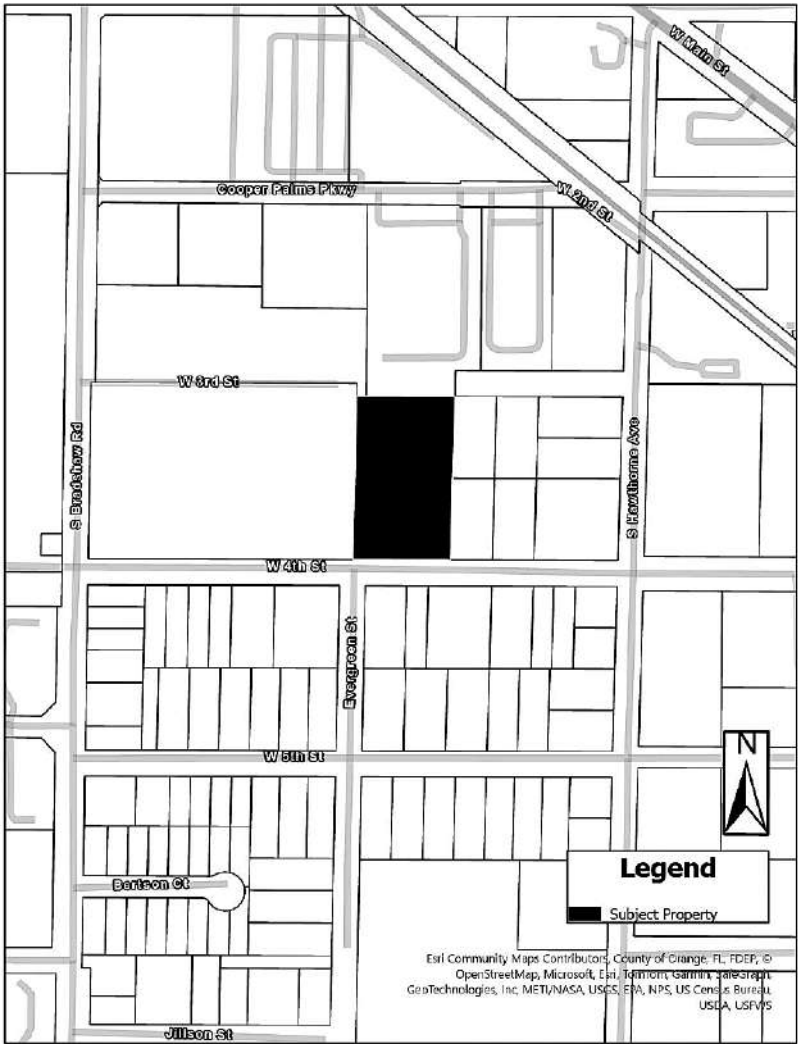
See BYRD Page 7A

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

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

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

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



Parcel Identification Number(s): 09-21-28-0868-01-510
Contains: 1.97 +/- acres

Notice is given that the **City of Apopka Planning Commission** will hold a public hearing at its regularly scheduled meeting in the City Council Chambers of the Apopka City Hall, 120 E. Main Street, Apopka, Florida on **Tuesday, July 9, 2024 beginning at 5:00 P.M.**, or as soon thereafter as possible.

FURTHER NOTICE is given that a public hearing for Ordinance Numbers 3058 and 3059 will be held by the **City of Apopka City Council** at its regularly scheduled meeting in the City Council Chambers of the Apopka City Hall, 120 E. Main Street, Apopka, Florida on **Wednesday, August 7, 2024 beginning at 1:30 P.M. AND Wednesday, August 21, 2024 at 7:00 P.M.**

Affected parties and the public may appear at the above listed hearings to speak. The proposed Future Land Use and Rezoning Applications 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, Florida 32703, Telephone: 407-703-1704, no less than 48 hours prior to the proceeding.

Apopka City Council
Apopka Planning Commission
Community Development Department

July 5, 2024

Publish: The Apopka Chief

176908

Moore: Change requires waiting time

Continued from page 2A

(federal dollars which pass through FDOT) to prioritize funding for the Welch Road/Rock Springs Road intersection. While I have celebrated this achievement multiple times, I have come to find out it is also a long wait. I might even add it is quite painful. I'm often asked why municipalities don't save money and get ahead of growth. Well, developers don't pay impact fees until late in the development process. And guess what, it is never enough. No, growth does not pay for itself. Both the city and county have tripled impact fees to get at this problem – but remember, it is our sons and daughters who still must afford homes in these new neighborhoods.

While it is customary for roadways to be transferred to a municipality once annexations exceed 50 percent of the roadway, if the road is of countywide significance, responsibility for pavement is retained by the county. This is the case on Park Avenue. The pavement belongs to the county while the lighting and sidewalk right-of-way belongs to the city (south of Welch Road). It is vital that we foster good relationships between transportation staff and elected officials in the two jurisdictions.

Thus, my field review with Castillero resulted in some exciting news. Potential safety improvements include reducing the number of conflicts in the two-way left turn medians. I call this the “suicide lane”. The idea is if there are too many turning options in the middle lane, the potential for head-on collisions increases.

Once a few reductions are tried and suitable with the community, then longer term improvements could be installed. These longer-term improvements include tree-lined sections of the median.

The areas of greatest safety concerns are always near elementary schools. If roadways were safer and drivers more cautious, more children could ride or walk to school. It is a shame parents must sit in long pick-up lines idling their engines and impacting the environment so negatively.

At Clay Springs Elementary School it has been requested by the President of the People of Wekiwa Springs, Sue Henesy that “delineators” to separate the exclusive right turn lane from through lane at the intersection be installed. Too many drivers speed through traffic from the right-hand lane causing accidents.

On Park Avenue, Cas-

tillero suggested raised intersections to slow traffic down with three schools in the immediate area. This could occur at Summit and Park Avenue and Votaw and Park Avenue. Additionally, access management adjustments to limit head-on collisions in the “suicide lane” could also occur throughout the length of the roadway.

Hopefully, folks have noticed the new stop signs at 8th and Park. This has allowed traffic to merge onto the roadway more safely.

The goal is to study these safety improvements for Wekiwa Springs and Park Avenue and implement the recommendations prior to the 2025/2026 roadway resurfacing. I must add one more comment, as many of you reach out about all the potholes that get filled on Park Avenue.

Remember, residents have rejected a transportation sales tax which all the neighboring counties enjoy. With this additional money, the time between resurfacing could have been reduced to 10 years. Unfortunately, we are stuck with 15 years cycles for resurfacing.

But, as you can see, I plan to make it count for improved safety along Wekiwa Springs and Park Avenue.

Hayden: Courage made our history

Continued from page 2A

more. Why would they give up their lives for something that did not affect them? They willingly fought and died to free the slaves and preserve the Union.

It took courage for the United States to stand up against Nazi Germany and Imperialist Japan. Six hundred thousand young men gave up their lives to overcome the threat of world domination by tyrants and totalitarianism. Over one hundred thousand young men stormed the beaches of Normandy, knowing ahead of time that the casualty forecast was the highest in history, but when the ramps dropped on the landing crafts, the men left the safety and charged the beach under extremely heavy gunfire.

We did not have to be there. We could have appeased Hitler and allowed him to take more and more control of Europe the same way Neville Chamberland did, but courage of our convictions freed Europe and Asia from the onslaught that threatened. It took courage for the civil rights leaders, in the 50s and 60s to step out of conformity and make headway for civil

rights to be equally distributed to all men and women.

Rosa Parks showed courage in refusing to give up her bus seat; Ezell Blair Jr., David Richmond, Franklin McCain, and Joseph McNeil, conducting a sit-in at the Greensboro Woolworth's lunch counter, showed courage, regardless of the consequences.

Dr. Martin Luther King and his march on Selma and Washington for racial rights for all eventually cost him his life. Pure courage! He saw a wrong and set out to make it right regardless of the consequences.

Today, I think of how little courage is demonstrated in America today. We see multitudes of people making apologies, and groveling at the feet of those “woke” promoters who consider themselves to be the elite among and above all others? Elon Musk, the world's richest man, did not have to get involved in free speech or the censoring thereof by the different social platforms. He could have followed the example of Bill Gates, Mark Zuckerberg, and Jeff Bezos and used the corruption to enrich himself. But he saw something wrong

and set out to correct it, regardless of the cost.

There are many others, I just do not have the room to name them all. The last I want to profile is Donald J. Trump. For years he grew his business by rubbing shoulders with politicians and other businessmen. In all his dealings, he saw the corruption and greed that was prevalent in every involvement with the government. He could have kept on allowing the government to run roughshod over the common people's rights and freedoms, but he courageously made the decision to do something about it.

So, he ran for the presidency of the United States of America. That decision has cost him billions of dollars, his persona has been tattered, but he battles on for We the People.

All the forces of the Deep State have tried to render him invalid, but his courageous convictions for right, and his love for the United States of America have been a driving force for the courage we see in Donald J. Trump.

Wake up America! We need to saddle up, regardless of our fears, and make courage an everyday word in America!

**Everybody has an opinion.
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ALL ABOUT APOPKA

The Apopka Chief

Established 1923
(USPS 545-440)

The Apopka Chief is published every Friday and entered as Periodicals, postage paid at Apopka Post Office, under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879. The Apopka Chief newspaper is published by Foliage Enterprises, Inc., every Friday at 400 North Park Avenue, Apopka, Fla., 32712-3417. An annual subscription is \$25 in Orange County and \$30 outside Orange County. Phone 407-886-2777. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Apopka Chief, P.O. Box 880, Apopka, Fla., 32704-0880.

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

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The city of Apopka was chartered in 1882. It is located at 28°30 north latitude and is 150 feet above sea level. Its population is about 48,000 and its total area is more than 30 sq. mi. **www.apopka.net**

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Marco Rubio (Rep.).....407-254-2573
U.S. Representative
Daniel Webster (Dist. 11).....352-241-9220
State Representatives
Doug Bankson407-476-6787
Carolina Amesty (Dist. 45).....unknown
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Geraldine Thompson (Dist.11) 407-297-2045
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Byrd: Several principals have been named in all levels of schools

Continued from page 2A

all she accomplished at the school in her four years as principal including having the highest graduation rate in all of OCPS. Ray was strategically chosen as the perfect person to continue the great work at Ocoee High School based on the good work he has done during his time at Piedmont.

In his place at Piedmont will be James Montgomery who has been serving as the Assistant Principal of the school. Montgomery is a great choice to continue the positive culture that Ray has instilled at the school, and the staff that I have talked to is very excited to have Montgomery be the new Piedmont principal.

We had a couple of other wonderful

principals move on as well, both for good reasons.

Carol Grimando at Zellwood Elementary retired this year after a long career that spanned 38 years. She will certainly be missed by all who have known and worked with her over the years.

Jennifer Lawrence is the new principal at Zellwood Elementary and comes from another elementary school in OCPS where she served as principal as well.

Kelly Steinke, the principal who opened our beloved Kelly Park School was promoted to Principal Leader, where she can share her stellar leadership skills with other principals around our district. While we are sad to see her go, we could not be more grateful to her for getting Kelly Park School off to a great start and we wish her

all the best on her new adventure.

In her place will be Helena Gurgone who has been serving as Assistant Principal and is ready to take the well-prepared ropes from Ms. Steinke and continue the school's great success which included an "A" rating from the state in its first year!

Clay Springs Elementary is going to have a new fantastic leader this coming year as well as Dr. Rebecca McDaid moved to a school closer to her home. Jessica Smith is the incoming principal for our Black Bears, and she could not be more excited. For the past two years, Smith has served as the Senior Administrator for the Elementary Division at the district and before that, she was an assistant principal, instructional coach and classroom teacher as well.

Teresa King who was acting principal at Rock Springs Elementary will continue in that role this coming year. She came in late in the year and has adjusted beautifully to the school. She is excited to start a new year with our Rockets and blast them to success.

There are several other new assistant principals as well, and I encourage you to get to know your child's school administration team. They are there to not only lead our schools but to be your partners in educating your children.

Welcome all the new leaders to our schools and welcome back to our returning leaders. I'm really looking forward to this coming year with all the great things in store. It's going to be a great year!

BUSINESS PROFILE

Your Guide to Local Businesses

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Hunt Club Medical Care is open seven days a week and offer urgent care and same-day appointments. Pictured above are, (l-r), Whitney Dailey PA-C, Elisabeth Duer PA-C, Michael Gordon MD, Pinida Toochinda MD, Kristen Consiglio PA-C, and Roshani Levister PA-C.

Often voted #1 Best in Apopka, their goal is to deliver the highest quality primary care and urgent care to their community. They strive to be distinctive. It's the combination of their passion for their patients and a depth of knowledge of the human body that often sets them apart.

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cared for many of those for decades. Their doctors are board-certified physicians in Internal Medicine and Family Practice.

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The **Hunt Club Medical Care** facility is privately owned and operated by Dr. Michael Gordon. The goal of this medical facility is to provide comprehensive care to their patients. On staff are Michael Gordon M.D., Pinida Toochinda M.D., Kristen Consiglio PA-C, Whitney Dailey PA-C, Elisabeth Duer PA-C, and Roshani Levister PA-C.

The staff at **Hunt Club Medical Care** assures that every patient has access to the highest quality care, and they genuinely care for the comfort and well being of their patients by

treating them with courtesy, dignity, and respect. They're comprehensive in the response to the needs of their patients and consider themselves to be partners with their patients in their health care.

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an exams, including pap testing. A number of local businesses have selected **Hunt Club Medical Care** to provide care for their employees, including pre-employment exams and treatment for work-related injuries.

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- Citgo, 441 & Boy Scout Blvd (Plymouth)
- Citgo, Rock Springs Rd. (behind store by mail boxes)
- CVS #3748 - corner of Park Av & Hwy 441
- Discount Beverage & Smoke (Across from Checkers, Highway 441
- Circle K (Shell) #2404, Sheeler Rd at corner of Apopka Blvd.
- Circle K (Marathon) #6157, S. Park Avenue
- Circle K (Shell) #2334, Rock Springs Rd & Kelly Park Rd
- Circle K #1288, Welch Rd & Wekiva Springs Rd.
- Circle K (Marathon) #1063, Zellwood, 2691 Highway 441
- Compare Fresh Market, 436 behind Aaron's
- Crosby's Motor Inn, Hwy 441 & Errol Parkway (Errol Estate)
- Lula Mae's Eatery, Central Ave S.

- Marathon, Main St. (midland downtown)
- McDonald's, Highway 441 (downtown)
- Mobil, (Citgo) Hwy 441 (next to Burger K)
- Orange County Service Center, N. Park Ave.
- Perkins Restaurant Hwy 441, in Victoria Plaza Parking Lot)
- Plymouth Post Office, Plymouth/Sorrento Rd
- Porkies BBQ, Highway 441 (downtown)
- Post Office, N. Park Ave. (Martin St)
- Publix, Park Ave/Rock Springs Rd. & Welch Rd.
- Sam's Discount, Overland & Apopka Blvd.
- Sun Resort, 3000 Clarcona Rd.
- Sunoco Happy Foods, Hwy 441 & Plymouth-Sorrento Rd.
- Trader Mae's, Rock Springs Rd
- UPS Store (The), Rock Springs & Welch Rd. (Publix shopping center)

- Walgreens, corner of Park Ave and Hwy 441
- Walgreens, N. Park Ave/Welch Rd.
- Wawa Store, 449 W. Main St. - corner of Hwy 441 and Bradshaw
- Wawa Store, 441 & Piedmont Wekiva across from Walmart
- Wekiva High School, Hiawasee 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.

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Grand Master visits 16th Masonic District



Photo courtesy of Mayor Bryan Nelson

Pictured (l to r) are Brother Jerry Rooks, Most Worshipful Grand Master Donald Cowart, First Lady Dell Cowart, Apopka Mayor Bryan Nelson, Worshipful Luis Oliveira, Brother Michael Berry, and Worshipful Patrick Tessier at the Grand Master's Official Visit to the Proud 16th Masonic District of the Grand Lodge of Florida, which took place at Bahia Shriners in Apopka on Sunday, June 23. Orange Masonic Lodge No. 36, located at 453 E. Main St., Apopka, is part of the Proud 16th Masonic District.

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Driver dies from fatal accident in Zellwood after rear- ending truck

A man died as a result of rear-ending a dump truck in Zellwood last Friday. Troopers were on the scene of a fatal crash that occurred at approximately 5:36 a.m. on Friday, June 28, in Zellwood, according to Florida Highway Patrol (FHP).

Preliminary evidence shows vehicle one, a 2014 Chevrolet Silverado, was traveling westbound on Jones Avenue west of Jewel Foliage Road. Vehicle two, a 1985 dump truck, was traveling westbound on Jones Avenue west of Jewel Foliage

Road ahead of vehicle one. The Chevrolet Silverado driver failed to slow or stop for the truck driver ahead. As a result, the front of the Silverado struck the rear of the truck. The Silverado driver, a 30-year-old male from Astatula, was transported

to AdventHealth Apopka Hospital and pronounced deceased. The truck driver, a 38-year-old male from Eustis, was not injured. There was a roadblock for both directions of travel on Jones Avenue. This crash remains under investigation.

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10 Florida children can receive a \$1,000 Florida 529 Savings Plan scholarship

Florida State Parks and the Florida Prepaid College Program are partnering to encourage families to get outside and explore Florida's award-winning state parks through the Junior Ranger Program as well as prepare for their little ranger's future with a risk-free college savings plan. This year, ten Florida children will receive a \$1,000 Florida 529 Savings Plan scholarship, plus a Florida State Parks Junior Ranger gift pack and inflatable paddle board. Contact Junior Ranger Program, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, 3900 Commonwealth Blvd., MS 535, Tallahassee, FL 32399-3000, to enter the sweepstakes by June 23, 2024, or by going to <https://www.floridastateparks.org/FloridaPrepaid>. (Even though the registration period has passed, consider this possibility for future plans.)

How to participate in the Junior Ranger Program

Visit any participating Florida State Park and ask for a Junior Ranger Kit. If you are not at the park, you can be a Virtual Junior Ranger from anywhere. This promotion is open to legal residents of the state of Florida over the age

of 18 with children or grandchildren up to eighth grade who have fully and satisfactorily completed the scholarship entry requirements and are otherwise eligible to participate at time of entry. View full promotion rules.

In-Person Junior Ranger Program

The Florida State Parks Junior Ranger Program provides the opportunity for young people to learn, serve and share Florida's natural and cultural resources. You can either participate in a scheduled park program or do it self-guided in the park.

Even if you're not at the park, you can do the Virtual Junior Ranger from anywhere.

Junior Ranger materials are also available en Espanol.

What's Involved

1. Visit any participating Florida State Park and ask for a Junior Ranger Kit.
2. Take the Junior Ranger Pledge and receive your member ID card and Official Junior Ranger Badge.
3. Complete the six CORE Activities from the kit.
4. Turn in the six CORE Activities to park staff to receive your Official Junior Ranger Patch!

5. Complete more activities to earn stamps in your PASSPORT!
6. Turn in your completed PASSPORT to receive your Official Junior Ranger Pin!
7. Remember, being a Junior Ranger means more fun with family and friends.

Where to find the Junior Ranger Program

You can find participating Florida State Parks throughout the state.

Learn the Pledge

"As a Junior Ranger, I promise to protect the plants, animals, water, geological features, culture and history of Florida State Parks.

"I promise to continue to learn about parks and share what I have learned with others as I explore ...the Real Florida."

Membership ID Card

Junior Rangers can get their membership cards punched for one free entry into any Florida State Park. The entry is good for one vehicle with up to eight passengers except at Ellie Schiller Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park and Weeki Wachee Springs State Park, where the pass is good for two people. Does not include Skyway Fishing Pier State Park, camping or other fees.

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SUDOKU ANSWERS
PUZZLE CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 2B

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

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Puzzle Solution

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

The Crossword Puzzle is found on page 2B

Do What You Can

Life is filled with choices, both great and small, and much of the task of navigating our way through life is figuring out how to optimize those choices. How is it best to live to do the most good, both for ourselves and others?

These are questions both great and small, questions about careers or vocations (the great questions) and questions about what to fix for dinner or where to go on our next vacation (the small questions). And we need not face every choice as if something momentous hangs in the balance.

What to fix for dinner isn't nearly as important as our choice of mates or our choice of a career. But in many of

these decisions we really ought to consider how we can do the most good, not just for ourselves but for everyone involved.

We are finite creatures and in the grand scheme of things many of our decisions matter very little, and yet, even so, these decisions do matter at the time.

So do what you can to make the world a better place. And when you're not sure what that is, pray for wisdom to make the right decision. A quiet, contemplative spirit rarely fails us when it comes to these decisions, as there is all around us the spirit of God to tap into.

— Christopher Simon

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A book in the Bible says, ‘For he that is dead is freed from sin’

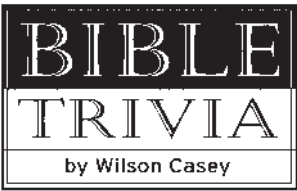
1. Is the book of Cheirut (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?

2. In Galatians 5:13, “Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through _____ serve one another.” Friend-

ship, Honesty, Love, Hope

3. From 2 Corinthians 3:17, “Now the Lord is that Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is _____.” Hope, Freedom,

Love, Liberty



4. In John 8:36, “If the _____ therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.” Heart, Worship, Celebration, Son

5. From what book’s 6:7 does it say, “For he that is dead is freed from sin”?

Isaiah, Daniel, Mark, Romans

6. How many times is the word “independence” mentioned in the Bible? 0, 2, 11, 17

ANSWERS: 1) Neither, 2) Love, 3) Liberty, 4) Son, 5) Romans, 6) 0

Comments? More Trivia? Gift ideas? Visit www.TriviaGuy.com.

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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

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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Do What You Can

(See message above.)

“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.” Galatians 6:9-10 NIV



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Geechee Home Cooking. These ribs are done in your oven at 350 degrees Fahrenheit. You don't need to fire up a grill for these fall-off-the-bone ribs.

I am going to try Marvin Woods' potato salad this Independence Day, because just looking at the recipe, it looks mighty good. He says, "Potato salad is one of the most-requested dishes for potluck dinners and other large gatherings. A couple of professional tips for you when making your potato salad: Try using new potatoes, because they tend to hold their shape better than most other potatoes. After you boil the potatoes, let them cool all the way down; the potatoes will absorb too much dressing if they are hot."

If you like peas, Emily Meggett has a recipe for you in her book, *Gullah Geechee Home Cooking*. She says, "Many people are familiar with black-eyed peas, but not crowder peas. While crowder peas come from the same family as black-eyed peas, crowder peas are slightly bigger, and they don't have that notorious black eye. Crowder peas are Black folks' food – they sustained enslaved people in the South, and they sustained us growing up. We learned how to bring out the best of their flavor – the saltiness of pork mixes well with the starchiness of the peas – and thankfully, those techniques can be applied to whichever peas you have available. Because crowder peas are hard to find outside of the Lowcountry, you can use black-eyed peas or cowpeas for this recipe. Whichever you choose, make sure to wash your peas thoroughly to remove dirt and stones, and purchase the best ham hocks you can, as they give a salty and meaty flavor that you just can't resist."

Fresh Garden Relish from the Progressive Farmer's *SOUTHERN Cookbook* is superb over turnip greens and blackeyed peas. I can see it on my table for Independence Day because it is made from wonderfully fresh vegetables.

For the times you want to spoil yourself and everybody else around you, here is Butter-Pecan Ice Cream! This is my very favorite flavor, and it might be yours, too! Tammy Sewell of Fort Benning, Georgia, contributed this wonderful recipe to the 1996 annual publication of *Southern Living's Favorites* and it is perfect for our Independence Day celebrations!

EMILY MEGGETT'S BARBECUE RIBS AND SAUCE
Recipe from *Gullah Geechee Home Cooking* by Emily Meggett

- 2 slabs baby back ribs
- 1 cup chopped celery
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 1 bell pepper, chopped
- 1 to 2 tablespoons seasoning salt, to taste
- 3 tablespoons cider vinegar
- 1 cup ketchup
- 1/3 cup packed brown sugar
- 1 lemon, sliced

1) Preheat oven to 350 deg F. 2) In large, heavy-bottomed pot, precook the ribs with the celery, onion, bell pepper, seasoning salt, and vinegar in 2 quarts of water for 35 to 45 minutes over medium heat, until the bones are just slightly peeking out, and the meat easily slides or peels off the bone. Remove the ribs from the stock and save 1-1/2 cups of the liquid. Save the chopped celery, onion, and bell pepper. Set aside. 3) Place the ribs in a 9- by 13-inch baking pan, uncovered. Bake for 20 minutes. Remove from the oven and pour off the grease. (Leave the oven on.) With a fork, mash the celery, onion, and bell pepper. 4) In a medium saucepan, combine the ketchup, brown sugar, mashed vegetables, and reserved cooking liquid. Bring to a boil over high heat. Once boiling, pour over the cooked ribs. Place the lemon slices on top of the ribs. Cover. Return the ribs to the oven and bake for 25 to 30 minutes.

POTATO SALAD
The New Low-Country Cooking by Marvin Woods
3 pounds red bliss potatoes, cut into 1/2-inch cubes
3 hard-boiled eggs, chopped
2 celery ribs, finely chopped
1/2 cup sweet pickle relish
1/2 cup mayonnaise

2 tablespoons Dijon-style mustard
1 teaspoon paprika
1/2 teaspoon celery salt
Salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste

Cook the potatoes in a large pot of boiling salted water just until tender, 20 to 30 minutes. Drain and set aside to cool completely. Place the cooled potatoes in a large bowl. Add the remaining ingredients and stir gently to combine. Taste and check the seasoning, adding salt and pepper if needed. Serve chilled. Store in an airtight container in the refrigerator for up to 10 days.

EMILY MEGGETT'S CROWDER PEAS, BLACK-EYED PEAS, OR COWPEAS
Recipe from *Gullah Geechee Home Cooking* by Emily Meggett

- 2 14-ounce smoked ham hocks sliced into 1-inch pieces
- 1 quart fresh or dried crowder peas, black-eyed peas, or cowpeas
- 1-1/2 tablespoons salt, plus more if needed
- 1-1/2 teaspoons pepper, plus more if needed

1) In a large, heavy-bottomed pot, combine 3 quarts water and ham hock chunks. Cook over medium-low heat for about 45 minutes. 2) While the ham hocks are cooking, wash the peas thoroughly, removing any dirt or stones. About 30 minutes into cooking the ham hocks, add the peas to the pot, bring to a boil, and boil for about 5 minutes. Reduce the heat to medium and cover the pot. If using fresh peas cook for about 1-1/2 hours. If using dried peas, cook for 2 to 2-1/2 hours. 3) Season with salt and pepper to taste.

Notes: The liquid in the finished pot of peas should be a gravy consistency, not watery.

When working with peas/beans, canned peas/beans require the least amount of cooking time, about 15 minutes, followed by green or frozen peas/beans, which require 45 minutes. Fresh-from-the-garden peas need 1-1/2 hours.

Dried peas/beans require the longest cooking time, 2 to 2-1/2 hours. Bring them to a boil, then reduce to medium heat and simmer until done. Add water and cook longer as needed.

FRESH GARDEN RELISH ON TURNIP GREENS
Recipe from The Progressive Farmer's *SOUTHERN Cookbook*
3 tomatoes, diced
1 cup chopped celery
1 medium cucumber, peeled, sliced, and finely chopped
3 tablespoons finely chopped onion
1 medium-sized green pepper, chopped
Salt and black pepper to taste
2 tablespoons French dressing
2 tablespoons vinegar
Mix and chill.

Note: Birmingham serves superb food, many old as well as new recipes. Our favorite there (and we never saw it served elsewhere) is just plain turnip greens topped off by a fresh garden relish. These quantities are for six portions.

TAMMY SEWELL'S BUTTER-PECAN ICE CREAM
Recipe from *1996 Southern Living All-Time Favorites*

- 1/4 cup butter or margarine
- 2 cups chopped pecans
- 7 cups milk, divided
- 1 (14-ounce) can sweetened condensed milk
- 2 cups sugar
- 6 large eggs, lightly beaten
- 1 (5.1-ounce) package vanilla instant pudding mix
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

1) Melt butter in a large heavy saucepan over medium-high heat; add pecans, and cook, stir-ring constantly, 3 minutes or until lightly browned. Drain and set aside. 2) Combine 1 cup milk and next 3 ingredients in saucepan; cook over medium heat, stirring constantly, 5 minutes or until mixture coats back of a spoon. Cool. Stir in remaining 6 cups milk, pudding mix, and vanilla; add pecans, stir-ring well. 3) Pour mixture into freezer container of a 5-quart hand turned or electric freezer. Freeze according to manufacturer's instructions. 4) Pack freezer with additional ice and rock salt; let stand 1 hour before serving. Yield: 1 gallon.

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

JULY 2024 ★ ★ EVENTS ★ WEEKLY ★ UPCOMING ★ ONGOING ★ ★			
<p>SCHOOL IS OUT 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.</p> <p>Children must be five years old on or before September 1 to start kindergarten. To enter first grade, a child must be six years old on or before September 1 and must have successfully completed kindergarten (Florida Statute 1003.21). Immunizations must be current.</p> <p>UNLESS CHANGED: School Start Times for Elementary School & K-8: 8 a.m., Middle School: 9:30 a.m., High school: 7:10 a.m.</p> <p>City of Apopka's Northwest Recreation Complex, 3710 Jason Dwellley Parkway, Apopka 32712, 407-703-1784. On any given weekend, you can see many, many families in attendance at the beautiful complex setting participating in various organized sport programs, Amenities at the complex include: Soccer Fields, Softball Fields, Baseball Fields, Multi-Purpose Fields, Sand Volleyball Courts, Outdoor Basketball Courts, Tennis Courts, Walking Trail, Amphitheater, Playground, Concession Stands.</p> <p>11-mile wildlife drive (complete with directional signs) (opened in 2015) on Lake Apopka shores, by entering from Lust Road off Binion Road, about a mile south of Camp Wewa in the Plymouth area, for one-way drive, 10 miles per hour, with possible wildlife spotting stops. DO NOT FEED THE GATORS - IT MAY CAUSE CLOSING OF THE TRAIL If you are stopping, drive will take more than 1 hour. Drive runs by canals used in muck-farming days. The one-way drive exits on Jones Road in Zellwood. You will see a freshwater marsh system and wildlife dependent on that type of system. The drive is open on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays and federal holidays and is controlled by the county. Open during daylight hours only (one hour after sunrise and one hour before sunset). Official sunrise and sunset hours can be found online. The road is closed on other days due to ongoing restoration work. The trail is 11 miles long.</p> <p>WEKIWA SPRINGS STATE PARK is a 7,000-acre Florida State Park in Apopka, Florida. It is located 20 minutes north of Orlando, off Interstate 4 at exit 94, near Altamonte Springs and Longwood. The park also contains the head water of the Wekiwa River. Address: 1800 Wekiwa Circle, Apopka 32712, open from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. For information, call 407-884-4311</p>	<p>for seniors - senior activities at Fran Carlton Center. CALL 407-703-1642 FOR INFORMATION .</p> <p>.FRIDAY, JULY 5</p> <p>ZUMBA FITNESS CLASS, FRIDAYS at 9:00 a.m. at 11 N. Forest Ave., at the Fran Carlton Center.. CALL 407-703-1642 for information. .</p> <p>CENTRAL FL CHRISTIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, 1806 S Bay St., Eustis, has Fellowship Friday meetings. For complete details of all chamber events, visit cfchristianchamber.com/events-chamber. Contact: latrondra@cfchristian-chamber.com</p> <p>SATURDAY, JULY 6</p> <p>VFW POST 10147 continues to have its fund raising breakfast on the the third Saturday of the month, from 8-10 a.m. at 519 S. Central Avenue. Cost is only \$7.</p> <p>MUSEUM OF APOPKANS, Saturday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., 122 E. FIFTH STREET, APOPKA. Managed by Apopka Historical Society. Call 407-703-1624 for info.</p> <p>AVIAN RECONDITIONING CENTER, for birds of prey, 323 Lester Rd., Apopka, hours: 9:30-1:30 p.m., The center is open on Saturdays to the public, weather permitting. Call 407-461-1056 for information.</p> <p>SUNDAY, JULY 7</p> <p>MONDAY, JULY 8</p> <p>FITNESS CLASS, MONDAYS 9-10 a.m. 11 N. Forest Ave at Fran Carlton Center. Masks not required while exercising, but are when socializing before and after class. Temperature taken on entry. Pre-register. Call 407-703-1642 for info.</p> <p>CRAFTS & CHATTER: 9:30-12 noon. Fran Carlton Center, 11 N Forest Ave.Masks required. Temperature taken. Pre-register. Call 407-703-1642 for info.</p> <p>OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS meets Mondays at 6:30 p.m., Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit, 601 S. Highland Avenue. If you have a problem with food – overeating, anorexia, bulimia – there is a solution for you. For more information, visit OA.org or call Carrie 781-867-1071.</p> <p>TOASTMASTERS: Forest Lake Church by Zoom. Time: 7 p.m., Open to everyone interested. For information, call 407-761-2943. Club Number: 4899556, District 84, Area D42. Orators of Excellence</p> <p>TUESDAY, JULY 9</p> <p>FRAN CARLTON CENTER OPEN, THE SERTOMA CLUB meets the</p>	<p>first and third Tuesday of each month, beginning at 11:30-noon, at Beef 'O' Brady's in The Back Room, 1410 Rock Springs Rd., Apopka. Interested community members are encouraged to attend and get acquainted. Meetings have resumed on first and third Tuesdays. Masks are encouraged.</p> <p>SENIOR CHAIR EXERCISE, 9-10 a.m., 11 N. Forest Ave. at Fran Carlton Center. Masks not required while exercising, but are when socializing before and after class. Temperature taken on entry. Pre-register. Call 407-703-1642 for info</p> <p>ART CLASS. 9:30-12 noon. Fran Carlton Center, 11 N Forest Ave. Masks required. Temperature taken. Pre-register. Call 407-703-1642 for info</p> <p>WEDNESDAY, JULY 10</p> <p>The Altamonte Springs / Apopka VFW POST 10147. is NOW OPEN Wednesday and Saturday Mornings from (TIME CHANGE) 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. for coffee and doughnuts. (other hours by appointment only). 3rd Saturday of the month is VFW's fundraising breakfast. Also, evenings of Tribute music are planned. Call 407-889-8266, or email info@vfwpost10147.com for information. The VFW Auxiliary has been formed and is active as well. Don't forget to visit its excellent Military Museum.</p> <p>ZUMBA FITNESS CLASS, 9-10 a.m., 11 N. Forest Ave., at the Fran Carlton Center. Masks not required while exercising, but are when socializing before and after class. Temperature taken on entry. Pre-register. Call 407-703-1642 for info..</p> <p>SENIOR CHAIR EXERCISE, 10-11 a.m., Billie Dean Community Center, 225 M.A. Board St., . Masks not required while exercising, but are when socializing before and after class. Temperature taken on entry. Pre-register. Call 407-703-1642 for info</p> <p>CITY OF APOPKA DRC (Development Review Committee) meets every Wednesday at 9 a.m.-10 a.m. (or as long as necessary) at City Hall, 120 E. Main Street, Apopka. Check for the online version.</p> <p>BRIDGE CLASS. 9:30-12 noon. Fran Carlton Center, 11 N Forest Ave.Masks required. Temperatures taken. Pre-register. Call 407-703-1642 for info.</p> <p>TOPS CHAPTER #646. (Take Off Pounds Sensibly), TOPS, a non-profit organization, will help you reach a weight goal with support from friendly, caring members, education, and rewards. Each Thursday weigh-in begins at 9:00 a.m. – meeting ends at 10:15 a.m.. Come to its</p>	<p>NEW location 220 W. Horatio Avenue, Maitland, FL 32751 to meet with others who have a like-minded goal to lose weight. No products, no specific diet to follow, no meds. Call 407-580-0897 for more information.</p> <p>MUSEUM OF APOPKANS, Open on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 12 noon-5 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m.-1 p.m., 122 E Fifth St. 407-703-1642 for info.</p> <p>EARLY BIRD BINGO at Bahia Shrine Center, 3101 E. Semoran Blvd.. Doors open at 5 p.m., and the early bird game starts at 6 p.m. For more information, call 407-660-8811.</p> <p>TOASTMASTERS: still meeting every WEDNESDAY, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m., by zoom. For more information, call 407-765-2629 or visit www.Apopkatostmasters.com.</p> <p>THURSDAY, JULY 11</p> <p>SENIOR CHAIR EXERCISE, 9-10 a.m., 11 N. Forest Ave., at the Fran Carlton Center. Masks not required while exercising, but are when socializing before and after class. Temperature taken on entry. Pre-register. Call 407-703-1642 for info.</p> <p>ROTARY CLUB OF APOPKA - For information, call 407-415-6588. Call for updated information on meetings and location.</p> <p>MUSEUM OF APOPKANS, Open from noon to 5 p.m. on Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 9 a.m.-noon. 120 E Fifth St. Call 407-703-1624 for info.</p> <p>ZUMBA FITNESS CLASS, 9-10 a.m., 11 N. Forest Ave., at the Fran Carlton Center. Masks not required while exercising, but are when socializing before and after class. Temperature taken on entry. Pre-register. Call 407-703-1642 for info.</p> <p>UPCOMING EVENTS</p> <p>Deadline is September 6 for applications to be received from students who are interested in becoming a member on the Apopka Youth Council. Visit apopka.gov Apopka Youth Council</p> <p>ONGOING EVENTS</p> <p>Florida Railroad Museum, 101 S. Boyd Street, Winter Garden, is open Tuesday-Saturday, 11-3 each week excluding holidays. For info, call 407-656-0559. . Must see.</p> <p>CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS are public and will also be broadcast on this shortened link: https://bit.ly/2ABrmsb, 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</p> <p>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</p> <p>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: apopkafgca@gmail.com-NO MEETINGS JUNE-AUGUST.</p> <p>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 orangecomgv@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.</p> <p>KIWANIS CLUB OF APOPKA IS now meeting MONTHLY on the 3rd Tuesday at 8 a.m. at Seacoast Bank, 345 E Main Street, Apopka. Contact 407-464-4606 for information</p> <p>BROWN BAG LUNCH - Third Saturday of each month, Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit at the corner of Highland and 6th St., Apopka, from 10 a.m.-12 p.m., offer to all who come a brown bag lunch. In addition, men's socks, flip flops, stuffed animals, some clothing, children's books and pet food which is donated by My Pet World, Apopka, may be available. If interested in volunteering, call Debbie at 407-620-5081 for information.</p> <p>APOPKA FOLIAGE TOASTMASTER'S CLUB, Monday, 7 p.m., on Zoom, Apopka. 407-765-2629.</p> <p>NWOC FFA Alumni – Monthly meetings (usually the 4th Monday evening in a month during the school year) are open to anyone. (Looking for more information)</p> <p>MUSEUM OF APOPKANS, 122 E 5th Street, Hours open: Wednesday to Friday. from noon-5 p.m., and Saturdays from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.... Admission is free. Contains displays and information about Apopka's history, and has history books for sale. Monthly meetings of Apopka Historical Society are normally held on a Sunday afternoon. For more information, go to www.theapopka-museum.com. THE APOPKA ELKS LODGE 2422 meets first and third Tuesdays of</p> <p>month, 201 W. Orange. For more information, call 407-886-1600 or email apopkaelks@aol.com Bar Bingo every Monday night at 7 p.m. promptly.</p> <p>GFWC APOPKA WOMAN'S CLUB, meets at First United Methodist Church, 201 N. Park Avenue. Call 407-880-2111 for more information.</p> <p>CITY OF APOPKA PLANNING & ZONING - usually the second Tuesday of the month. 5:30 p.m. City Council Chambers, City Hall, 120 E. Main St., Apopka. All meetings open to the public. Subject to change with notice. For info., call David Moon, 407-703-1739.</p> <p>BRIDGE GAMES AND CLASSES: Every Monday and Friday morning at 9:15 a.m., at the Lake County Duplicate Bridge Club, 510 W. Key Ave., Eustis. For more information, call 352-315-9934 or visit lakeduplicate.com.</p> <p>COMPUTER CLASSES in both English and Spanish: Available daily or weekly at OCLS North Orange Branch.* Classes are: Computer Basics, Excel, Word Resume Writing, Email for Seniors, ELLIS English Lab, Word, Online Job Searches, Power Point, Internet, Open Lab, How to use a mouse and keyboard, etc. Call OCLS North Orange Branch* for more details.</p> <p>HABITAT VOLUNTEERS: Go to www.habitatseminoleapopka.org, click on volunteers. There are a number of opportunities available at the Restores. Call 407-696-5855 or 407-880-8881 to sign up for information.</p> <p>*****</p> <p>(OCLS) Orange County Public Library North Orange Branch Address: 1211 E. Semoran Boulevard, Apopka 436 (Semoran) and Thompson Road. www.ocls.info. To reserve a space, call 407-835-7323. The library is now open again Mon-Sat. 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m., and Sunday afternoons</p> <p>*Apopka Area Chamber of Commerce, 180 E. Main St., Apopka. For more info, call 407-886-1441</p> <p>COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR INFORMATION</p> <p>Events, fund raisers, and non-profit organizations</p> <p>info: fax 407-889-4121, or email ads@theapopkachief.com Subscribe to The Apopka Chief E-Edition or Home Delivery Call 407-886-2777 or Visit www.theapopkachief.com In County: \$30 with E-Edition, or \$25 for just postal delivery. Out-of-County: \$35 with E-Edition or \$30 for postal delivery</p>

OCPS students show substantial academic growth in 2023-24

Orange County Public Schools showed an impressive increase of 4 percent in Math and 3 percent in English Language Arts. Overall, the district's achievement levels increased or remained the same in 17 of the 21 reported subject areas and grade levels from last year.

On Monday, July 1, the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) released student test scores that were administered in the spring of 2023-24.

Scores released included: Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) Progress Monitoring 3 (PM3) English Language

Arts (ELA) for Grades 3 through 10, FAST PM3 Mathematics for Grades 3 through 8, Benchmarks for Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.) Algebra 1 End-of-Course (EOC), B.E.S.T. Geometry EOC, Grade 5 and Grade 8 Statewide Science Assessment, Next Generation Sunshine State

Standards (NGSSS) Biology 1 EOC, NGSSS Civics EOC, and NGSSS U.S. History EOC.

The percentage of OCPS students scoring Level 3 or higher was above the state's percentage in the following subject areas and grade levels:

*FAST ELA PM3:
Grades 3, 4, and 5

*FAST Mathematics
PM3: Grades 3, 5, and 8

*B.E.S.T. EOCs: Geometry

*Statewide Science Assessments: Grades 5 and 8

*NGSSS EOCs: Biology and U.S. History

The percentage of OCPS students scoring Level 3 or higher was the same as the state's percentage in the following subject areas and grade levels:

*FAST Mathematics
PM3: Grade 4

Last year, the state provided schools and parents an assessment portal in which they could access real-time testing data during the FAST assessment windows for ELA and mathematics. This is the first year that science and social studies were immediately available as well through the assessment portal, as all assessments are now computer-based. The results for grades 3-10 ELA FAST, 3-8 Mathematics FAST, and the B.E.S.T.-aligned Algebra 1 and Geometry statewide assessments are based on final achievement level cut scores approved by the State Board of Education for the 2023-24 school year. Comparisons made between the 2023 and 2024 data are based on retrofit-

ed scores for Spring 2023
FAST PM3 and B.E.S.T.
Algebra 1 and Geometry
EOC.

"We are very pleased with our students' academic gains released by the Florida Department of Education today. These scores are reflective of the hard work of our students, teachers, administrators and parents. They are evidence of their dedication to leading our students to success," said Superintendent Maria Vazquez.

"I am grateful to the Governor and the Florida Department of Education for moving in this direction with a new assessment. The change gives our school and district staff the ability to monitor and adjust instruction, as needed."



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in Order to form a more perfect Union,
establish Justice, insure domestic
Tranquility, provide for the common
defense, promote the general
Welfare, and secure the Blessings
of Liberty to ourselves and our
Posterity, do ordain and establish this
Constitution for the United States
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*Ad Deadline: Monday at 5 p.m. for that week's paper.
If using this form, mail to P. O. Box 880, Apopka, FL
32704-0880, or bring it by 400 N. Park Ave., Apopka
32712. Cash, check or credit cards are ok for payment.*

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What have you seen at the seashore?

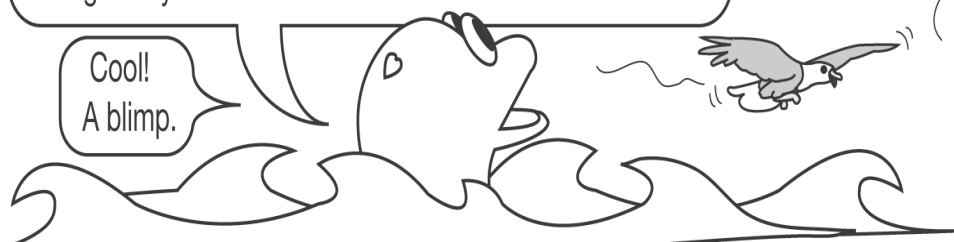


Kids: cold
stuff in!

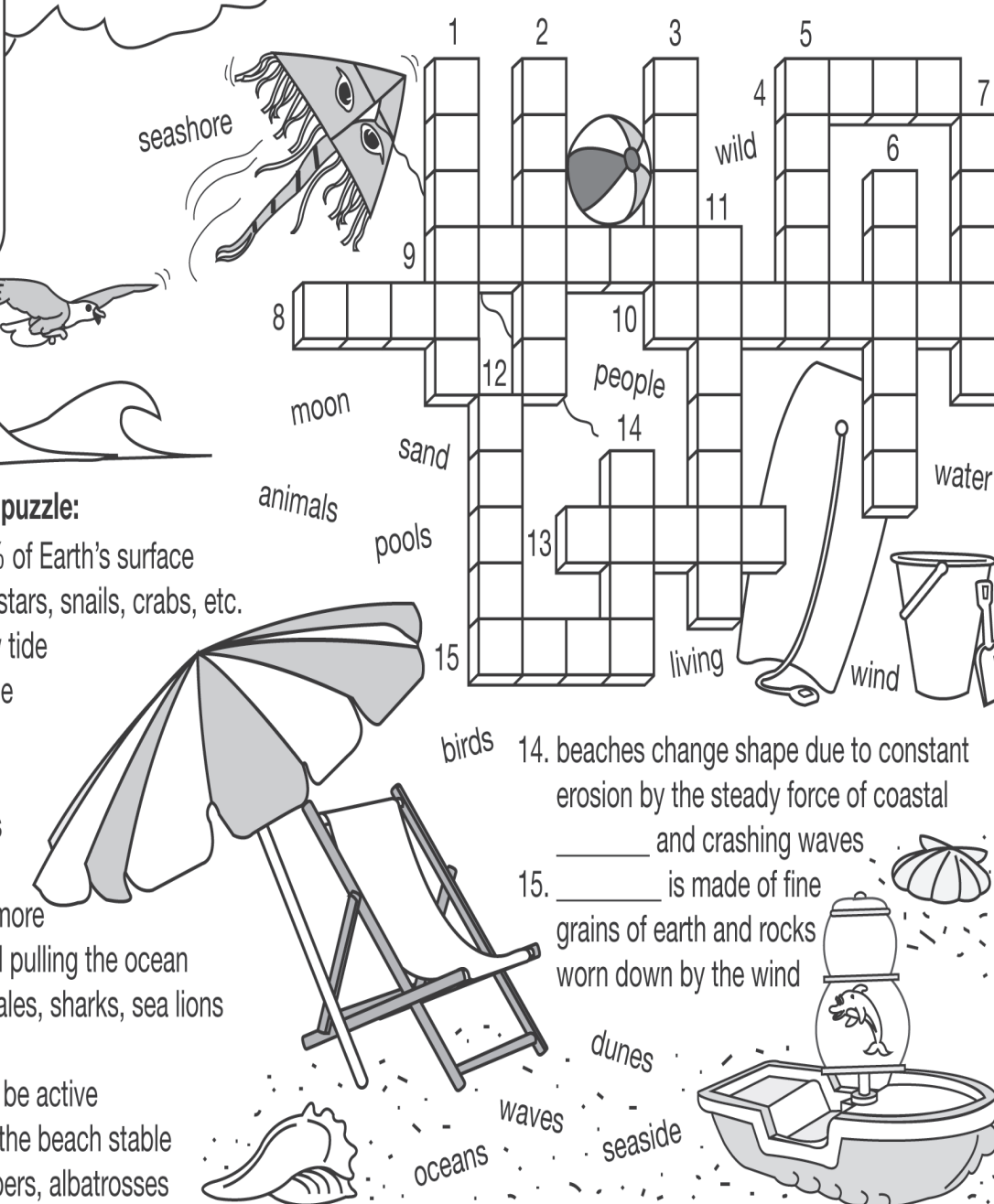


Hey! Look at that! You never know what you'll see in the sky, on the shore and even in the sand when you go to the seashore. What you see may depend on whether the tide is going out or coming in. Study the area where the land meets the sea. Is it rocky with waves crashing or is it a long stretch of white sand peacefully meeting the water? You might watch little crabs hiding and scurrying in the rocky areas. Different kinds of shells might be easier to find along sandy stretches. It's fun to find driftwood too!

Cool!
A blimp.



At Sea and Shore



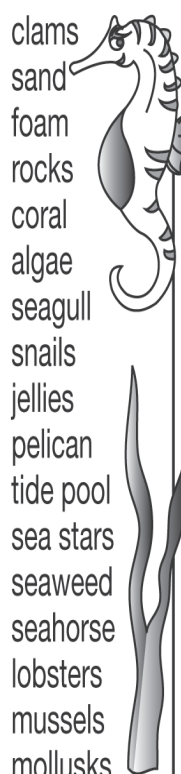
Read the clues to fill in our seashore and ocean crossword puzzle:

1. five vast _____ link across the planet, covering about 71% of Earth's surface
2. tidal pools are home to many _____ things: seaweed, seastars, snails, crabs, etc.
3. tide _____ are rocky; some may be seen separately at low tide
4. a _____ beach is one that is natural, untouched by people
5. energy from strong winds on the surface of the ocean causes _____ to form
6. _____ have explored only about 5% of the world's oceans
7. the ocean is mostly made up of _____, but there are many elements: sodium, chlorine, magnesium, calcium and more
8. tides are the result of the gravity of the _____ pushing and pulling the ocean
9. the ocean is Earth's largest habitat, with _____ such as whales, sharks, sea lions
10. coastline; where the land meets the ocean
11. a _____ resort is a place built for people to have fun and be active
12. grasses and bushes anchor the sand _____ and keep the beach stable
13. many kinds of _____ live by the ocean: seagulls, sandpipers, albatrosses

What Is Seen at the Seashore?

People bring shovels

clams and pails to dig and collect items from the seashore. Find sand  and circle the items below that you can see at the shore.



foam
rocks
coral
algae
seagull
snails
jellies
pelican
tide pool
sea stars
seaweed
seahorse
lobsters
mussels
mollusks
driftwood
beach plums
sandpiper
sand dollars
fiddler crabs

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

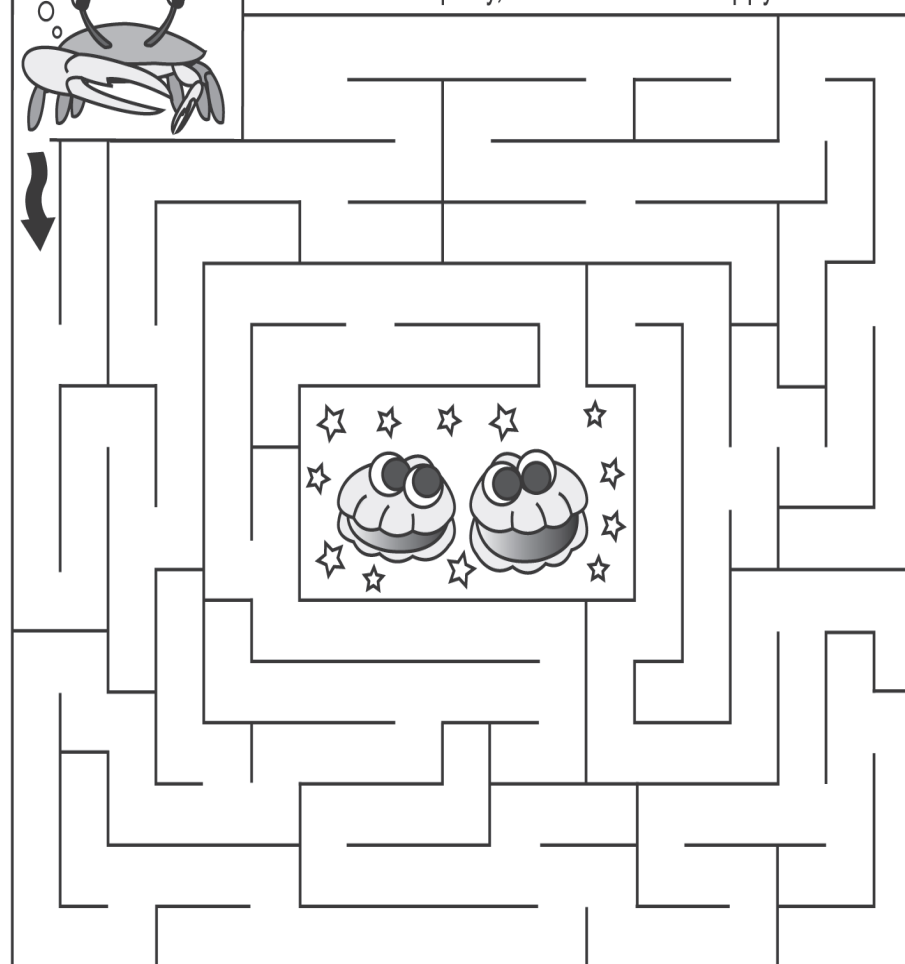


I feel so cranky.



Party

Party If you help the cranky crab find his way to the cheerful clam party, he'll soon be 'as happy as a clam!'



What Is Seen at Sea?

What would sailors sailing on a ship at sea see? Mostly the sky and sea! Sometimes, the crew would be able to see these things:

sky	reefs	dolphins
sun	sharks	rainbows
ships	whales	lightning
stars	sailors	horizon
moon	storms	helicopter
waves	clouds	shooting stars
land	planes	lighthouses
buoys	uniforms	constellations

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



Stormwater ponds help manage system, says St. Johns District

Whether you’ve been a resident of Florida for years or are new to the state, you’ve likely noticed the numerous stormwater ponds scattered across our landscape. Despite Florida’s wealth of natural waterways, these ponds are man-made and often mistaken for natural features.

These ponds are more than just aesthetically pleasing additions to our neighborhoods — with their aerating fountains, aquascaping, and attracted wildlife, they serve a critical year-round function. Stormwater ponds are designed to mimic natural processes, allowing sediments, chemicals, debris and other pollutants to settle in the pond rather than flowing into natural waterways. They store runoff, minimizing flood-

ing, and prevent untreated stormwater runoff from reaching natural bodies of water, which would otherwise lead to excess nutrients and algal blooms.

Prior to hurricane season, all systems should be inspected, to ensure debris is removed and water flow is maintained. While these systems are permitted by the St. Johns River Water Management District or the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, local governments, homeowners’ associations (HOAs) or property management companies are responsible for their proper operation and maintenance.

Each of us can also contribute by keeping grass clippings and leaves out of streets to prevent them from washing into storm

drains, using chemicals and fertilizers sparingly and as directed, and fertilizing only when necessary.

The District offers assistance and resources for communities, including homeowners’ association resources, overview of stormwater systems, stormwater systems quick guide, and Division of Regulatory staff contacts.

New to Florida or need a refresher on how stormwater systems work? Learn more about stormwater design, management and its limitations at sjrwm.com/education/stormwater-systems.

For more information on the District’s role in flood protection and storm preparedness and response, visit www.sjrwm.com/storm.



Photo courtesy of St. Johns River Water Management District

Stormwater ponds are an effective tool for managing runoff from average rainfall. They are a crucial component of stormwater systems that help protect thousands of homes across the state.

County Clerk’s Office may have an unclaimed check for you

The Orange County Clerk’s Office may have some unclaimed money for you.

Individuals, businesses and organizations may look at the unclaimed checks list at myorangeclerk.com, and if they see their name on the list, they have until Sunday, September 1 to claim the

money.

The checks listed are those that were mailed, but never cashed; perhaps because the intended recipient moved away and did not leave a forwarding address or put the check away and forgot about it.

The list of more than 7,000 checks

includes uncashed vendor payments, refunds, restitution, and cash bonds from as low as 8 cents up to \$10,000.

Any money not collected by September 1 will be forfeited and deposited into the Clerk’s Fine and Forfeiture Fund, per Section 116.21 of Florida Statutes.

To search the unclaimed checks list, visit <https://shorturl.at/cS5tm>.

If you have searched the list and believe the Clerk’s Office is holding a check for which you have a claim, follow the instructions on the Clerk’s Office website to submit your claim.



KEEP THOSE WHEELS ROLLING...

GENERAL SERVICE: AUTO-BASICS

The ABCs of basic car care include:

- A – Always follow a vehicle service schedule.
 - B – Be sure to have your car inspected when you suspect there is a problem.
 - C – Correct the problem to help avoid the inconvenience and potential safety hazards of breaking down away from home.
- By following these three basic car care tips, motorists can address minor issues before they become more complicated and more expensive repairs.**

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

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D-I-WHY?

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

Check out the Service Directory Pages

The Apopka Chief & The Planter
www.TheApopkaChief.com