

Retired

An Apopka native celebrates his retirement after 23 years in military service. See page 7A.



God Bless America

Sports

Mustangs travel to Olympia to face Titans in Kickoff Classic See page 1B.



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

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

# The Apopka Chief

Your trusted local news source

©2024 The Apopka Chief

Volume 102 Number 33

Friday, August 16, 2024 / 50 cents

## OCPS gives back-to-school preview ahead of first day

By Teresa Sargeant  
Apopka Chief Staff

Orange County Public Schools (OCPS) administrators, school board members, and local law enforcement gave the community a preview of the upcoming 2024-25 school year and what the district is doing to make returning to school a success.

OCPS conducted the 2024 back-to-school news conference on Friday, August 9, at Winter Park High School in Winter Park, in time for the district's first day of school for students on Monday, August 12.

Winter Park High School is currently under construction thanks to the half-cent sales tax that vot-

ers originally voted for in 2024. The half-cent sales tax is up for continuation this year when county voters will vote on the referendum on November 5.

At the press conference were Teresa Jacobs, Orange County School Board chair; Angie Gallo, Orange County School Board District 1 member; Alicia Farrant, Orange County School Board District 3 member; Dr. Maria Vasquez, OCPS superintendent; John Mina, Orange County sheriff; Eric Smith, Orlando police chief; Tim Wilkerson, Winter Park police chief; Bryan Holmes, OCPS District police chief; Bill Wen, OCPS Transportation Senior Director;

See OCPS Page 3A

## Back to school at Apopka Memorial MS



Photo courtesy of OCPS/Facebook

Students returned to Orange County Public Schools on Monday, August 12, after summer break, including at Apopka Memorial Middle School on Park Avenue in Apopka. Students pose with OCPS Superintendent Dr. Maria Vasquez (l), AMMS Principal Lisa James (second from l) and Orange County School Board District Member 7 Melissa Byrd (front). Over 208,000 students from 199 countries, speaking 174 languages and dialects, attend schools in OCPS.



Founded in Apopka, Sawyer Brown comprises of Apopka natives (l to r) Gregg Hubbard (keys/piano) and Mark Miller (lead vocals), as well as Joe Smyth (drums/percussions), and Shayne Hill (lead guitar).



John Anderson will perform in the Apopka Proud concert.

## Sawyer Brown, John Anderson to return in Apopka Proud concert

Country artists Sawyer Brown and John Anderson are returning to the Apopka Amphitheater for the highly anticipated 2024 Apopka Proud concert.

The Apopka Proud concert will take place on Saturday, October 5, from 5:30-10 p.m., for a rare opportunity to see these country stars perform their greatest hits on their hometown stage. These Apopka natives will be joined by

opening act Dallas Tyler, another local and aspiring country artist.

The high-energy country supergroup Sawyer Brown Band, was founded in Apopka, Florida. Known for their blue-collar, grassroots songs reflecting on life, the band features Apopka natives Mark Miller (lead vocals) and Gregg Hubbard (keys/piano), along with Joe

See CONCERT Page 5A

## City to host 9/11 memorial

The Apopka Fire Department and Apopka Police Department invite the community to attend this year's 9/11 Memorial Ceremony, where the city will honor and remember those who perished in the terror-

ist attacks on September 11, 2001.

On Wednesday, September 11, service will start at 8:30 a.m. on the front steps of Apopka City Hall, 120 E. Main St., Apopka. The flag will be lowered to half-staff.

## National Night Out is Oct. 1

The Orange County Sheriff's Office and fire departments will be at National Night Out, which will take place on Tuesday, October 1, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. at the recreation hall of Clarcona Resort, 3000 Clarcona Road, Apopka.

There will be free food games for all (some competitive), holiday crafts, a bounce house and free raffle drawings with prizes to win. Attendees can also paint a rock for their yard or help grow the CRCA rock snake in front of the office.

## Contest seeks new city flag redesign

By Teresa Sargeant  
Apopka Chief Staff

The city of Apopka is searching for a fresh redesign of its flag in a competition, which began on Thursday, August 8 and will run until Friday, September 6.

Stephen Cribb, city special projects specialist, presented the details of the flag redesign competition at the August 7 City Council meeting.

A city flag redesign competition wouldn't just be about getting a new flag, but also as a way for the community to bond.

"Not only do we get a new flag out of it, but really to bolster community involvement and letting them participate in a competition where they can submit designs made by them who the community means something can, and ultimately having ownership where they get to vote on the flag as well," Cribb said.

The newly redesigned flag will be introduced in time for a few upcoming city hallmark celebrations. This fall, the city will celebrate 142 years of its in-

See FLAG Page 6A

## WoodmenLife stuffs backpacks



WoodmenLife Apopka Chapter 825 Volunteer Members stuffed backpacks at their local Chapter Hall with foodstuffs and school supplies to donate to Apopka Memorial Middle School to give some students a head start on the new school year.

This week

Section A

Opinion..... 2A

Public Notice..... 4A

Dining & Ent..... 7A

Bus. Review ..... 8,9A

Worship ..... 10A

Kapers .....11A

Section B

Sports ..... 1B

Legal ads..... 6-10B

Classified..... 10-12B

Service Dir..... 12B

Find Public Notices

Online at: TheApopkaChief.com/  
public-notice OR  
FloridaPublicNotices.com

8 08805 93104 4



Apopka Event of the Week

The primary election is on Tuesday, August 20, from 7 a.m.-7 p.m. at each precinct in the county. You must vote at your precinct location. Go to the website: [ocfelections.com/Apopka-municipal-precinct-maps](https://ocfelections.com/Apopka-municipal-precinct-maps) and click on Voters to find your voting precinct. Your vote is your right, your privilege, your responsibility.

Quotable

We are the second largest city in the county, and as such, we should conduct business in a professional and dignified manner.

Editorial speaks about the necessity of proper decorum during council meetings

Opinion

The Apopka Chief  
A weekly newspaper founded in 1923

Publisher Emeritus

John Ricketson  
Mar. 5, 1940 - July 16, 2024

Consultant Emeritus

John Peery  
Mar. 28 1956 - Oct. 12, 2023

Publisher

T. Jerrod Ricketson

Reporters

Teresa Sargeant  
Marshall Tempest  
Neal Fisher

Marketing Director

Jackie Trefcer

General Mgr Emeritus

Neoma Knox  
Feb. 12, 1929 - Sept. 18, 2021

Our position

Act like the city you are, Apopka

For far too long, the Apopka City Council proceedings have been a zoo. And quite frankly, it smells like a zoo, with the coarse words that are thrown around without caution or respect.

In an effort to afford everyone a license to vent, the way in which the City Council proceedings are being conducted is embarrassing. When you go to the federal, state, or county level of government, there is a certain honor and decorum in which the meetings are conducted.

Wildly different views can be expressed with decency. The positions of those governing us, along with the public, can express these some-times polar vantage points, with dignity, instead of rudeness, name-calling, and labeling.

Would your dad put up with this verbal vomit if you spouted off irreverently and without restraint at your dinner table? Would the owner of your company respond favorably to your yelling or accusations? Does your spouse respond when you are disrespectful?

NO!

Commissioner Nick Nesta told the commission at the last meeting, that the Mayor had the power and responsibility to better conduct the way in which the meeting rants happened. He is right.

The Mayor should take that advice and clamp down on how the meetings are run. As chairman of the meeting, and CEO of the City, the Mayor should be strong in what to allow in the proceedings, from both the public and the commissioners. Dismiss those from the room who choose to not abide by the civil-toned leadership that you

must give.

There is a right way and a wrong way to handle City business. We are the second largest city in the county, and as such, we should conduct business in a professional and dignified manner.

There should be no continual outbursts from the public or the commissioners. The chair should recognize people to speak, and all those who continue to use the current free-for-all should be warned, and then, if necessary, escorted out of the proceedings.

Come on! Apopka desires a first-class Council where divergent viewpoints are allowed and handled in a dignified way. But city business must be conducted in a civil and productive fashion.

People want more and better restaurants in town. Well, which company would want to come to town, and be subjected to this kind of city proceedings?

Who would view our Council meetings online or in person, and want to move their family or business to Apopka? Unprofessional doesn't even begin to describe what takes place from the public... and sometimes even the commissioners.

Grow up Apopka – speaking to both the Council and the public!

Each commissioner and the Mayor are elected by all Apopkans. Our citizens, families, students, business leaders, civic clubs, and other stakeholders in our great city, are ready for Mayor Nelson, and Commissioners Velazquez, Smith, Nesta, and Anderson to step up, grow up, and lead Apopka to a higher standard of respect and professionalism in moving this great city forward.



Pathway to parkway was complicated

I sit as an Orange County Board of County Commissioners' representative on the Central Florida Expressway Authority (CFX). I have enjoyed my service advocating for Altamonte Springs and Lockhart area residents with the new bridge slated for the area creating a limited access highway from I-4 West to SR 429.

This year I attended a groundbreaking for the new section linking SR 429 with the Clermont area. This will greatly help Horizon West residents. And last Thursday, I received a commemorative book on the development of the beltway around Orlando called "The River and the Road" written by Dan Tracy, which CFX commissioned. You may access this

County Commissioner  
District 2



Christine Moore

beautiful publication from the CFX website at: <https://www.cfxway.com/wekiva-parkway-book/>

I was keenly aware through my friends, former Commissioners Brenda Carey, Fred Brummer, and Lee Constantine, about the difficult process taking place around 2004. However, I did not realize there were actually seven decades involved in building the beltway! According to "The River and

the Road" by Dan Tracy, following is a summation of the seven decades in making the roadway come to fruition:

1950s- "First public mention about building a beltway around Metro Orlando"

1963- "Orlando Orange County Expressway Authority (OOCEA) created, board envisions a regional beltway"

1971- "Walt Disney World opened, triggering unprecedented growth and the need for more expressways"

1983- "OOCEA changed its public finance structure so bond monies could fund an entire system of roads"

1986- "Wekiva Parkway first concept design ap-

See MOORE Page 4A

Bus drivers enjoyed donuts, coffee, juice

Welcome to the 2024-25 school year! Hard to even say and to imagine that we will be graduating the Class of 2025 this year. Especially for this mom of a current senior, I never thought 2025 would come so quick!

Our first day of school started off like my first day of school has started since being on the school board - early!

My day on Monday started when my alarm went off at 4:30 a.m. so I could meet Mayor Bryan Nelson at the Apopka school bus depot to welcome our wonderful bus drivers and bus monitors

Orange County School  
Board, District 7



Melissa Byrd

back to work.

By 5:30 the donuts, coffee and juice were set up and bus drivers were smiling and ready to start another year. The depot opens up close to 5 a.m. every school morning and the bus drivers flood in, ready to work shortly thereafter.

This is one of my fa-

vorite things to do because I'm always amazed at how every driver has a bounce in their step and a big smile when they see that we are there to celebrate and welcome them to a new school year. They were all genuinely excited to get back to work, even at the early hour!

The role of the bus drivers is often under-recognized for its importance in the lives of children. Not only do they transport our children safely everyday to and from school of course, but these are the first school interactions our children

See BYRD Page 4A

Everybody has an opinion.  
Why not share yours?

Send, bring or email your signed letters of approximately 250 words to the Editor,

The Apopka Chief  
400 N. Park Ave., Apopka 32712  
For info: 407-886-2777 Fax: 407-889-4121  
Email: [news@theapopkachief.com](mailto:news@theapopkachief.com)

Submit your letter online at [theapopkachief.com](http://theapopkachief.com)

This Week In God's Word

I will make them and the places surrounding my hill a blessing. I will send down showers in season; there will be showers of blessing. - Ezekiel 34:26

Mema Says

Kindness is highly contagious.

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.

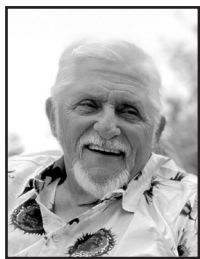


See something, say something doesn't always get results

Whatever happened to the "commons?"

You know, common sense, common decency, common courtesy, etcetera. I've noticed we have given up the "common" for the "uncommon," and we've turned the whole nation upside down. It is time for the "common" people to start making their presence known and felt.

I'll admit I have been guilty of letting things rock on, thinking somewhere down the road someone else will put a stop to it. I



Ike Hayden

know that our government has the directions for us – "if you see something say something."

But that sure didn't work in Butler, PA, when everyone was aware of the man on the building, and

after saying something, nothing happened. We're going to have to start becoming more aware of what we can do to end this madness without putting others in danger.

I can remember a time when men and women were more proactive when it came to preventing a breaking of the law, or behaviors that would result in injuries to other citizens. Unfortunately, a lot of people consider it none of their business to get involved, and so they pass

on by, thinking they have a good excuse for allowing the atrocity to continue.

We have become a very selfish society... only thinking of ourselves, and putting others in a lower class. I'm so proud of our veterans that faced such horrendous conditions, life and death situations, impossible odds, and even scorn from those they were fighting to keep free, and yet, through two world wars, the Korean War, Vietnam, Desert Storm, Afghanistan, and all the oth-

er battlegrounds not listed, our veterans charged forward to keep others from being overcome by the greed and destruction promised by those intent on enslaving The United States of America.

We are still a free nation because of those that stepped in the way of tyranny, no matter the cost. What happened to those men and women that put others before themselves? I often wonder what would happen if we watched out for each other as broth-

ers and sisters of this great family called Americans. Would there still be divisions, misunderstandings, sometimes "knock-downs, drag-outs?" Absolutely, but in the end, our bond would draw us closer together and allow us to show the rest of the world (and they are watching) that although we may fuss with each other, you do *not* mess with my brother or sister.

There are those in our society that hate the Unit-

See HAYDEN Page 4A



# OCPS: Half-cent sales tax is on the November 5 ballot

Continued from page 1A

Mark Watson, OCPS Food and Nutrition Services senior director; and Rory Salimbene, OCPS chief facilities officer.

Once again, OCPS was named an ‘A’ school district by the state Department of Education. Eighty-eight of OCPS traditional high schools have earned an ‘A,’ up from 77 traditional high schools. Sixty-nine percent of OCPS traditional schools has earned an ‘A’ or ‘B’.

“That’s up 7 percent, but we are not resting on our laurels this year. The district is taking stock of our priorities so that we can roll up and roll out our strategic plan for 2030. This plan will be laser-focused on producing graduates aligned with the skills our community needs,” Jacobs said.

OCPS construction projects comprise of 10 projects this year, including Atwater Bay Elementary School, Howard Middle School, Innovation High School, and a new Orange Technical College Main campus, Vazquez said.

Mina emphasized that the students’ safety, health and well-being are the Orange County Sheriff’s Office’s top priority.

“I just want to reassure our parents that the safety, the health, and the well-being of our kids in school is our top priority,” Mina said. “Through our training and our policies, our parents need to know that our deputies have been instructed and will risk their lives for the safety of their children.”

Along with the physical presence of sheriff’s deputies at every district

school, the sheriff’s office can access all of the cameras through OCPS – over 6,000 cameras.

Mina cautioned drivers to drive with extreme caution in school zones, since every year, at least one school crossing guard gets struck by a motorist while helping children cross the street. School Resource Officers will enforce traffic violations near schools.

Mina encouraged everyone to not use cell phones while in school zones.

Over the past three years, the sheriff’s office has been able to reduce the number of arrests in OCPS by over 25 percent.

“Finally, as a parent of kids who are a part of Orange County Public Schools, having over 200 deputies in schools throughout Orange County and also knowing the important role that our schools play in the success of our community and the safety of our community, I will be voting yes for the half-cent sales tax initiative on the ballot this November as well,” Mina said.

### Half-cent sales tax

The half-cent sales tax is a large part of OCPS’ existing source of funding for school construction, renovation, technology, and security improvements. The current half-cent sales tax will sunset in 2025 unless voters approve the referendum on November 5. The funding not only keeps OCPS schools maintained for the next 10 years, but it also creates 1,850 private sector jobs each year, Vazquez said.

For every \$1 of tax

that’s collected, a \$1.58 return on investment goes back into the local economy. More than 50 percent of the half-cent sales tax is paid by tourists, not residents. The continuation of the half-cents sales tax would keep the current 6.5 percent sales tax in Orange County, which is lower than all of its neighboring counties.

“The funding is crucial since OCPS has experienced high growth since 2011, and keeping our buildings maintained is extremely important,” Vazquez said. “On or before November 5th election, we ask you to remember that OCPS, and Scott Howat, OCPS spokesman said this, is first in your heart and last on the ballot.”

Orange County voters approved a half-cent sales tax in 2002, and in 2014, voted to extend the half-cent sales for another decade.

cade.

According to the OCPS website, the half-cent sales tax has raised over \$4 billion for school building projects.

### Student meals

OCPS just ended its summer feeding program, in which 646,000 meals were served at 230 sites around Orange County communities, Watson said.

Last year, OCPS served 40 million meals for our last school year during the summer. During the school year, OCPS’ focus is on serving fresh fruit and vegetables, most of which are grown in the state.

Each year, OCPS serves a little over one million pounds of fresh food and vegetables in our meals. A vast body of research shows that improved nutrition in school leads to increased focus and attention in class, improved test

scores and better classroom behavior.

This school year, OCPS will serve its students meals at no charge.

“The community eligibility provision, better

known as CEP, allows us to provide nutritional meals to our students. This provision helps families save money in these challenging financial times,” Watson said.



## ILLUMINATE YOUR BUSINESS TODAY!

**FASTSIGNS** | Apopka, FL  
Make Your Statement

### Your LED Sign Installation Experts

We'll Handle It All - From concept to completion let us light up your business. Contact Us Now!

Illuminated Signs • Permits • Installation

# 407-774-0003

3030 E Semoran Blvd #156 Apopka FL, 32703

## PROTECT YOUR FAMILY, LIFE, AND FUTURE.

### COBBLESTONE INSURANCE AGENCY


Home | Auto | Business | Financial Services



1116 E. Semoran Blvd.  
P.O. Box 2245, Apopka, FL 32704

(407) 889-9555    [www.cobfin.com](http://www.cobfin.com)  
(407) 889-5084    Like us on Facebook

Let us help you with all your insurance needs!



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

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

**811** Know what's below. Call before you dig.

**Lake Apopka Natural Gas District**

[www.langd.org](http://www.langd.org)    407-656-2734 ext. 307

# BATTLE READY. TRUMP ENDORSED.

# VOTE AUGUST 20



**Donald J. Trump**   
[@realDonaldTrump](https://twitter.com/realDonaldTrump)

Congressman Daniel Webster is doing a terrific job representing Florida's 11th Congressional District.

As a successful businessman, Daniel knows how to Fight Inflation, Grow the Economy, Lower Taxes, and Eliminate Government Waste. Daniel is working hard to Secure the Border, Protect our Elections, Support our Great Military / Veterans, and Defend our always under siege Second Amendment.

**Daniel Webster has my Complete and Total Endorsement—HE WILL NEVER LET YOU DOWN!**

1.75k ReTruths 7.48k Likes

Jun 13, 2024, 6:16 PM

## DANIEL WEBSTER



### U. S. CONGRESS



[www.ElectWebster.com](http://www.ElectWebster.com)

Paid for by Daniel Webster For Congress



# Moore: Honoring concessions of environmentalists very important

Continued from page 2A

proved”;  
2000- “The Wekiva River was designated a ‘national wild and scenic river’ by U.S. Congress”  
2003- “Gov. Jeb Bush created the Wekiva River Basin Commission to determine alignment”  
2004- “The Wekiva Parkway and Protection Act was passed by the Florida Legislature”  
2005- “Wekiva Parkway Planning, Design, and Engineering Study began”  
2012- “The Federal Highway Administration

approved Wekiva Parkway alignment and design”  
2014- “Florida Legislature created the Central Florida Expressway Authority (CFX) and expanded jurisdiction”  
2015- “CFX began construction on its Wekiva Parkway segments”  
2018- “CFX completed construction of its Wekiva Parkway segments 18 months early”  
2024- “Wekiva Parkway completed as the final link of the Central Florida beltway”  
I’m not sure many of you realize that SR 417 is

the eastern portion of the beltway around Orlando.  
Many of you take this roadway to reach the University of Central Florida or perhaps, Orlando, or MCO Airport.  
I remember when the western portion of SR 429 was opened. I remember this portion of the beltway being named after my friend and our current congressman, Daniel Webster. Congressman Webster, while he was Speaker of the Florida House, was responsible for securing the state funding. In fact, I packed up my two young children and their bi-

cycles to ride on the roadway at the dedication. Seeing that these two are now both parents themselves, you know this was about two decades ago.  
The final segment, about 25 miles through the environmentally sensitive areas of the Wekiva River, was incredibly challenging. The Wekiva Basin is fed by 19 springs and connects with the Floridan Aquifer. Additionally, the Wekiva River was designated in 1988 to be a “natural resource of state and regional importance.”  
The roadway designers and engineers had to create a complex construction plan that minimized potential development and any impacts. The bridge had no pillars in the water and required temporary berms to keep construction runoff from running into the river.

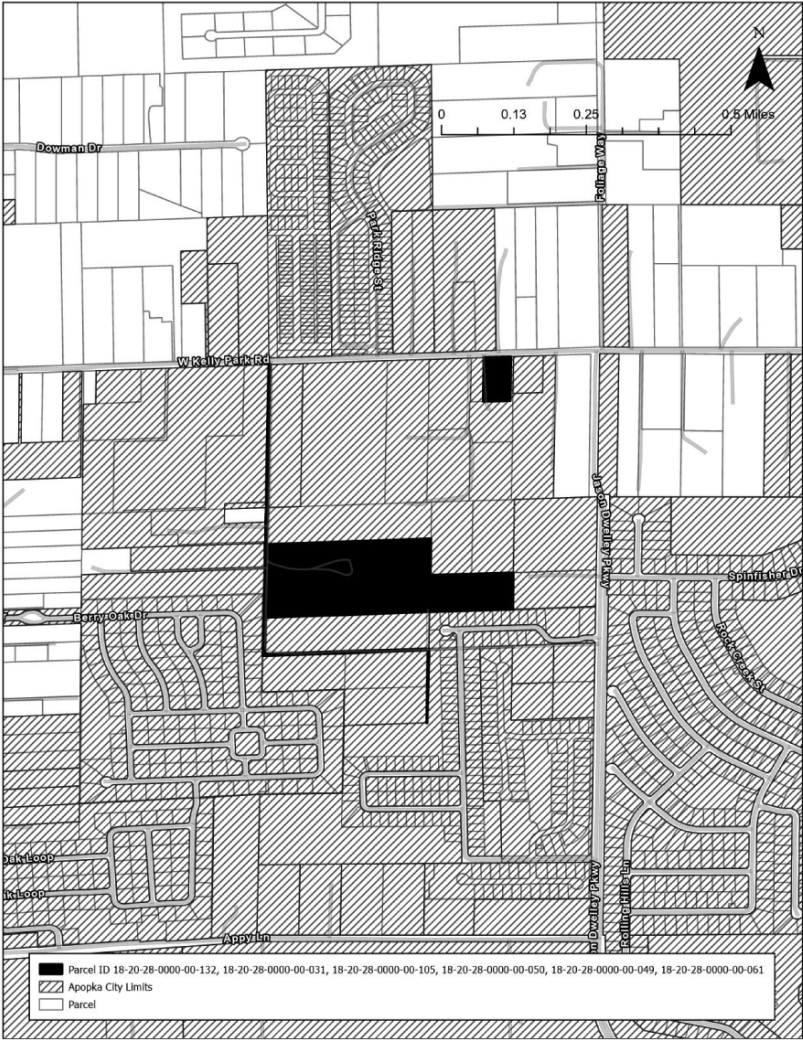
Environmental activists were right to be concerned about any possible damage the highway could create. The bridge over the river is elevated without piers to allow unfettered access to wildlife and recreational users. It was constructed from the top down to further protect the river.  
The book, “The River and the Road”, states the inspiration for the Wekiva Parkway was the Blue Ridge Parkway which is in North Carolina and Virginia. That roadway is considered a national treasure. The Wekiva Parkway also “conforms to the contours of the land. It has lush landscaping and the overpasses and bridges are custom designed, and display... warm earth tones.”  
Lessons learned from providing this much-needed roadway and protecting the

environment include: making the natural environment the top consideration, working closely with residents and all stakeholders, and pioneering uses of design with materials that enhance the road and blend into the natural environment.  
One final note, I believe it is important to honor the concessions of these environmentalists by restricting any new high-density areas other than Kelly Park Crossings. This promise was part of the Wekiva River Protection Act dating back to 2004.  
Additionally, downtown Apopka has suffered enough blight and neglect. We must continue to strike the right balance between serving a burgeoning population and protecting our natural resources.

## 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 **Jonathan P. Huels, Esq.** has made an application to the City of Apopka City Council for an **ANNEXATION** of properties generally located south of W. Kelly Park Road and west of Jason Dwellley Parkway. This application relates to the following described properties:

ORDINANCE NO. 3071  
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 ORCHID ESTATES COMMUNITY HOME OWNERS ASSOCIATION, MEGA GNG, LLC, JACOB SNAVELY, 4625 CHANDLER ROAD, LLC, MATTHEW AND DEBORAH SHAW, DAPHNE MARTIN; GENERALLY LOCATED SOUTH OF W. KELLY PARK ROAD AND WEST OF JASON DWELLEY PARKWAY; COMPRISING 28.54 ACRES, MORE OR LESS; PROVIDING FOR DIRECTIONS TO THE CITY CLERK, SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.



Parcel Identification Number(s): 18-20-28-0000-00-132, 18-20-28-0000-00-031, 18-20-28-0000-00-105, 18-20-28-0000-00-050, 18-20-28-0000-00-049, 18-20-28-0000-00-061  
Contains: 28.54 +/- acres

NOTICE is given that public hearings for Ordinance No. 3071 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 21, 2024 beginning at 7:00 P.M. and Wednesday, September 4, 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.

August 16, 2024  
Publish: The Apopka Chief

Apopka City Council  
Community Development Department  
177251

have in the beginning of their days.

A good bus driver becomes a person of comfort for our children and can lift spirits in a way that many children need in order to enter school with a positive mindset for the day of learning ahead.

I remember meeting a bus driver when I was campaigning for the school board after I knocked on her door. She had been a driver for over 30 years and considered the children on her route her own children. She knew about their lives and watched out for them and they looked forward to seeing her everyday.

The drivers are truly a blessing and our education system couldn’t work without them so I am always thrilled to spend the morning with them.

## Hayden: Common sense says “Vote”

Continued from page 2A

ed States of America and want to do away with the American way of life, the American dream, and our God-given rights guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States of America. They use the freedoms given by the Constitution to undermine and destroy our very culture.

We need to protect our family, putting one foot in front of the other, going forward, presenting a formidable front that will *not* back down.

Our schools of higher learning are filled with educated idiots that teach Socialism, Communism, and world views that have decimated other nations, and left them in ruins, and yet, we still send our kids to be brainwashed into believing the United States of America is undeserving of the title, “Exceptional.”

Our nation needs an enema to cleanse our gov-

ernment and Washington, D.C., is the place to gain entrance for the procedure! We need to show the courage and strength of those who stood tall when faced with overwhelming odds. Some, even though their lives were threatened with intimidation, persecution, rejection, and, yes, even death, promoted a better way for our nation. If we cannot change our nation’s ruling ideology, we are headed for WWII, and because of the weaponry that will be used, the next war after that will be fought with sticks and stones.

I believe that there are people all over our great nation that are simply worn out with all the turmoil on our streets, in our government, and between people who ought to be rejoicing over “life in America!” After Rodney King was brutally beaten by four Los Angeles policemen following a high-speed chase on March 3, 1991, eventually

the four L.A.P.D. officers were charged with multiple charges, and stood trial for the malicious, and uncalled for beating. In April 1992, the officers involved were acquitted, and that set off riots that resulted in 50 deaths, 2000 injured, 9500 arrested for looting and arson, and \$1 billion dollars in damages.

When Rodney King saw all the destruction and mayhem on the third day of the riots, he made a public appearance, making his now-famous plea: “People, I just want to say, can’t we all get along? Can’t we all get along?”

Let us turn our nation upright again. You and I have the upper hand.

We can fire the employees who *believe* they are in charge, and we can hire true employees that will work for us, and our protection.

My advice is to use COMMON sense – get out and VOTE!!!

## ALL ABOUT APOPKA

### The Apopka Chief

Established 1923  
(USPS 545-440)

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

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

www.theapokkachief.com, news@theapokkachief.com



#### City of Apopka Telephone Numbers

City Hall .....	407-703-1700
Mayor’s Office .....	407-703-1701
City Administrator .....	407-703-1649
City Clerk .....	407-703-1704
Community Devel. ....	407-703-1712
Code Enforcement .....	407-703-1738
Finance Dept. ....	407-703-1725
Fire (non-emerg.) .....	407-703-1756
Parks and Rec. Dept. ....	407-703-1741
Police Chief .....	407-703-1769
Police (non-emerg.) .....	407-703-1771
Job Line .....	407-703-1743
Solid Waste Collect.....	407-703-1731
Street Maintenance .....	407-703-1731
Utility Billing .....	407-703-1727
Medical, fire emergency.....	911
The city of Apopka was chartered in 1882. It is located at 28°30 north latitude and is 150 feet above sea level. Its population is about 48,000 and its total area is more than 30 sq. mi. <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
Clerk of the Court.....	407-836-2065
Elections Supervisor.....	407-836-2070
Fire/Rescue .....	407-836-3111
Solid Waste .....	407-836-6601
Garbage Collection.....	407-703-1731
Health Dept. ....	407-836-2600
Hunting/Fishing Lic .....	888-347-4356
Parks and Rec. Dept. ....	407-836-6200
Property Appraiser .....	407-836-5044
Sheriff Administrative .....	407-254-7000
Non-Emerg. Complaint.....	407-836-4357
Utilities .....	407-836-5515
All other departments .....	407-836-3111
Medical, fire emergency.....	911
<b>www.orangecountyfl.net</b>	

#### 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



# Concert: Tickets, merchandise on sale now on Eventbrite

Continued from page 1A

Smyth (drums/percussion) and Shayne Hill (lead guitar).

The band rose to fame after winning "Star Search" in 1983, securing a record deal, and has since released 18 studio albums and charted over 50 times. The Sawyer Brown Band will be returning to the amphitheater with their new album, "Desperado Troubadours," their first release in 20 years.

Joining Sawyer Brown is country music great and Apopka native John Anderson, a recent inductee into the Country Music Hall of Fame. Anderson will return to the Apopka Amphitheater with an acoustic set and

his newest album "Years."

Known for his Number 1 hits "Swingin'" and "Straight Tequila Night," Anderson is making his comeback after a major health setback. He approached this latest album with the mindset that it might be his last. Now recovered, he continues to deliver the heartfelt storytelling and eloquent love songs that have defined his 22-album career.

Apopka Proud tickets are available on Eventbrite at [shorturl.at/Ex4Ci](https://shorturl.at/Ex4Ci) with various purchasing options, including general admission lawn seats (\$25), covered amphitheater seating (\$50), and reserved tables (\$600). When purchasing tickets on Eventbrite,

official merchandise and a limited number of preferred parking passes will be available as add-ons (additional fees apply). Free general parking will also be available within the Northwest Recreation Complex, where the Apopka Amphitheater is located.

For general admission lawn seating, one chair will be permitted into the event per ticket. However, tents, umbrellas, tables, outside food, and beverages are prohibited inside the event.

Various food and beverage options will be available for purchase inside the venue. Gates open at 4:30 p.m. for a 5:30 p.m. show time.

**Fri., Aug. 16, 2024 thru Sun., Aug. 18, 2024**

**3D SHOWINGS**

**DEADPOOL & WOLVERINE**  
(R) 3:40

**ALIEN: ROMULUS** (R) 10:00A; 10:50A; 12:50; 2:00; 4:00; 5:00; 7:10; 8:10; 9:50; 10:20

**BORDERLANDS** (PG-13) 10:10A; 1:40; 4:40; 7:30; 10:30

**DESPICABLE ME 4** (PG) 10:20A; 1:50; 4:20; 6:40

**DEADPOOL & WOLVERINE** (R) 10:30A; 12:30; 6:50; 10:00

**TWISTERS** (PG-13) 10:40A\*; 11:10A; 1:30; 4:30; 7:20; 9:40

**TRAP** (PG-13) 11:00A; 2:10; 4:50; 7:40; 10:40

**IT ENDS WITH US** (PG-13) 10:40A; 11:10A\*; 12:40; 3:50; 7:00; 10:10

**\* FRI. ONLY**

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

**WEKIVA RIVERWALK**  
WEKIVA SPRINGS RD, APOPKA  
[www.regmovies.com](http://www.regmovies.com)

**AUG. 24**

**VFW POST 10147**  
**519 S. Central Ave., Apopka**  
invites you to its 3rd Saturday  
**FUNDRAISING BREAKFAST**  
**SAT., AUG. 24**  
**8 a.m.-10 a.m.**

- Scrambled Eggs
- Sausage Links • Pancakes
- Biscuits and Gravy
- Orange Juice • Coffee • Water

**ALL FOR \$7.00!**  
Children under 5 free with paid adult  
• Door Prizes • Drawings •

Sponsored by  
**Rotary Club of Apopka**  
Due to early voting for the Primary Election at 519 S. Central Ave., open each day from 9 a.m.-7 p.m. until Sunday, August 18, the Fundraising Breakfast has been moved to **SATURDAY, AUGUST 24.**

**Got EVENTS?**

**PUBLICIZE THEM...**

Use Our Online Forms:  
**[www.theapokkachief.com](http://www.theapokkachief.com)**

Call The Apopka Chief at **407-886-2777**,  
or email **[news@theapokkachief.com](mailto:news@theapokkachief.com)**

**The Best Compliment**

**You Can Give Is A Referral.**

Please support these local businesses  
and organizations.

**Get Your E-edition today!**  
*Read page by page.*  
*Anywhere, Anytime, and on Any Device*

**In Print. Online. On the Go.**

**Your Local News. Your Way!**

**Staying connected is easier than ever...**

Complete Local News Coverage

Social & Political Changes

Dining & Entertainment

Lifestyle & Local Events

Business & Economic News

Youth Sports & School News

Weather & Traffic

Church News

Classifieds

and so much more

**Get Your E-edition**  
**Call or Subscribe Online!**  
**The Apopka Chief**  
Your Trusted Local News Source  
E-mail: [News@TheApopkaChief.com](mailto:News@TheApopkaChief.com)  
Ads@[TheApopkaChief.com](mailto:Ads@TheApopkaChief.com)  
[www.TheApopkaChief.com](http://www.TheApopkaChief.com)  
Like us on Facebook. Get important news when it happens.  
400 N. Park Ave., Apopka, FL 32712  
Phone: 407-886-2777 • Fax: 407-889-4121

**WORKPLACE**  
SCREENING INTELLIGENCE  
Helping Employers and Employees  
Get Back to Work Safely and Stay COVID Free

**LABORATORY TESTING**

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

Call: 800-338-5515 or Email: [info@workplacescreening.com](mailto:info@workplacescreening.com)  
[www.workplacescreening.com](http://www.workplacescreening.com)

**RSR**  
Rock Springs Realty, LLC  
Residential & Investment Real Estate

- Selling: What's your home worth in the current market?

Call for a No-Obligation "Home Evaluation" Report

- Buying: Search "ALL" homes for sale in Apopka

[www.RockSpringsRealty.com](http://www.RockSpringsRealty.com)

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

**Shelley's Septic Tanks**

**FREE ESTIMATES 407-889-8042**  
**Hours: Monday - Friday 7AM - 5PM**

Environmentally Friendly Company!  
Licensed & Insured  
State Certified

**Emergency Services Available After Hours**

6505 W. Jones Ave.,  
Zellwood, FL 32798

**BOUNCE & SLIDE RENTALS**

**TURN ANY DAY INTO A JUMP-FOR-104 OCCASION!**

- NOW Available: INFLATABLE PICTURE SCREEN
- Bounce houses and slide combos available
- Different Sizes available Wet & Dry
- Tables and chairs for up to 30 guests.
- Clean, Commercial Grade Quality Units

Are You Looking to Throw the Ultimate Party?

For Availability and Rates Call 407-457-2934 visit [www.bouncenslidentals.com](http://www.bouncenslidentals.com)  
or Email [bouncenslidentals@outlook.com](mailto:bouncenslidentals@outlook.com) Licensed, insured, and S.I.O.T.O. certified.

**Trendy Kids**

**We Buy Kid's Things**  
3030 E. Semoran Blvd.,  
Ste 202, Apopka  
**407-788-8010**

**Specializing in Damage-Free Towing Car Carrier Service**

**BJ's Towing Service, Inc.**  
**407-886-0568**  
670 E. Mason Avenue | Apopka, FL 32703  
[bjstowing@centurylink.net](mailto:bjstowing@centurylink.net)

**Please Support These Businesses & Service Organizations.**

They Care About You & Are Investing in the Community.

**NORTH AMERICA'S**

**#1 Selling Walk-In Tub**

Featuring our **Free Shower Package**

Now you can finally have all of the soothing benefits of a relaxing warm bath, or enjoy a convenient refreshing shower while seated or standing with Safe Step Walk-In Tub's **FREE Shower Package!**

- First walk-in tub available with a customizable shower
- Fixed rainfall shower head is adjustable for your height and pivots to offer a seated shower option
- High-quality tub complete with a comprehensive lifetime warranty on the entire tub
- Top-of-the-line installation and service, all included at one low, affordable price

Now you can have the best of both worlds—there isn't a better, more affordable walk-in tub!

**Call today and receive a FREE SHOWER PACKAGE PLUS \$1600 OFF**  
FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY  
Call Toll-Free 1-855-951-4780

**SAFE STEP WALK-IN TUB**  
With purchase of a new Safe Step Walk-In Tub. Not applicable with any previous walk-in tub purchase. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase.

**Call Today for Your Free Shower Package**

**1-855-951-4780**

FINANCING AVAILABLE WITH APPROVED CREDIT

MADE IN THE USA

BBB A+ Rating

LIFETIME WARRANTY

**OLD GLASSES & HEARING AIDS WANTED**

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

Foliage Sertoma Club of Apopka (407) 832-2627

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

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

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

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.



Need to send or receive a fax? You can use ours!  
APOPKA OFFICE SUPPLY, 400 N. Park Ave., Apopka  
Call us at 407-889-4455 • Fax 407-889-4121



**PEOPLE OF  
WEKIWA SPRINGS**

**The People of Wekiwa Springs  
remember John Ricketson for his  
unwavering dedication and years of  
selfless service to our community.**



**COMPASS HEALTH**  
YOUR PLAN. YOUR CHOICE.

**LET US GUIDE YOU**

- HEALTH
- MEDICARE
- CREMATION
- ACCIDENT
- DENTAL
- LIFE
- CRITICAL ILLNESS

**SE HABLA ESPAÑOL**

**Compass Health Insurance.com**  
**3030 East Semoran Blvd., #184**  
**Apopka, FL 32703 407-758-9487**  
Next to Gators Dockside (in Colonial Shoppes at Bear Lake)  
Your Local Agency for  
**Florida Blue**

# Flag: Current design doesn't meet any of association's standards, says city worker

Continued from page 1A

corporation as the town of Apopka City, and the 100th anniversary of the City Hall building, which will be in May 2025.

Quoting the North American Vexillological Association (NAVA), Cribb said that according to the group, "A well-designed city flag can foster civic pride and community cohesion. It can support the city's branding and promotion. And a simpler flag usually costs the city and its residents less, leading to its broader use."

At the time of the City Council meeting, the flag was flying at half-mast. Hoisted up that high, it's difficult to see the small details on the flag, Cribb said.

The city flag is outdated, and missing an identity and culture, Cribb said. As well, the flag isn't unique because three other county flags in the state have a design similar to Apopka's, which has the green cross with the city seal in the cen-



The current City of Apopka flag.

ter.

Cribb said he spoke with community historians and the city clerk about when the current flag was adopted.

"We haven't really been able to find anything as far as when our current flag was adopted. The response I keep getting was 'We've had it a long time,'" he said.

City Commissioner Diane Velazquez emphasized the necessity of mar-

keting to get community participation in the flag redesign contest. She also asked Cribb if the city is attracting local students to enter the contest.

Cribb said he and Mayor Bryan Nelson were going to schools promoting the flag redesign contest, and the city will also create a contest flyer for distribution.

City Commissioner Alexander H. Smith asked what the contest prizes

would be. Prizes have not yet been decided, Cribb said in response.

The city of Orlando conducted its flag redesign competition in 2017, Cribb said. The Orlando redesign competition saw 1,100 submissions including 950 from Orlando, 23,000 social media interactions, 156,000 visits to the city of Orlando website. The competition produced a win-

See FLAG Page 12A



**It's more than just cremation;  
it's a tribute to a life well-lived.**

Explore our compassionate cremation options at  
Highland Memory Gardens and Funeral Home.



**HIGHLAND FUNERAL HOME**  
**HIGHLAND MEMORY GARDENS**



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

We Make It Personal.®



Live life outside.®



Get the most  
out of your lawn  
this spring.

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

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

\*Special price is for first Lawn service only. Requires purchase of annual plan, for new residential EasyPay, MonthlyPay, or PrePay customers only. Valid at participating TruGreen locations. Availability of services and/or products may vary by geography. Not to be combined with or used in conjunction with any other offer or discount. Additional restrictions may apply. Consumer responsible for all sales tax. \*Guarantee applies to annual plan customers only. BBB accredited since 07/01/2012. ©2024 TruGreen Limited Partnership. All rights reserved. In Connecticut: B-0153; B-1380; B-0127; B-0200; B-0151.

**Consumer Cellular®**

**BIG WIRELESS  
COVERAGE,  
WITHOUT BIG  
WIRELESS COST.**

**Plans start at  
just \$20/month.**

**Switch & Save Today.**

**844-759-1652**

© 2024 Consumer Cellular Inc. Terms and Conditions subject to change. Up to half the cost savings based on Consumer Cellular's single-line, 1, 5 and 10GB data plans with unlimited talk and text compared to T-Mobile and Verizon's lowest cost, single-line post-paid unlimited talk, text and data plans, January 2024. Plans shown above include \$5 credit for AutoPay and E-billing. Taxes and other fees apply. Credit approval required for new service. Cellular service is not available in all areas and is subject to system limitations.



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

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



**SPONSOR OF  
CHASE ELLIOT  
CAR #9**

**250 E. 3rd St.,  
Suite B, Apopka  
407-889-5222**

**13202 W. Colonial Dr.,  
Winter Garden  
404-656-4141**

**napaonline.com**



# July rainfall returns to above average, ending a five-month dry streak

PALATKA — After five consecutive months of below-average rainfall, July brought a much-needed increase in precipitation to the St. Johns River Water Management District’s 18-county region. Eleven of these counties saw above-average rainfall, with northern and central areas benefiting the most. However, southern counties experienced a shortfall, including Brevard which was nearly 2.5 inches below compared to the July

average. Hurricane Debby had a mixed impact across the District. Southern counties and the central east coast, extending up to Flagler County, received minimal rainfall from the storm. In contrast, areas closer to the storm’s center, particularly the west and northern portions of the District, saw substantial rainfall. Nassau and Baker counties, for instance, averaged over 8 inches of rain, and one area in Nassau County reported

more than 10.5 inches over five days. A full report outlining July’s hydrologic conditions was presented at the District’s Governing Board meeting. Highlights included:  
**Rainfall**  
\*Districtwide average rainfall was 7.17 inches, 0.33 inches above the monthly average.  
\*County-wide monthly rainfall totals ranged from a high of 9.71 inches

in Nassau County to a low of 3.84 inches in Brevard County.  
\*Cumulative rainfall for the past 12 months was 50.33 inches, 0.68 inches below the long-term average.  
\*Twelve counties are now below their annual average, with Alachua County having the greatest deficit of nearly 5.5 inches below its average.  
\*The lists gave areas  
See RAINFALL Page 9A

MAKE IT  
**mullinax**   
**SUMMER  
SALES EVENT**

0% APR  
financing  
on 1,700  
New Fords!

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



Available on the following models: 24MY Escape, 24MY Edge, 24MY Explorer, 24MY Expedition, 24MY F-150, 23/24MY Mach-E, 23/24 F-150 Lightning. Exclude Raptor. Customer can defer first payment up to 90 days. 0% APR financing for 36 mos. at \$27.78 per mo. per \$1,000 financed, regardless of down payment. Offer requires credit approval and financing through Ford Credit. Not all buyers will qualify. Residency restrictions apply. See salesperson for qualifications. Ends 09/03/2024.  
1551 E. Semoran Blvd., Apopka, FL • [www.MullinaxFordFL.com](http://www.MullinaxFordFL.com) • 407-972-1678

**Retired from USAF**



Nelson Michael Smith an AHS graduate and recipient of one of the first scholarships from the North Orange Hospital Tax District, celebrated his retirement from the U.S. Air Force after 23 years of service. He retired on July 13 and is moving back to Orange County. Pictured (l to r) are Lt. Col. Melvin Bonifacio and Nelson Michael Smith at Smith’s retirement party.

**AMERICAN  
RESIDENTIAL**  
HEATING & COOLING



**Don't Get Stuck Without  
A/C This Summer!**  
Schedule Soon & Save Up to \$2000!

- ✓ Free Estimates and Second Opinions for New Heating and Cooling Systems
- ✓ Many Payment Options to choose from
- ✓ Service Available Seven Days a Week
- ✓ Licensed and Professional Technicians

**Call today! (877) 709-1777**

**\$49**  
Cooling or Heating  
System Tune Up

Price valid for one working unit. Excludes oil fired systems. Valid at participating ARS® Network locations. Not valid for third party, new construction, or commercial customers, with any other offers, discounts, or on prior sales. Call service center for details. Coupon required at time of service. Valid if copied or transferred and where prohibited. Any other use may constitute fraud. Cash value \$0.01. Offer expires 6/30/2024.  
License numbers available at [americanresidential.com/licenses](http://americanresidential.com/licenses)

**SAVE  
UP TO \$2000**  
on a New Cooling  
and Heating System with  
our Buy Back Program!

Savings requires purchase and installation of select complete heating and cooling system. Removal and disposal by Company of existing heating and cooling system required. Valid at participating ARS® Network locations. Not valid for third party, new construction, or commercial customers, with any other offers, discounts, or on prior sales. Call service center for details. Coupon required at time of service. Valid if copied or transferred and where prohibited. Any other use may constitute fraud. Cash value \$0.01. Offer expires 6/30/2024.  
License numbers available at [americanresidential.com/licenses](http://americanresidential.com/licenses)

# Dining AND Entertainment

Please support our local businesses.



**Welcome to Caff  Positanos,**  
*where food is our passion*

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



**Caff  Positano**  
*Call us for take out orders!*

We are located at  
**3030 E. Semoran Blvd,  
Apopka, FL 32703 • 407-774-8080**  
1665 WP Ball Blvd, Sanford, FL 32771 • 407-531-1151  
Visit us at [www.caffepositanos.com](http://www.caffepositanos.com)

**Georgia  
Peaches**



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

**1-877-885-1767 or  
visit [PittmanDavis.com/P4YN07](http://PittmanDavis.com/P4YN07)**  
Only \$31.99 (reg. \$36.99) Satisfaction completely guaranteed.  
Valid through 08/08/24 at noon or while supplies last.  
IC: P4YN07

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

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

**Puzzle Solution**

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

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

**ONE BITE  
AND YOU'LL KNOW**



Instead of cutting back, cut into the best steaks of your life with the best people in your life. Just one bite and you'll know this is the best steak you'll ever taste. We guarantee it.

- ✓ Try the world's most tender steaks, extra-aged 28+ days to perfection.
- ✓ Discover premium quality beef that's grain-finished for exquisite flavor.
- ✓ Experience the juiciest air-chilled chicken, tastiest burgers, and so much more.

**THE BEST STEAKS  
OF YOUR LIFE OR  
YOUR MONEY BACK**



**Classic Cookout Collection**

- 4 Butcher's Cut Filet Mignons (5 oz.)
- 4 Air-Chilled Boneless Chicken Breasts (5 oz.)
- 4 Omaha Steaks Burgers (4 oz.)
- 4 Gourmet Jumbo Franks (3 oz.)
- 4 Individual Scalloped Potatoes (3.8 oz.)
- 4 Caramel Apple Tartlets (4 oz.)
- 1 Omaha Steaks Seasoning (3 oz.)
- 8 FREE Omaha Steaks Burgers (4 oz.)**

76946MHG separately \$279.99  
**SPECIAL PACKAGE PRICE \$129.99**

**AMERICA'S ORIGINAL BUTCHER  
OMAHA STEAKS  
SINCE 1917**

Call 1.877.694.0131 or go to [OmahaSteaks.com/OneBite2924](http://OmahaSteaks.com/OneBite2924)  
Ask for your FREE burgers with offer 76946MHG

Savings shown over aggregated single item base price. 8 free 4 oz. burgers will be sent to each shipping address that includes SKU 76946. Limit 2 on select items at these exclusive prices. While supplies last. Items may be substituted due to inventory limitations. Standard shipping rates will be applied and are subject to change. Minimum purchase and other restrictions may apply. Some products may not be available for sale in your area. Sales are subject to OmahaSteaks.com/terms-of-use051. Expires 09/30/24. | 2416602 | Omaha Steaks, LLC



# Bus operators can earn up to \$16K in bonuses over two years

To address the national school bus driver shortage in Orange County, Orange County Public Schools bus operators can now earn up to \$16,000 in bonuses over two years in a new agreement between Orange County Public Schools and the Orange Education Support Professionals Association.

This comes as the district prepares to host its next job fair Monday, August 19 from 9 a.m.- noon at its Hanging Moss compound, 6721 Hanging Moss Road, Orlando.

An August 8 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between the two parties giving up to \$8,000 in bonuses for 2024-25 and 2025-26. The bonuses would be divided up in the four marking periods during each school year. The MOU is set to expire on June 30, 2026.

The MOU was co-signed by, among others, LeighAnn Blackmoore, director of labor relations for the Orange County School Board, and Ronald Pollard, president of the Orange Education Support Professionals Association.

Additional benefits include:

- \*Paid training to get CDL license
- \*\$0 cost personal health insurance
- \*Retirement packages through the Florida Retirement System
- \*Benefits package valued at \$21,513
- \*Uniform program for Bus Operators and Mechanics
- \*No weekends or late-night shifts
- \*Paid Holidays and 10 Sick Days
- \*Additional field trips, if desired
- \*Newer school buses
- \*Seven work locations

Visit online at [shorturl.at/BYgL2](http://shorturl.at/BYgL2) to view the MOU.

# BUSINESS PROFILE

## Your Guide to Local Business

I'M FEELING VERY DEPRESSED TODAY.

WHY, WHAT HAPPENED?

NOBODY HAS PETTED ME SINCE THIS MORNING.

I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU GO ON.

**STOP BY TODAY!**

**407-880-9446**

**WWW.PARKAVENUEVETS.COM**

## Park Avenue Animal Hospital offers tips on how to keep pets safe and cool when temperatures soar

Summer is a fun time for exploring and planning outdoor activities with your four-legged friends, but being over-eager in blistering summer heat can spell danger. Extreme heat can pose a danger to our furry companions for a variety of reasons, but following the expert tips from **Park Avenue Animal Hospital** will help your summer be pawsitively memorable.

Voted the #1 local Animal Hospital since 2010, **Park Avenue Animal Hospital** has been providing a wide variety of services to help keep your pet safe and in the best of health. To help aid pet owners, they have steps you can take to assure your pets stay safe during extreme summer heat.

- Extreme heat can cause pets to dehydrate quickly. Provide them with plenty of water. Offering dogs (and cats) ice water is a healthy way to keep them hydrated.
- Watch the humidity. Remember that it's not just the ambient temperature, but also the humidity that can affect your pet. Animals pant to evaporate moisture from their lungs, which takes heat away from their body. If the humidity is too high, they are unable to cool themselves and their temperature will skyrocket to dangerous levels - very quickly.
- Consider using a pet cooling wrap, vest or mat and keep fresh water readily available.
- With warm weather comes insects, including fleas and mosquitoes, which can cause heartworms. Consult your veterinarian about the best preventatives for your pet and make sure you know the symptoms of tick-related disease in your pet.
- Bring your own water and dog bowl on outings. Dogs can share germs and viruses with each other by drinking from each other's water.
- Make sure your pets have a shady place to get out of the sun and be careful not to over-exercise them. You need to keep them indoors when it's extremely hot.
- Stay on grassy surfaces and avoid hot pavement. It absorbs the heat and ends up staying hot for hours, even after dusk. Check the pavement for heat before taking your dog on a walk. Place your bare foot on the surface for 5-10 seconds. If it is too hot for you, then it's too hot for your pet.
- If you are grilling, be sure your grill is stable and won't tip or fall over if your pet reaches for a "snack". Place all trash in covered bins to keep any tasty leftovers from becoming a hazard to your pet.



Taking extra care of your pets during hot weather conditions is crucial to keeping your pets safe and happy. Call today at 407-880-9446 to schedule an appointment or visit them online at [www.parkavenuevets.com](http://www.parkavenuevets.com). Pictured above are Dr. Rubinstein, Dr. Turgai, Dr. Nelson, and Dr. Munoz.

• If you take your pet to the beach, keep in mind that dogs can sunburn, so watch their sun exposure. Don't let dogs drink sea water, it could make them sick, and rinse your pets off at the end of the day to remove the extra salt off their coat.

**Hurricane season is here.** Make sure to include your pet in your hurricane preparedness plans, including medications they might need.

• Never leave your pet in a car with the windows up or even if they are cracked open. Temperatures in a car can soar to deadly levels in as little as a few minutes.

**Park Avenue Animal Hospital** has a special place in their hearts for all animals, furry, feathery, or scaly. With more than 40 years of combined quality veterinary experience, the doctors have gone well beyond standard veterinary education and practice to further their knowledge of animal care to include reptiles, rabbits, ferrets, birds, guinea pigs, and more. Whether it's an annual checkup or a critical emergency, *they're prepared to handle any situation.*

Since opening in August of 2008, their goal has remained the same: To provide affordable healthcare for pets without sacrificing quality medicine, and to provide consistent, reliable information for pet owners to help them make the best decisions for their pets' health. They're fully equipped with diagnostic and surgical tools to meet practically any situation; they provide reasonably priced medical and surgical care without sacrificing quality, in a setting designed to take the stress out of visiting your vet.

Routine examinations, vaccines, dentistry, and nutritional and behavioral advice are just some of the services provided by the doctors and staff in a beautiful office that is as comfortable as your own home.

**Park Avenue Animal Hospital** is conveniently located at 847 N. Park Avenue (Rock Springs Road) in Apopka. Call today at 407-880-9446 to schedule an appointment or visit them online at [www.parkavenuevets.com](http://www.parkavenuevets.com).

**Advertisement**

**SMILE WITH Confidence!**

**Schroeder Dental Group**

**Katrina M. Schroeder, DMD**

COSMETIC & GENERAL DENTISTRY

Call Now For An Appointment **407-886-1611**

**\$20 Exam**

**Get-Acquainted Special!**

- Oral Exam D0150
- 4 Bitewing X-rays D0274
- Cancer Screening
- Gum Disease Screening

Valid for new patients only. Not to be combined with any other offer. Transferable. Please share with your family and friends. Exp. 8/31/24.

**MyApopkaDentist.net**

**Emergency Appointments Available**

**527 Wekiva Commons Cir., Apopka, FL**

**Invisalign/ZOOM!**

**HUNT CLUB MEDICAL**

*Family Practice & Internal Medicine*

**WE ARE NOW OFFERING A TELE-VISIT OPTION DURING THE COVID-19 OUTBREAK. PLEASE CALL US TO ASK ABOUT YOUR OPTIONS.**

**We Take Walk-In Patients 7 Days a Week!**

- On-Site X-Ray Lab
- Most Insurance Accepted
- Serving the community for over 30 years

**Michael Gordon MD**

**Pinida Toochinda MD**

**Whitney Dailey PA-C**

**Elisabeth Duer PA-C**

**Kristen Consiglio PA-C**

**Roshani Levister PA-C**

3191 E. Semoran Blvd., Apopka | **407-788-6500**

*Enter at McDonald's Hunt Club*

Hours: Mon. thru Thurs. 8-7PM • Fri. 8-6PM • Sat. thru Sun. 8-4PM

**LET US TELL YOUR BUSINESS STORY!**

**E-mail [ads@TheApopkaChief.com](mailto:ads@TheApopkaChief.com)**

**or call 407-886-2777 to find out about our Business Profile program.**

**Visit [www.theapopkachief.com](http://www.theapopkachief.com)**

**Helping you is our business!**

### Would You Like Extra Copies?

**You may purchase The Apopka Chief at the following locations in and around Apopka**

- 7-11, Highway 436 & Thompson Rd.
- 7-11, Highway 441 & Piedmont-Wekiva Rd.
- 7-11 (Mobil), Highway 441 (Errol Pkwy Errol Estate entrance)
- Ace Meat & Grocery, 439 S. Central Ave. & 5th St.
- 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 & 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, 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.**

**Subscribe Online at [www.TheApopkaChief.com](http://www.TheApopkaChief.com)**

**Office Location: 400 N. Park Avenue, Apopka**

**[www.theapopkachief.com](http://www.theapopkachief.com) • Ph: 407-886-2777 • Fax: 407-889-4121 • email: [news@theapopkachief.com](mailto:news@theapopkachief.com) • [ads@theapopkachief.com](mailto:ads@theapopkachief.com)**







# This Broken World

The Bible sometimes describes the world as “fallen” or as “broken,” suggesting that it is far from perfect, and despite being the creation of an omnipotent, omniscient, and all-good God, it often disappoints us.

How can we fail to be disappointed when nature wreaks such havoc on humanity through floods, droughts, and all manner of catastrophic weather? It often seems that if the earth’s water could just be distributed a bit more evenly, we would all be better off. And it’s not just that nature wreaks havoc on us, but we do a lot of the damage ourselves.

Environmentally, it seems that humankind has truly broken things, despoiling the very air and water which we need to live. But of course we should remember that creation is a process, not a thing, and that the world is in the process of becoming.

A static world is a fiction; our world is constantly changing, and while we are often frustrated at how poorly things seem to be going, we must remember that we are co-creators with God.

When we plant our gardens and build our houses we are working with God to perfect this world. The Hebrew phrase “tikkun olam” means “to repair the world” and suggests that through acts of kindness and justice we can help to build a better world, reminding us that this world is not just physical but also spiritual.

Consider that you are always either an ally or an enemy of God in the creation of the world, and that you can either build up or tear down. It’s easy to destroy; much harder to create. What will you do to repair the world this day?

– Christopher Simon

# Obituaries

**Honor Your Loved Ones**  
Call 407-886-2777 • [www.TheApopkaChief.com/obituaries](http://www.TheApopkaChief.com/obituaries)

## Christopher DeanVinson - June 11, 1968 - July 18, 2024

Christopher Dean Vinson died on Thursday, July 18, 2024. Christopher, known by all as “Cowboy Chris”, was born in Apopka, Florida on June 11, 1968, son of Maya Coffey and Danny Vinson. He is survived by his mother Maya Coffey, his father Danny Vinson, his life partner Janelle Hartzog, his two sons Christopher Vinson and Caiden Hartzog, his daughter, the late Courtney Vinson, his Uncle Jon Anderson, his two grandsons, along with many other loving family members.

Chris was a member in good standing with the Loyal Order of Moose Fraternity, Fraternal order of Eagles and Fraternal Order Orioles.

A man of faith, Chris loved the Lord, and was a part of the New Vision Community Church in Apopka, FL. He especially loved to make others happy as he brought joy and laughter to so many.

His moto was “GOOD TIMES”. He was known to visit the sick just to bring them a moment of happiness. He had a God given gift to bring joy to those who needed it the most. His beautiful eyes and smile would light up any room he entered.

He loved to be on the water fishing or just relaxing. One of his favorite places was the beach, but any water would do. He loved to sing country music, play games, play pool. He could grill like no other, his ribs were finger licking good and people could not get enough of them. Chris had so many fabulous qualities and a great eye in finding things that could help others. His heart was enormous.

Although it gives us great peace to know he is with the Lord and family members that passed before him along with his beloved dog TONY, he will be extremely missed by ALL here on Earth



**LOOMIS FAMILY FUNERAL HOMES**  
VISIT OUR ONLINE OBITUARY  
[LOOMISFUNERALHOMES.COM](http://LOOMISFUNERALHOMES.COM)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Visit us online at TheApopkaChief.com**

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

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

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

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

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

- Trinity Baptist Church  
407-886-2966  
Wekiwa Springs Baptist Church  
407-886-7864
- Bible**  
Bear Lake Bible Chapel  
407-563-3931
- Biblical Science**  
IDMR  
321-948-3298
- Catholic**  
St. Francis of Assisi  
407-886-4602
- Charismatic Episcopal**  
Ascension Church, CEC  
407-880-9555
- Christian**  
Christ Centered Christian Church  
321-331-0036  
Journey Christian Church  
407-884-7223  
Real Life Christian Church  
352-735-LOVE
- Christian Science**  
Christian Science Church  
407-389-4200
- Church of Christ**  
Apopka Church of Christ now with Plymouth\*  
Central Church of Christ  
407-869-1419  
Plymouth (and Apopka) Church of Christ\*  
407-886-1466  
Church of Christ of West Orange  
407-656-2770  
Tri-City Church of Christ  
407-920-1757  
10th Street Church of Christ  
407-884-4835
- Church of God**  
Church of God of Zellwood  
407-886-3074  
Grace Street Church of God  
407-298-9188  
Healing Waters Church of God  
407-886-3780  
Park Avenue Worship Center  
407-886-2696  
Sorrento Church of God  
352-735-4245
- Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints**  
Apopka Ward  
407-880-9877
- Episcopal**  
Church of the Holy Spirit  
407-886-1740
- Faith and Word**  
Word of Life  
407-886-7427
- Full Gospel**  
Millenium of Glory  
407-814-0041

- New Covenant Perfecting Ministries  
407-880-8898
- Holiness**  
End Time Word Ministry  
407-369-0148  
St. Elizabeth Church of God by Faith  
407-886-6290  
St. Matthew Holiness  
407-889-2274  
Temple of Faith Church  
407-884-6960
- Independent**  
True Temple of God  
407-880-8181
- Interdenominational**  
New Vision Community Church  
407-886-3619  
Northwest Community Church  
407-578-2088  
One Accord Christian Fellowship Church  
407-523-3002
- Jewish**  
Congregation Beth Am  
407-862-3505  
Congregation of Reform Judaism  
407-645-0444
- Lutheran**  
St. Paul Lutheran  
407-889-2634
- Methodist**  
First United Methodist  
407-886-3421  
Bear Lake United Methodist  
407-862-1531  
Zellwood United Methodist  
407-889-4426
- Moravian**  
Rolling Hills Moravian Church  
407-332-8380
- Nazarene**  
Calvary Church of the Nazarene  
407-889-2148  
Apopka Springhill Church of the Nazarene  
407-884-8322
- Non-Denominational**  
Anointed Word Family Worship Center  
407-886-4989  
Casa De Oración Internacional  
321-239-7680  
Center of Faith Church for All People  
407-464-9375  
Church on the Edge  
407-869-1133  
City of Destiny (The)  
407-884-6322

- Compass Community Church  
407-880-6110  
Dayspring Community Church  
407-814-4996  
Everlasting Covenant Christian Center  
407-884-8598  
Faithworks Church  
302-293-1391  
Freedom Fellowship  
407-299-6311  
Freedom Ministries  
407-886-6006  
Grace Gospel Church  
321-438-4554  
Grace Pointe Church  
407-889-3383  
Graceworx Community Church  
321-228-4599  
Happy Hill Ministries  
407-889-0583  
Holy Tabernacle Church  
407-928-8617  
Hosanna To The Highest Ministries  
407-491-4266  
Inspire  
407-415-6218  
Ministries of Good Life  
407-703-7464  
New Life Praise Worship Center  
407-880-3421  
New Beginning Worship Center  
352-455-9173  
New Life Word of Faith  
321-460-8205  
Orlando Church of Christ  
407-823-7370  
Philemon Ministries  
407-718-7179  
Rejoice in the Lord Ministries  
407-814-7643  
Remnant Christian Center  
407-703-7346  
Renewal Church  
407-410-5378  
Servants of God Ministries  
407-814-8255  
Sorrento Christian Center  
352-735-4447  
Spirit of Life Christian Church  
407-886-4570  
Tangerine Community Church  
352-383-4173  
The Shabach Church  
407-445-1230  
True Words of God  
407-227-8829  
Victory Church World Outreach Center

koop. She is survived by: children, Carl (Gail) Slay, Michael (Sheri) Slay, and James A. (LeeAnn) Slay; 10 grandchildren; 17 great grandchildren.

...  
**GARY DOUGLAS CRITES**, 73, of Orlando, passed away on August 10, 2024. Mr. Crites was born on January 7, 1951 to the late John and Teresa Crites in Orlando. He is preceded in death by: siblings, Johnny Crites, Harold Crites, Charles Crites, Ralph Crites, Walter Crites, Albert Crites, Raymond Crites, Glenn Crites, Patricia Sheffield, and Norma Crites. He is survived by: wife, Sheila Crites; children, Jamie (Amanda) Moss, Billy (Michelle) Moss, Amanda Moss (Jimmy), Brittany (Jeffrey) Wilkerson, Eric (Olivia) Crites, Dena (Derek) VanLoo and Raymond Crites (Laura); siblings, Shirley Harvey, Debra Copeland, Sandra Sande, Jenny Barton, Daryl Crites, Ronald Crites, Theodore Crites and Larry Crites; 18 grandchildren; 1 great grandchildren; as well as many nieces and nephews.

...  
**CHRISTOPHER DEAN VINSON**, 56, died on July 18, 2024. Born in Apopka, on June 11, 1968, son of Maya Coffey and Danny Vinson. He is predeceased by: daughter, Courtney Vinson. He is survived by: mother, Maya Coffey; father, Danny Vinson; life partner, Janelle Hartzog; sons, Christopher Vinson and Caiden Hartzog, uncle, Jon Anderson; two grandsons; and many other loving family members.



- 407-889-7288
- Pentecostal**  
Church in the Son  
407-246-0001  
Faith Fellowship Church  
407-741-3750  
Ministerios Getsemani  
407-310-8672  
Prince of Peace Pentecostal Missionary Church, Inc.  
407-889-9269  
Pentecostals of Apopka  
407-889-3802  
Way of Grace Ministries  
407-292-9998
- Presbyterian**  
First Presbyterian of Apopka  
407-886-5943  
St. Andrews Presbyterian Church  
407-293-6802
- Reformed Church in America**  
Rolling Hills Community Church  
407-886-7664
- Seventh-day Adventists**  
Apopka Seventh-day Adventist  
407-889-2812  
Florida Living SDA Church  
407-284-7472  
Forest Lake  
407-869-0680  
Franco-Haitian  
407-296-4368  
Genesis Spanish  
509-264-4873  
Maranatha Seventh-day Adventist  
407-290-1800  
Mount Olive  
407-886-0430  
Orlando Filipino Seventh-day Adventist  
407-292-9210  
Orlando Vietnamese Seventh-day Adventist  
407-339-4974  
Patmos Chapel SDA  
321-870-8583  
Pine Hills  
407-291-4816  
Plymouth-Sorrento  
407-884-0595
- Templo Bíblico**  
Templo Asamblea Bíblica Lake Howell Branch Chapel  
407-814-4465
- Unity**  
Unity Church of Christianity  
407-295-9181
- Ukrainian**  
St. Mary’s (Protectress) Ukrainian  
386-848-9888

## FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES

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

[www.TheApopkaChief.com](http://www.TheApopkaChief.com) | [news@theapopkachief.com](mailto:news@theapopkachief.com) | 407-886-2777

Please support these advertisers that support your freedom to worship.



# The Dump Cake recipe will make pleasant aroma while baking

How about some butter-milk chicken? Marvin Woods' Southern-Exposed Fried Chicken sounds as if it is going to be spectacular. Marv says in his book, *The New Low-Country Cooking*, "Almost everybody likes good fried chicken, but I don't think everybody knows to make good fried chicken. It is best to start with the tastiest meat you can buy, but sometimes mass-produced chicken, even top-quality birds, can use a little extra help. I often use marinades and rubs to give my meat and poultry more character.

"In this particular recipe, the most important ingredient is the buttermilk in the marinade. In earlier times, people hand-churned their own butter, so this was a great way to use the liquid that was left over. The acid content of buttermilk lends a tenderizing effect when marinating poultry, fish, or meat."

Spicy Shrimp Casserole from Southern Living's *1996 ANNUAL RECIPES* will make your supper with maybe a little salad on the side.

Marvin Woods gives instructions for a very basic food that we love and use in many of our dishes: White Rice! He says, "Cooking rice can be tricky sometimes. Since this book calls on rice often, I've included a basic rice recipe. This can be eaten quite simply as white rice, or you can prepare the rice ahead of time and use it for other dishes like Hoppin' John or just plain.

From *Treasures and Pleasures* cookbook, here are Sweet and Sour Carrots. This recipe, which you can serve either hot or cold, was contributed by Irene Ustler.

Shirley Keck, the wonderful wife of our fishing expert, Jim Keck, who writes the weekly article, Goin' Fishin', treats us to her Dump Cake. This is very simple, and it is delicious, too! We know because she brought this dessert to one of our celebrations here at *The Apopka Chief* and *The Planter* newspapers. (And we didn't let her have her cake-taker back until she promised us the reci-

pe, which follows below. Ha ha ha!)

## SOUTHERN-EXPOSED FRIED CHICKEN

*The New Low-Country Cooking* by Marvin Woods

For the buttermilk marinade:

- 1 quart buttermilk
  - 1 tablespoon paprika
  - 1 tablespoon garlic powder
  - 1-1/4 teaspoons salt
  - 1-1/4 teaspoons freshly ground black pepper
  - 1-1/4 teaspoons cayenne pepper
- For the breading:
- 3 cups all-purpose flour
  - 2 tablespoons paprika
  - 2 tablespoons freshly ground black pepper
  - 1 tablespoon garlic powder
  - 1 tablespoon onion powder
  - 1 tablespoon cayenne pepper
  - 1 tablespoon celery salt
  - 1 tablespoon salt
  - 1-1/2 cups vegetable oil, for frying
- One 2- to 3-pound broiler-fryer chicken, cut into 6 to 8 pieces

1) In a large bowl, stir together all of the marinade ingredients. Place the chicken pieces in a large dish. Pour the marinade over the chicken, cover, and refrigerate for at least 4 hours and up to 24 hours. 2) Preheat the oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit. 3) In a shallow bowl or pie plate, combine all the breading ingredients. Remove the chicken from the marinade, letting the excess run back into the dish. 4) Dredge the chicken in the breading mixture to lightly coat; shake off any excess. 5) In a large skillet (preferably cast iron), heat the oil over medium heat. When the oil is hot (about 350 degrees Fahrenheit), carefully lower as many pieces of chicken into the pan as will fit without touching. (The chicken needs a little room so it can cook properly.) 6) Cook until the chicken is golden brown, 3 to 5 minutes per side. Using a slotted spoon, transfer the chicken to a baking sheet and bake for 20 to 30 minutes longer, or until cooked through. 7) Check the chicken for doneness by sticking the tip of a knife to the bone to see if the chicken is no longer pink. (If you prefer to finish frying the chicken in the skillet, reduce the heat if necessary so the grease does not get too hot and burn the chicken.

Cook the chicken, turning occasionally, until cooked through, about 20 minutes. But do keep in mind that finishing your chicken in the oil makes for a greasier product.)

Marv adds a note: "I don't believe you will have a hard time finding buttermilk, but if you do, you can substitute 1 quart of plain yogurt. Or try a mixture of 1 tablespoon vinegar or lemon juice plus enough milk to equal 1 quart and let stand for 5 minutes at room temperature."

## SPICY SHRIMP CASSEROLE

Recipe from Southern Living's *1996 ANNUAL RECIPES*

- 2 pounds unpeeled medium-size fresh shrimp
  - 3 cups cooked long-grain-and-wild rice mix
  - 1 cup (4 oz) shredded longhorn Cheddar cheese
  - 1 (10-3/4-oz) can cream of mushroom soup, undiluted
  - 1 tablespoon butter or margarine
  - 1/2 cup chopped green onions
  - 2 teaspoons Worcestershire sauce
  - 1/2 teaspoon dry mustard
  - 1/2 teaspoon freshly ground pepper
  - 1/4 cup milk
  - 1 teaspoon Cajun seasoning
- Garnishes: green onions, peeled cooked shrimp

1) Peel shrimp, and devein, if desired. 2) Combine rice, shrimp, cheese, and soup in a bowl. 3) Melt butter in a large skillet over medium-high heat, and add green onions; cook, stirring constantly, until tender. 4) Stir green onions, Worcestershire sauce, and next 4 ingredients into rice mixture. Spoon mixture into a lightly greased 11 x 7 x 1-1/2 inch, or 2-quart baking dish. 5) Bake at 375 degrees for 45 minutes. Garnish, if desired. Yield: 6 servings.

## MARVIN WOODS' WHITE RICE

*The New Low-Country Cooking* by Marvin Woods

- 3-1/3 cups water
- 3/4 tablespoon salt
- 1-1/2 cups uncooked long-grain white rice

In a large saucepan, bring the water to a boil over high heat. Stir in the rice and salt. Cover and reduce the heat to medium-low. Simmer for

20 minutes. Remove from the heat. Let stand, covered, for 5 minutes or until the water is completely absorbed. Fluff with a fork.

## SWEET AND SOUR CARROTS

Recipe from

*Treasures and Pleasures* cookbook

- 1 pound carrots, peeled and cut diagonally
- 1 medium green pepper, seeded and cut in strips
- 1 8-ounce can pineapple chunks, save juice
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon cornstarch
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 tablespoons vinegar
- 2 tablespoons soy sauce

Cook carrots, covered in a small amount of water, until tender, about 15 minutes. Add green pepper and cook 3 minutes longer. Drain. Drain pineapple and save juice. Add water, if necessary, to make 1/3 cup liquid. Combine sugar, cornstarch, and salt in saucepan. Stir in pineapple juice, vinegar and soy sauce. Cook until thick, stirring constantly. Add sauce and pineapple to vegetables. Heat. Serve hot or cold.

## SHIRLEY KECK'S DUMP CAKE

Recipe from Reader of

*The Apopka Chief* and *The Planter* newspapers

- 1 15-ounce can crushed pineapple, undrained
- 1 15-ounce can cherry pie filling
- 1 package yellow cake mix, plain
- 1 cup pecan pieces
- 2 sticks of butter
- 1 13 x 9-inch baking pan

Pour one large can of crushed pineapple (undrained) in pan. Cover pineapple with one large can of cherry pie filling. Crumble dry cake mix over the top of pie filling evenly. Sprinkle top with pecan pieces. Pour melted butter over cake mix evenly. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 to 45 minutes, until brown.

This easy take-along cake is delicious with a scoop of vanilla ice cream or whipped cream or just plain. Yield: 12 servings.

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

## AUGUST 2024



## EVENTS



## WEEKLY



## UPCOMING



## ONGOING

**SCHOOL BEGAN AUGUST 12** – Traffic patterns will change. Stormy weather comes and goes! Be careful with your umbrellas. And always watch out for those school children ... and ducks. DON'T TEXT WHILE DRIVING - Please! YOU WILL PAY A FINE.

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.

UNLESS CHANGED: School Start Times for Elementary School & K-8: 8:45 a.m., Middle School: 9:30 a.m., High school: 7:20 a.m.

City of Apopka's Northwest Recreation Complex, 3710 Jason Dwyer 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.

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.

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 Wekiva River. Address: 1800 Wekiwa Circle, Apopka 32712, open from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. For information, call 407-884-4311

FRAN CARLTON CENTER OPEN, for seniors - senior activities at Fran Carlton Center. CALL 407-703-1642 FOR INFORMATION .

### FRIDAY, AUGUST 16

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. .

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](http://cfchristianchamber.com/events-chamber). Contact: [latrondra@cfchristianchamber.com](mailto:latrondra@cfchristianchamber.com)

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 17

VFW POST 10147 continues to have its fund raising breakfast on the **fourth Saturday of AUGUST (AUG. 24)** (because of early primary voting) from 8-10 a.m. at 519 S. Central Avenue. Cost is only \$7.

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.

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.

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 18

### MONDAY, AUGUST 19

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.

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.

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](http://OA.org) or call Carrie 781-867-1071.

TOASTMASTERS: Forest Lake Chapter 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

### TUESDAY, AUGUST 20

THE SERTOMA CLUB meets the 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.

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

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.

### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21

„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](mailto: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.

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..

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

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.

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.

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 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.

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.

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.

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](http://www.Apopkatostmasters.com).

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 22

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.

ROTARY CLUB OF APOPKA - For information, call 407-415-6588. Call for updated information on meetings and location.

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.

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.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

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](http://apopka.gov) Apopka Youth Council

### ONGOING EVENTS

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.

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 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

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: [apopkatgca@gmail.com](mailto:apopkatgca@gmail.com). NO MEETINGS JUNE-AUGUST.

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](mailto: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.

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

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.

APOPKA FOLIAGE TOASTMASTER'S CLUB, Monday, 7 p.m., on Zoom, Apopka. 407-765-2629.

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)

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](http://www.theapopka-museum.com).

THE APOPKA ELKS LODGE 2422 meets first and third Tuesdays of month, 201 W. Orange. For more information, call 407-886-1600 or email [apopkaelks@aol.com](mailto:apopkaelks@aol.com) Bar Bingo every Monday night at 7 p.m. promptly.

GFWC APOPKA WOMAN'S CLUB, meets at First Methodist Church, 201 N. Park Avenue. Call 407-880-2111 for more information.

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.

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](http://lakeduplicate.com).

**TEMPORARILY CANCELLED:** 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.**BUILDING CLOSED.**

HABITAT VOLUNTEERS: Go to [www.habitatseminoleapopka.org](http://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.

\*\*\*\*\*

(OCLS) Orange County Public Library North Orange Branch Address: 1211 E. Semoran Boulevard, Apopka 436 (Semoran) and Thompson Road. [www.ocls.info](http://www.ocls.info). **This branch library has been temporarily closed (beginning July 2024) due to inclement weather damage.**

\*Apopka Area Chamber of Commerce, 180 E. Main St., Apopka. For more info, call 407-886-1441  
COMMUNITY EVENTS  
CALENDAR INFORMATION  
Events, fund raisers, and non-profit organizations  
Info: fax 407-889-4121, or email [ads@theapopkachief.com](mailto:ads@theapopkachief.com)  
Subscribe to The Apopka Chief  
E-Edition or Home Delivery  
Call 407-886-2777 or  
Visit [www.theapopkachief.com](http://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



# Flag: Orlando had its flag redesign competition in 2017

Continued from page 6A

ning design, which the Orlando City Council adopted on July 2, 2017.

Contest details

According to NAVA, a flag’s design should be kept so simple a child could draw it from memory; use meaningful symbolism, in that the flag’s images, colors,

or patterns should relate to what it symbolizes; use two to three basic colors; have no lettering or seals; and be distinctive or be related.

Submission guidelines: the flag design must be hand drawn on a 3-inch by 5-inch note card, no digital art or gradient colors accepted. Up to three submissions per individual will be accepted. Entries without contact informa-

tion will be considered anonymous. Entries can be submitted at City Hall.

The judging panel will include representation from local artists, the DAVE School, art teachers from local schools, local TV personalities, the city of Apopka (not Cribb himself, he said), and AdventHealth.

Submission forms can be found at Apopka City Hall, 120

E. Main St., Apopka, and downloaded from online at happybirthdayapopka.com/flag.

Competition timeline

The competition timeline is as follows:

Submission period – August 8-September 6

Judging period – September 9-12, when judges will narrow the entries down to 15 to 20

Online voting period – September 13-October 4

Judge review of entries – October 7-16

Presentation of winning flag design to the City Council for approval/adoption – October 16.

Flag sent to printer – October 17

City’s birthday celebration – October 25



**YOU COULD  
SAVE MONEY  
WITH GEICO**

With low rates, personalized service, and a local office near you, it makes sense to switch to GEICO.

Plus, you could save even more by combining your policies. Don't wait any longer – get a free quote today.



**Zachary Ingram** ¡Hablamos Español!  
geico.com/apopka-ingram  
3840 E State Rd 436, Apopka  
407-551-4350

Save discounts, coverage, payment plans, and features are not available in all states. In all states, GEICO is a registered service mark of Government Employees Insurance Company, Washington, DC 20005, a Berkshire Hathaway Inc. subsidiary. ©2023 GEICO. Image ID: 1000-2024 / 1001-0000 / 1000-0000

### Apopka Area Voting Precincts.

#### Will you vote in the primary election on August 20, 2024?

**205** Dayspring Community Church,  
2434 Old Dixie Hwy

**209** Word of Life Church,  
1853 Vick Rd.

**224** Clarcona Horsemen's 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 Dwellley 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)


**FIND YOUR PRECINCT:** [ocflections.gov/voters/findmypollingplace](https://ocflections.gov/voters/findmypollingplace)



## KEEP THOSE WHEELS ROLLING...

### ROUTINE MAINTENANCE WILL HELP

motorists address minor issues before they become more complicated and more expensive repairs.



### J & K Automotive

FAIR • HONEST  
DEPENDABLE  
All Work Guaranteed  
Serving Satisfied Customers  
Since 1987

CERTIFIED AIR CONDITIONING SPECIALISTS • COMPUTER DIAGNOSTIC EQUIPMENT

**Now Hiring  
Mechanic**

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

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

1012 E. Semoran Blvd. Apopka  
Mon-Fri. 8-5:30 • Closed Saturday  
[www.JandKAutomotiveinc.com](http://www.JandKAutomotiveinc.com)

**407-880-3530**

Become a Fan on Facebook: J & K Automotive

#### GENERAL SERVICE: AUTO-BASICS

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


#### MAINTENANCE – YOUR PROTECTION!

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

## ATW

### ALLTRANSMISSIONWORLD

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




- Transmission • Clutches
- CV Axles • Foreign & Domestic
- Check Engine & Dashboard Warning Lights

Se Habla Español

Chamber of Commerce  
ACCREDITED BUSINESS

1150 E Semoran Blvd. Ste. B  
Apopka, FL, 32703  
**407-880-9300**  
[alltransmissionworld.com](http://alltransmissionworld.com)




### GLENN JOINER & SON, INC

NATIONALLY KNOWN, FAMILY OWNED SINCE 1937

## AUTO PARTS

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




SPONSOR OF  
CHASE ELLIOT  
CAR #9

250 E. 3rd St., Suite B, Apopka  
**407-889-5222**

13202 W. Colonial Dr., Winter Garden  
**404-656-4141**

**napaonline.com**



# 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](http://www.TheApopkaChief.com)